IT IS OKAY TO BE AN ECLECTIC RESEARCHER

Enilda Romero-Hall, Ph.D. Associate Professor Instructional Technology/ Learning, Design, and Technology Programs



Tutaleni @tutaleni

"My research interests are very eclectic, and I am proud of that." - Dr. Enilda Romero-Hall (@eromerohall) reminding that it is ok to have multiple academic interests. Although, I think the caveat is that sometimes you have to show connections to those who don't get it.

. . .

1:47 PM · Sep 26, 2022 · Twitter Web App

THE TASK: PLEASE PRESENT ON YOUR RESEARCH INTEREST IN GENERAL

LET START WITH THE END

Inclusive and equitable learning design

Faculty and learners' digital literacy

Network learning

Culture, learning, and technology



ALWAYS CURIOUS



MADE THE TRANSITION INTO EDUCATION

Practitioner-based master program Provided support to preservice teachers Influenced my passion for teaching others Experienced moments of failure

RESEARCH JOURNEY



SIMULATION IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING



SIMULATION IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING



FINDING MY OWN PATH

ONLINE LEARNING



ONLINE SOCIAL COMMUNITIES

Informal Learning Networked Learning Graduate Education

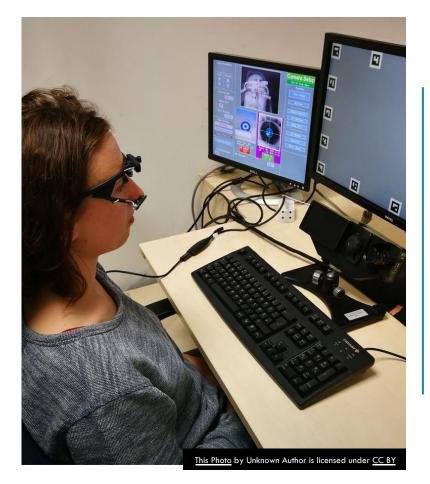


CULTURE

Teaching and Learning Learning Design Online Learning



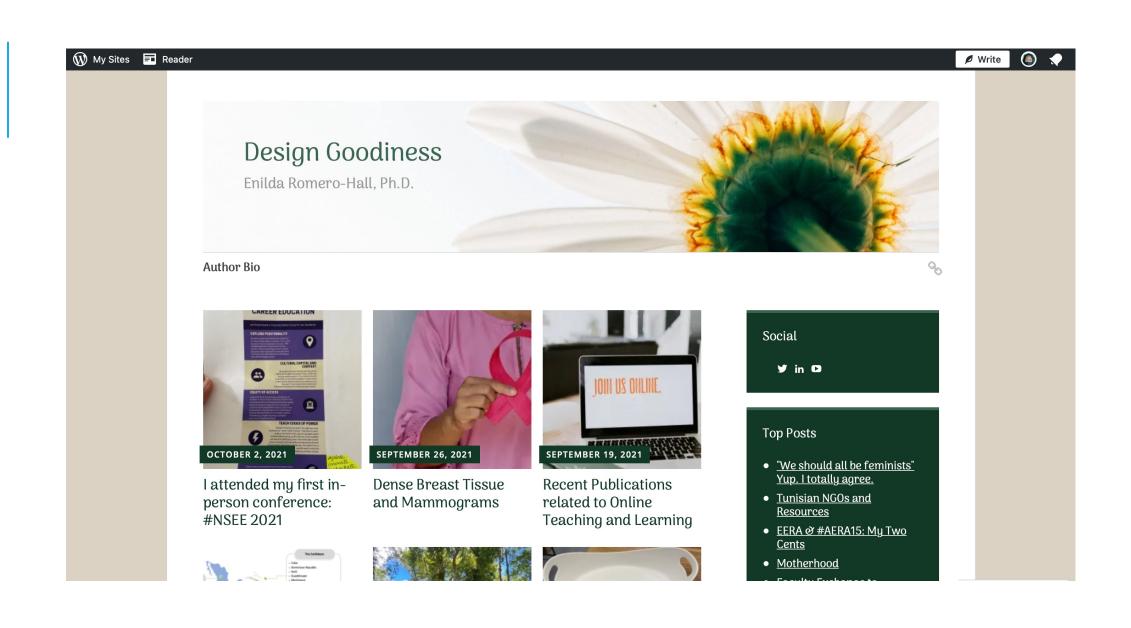
INNOVATIVE RESEARCH METHODS



EDITED BY ENILDA ROMERO-HALL RESEARCH METHODS IN LEARNING DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY







JUNE 4, 2017 EROMEROHALL EDIT The Miscarriage

I have been dreading writing this post because just thinking about the events that transpired makes me emotional and sad. However, I feel encouraged to share my story thanks to the many comments I have received (in person or online) from other women who can relate to my previous post about been an academic mama. I hope that this post reaches others (men and women) so that we can be more open to share and discuss the emotions, decisions, and life experiences during/after a miscarriage.



Social У in 🖸 **Top Posts** • "We should all be feminists" Yup. I totally agree. • Tunisian NGOs and <u>Resources</u> • EERA & #AERA15: My Two <u>Cents</u> <u>Motherhood</u> • Faculty Exchange to <u>@PHLuzern (Switzerland):</u> <u>Overview</u> **Blog Archives** Select Month \bigcirc

SELF-DISCLOSURE AND VULNERABILITY

EQUITY AND INCLUSION IN LEARNING DESIGN

Instructional Design Research Women's Caucus #AECT17

Date/Time: Wed, Nov 8, 2:00 to 3:00pm Location: 2nd Level, Grand 3

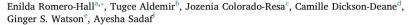


The panelists will describe and discuss key topics and experiences that they have encountered in their day-to-day lives as female academics. The goal is to provide an open forum in which the panelist and members of the audience can discuss with trust their successes, frustrations, and struggles while also providing a voice of comfort and/or advice.

Women's Studies International Forum 71 (2018) 19-28



Undisclosed stories of instructional design female scholars in academia



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ARTICLE INFO

ABSTRACT

Keywords: Autoethnography Instructional design Radical feminism Higher education

In this critical autoethnography, we come together as female instructional design (ID) faculty and graduate students. We use self-reflection to explore, through our writing, the experiences of our lives as female scholars. This includes gender-related challenges, concerns, and experiences that shape our lives as researchers, instructors, and practitioners. The theoretical frameworks that guide this critical autoethnography are radical and intersectional feminism. Radical feminists practice consciousness-raising in which women come together to share their personal experiences with each other. Intersectional feminists acknowledge that the various aspects of humanity, such as class, race, sexual orientation, and gender do not exists separately from each other. Our stories provide a view into the gender inequalities experienced by women, from various cultural backgrounds, ranks, and roles, while maneuvering the socio-cultural norms ingrained in higher education institutions. Our intention is that these stories generate understanding of these issues and inform ways that higher education may be more inclusive and supportive of female academics in the future.

Introduction

In everyday life, we often have conversations about empowering women. Yet, there are many issues that continue to exist within social. cultural, political, and economic contexts affecting women all over the world. In higher education, in particular, women continue to lag behind their male counterparts (Euben, 2001; Misra, Lundquist, Holmes, & Agiomavritis, 2011; Valian, 1998). The inclusion of women in higher education is crucial as it would help lessen the positionality of the decisions about education policies, promotion criteria, student admissions, and so forth (Acker, 1992). The masculinist discourse of the dominant paradigms dictating scholarship practices can take multiple sexist forms that aim to further alienate and marginalize women in academia. However, as the number and the presence of women rise in academia, the voices discussing the inequity of access, pay, recognition, and promotion are getting louder. This has prompted a new epistemological approach that examines women's lives and experiences (Bell & Gordon, 1999), thus creating the feminist approach as an emerging paradigm that aims to vocalize the silenced voices by the hegemonic

forces of the dominant paradigms (Hesse-Biber, 2012).

Being inherently political, the feminist paradigm in academia is still devalued and demystified as a scientific approach (Bell & Gordon, 1999). Normalization of the feminist paradigm in academia needs to go through a social and political legitimization movement. This draws on the Kuhnian framework (Kuhn, 1970), where we can argue that the skeptical doubts and the criticisms raised concerning the existing "shared belief systems that influence the kinds of knowledge researchers seek and how they interpret the evidence they collect" (Morgan, 2007, p.50) will require scientific revolutions at some point, within the dominant masculinist paradigm. Therefore, uncovering the subjugated knowledge about the gender biases in academic life will reveal the anomalies that do not fit in the existing assumptions and practices. This later will create tension and conflict between the scientists recognizing these anomalies and the scientists whose commitments adhere to the existing paradigm (Kuhn, 1970; Morgan, 2007). We aim to validate the existence of such anomalies within this masculinist domain of scholarship through a critical autoethnographic examination of our daily life experiences as female scholars. These narratives are as

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NAVIGATING THE INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN FIELD AS AN AFRO-LATINX WOMAN: <u>A FEMINIST</u> AUTOETHNOGRAPHY

A Feminist Autoethnography

Enilda Romero-Hall¹0

Accepted: 27 October 2021 © Association for Educational Communications & Technology 2021

Abstract

In this paper, using a feminist autoethnographical approach, I explore personal experiences as an Afro-Latinx woman studying, teaching, and researching in the instructional design and technology (IDT) field. This feminist autoethnography serves to self-reflect on how, as a woman of color, I have navigated the IDT field as a graduate student and faculty member. In order to challenge, oppose, and dissent against the many oppressive behaviors that women of color like me face in academia, I embraced an intersectional feminist approach in my career as a scholar. In this paper, I dissect intersectional feminism and its influence on me and, therefore, influence on my IDT teaching and scholarship.

 $\label{eq:construction} \begin{array}{l} \mbox{Keywords} \ \mbox{Ethnography} \cdot \mbox{Autoethnography} \cdot \mbox{Feminist} \cdot \mbox{Afro-Latinx} \cdot \mbox{Instructional design and technology} \cdot \mbox{Faculty} \cdot \mbox{Higher education} \\ \mbox{Higher education} \end{array}$

Introduction

Since the start of my studies in the IDT field, I have always felt like an outsider who has longed to see myself as part of the field. This is due, in part, to my status as an Afro-Latinx woman. What women in the IDT field have been, unconsciously and consciously, taught is that well-known leaders and "pioneers" in the IDT field are males, and in particular White males (Butler & Lockee, 2016). These are the same men whose theories, models, structures, and practice have guided the IDT field as well as our studies. There is evidence that instructional design practitioners are mostly women: yet, in IDT practitioner settings men exercising supervision outnumber women (Bond et al., 2021). There is also evidence that groundbreaking work led by women in our field (Donaldson, 2016; Johnson, 2008) has not been highlighted in our literature (Butler & Lockee, 2016). There is a body of research supporting that instructional design practices, research, and teaching are heavily influenced by male dominance (Bond et al., 2021; Butler & Lockee, 2016; Romero-Hall et al., 2018).

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Personally, it is difficult to see myself in this male-dominated field. It also makes me question and challenge the theories, models, and practices of IDT and its relationship to the dominant and oppressed cultures. In my years of experience as an IDT graduate student, practitioner, researcher, and instructor, I have seen the need for a more inclusive field. For me, intersectional feminism provides that muchneeded perspective. Intersectional feminism is defined as a theoretical lens that postulates specific social issues as an interlock between gender, race, class, and queerness, amongst other factors (Crenshaw, 1989). In the instructional design and technology practice, "we aim to present our field as a process-based, relational, inclusive, equitable, and transformative community" (Romero-Hall et al., 2018, p.27). Therefore, I see feminist approaches as a natural ally because of "its central commitment to issues such as agency, fulfillment, identity, equity, empowerment, and social justice" (Bardzel, 2010, p. 1301). In the past, "feminist approaches to design have problematized a range of taken-for-granted assumptions" (Campbell, 2015, p. 233) in learning design processes and practice (Koseoglu, 2020). These assumptions, guided by the dominant culture, marginalize and oppress our learners, practice, designs, research agendas, knowledge base, and even our graduate education and mentorship.

In this paper, using a feminist autoethnography approach (Evans-Winters, 2019; Stefaniak, 2021), I explore personal



Feminist Pedagogy for Teaching Online

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ABOUT FPTO BLOG LITERATURE ~ TOOLS ~ ANNOTATED ASSIGNMENTS GET INVOLVED

Critical Digital Pedagogy in Higher Education

Edited by Suzan Köseoğlu, George Veletsianos, and Chris Rowell

CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE PEDAGOGY IN DIGITAL PRAXIS

Critical Digital Pedagogy in Higher Education

edited by Suzan Köseoğlu, George Veletsianos, and Chris Rowell







Table 2: Examples of different levels of support.		
Micro level support	Meso level support	Macro level support
Personal Situational awareness Resiliency Personality Social	Technological Platform settings & terms of service Blocking & reporting tools Organizational Institutions & institutional policy 	Existing attitudes toward gender • Misogyny & sexism • Equality for all Perceptions of digital dualism
FriendsFamilyColleagues & peers	Sectoral Government policies Law enforcement 	Media representations of online abuse "Don't feed the trolls"

ONLINE HARASSMENT OF UNDERREPRESENTED SCHOLARS

Thank You! Questions or Comments?

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