

SOPHIA E. GARCIA

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Biology
Texas Christian University
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Fort Worth, TX 76129

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ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

Education

Ph.D. Health Studies	2015	Texas Woman's University
M.A. Interdisciplinary Science	2005	University of Texas at Arlington
B.A. Biology	2003	Texas A&M University
A.A.	2013	Tarrant County College

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Health Education Specialist,
National Commission for Health Education Credentialing

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2019-Present Senior Instructor, Department of Biology, Texas Christian University
2018-2019 Lecturer, Department of Biology, Texas Christian University
2017-2019 Associate Professor, Department of Life Science, Tarrant County College
2015-2018 Adjunct Instructor, Department of Biology, Texas Christian University
2013-2017 Assistant Professor, Department of Life Science, Tarrant County College
2012-2018 Department Chair of Life Sciences, Tarrant County College
2009-2013 Instructor, Department of Life Science, Tarrant County College
2009-2019 Coordinator of A&P, Department of Life Science, Tarrant County College
2008 Upward Bound Summer Instructor, University of Texas at Arlington
2008-2009 Adjunct Instructor, Department of Life Science, Tarrant County College
2006-2009 Science Teacher, Nolan Catholic High School
2005-2006 Instructional Associate, Department of Life Sciences, Tarrant County College
2003-2005 Substitute Teacher, Crowley Independent School District
1999-2002 Research Assistant, USDA Agricultural Research Services, Salmonella Lab

OTHER APPOINTMENTS

- 2002 Research Aid, Texas A&M University, Botany Lab
1999 Pathways Intern, USDA Agricultural Research Services, Entomology Lab
1998 Pathways Intern, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Services, Soil Mechanics Lab

Continuing Education

- 2018 75 CE Credit Hours, National Commission for Health Education Credentialing
2023 75 CE Credit Hours, National Commission for Health Education Credentialing

Honors and Awards

- 2020 R.I.S.E. Program Inaugural Cohort, Texas Christian University
2019 Bold Women Honoree, Girls Inc.
2018 Master Leader Program Inaugural Cohort, Texas Christian University
2018 Chancellor's Employee Excellence Award, Tarrant County College
2018 Faculty Development Leave, Tarrant County College
2017 Excellence Award, National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development
2017 Tenure, Tarrant County College
2016 Chancellor's Award for Exemplary Teaching, Tarrant County College
2015 Distinguished Faculty Award, Texas Association of Chicanos in Higher Education
2014 Community, Industry & Education Champion Award, Tarrant County College
2013 Chancellor's Distinguished Leadership Award, Tarrant County College
1999 Presidential Leadership Award, University of Texas at Arlington

TEACHING

Courses Taught

- BIOL 20204 Anatomy & Physiology 1 Lecture, Texas Christian University, 2015-Present
BIOL 20204 L Anatomy & Physiology 1 Lab, Texas Christian University, 2015-Present
BIOL 20214 Anatomy & Physiology 2 Lecture, Texas Christian University, 2016-Present
BIOL 20214 L Anatomy & Physiology 2 Lab, Texas Christian University, 2016-Present
BIOL 40330 Teaching of Advanced Biology, Texas Christian University, 2019-2024
UNLF 10211 Introduction to University Life, Texas Christian University, 2019-2022
BIOL 2401* Anatomy & Physiology 1 Lecture, Tarrant County College, 2008-Present
BIOL 2401L* Anatomy & Physiology 1 Lab, Tarrant County College, 2008-Present

BIOL 2402* Anatomy & Physiology 2 Lecture, Tarrant County College, 2009-2019
 BIOL 2402L* Anatomy & Physiology 2 Lab, Tarrant County College, 2009-2019
 GENX 1066* Latina STEM Fellowship Program, Tarrant County College, 2016-Present
 GENX 1640* Explore STEM Camp for Students with Disabilities, Tarrant County College, 2018-2019
 SCIT 1000* Human Anatomy & Physiology for Coding, Tarrant County College, 2012-2015
 BITC 1011* Biotechnology Camp, Tarrant County College, 2015
 GENX 1015* Ophthalmology & Pharmacy Camp, Tarrant County College, 2013
 SCIX 1330 Science Adventures, Tarrant County College, 2009-2010

*Course or camp developed by Dr. Garcia at Tarrant County College

Honor's Theses Committees

Murphy, Hannah. 2025. The Oral Health Status of Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities in Texas.

Eaton, Eric. 2024. Understanding the Effect of Ankle-Foot Orthotics in Developmental Disabilities.

Ghalibaf, Kian. 2022. Whitening More Than Teeth: Race Disparities in Oral Health Care.

Cavallo, Amy. 2021. Rhythmic Movement for Body Awareness and Confidence in Children with Learning Disabilities.

Graduate Dissertation Committees

Mitchell, Jowelle. 2024. How Professional Preparation Mentoring Programs Have Impacted the Career Readiness of Early-Career, First-Generation Professionals of Color in Student Affairs Roles.

External Grants Received

2025	\$10,000	Lockheed Martin Corporation Grant
2024	\$10,000	Lockheed Martin Corporation Grant
2023	\$20,000	Lockheed Martin Corporation Grant
2022	\$10,000	Facebook Data Center Community Action Grant
2022	\$10,000	Lockheed Martin Corporation Grant
2021	\$10,000	Lockheed Martin Corporation Grant
2020	\$10,000	Lockheed Martin Corporation Grant
2019	\$5,000	Doss Foundation Grant

2019	\$10,000	Lockheed Martin Corporation Grant
2019	\$20,000	Texas Workforce Commission Explore STEM Grant
2018	\$5,000	Doss Foundation Grant
2018	\$15,000	Helen Irwin Littauer Educational Trust Grant
2018	\$10,000	Lockheed Martin Corporation Grant
2018	\$20,000	Texas Workforce Commission Explore STEM Grant
2017	\$5,000	Doss Foundation Grant
2017	\$5,000	Lockheed Martin Corporation Grant
2017	\$15,000	Texas Workforce Commission Governor's Summer Merit Grant
2016	\$15,000	Texas Workforce Commission Governor's Summer Merit Grant
2015	\$15,000	Texas Workforce Commission Governor's Summer Merit Grant
2013	\$15,000	Texas Workforce Commission Governor's Summer Merit Grant

Internal Grants Received

2020	\$2,500	Texas Christian University Inclusive Excellence Fund
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RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

Refereed Publications

Przymus, S.D., Sparks, D., **Garcia, S.**, Silveus, A., Cartmill, C. (2021). From imagined to in-practice and performed STEM identities: Measuring the impact of a Latina STEM Fellowship on the educational trajectories of Latina high school students. *Association of Mexican American Educators Journal*, 15(1), 113-139. <https://doi.org/10.24974/amae.15.1.435>

Non-refereed Publications

Burgess, T., **Garcia, S.E.**, Wilcox, J. (2025). *Experience science national grade 6*. Savvas Learning Company.

Burgess, T., **Garcia, S.E.**, Wilcox, J. (2025). *Experience science national grade 7*. Savvas Learning Company.

Burgess, T., **Garcia, S.E.**, Wilcox, J. (2025). *Experience science national grade 8*. Savvas Learning Company.

Burgess, T., **Garcia, S.E.**, Wilcox, J. (2024). *Experience science Texas grade 6*. Savvas Learning Company.

Burgess, T., **Garcia, S.E.**, Wilcox, J. (2024). *Experience science Texas grade 7*. Savvas Learning Company.

Burgess, T., **Garcia, S.E.**, Wilcox, J. (2024). *Experience science Texas grade 8*. Savvas Learning Company.

Garcia, S. (2019) *Laboratory Manual for A&P 1: BIOL 2401*. Tarrant County College.

Garcia, S. E. (2015). *Driving home: An analysis of obesity-related behaviors among U.S. college students living on and off campus* (Order No. 10016180). Available from ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global. (1767490973).

Oral Presentations at Scholarly Meetings

An open lab model for improving student grades and confidence. Human Anatomy & Physiology Society Annual Conference. 2019

Integrated anatomy & physiology: An active learning model. Human Anatomy & Physiology Society Annual Conference. 2018

Oral Presentations at State & National Meetings

10-minute models for anatomy & physiology. Science Teachers Association of Texas State Conference for the Advancement of Science Teaching. 2024

Congratulations you're accepted: Crafting your unique story & standing out post-SCOTUS. Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science National Diversity in STEM Conference. 2024

The engaged science classroom: Why a hands-on and heads-on approach matters and how YOU CAN do it. EdWeb. 2024

10-minute models for anatomy & physiology. National Science Teaching Association National Conference. 2024

Preparing anatomy & physiology students for college. National Science Teaching Association National Conference. 2024

Dive into dissection! Science Teachers Association of Texas Conference for the Advancement of Science Teaching. 2023

Power up and break it down: Muscle physiology. Science Teachers Association of Texas Conference for the Advancement of Science Teaching. 2022

Latina STEM Fellowship: A model for building cultural capital among Latinx students. American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education National Conference. 2019

Building Cultural capital among first-generation students through holistic programming. Ruffalo Noel Levitz National Conference. 2018

Latina STEM Fellowship: A governor's summer merit grant program. Texas Association of Chicanos in Higher Education Annual State Conference. 2017

Oral Presentations at TCU

Hispanic health paradox. TCU SACNAS x Pre-health DEI Advocates Seminar. 2021

Welcome to the TCU familia: On beginning a new journey. 2021

Women in science workshop. TCU STEM Scholars. 2021

How the R.I.S.E. program impacted me. TCU R.I.S.E. commencement. 2021

Familismo: Find it here. TCU Hispanic Alumni Alliance. 2020

Women in STEM panel. TCU Mentoring Melanin Magic and the Texas Academy of Biomedical Sciences. 2019

Time management is priority management. TCU Professional development Day. 2019

Time management is priority management. TCU Leadership conference. 2019

Other Oral Presentations

How to support your teen's college journey parent panel. Cuidado Casero Passport to Leadership Annual Conference. 2024

Applying for College 101. Latina STEM Fellowship. 2023

SMART goals. MANA de North Texas Hermanitas Meeting. 2022

Applying for College 101. Latina STEM Fellowship. 2022

Time management: A key to success. Cuidado Casero Passport to Leadership Annual Conference. 2022

Time management: A key to success. Cuidado Casero Passport to Leadership Annual Conference. 2021

SMART goals. MANA de North Texas Hermanitas Meeting. 2021

Applying for college 101. Latina STEM Fellowship. 2021

Keeping healthy during a pandemic with chair yoga. MANA de North Texas Hermanitas Meeting. 2021

A Latin success story. Tarrant County College Juntos Learning Community. 2020

Influencers in education: From passion to implementation. Botanical Research Institute of Texas Teacher Tuesday Seminar. 2019

What to expect when you are expecting...your daughter to go to college. Tarrant County College Latina STEM Fellowship Parent Seminar. 2018

Commencement keynote. Daggett Montessori School. 2018

The importance of mentorship. MANA de North Texas Mentor Recruitment Event. 2017

Supporting women in STEM Panel. Hispanic Women's Network Café con Leche. 2017

Driving home: An analysis of obesity-related behaviors among college students living on and off campus. Student Creative Arts Research Symposium, Texas Woman's University. 2016

Commencement keynote. Charles E. Nash Elementary. 2011

Consulting

Authorships

2021-Present Explore Science Grades 6-8, Savvas Learning Company

2019-Present Laboratory Manual for A&P 1, Tarrant County College

Advisory Boards

2017-2022 McGraw Hill A&P Board of Advisors

Reviews

2018	Open Educational Resources Grant Program, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
2015-2018	Chapter Reviews, Pearson
2018	A&P Animation Reviews, John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
2017	Learning Outcomes Review, Wiley Global Education

Other Research or Creative Activities

2016- Present: Founder and Director, Latina STEM Fellowship a year-round pre-collegiate STEM program with a mission to support young women interested in STEM through skill-building, career exploration, education planning and mentorship. www.tccd.edu/latinastem

2021: Developed TCU STEM and Culture Symposium, Embrace Your Story: Bringing Your Whole Self to STEM, 300+ attendees from across the United States

2022: Developed TCU STEM and Culture Symposium, Your Voice Matters: STEM Scholars as Community Advocates, 300+ attendees from across the United States

2018: Developed a Women in STEM Panel & Symposium, 100+ attendees including high school and college students

2017: Podcast episode: Fun ways to engage your A&P class. McGraw Hill Higher Education

Media Coverage

[TCC Summer Camp Encourages more Latinas to Work in STEM](#), Fort Worth Report

[Fort Worth Medical Students Inspire Young Latina Women](#), TCU School of Medicine News

[Latina STEM Fellowship](#), Telemundo NBC 5 En Vivo

[Passion for Science Drives TR Professor](#), The Collegian

TCU Research Festival: The Dimensionality of Learning: 3D Curriculum Embedded into a Latina STEM Program, TCU College of Education News

[TCU STEM Organization Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month](#), TCU College of Science & Engineering News

[Your Voice Matters: STEM Scholars as Community Advocates](#), TCU College of Science & Engineering Stories

[Eight Fort Worth ISD Teens Participate in Latina STEM Fellowship Program](#), Fort Worth ISD News

Their Future Looks Bright, Nuestra News

[Scientists Talk Education, Careers, Family on 'Women in STEM Panel](#), Texas A&M University AgriLife Today

SERVICE

Departmental Service

2025-Present	Biology Advisory Committee
2022-Present	Advancement and Communications Committee
2022- Present	Biology Connection Culture Ad-hoc Committee
2019-2025	Visiting Lecturer STEM Scholars Summer Course SCIE 20970

College Service

2021-Present	STEM Scholars Program Advisory Committee
2019-Present	CSE College Community Advocate
2019-Present	Dean's Leadership Team
2018-Present	CSE Connection Culture Committee
2022-2023	Student Research Symposium Volunteer
2022-2023	Chemistry DEI Scholar Search Committee
2021-2023	Graduate Student Orientation DEI Representative
2021	Student Research Symposium Tech Host
2021	Pre-health Mock Interviewer
2020-2022	STEM & Culture Symposium Leadership Team
2019	Student Research Symposium Judge

University Service

2025-Present	Responsible Citizenship Core Vetting Committee
2021-Present	Core Council, NSC Representative

2021-2024	HMVV Core Vetting Committee
2020-Present	STEM Scholar Application Reviewer
2020-Present	First Gen Advisory Board, Student Support Services
2019-Present	Mentor for STEM Scholars
2020-2023	Faculty Senate
2020-2023	Educational Evaluation Committee
2019-2023	Founding Faculty Mentor, TCU SACNAS Student Organization
2019-2020	TCU DEI Inventory & Interview
2019-2021	Chancellor's Post-doctoral Fellow Search Committee

Community Service

2014-Present	Fort Worth ISD Texas Academy of Biomedical Sciences Site-Based Decision-Making Team Member
2016-Present	Mentor and Instructor for Latina STEM Fellowship
2017-2023	Mentor for MANA de North Texas Hermanita Program
2018	AVID Career Speaker
2017	Holy Family Catholic School Science Fair Advisor
2014-2017	Mentor for COMPASS Women's Mentoring Program
2011-2013	Riverside Middle School Science Camps

Academic Advising

2020-Present	Pre-Health Advisor
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Professional Membership

2022-Present	National Science Teaching Association
2022-Present	Science Teachers Association of Texas
2017-Present	Human Anatomy & Physiology Society
2017-Present	MANA de North Texas
2017-Present	Hispanic Women's Network
2016-Present	Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science
2010-Present	Texas Association of Chicanos in Higher Education

Leadership

2023-2024	Chair, HMVV Core Vetting Committee, TCU Core Council
2019-Present	College Community Advocate, TCU College of Science & Engineering

2016-Present	Director, Latina STEM Fellowship
2022-2023	Chair, Educational Evaluation Committee, TCU Faculty Senate
2020-2022	Chair, TCU STEM & Culture Symposium Leadership Team
2019-2020	Chair, DEI Committee, TCU College of Science & Engineering
2012-2018	Department Chair of Life Sciences, Tarrant County College
2010-2011	President, Faculty Association, Tarrant County College
2009-2010	President-elect, Faculty Association, Tarrant County College

Other Service

2015-2019	STEM Council, Tarrant County College
2011-2012	Faculty Association Promotion & Rank Committee, Tarrant County College
2012	Recruiter, Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Summer Research
2011	SACSCOC Quality Enhancement Plan Committee, Tarrant County College
2010	District Budget Planning Committee, Tarrant County College
2009-2011	Faculty Association Joint Consultation Committee, Tarrant County College
2009-2010	College for Kids Instructor, Tarrant County College
2009-2010	District Strategic Planning Committee, Tarrant County College