

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Lorenzo García-Amaya, assistant professor of romance languages and literatures, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of romance languages and literatures, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D. 2012 Indiana University
M.A. 2006 Indiana University
B.A. 2003 University of Seville, Spain

Professional Record:

2016-Present Assistant Professor, University of Michigan
2015-2016 Lecturer IV, University of Michigan
2012-2015 Lecturer III, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: A recipient of the Golden Apple Award (2020) and the Individual Award for Outstanding Contributions to Undergraduate Education (2021), Professor García-Amaya has an excellent teaching record. Since 2016, he has continued to demonstrate great engagement with his students inside and outside the classroom through collaborative efforts such as UROP and the Speech Production Lab. A salient aspect of his teaching has been his ability to awaken a strong desire among our undergraduates to study linguistics and to participate in lab-based learning through data collection and analysis. As a result, Professor García-Amaya has greatly contributed to the influx of students seeking to incorporate the study of linguistics as part of their major/minor in Spanish as well as in the romance languages and literatures (RLL) major. Students often praise—in no uncertain terms—his enthusiasm, dedication, clarity, passion, and positive energy for the subject matter. He has served on two dissertation student committees and has advised additional Ph.D. students and post-doctoral scholars.

Research: Professor Lorenzo García-Amaya specializes in second language acquisition, a foundational area within the field of psycholinguistics. His particular specialization is the acquisition of Spanish as a second language (L2). His research program is solidly grounded in the study of L2 learning and processing in both pedagogical settings and bilingual speech communities - two areas of inquiry that have long-standing, but effectively non-overlapping, research traditions. Professor García-Amaya's work is distinctive in encompassing both, and in developing research methods for studying these bilingual learning contexts that facilitate teasing apart the cognitive mechanisms that underlie L2 learning challenges from non-cognitive influences possibly unique to instructional settings.

Recent and Significant Publications:

(In press). "Exploring the connection between language use and oral proficiency during study abroad: Results from the Daily Language Questionnaire 2." *Foreign Language Annals*.

- García-Amaya, L. & Cintrón-Valentín, M. (In press). “The effects of textually enhanced captions on written elicited imitation in L2 grammar.” *Modern Language Journal*.
- (In press). “An investigation into utterance-fluency patterns of advanced L2 bilinguals Afrikaans and Spanish in Patagonia.” *Linguistic Approaches to Bilingualism*.
<https://doi.org/10.1075/lab.19090.gar>.
- (2021). “A change of setting: Measuring language use in an overseas immersion context.” *Study Abroad Research in Second Language Acquisition and International Education*, 6(1), 32–58. <https://doi.org/10.1075/sar.19010.gar>.
- (2017). “Detailing L1 and L2 use in study-abroad research: Data from the daily linguistic questionnaire.” *System*, 71, 60–72. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.system.2017.09.023>.

Service: Professor García-Amaya has established a strong record of service, exceeding expectations for someone at his rank. He has worked tirelessly on behalf of the linguistics curriculum by serving in different committees and organizing events of a varied nature. He has remained actively involved in revamping the linguistics course offerings in RLL, working closely with colleagues to modify existing courses and to propose new ones. At the departmental level, he has served continuously (2016-2021) on the Spanish Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, where he has worked to increase the number of Spanish majors and minors in creative and innovative ways. He has rendered visible service to the profession on the national level by serving as external referee for over a dozen journals.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A): “I would like to note that it is extremely impressive and commendable that Prof. García-Amaya has been able to secure a total of \$628,889 to support his interdisciplinary research since becoming an Assistant Professor in 2016. I have never evaluated a file for tenure and promotion, or even for Full professorship, with such an accomplishment.”

Reviewer (B): “In my estimation Professor García-Amaya ranks among the leading scholars in his peer group. He is clearly also an outstanding teacher and mentor, as shown by the awards that he has received for his teaching.”

Reviewer (C): “Dr. García-Amaya is clearly above average in his research productivity and the visibility and impact of his research. I am familiar with the career trajectories of many scholars in this and related fields at R1 institutions in the United States. Most of them have been and continue to be active researchers in the field, but probably only about 20% of them have had a research profile as strong as his at the same stage of their careers.”

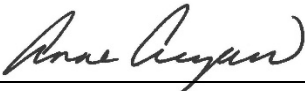
Reviewer (D): “...he has garnered a number of awards that speak to the reputation he has developed, and this track record also shows that his productivity is likely to continue apace. Dr. García-Amaya has established himself as a well known talented scholar, and has received invitations to speak at a number of locales (on top of the dozens of refereed conference presentations he has delivered). For someone coming up for tenure, this level of external recognition is uncommon.”

Reviewer (E): “The amount of work Professor García-Amaya has managed to publish in excellent venues is substantial. And the venues in which he has decided to publish his work are also impressive.”

Reviewer (F): “Dr. García-Amaya has established himself as one of the leading [junior] researchers in the field of second language processing and learning. He already stands out as an accomplished scholar and an emerging authority in North America in this area of research.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor García-Amaya has an exceptionally strong record of research, teaching, and service. With numerous publications, a forthcoming manuscript, a proven record of effective teaching, and significant service and leadership, he has proven to be a highly valued member of the RLL faculty and of the profession overall. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Lorenzo García-Amaya be promoted to the rank of associate professor of romance languages and literatures, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



Anne Curzan, Dean
Geneva Smitherman Collegiate Professor of
English Language and Literature, Linguistics,
and Education
Arthur F. Thurnau Professor
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

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