

Manuel Gonzalez Velasco

PhD Student, English — Rhetoric and Writing Studies

Wayne State University

mggonzalezvelasco@gmail.com

[Wayne State profile](#) · [LinkedIn](#) · [The Rhetoric Diaries](#)

Research interests

Rhetoric and composition; generative AI in postsecondary writing instruction; writing technologies and digital literacy; student self-efficacy and transfer; multilingual and first-generation writing; creative writing pedagogy; academic identity formation, study culture, and Dark Academia aesthetics.

Research projects

- **From Ghostwriter to Co-Author: AI as Sponsor of (il)Literacy:** Generative AI as a writing technology in postsecondary composition, with attention to student agency, rhetorical judgment, self-efficacy, authorship, attribution, and visible AI collaboration.
- **Rhetorically Governed Co-Authoring (RGC):** A conceptual and pedagogical framework for bounded AI collaboration that keeps human purpose, monitoring, attribution, and judgment visible.
- **English Insecurity and AI-Assisted Writing:** A research program on linguistic legitimacy, shame, professionalism, multilingual rhetorical agency, and AI-mediated feedback.
- **Dark Academia as a Literacy Identity System:** Dark Academia as an aesthetic and rhetorical system shaping study practices, scholarly legitimacy, productivity, burnout, and academic belonging.
- **“Ponte Las Pilas” and First-Generation Shame Rhetorics:** A developing study concept on educational effort, family expectation, care, obligation, shame, and rhetorical agency.
- **Scaffolding Rhetorical Judgment in Composition:** Ongoing teaching research on visible intellectual checkpoints, reflection, transfer, and writer agency.

Education

- **PhD in English**, concentration in Rhetoric and Writing Studies; emphasis in Rhetoric of Science and Technology, Wayne State University, expected 2029.
- **MFA in Creative Writing**, fiction concentration, San Diego State University, 2025.
- **BA in Interdisciplinary Studies in Three Departments**, English, Communication, and Linguistics, San Diego State University, 2021.
- **AA in English**, Southwestern Community College, 2019.
- **AA in Journalism**, Southwestern Community College, 2019.
- **AA in Communication Studies**, Southwestern Community College, 2019.

Academic appointments

- Graduate Teaching Assistant, Wayne State University, 2026–Present.
- Adjunct Faculty, Oakland Community College, 2025–Present.
- Adjunct Faculty, Macomb Community College, 2025–Present.
- Adjunct Faculty, Wayne State University, 2025–2026.
- Teaching Assistant, San Diego State University, 2022–2025.

Teaching experience

Wayne State University

- ENG 1020: Introductory College Writing, 2025–Present.

Oakland Community College

- ENG 1510: Composition I, 2025–Present.
- ENG 1510E: Composition I Enhanced, 2025–Present.
- ENG 1520: Composition II, 2025–Present.

Macomb Community College

- ENGL 1181: Communication I, 2025–Present.
- ENGL 1190: Communication II, 2025–Present.
- ENGL 2725: American Literature: 1865 to Present, 2025–Present.

San Diego State University

- RWS 100: Rhetoric of Written Argument, 2022–2025.
- RWS 200: Rhetoric of Written Argument in Context, 2022–2025.

Writing-program and tutoring experience

- **Writing Mentor / Embedded Writing Tutor**, Rhetoric and Writing Studies, San Diego State University, 2022–2025.
- **ESL Teaching Assistant and ESL Tutor**, Palomar College, 2022.

Pedagogical design and digital pedagogy

- Designed scaffolded writing curricula across first-year composition, research writing, communication, and literature courses.
- Developed creative-critical assignment sequences connecting character self-portrait, worldbuilding, opposition, adaptation, rhetorical analysis, research, public argument, and reflective writing.
- Created major assignment prompts, rubrics, peer-review worksheets, revision plans, classroom presentations, and process-based writing activities.
- Designed AI-assisted classroom activities focused on rhetorical judgment, brainstorming, revision, attribution, and writer agency.
- Used Canvas, D2L, collaborative documents, digital worksheets, presentation tools, and online discussion spaces to support writing instruction.

Publications

Public scholarship

Gonzalez Velasco, Manuel. ["From Ghostwriter to Co-Author-in-the-Loop: Making AI's Writing Labor Visible."](#) *Digital Rhetoric Collaborative*, 5 June 2026.

Journalism

- ["A Journey Worth A Thousand Words."](#) *SWC The Sun Newspaper*, 28 Oct. 2019.
- ["Admin Association Complains That Too Many College Leaders Are 'Interim.'"](#) *SWC The Sun Newspaper*, 12 Mar. 2020.
- ["College Confirms Second Known Tuberculosis Case."](#) *SWC The Sun Newspaper*, 12 Mar. 2020.
- ["English Professor Turns Her Dissertation Into A Rallying Cry For Adjuncts."](#) *SWC The Sun Newspaper*, 3 Dec. 2019.
- ["Fate of ASO Election Unknown As Shutdown Extends To Summer."](#) *SWC The Sun Newspaper*, 15 Apr. 2020.
- ["National University Offers Free Online Courses Through June."](#) *SWC The Sun Newspaper*, 7 Apr. 2020.

Research and writing projects in development

- **From Ghostwriter to Co-Author: AI as Sponsor of (il)Literacy.** Research manuscript in development.
- **Dark Academia as a Literacy Identity System.** Research project in early development.
- **English Insecurity and AI-Assisted Writing.** Research program in development.

Creative writing

- *Three Versions of the Fire*, poetry manuscript in progress.
- Creative Writing Thesis, MFA in Creative Writing, San Diego State University, 2025.

Public scholarship and media

- Creator and host, [The Rhetoric Diaries](#), 2025–Present.

Conference presentations

Gonzalez Velasco, Manuel. "From Ghostwriting to Co-Author: AI as Sponsor of (il)Literacy." *Eastern Michigan University GenAI Summit 2026: Learning Together at the Forefront of Change*, Ypsilanti, Michigan, March 2026. Individual 15-minute presentation and Q&A.

Fellowships, grants, awards, and honors

- Thomas C. Rumble University Graduate Fellowship, Wayne State University, 2025–2026.
- Prebys Poetry and Creative Writing Endowed Scholarship, San Diego State University, Fall 2022.
- San Diego SPJ Journalism Contest for Excellence in Journalism, News Series, 2020.
- Southwestern College Vice President's List, Fall 2019.
- San Diego State University Dean's List, Fall 2020.

Editorial and professional experience

- Assistant News Editor, *SWC The Sun*, 2019–2020.
- Marketing and Communications Intern, NextEnergy, Detroit, Michigan, June 2026–Present.

Teaching certificate

- TESL/TEFL Certificate, 2022.

Service

- Conference Volunteer, 2025 Conference on Community Writing, Wayne State University / Detroit, 2025.