

Patricia O. Covarrubias

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Dr. Patricia Covarrubias, a native of Mexico, is Associate Professor at the University of New Mexico in the Department of Communication and Journalism. She earned her B.A. and M.A. degrees from California State University, Sacramento specializing in French language and literature. She lived in Europe for 18 months and worked for one year at the Lycée Bellevue in Albi, France teaching English to high school girls. Upon her return to the United States, she worked for several years as an on-air television news reporter for KCRA-TV, the NBC affiliate in Sacramento, California. Her broadcast reports broached a wide range of topics including: politics, medicine, crime, education, and human interest. For ten years she owned and operated OCELOTL, a consultant business in Stockton, California specializing in communication skills for individual and corporate clients. Her consulting practice also involved studying Japanese so that she could better work with Japanese businessmen from Nippon Steel Corporation. She earned a doctorate degree at the University of Washington specializing in cultural and intercultural communication as well as qualitative research methods, in particular, the ethnography of communication.

At UNM, Dr. Covarrubias has served as the M.A. program director for her department and currently serves as the president of the Faculty Concilium Executive Committee for the Latin American and Iberian Institute (LAI). She teaches courses in cultural and intercultural communication; global metaphors; language, thought, and behavior; qualitative research methods with emphasis on language and social interaction, and the ethnography of communication.

Her research includes ethnographic work on Mexican ways of speaking as well as American Indian uses of communicative silence. She is the author of *Culture, Communication, and Cooperation: Interpersonal Relations and Pronominal Address in a Mexican Organization*. Other published work is featured in: *Communication Monographs*, *Communication, Culture & Critique*, and *The Howard Journal of Communications*, *Encyclopedia of Communication Theory*, and *From Generation to Generation: Maintaining Cultural Identity Over Time*, *Theorizing About Communication and Culture* and *Among US: Essays on Identity, Belonging, and Intercultural Competence*. She also is continuing her work with Latinist/Hispanic/Latino/Chicano(a) ways of communicating.

Dr. Covarrubias is the proud mother of, Isaac, a teenage boy who helps her keep life in perspective.