# Justin McFarland

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# **Summary of Qualifications:**

I have worked for 15 years in language instruction and instructional program development. My experience in the aforementioned areas includes professional and service-oriented involvement in the fields of academics, business, and relgion, both domestically and internationally. My expertise is focused but not limited to cross-cultural research and communication, bilingual education and curriculum, first and second language acquisition, and literacy development.

## **Academic Background:**

January 2000---- May 2003, Howard Payne University, Brownwood, TX

- Bachelor of Arts, Biblical Studies
- Double minors in Spanish and Social Sciences

June 2004---- July 2004, ITESM, Monterrey, Nuevo León, México

- To satisfy course requirements to teach Spanish as a foreign language
- To satisfy recommendation to study abroad

August 2005---- December 2010, University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, TX

- Texas Teaching Certification
  - Spanish as a second language
  - English as a second language (ESL)
- M.Ed., instructional specialist with an emphasis in bilingual education

#### Occupational Experience:

March 2006---- present, Mason ISD, Mason, TX

- Develop curriculum and instruct beginner and intermediate levels of Spanish as a foreign language, including Spanish I, II, and III
- Serve as a mentor for a teacher seeking certification in ESL and Spanish instruction
- Implemented an Academic English class for high school English Language Learners
- Assist ELL (English Language Learner) students with the acquisition of conversation and academic English
- Advocate for ELL students and families both in the school district and within the community
- Assist with remedial classes for the STAAR assessments, especially as necessary for ELLs

 Instructed dual-credit courses in partnership with Central Texas College, allowing students to satisfy high school course requirements as well as earn credit for both College Spanish 1411 and 1412

- Instituted and currently oversee a Spanish Culture Club that introduces students to the culture
  of the Spanish-speaking world through the planning and execution of cultural events
- Organize and guide student educational trips to Spain, Costa Rica, and Chiapas, Mexico
- Serve as sponsor for the National Honor Society
- Serve as UIL Prose speaking coach and the UIL Social Studies team coach

January 2006---- present, River of Life Church, Mason, TX

- Developed and implemented ministry to serve Spanish monolinguals (2015), and currently coordinate and oversee the resulting weekly service
- Coordinate and oversee a team of 25 volunteers for the musical/liturgical department of the church
- Developed and implemented mentor-based student department (2007)
- Develop and manage curriculum and oversee 20 volunteers for the student department
- Administer budget for the aforementioned departments
- Assist with developing and executing trainings for church volunteer leadership
- Organize, administer funds, and oversee international service projects and trips
- Organize and oversee special events such as weekend retreats, conferences, seminars, etc.

August 2014---- January 2015, Loadcraft Industries, Brady TX

- Offered language consultation to chief officer of quality assurance who was hired from an engineering firm from Mexico
- Assisted the company president, CEO, and chief officer of quality assurance with developing and communicating clear vision statements, goals, and coherent written policy
- Critiqued communication from board meetings between the quality assurance department and the engineering department in order to offer observations and suggestions to improve company culture and discourse

May 2005---- September 2008, Loadcraft Industries, Brady, TX

 Worked as a lead welder building masts, draw works, and other components for land oilfield equipment

- Filmed and produced videos pertaining to plant personnel, safety, and procedures as well as welding instructional videos
- Produced procedure manuals for the manufacturing of various products through photography, technical writing, and compilation into digital and hard copies
- Translated company policy and procedure documents into Spanish
- Served as a verbal translator for the training and orientation of international workers from Spanish-speaking countries
- Assisted sales team in preparing multi-million dollar bids, communicating through electronic mail, and conducting conference calls to companies such as Repsol from within the Spanishspeaking context including Colombia, Spain, and Argentina

August, 2003---- May 2005, Lohn ISD, Lohn, TX

- Instructed ELA classes for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades
- Developed curriculum and instructed beginner and intermediate levels of Spanish as a foreign language, including Spanish I, II, and III
- Conducted student workshops and tutorials for writing remediation for state assessments

# Research/Seminars/Field Experience:

2002---- present, Service involvement and research in Chiapas, México

- Cultivate relationships with indigenous communities and individuals in Chiapas
- Organize and guide trips designed to introduce North Americans to the indigenous culture of Chiapas while attending to needs within indigenous communities that would improve their quality of life
- Conduct research pertaining to Spanish literacy development among bilingual speakers of Spanish and Mayan dialects within indigenous communities
- Develop, implement, and assess literacy strategies for the aforementioned demographic
- Instruct Spanish literacy to improve the educational experience of children within indigenous communities in Chiapas

 Assist indigenous population to develop specific strengths in the Spanish language in areas such as biblical, economic, academic, and computer/technology literacy

June 2014, Brady ISD, Spanish curriculum professional development workshop

- Assisted teachers within Brady ISD's Spanish department in aligning the scope and sequence
  of the curriculum being taught
- Evaluated curriculum based on alignment with Texas Essentials of Knowledge and Skills
- Evaluated and critiqued the instruction and assessment procedure of each teacher
- Offered suggestions for how each teacher within the department could modify instructional methodology to better accommodate the department goals

November 2009----- April 2010, Immigration advocacy

- Researched immigration laws and advocate agencies for immigrants residing in the U.S.
- Assisted families with children who were affected by immigration issues
- Organized a public forum and hosted Dr. Jesus Romero from the Baptist University of the Americas and the ISAAC Project as the guest speaker in order to raise awareness of immigration issues

May 2009---- January 2010, Research Paper- Effects of extracurricular involvement on student academic success and teacher pedagogy

- Produced a literature review on existing publications pertaining to extracurricular involvement and its effects on student academic success
- Conducted research within the Mason Independent School District at the high school to survey the effects of extracurricular involvement on both student academic success and teacher pedagogy
- Submitted research results along with the literature review to satisfy master's degree course work

# Awards/Honors:

- Spring 2011----- Featured as a distinguished student among the University of Texas at El Paso's 2010-2011 graduates in the UTEP magazine's 100,000 Graduates edition
- February 2015---- Interviewed by Univisión international television regarding immigration issues

## **Technical/Specialized Skills and Experience:**

- English/Spanish Bilingual/Bicultural
- Technical writing in English and Spanish
- Translation within English and Spanish languages in both written and verbal communication
- Program development and personnel administration
- Development and conduction of professional enrichment within the fields of curriculum, language acquisition, and specialized literacy
- Online curriculum development
- Integration of tablet and app-driven components in the classroom
- Manage logistical planning, fund raising, and financial administration for international service and touring trips
- Videography and video editing software