

Biodata: Diego Ortega-Auquilla, Ligia Fernanda Espinosa-Cevallos, Sandy T. Soto, & Andrés Bonilla Marchán

Diego Ortega-Auquilla has been a professor at UNAE since 2016, where he has taught at the undergraduate and graduate levels. He holds a bachelor's degree in English Language and Literature from Universidad de Cuenca and a master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Kansas State University. Currently, he is a Ph.D. (last-stage) candidate in Education at Universidad de Zaragoza. Furthermore, he has published several papers about English education and socio-educational topics; he has also been the director of Research and Educational Innovation Projects. His research interests revolve around the Ecuadorian EFL curriculum, English didactics, teacher education, and motivation in EFL learning.

Ligia Fernanda Espinosa-Cevallos is a tenured assistant professor and researcher at Universidad Regional Amazónica Ikiam. She holds a Master's degree in ESL Curriculum and Instruction from Kansas State University. She has extensive experience in EFL teaching and research in areas such as methodology, motivation, assessment, and classroom management. She has participated in multiple research projects in collaboration with professors from various universities of Ecuador, as well as from international universities in Germany and Cuba. She is currently pursuing her doctoral studies at Kansas State University and collaborating as a research assistant at the Center for Intercultural and Multilingual Advocacy (CIMA).

Sandy T. Soto is a student in the doctoral program in Advanced English Studies: Linguistics, Literature, and Culture at Universidad de Vigo, Spain. She holds a master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction ESL from Kansas State University and a bachelor's degree in EFL Teaching from Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja. She teaches ESP at the Faculty of Business Sciences of Universidad Técnica de Machala, Ecuador, and coordinates the ELT Innovators research group adjunct to the same university. Her research interests include didactics and educational policies applied to TEFL, materials development, and professional development for pre-service and in-service EFL teachers.

Andrés Bonilla Marchán is a Systems Engineer and has a master's degree in Business Intelligence Information Systems Management from the University of the Armed Forces (ESPE). Currently, he is pursuing a doctoral program in education. He works in the Department of Technological Support of the National University of Education (UNAE), as a software specialist responsible for the implementation of the academic management system and the supply of the EVEA platform. He has published in high-impact journals; the topics of his articles are mainly about vulnerable or minority groups, as well as student motivation in English learning at the university level.