Title of Project:

Newcomer High Schoolers' Writing Development through Participatory Action Research

Researcher:

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TIRF Research Topic Investigated:

Plurilingualism in Business, Industry, the Professions, and Educational Contexts



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Project Summary:

Although extracurricular programs seem to enhance the learning opportunities of immigrant students and other marginalized populations (Camacho & Fuligni, 2015), few scholars have studied the precise ways in which newly arrived immigrant, Latino youth benefit from (or not) these programs. My qualitative study will address this research gap by examining newcomer Latino high schoolers' experiences in an afterschool program centered on participatory action research (PAR). My study will use ethnographic methods (e.g., intensive participant observation, artifact analysis, and semi-structured interviews with both students and teachers/administrators) to explore how Latinx immigrant youth experience the process of doing PAR and how this experience may influence students' multilingual writing. That is, my multi-source data analysis will seek to better understand not only students' participation in the program but also the program's impact on their communicative competencies. This exploratory, critical inquiry will shed light on how to improve language learning opportunities for multilingual students.