

Magdalena Villalba

2007 Carr Fellow - Educational Leadership Department

Magdalena teaches at Sonora High School in the Fullerton Joint Union High School District. Although Magdalena has worked as both a teacher of Spanish and a swimming coach within the district, her passion is teaching English Language Learners. Her current assignment includes operating a learning lab for second language learners. Prior to becoming a teacher she worked as a School Community Facilitator in Costa Mesa where her role as a liaison between school and community provided insight into the needs of English Language Learners. In making a decision to earn an administrative credential she acknowledges that it was a difficult choice because it could mean leaving the classroom, but Magdalena's rationale is that "I need to explore other facets of education in order to continue to fuel my passion to make a difference in students' lives." The focus of Magdalena's work in the Educational Leadership program has been on the correlation between English Language instruction and assessment in preparing students for the California Standards Test in Language Arts. Looking down the road to being a school administrator Magdalena says "there are not nearly enough administrators in our educational system that can identify with the struggles and tribulations of learning content matter while trying to master the academic language in which it is taught."