

# Aixa Méndez

2929 W Oak Ridge Road Apt D-1, Orlando, Florida 32809

aixamendez@knights.ucf.edu amendez9@valenciacollege.edu

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Throughout my career, I have demonstrated loyalty, commitment to excellence, and a solid work ethic. My success comes from collaborative teams. Equity and civility are at the heart of my research interests.

## RESUME HIGHLIGHTS

### SOCIOLOGY

- GTA Professor of Record – Introduction to Sociology. 2022
- GRA – research in conjunction with the University of Massachusetts Boston and UCF department of Anthropology Spring 2022
- GTA Assistant to Dr. Shannon Carter in the Sociology of Sex and Reproduction Course
- GTA Assistant to Dr. Liz Grauerholz in Introduction to Sociology Course
- GTA Professor of record - Acting for Non-Majors – UCF

### THEATRE

- GTA Assistant to various professors in UCF Theatre Department with high-ranking reviews
  - Woman in Theatre – Online course with Professor Holly E. MacDonald
  - Theatre History 111 – Face to Face with Professor Aaron C. Thomas
  - Theatre for Social Change (Honors) – Face to Face with Professor Sybil St Claire
  - Script Analysis – Face to Face with Professor Elizabeth Horns
  - Music Theatre – Online with Professor Jim Brown
- Collaborated in the creation of a new course in canvas along with the director in the summer of 2020 for Valencia College
- University of Central Florida - Ethnodrama Class – created and facilitated the class where students wrote a script dealing with the sensitive topic of human trafficking, out of research from court cases, news reports, with added interviews.

### AWARDS

**Nominated for Best Thesis** - *Planting Seeds: Life Stories of Awakening Self-Awareness*

UCF GTA Professor of Record 2022-2023, 2016-2017

Various Assistantships during my time at UCF 2015-2022

UCF Summer Mentoring Fellowship 2019

UCF Grad Presentation Fellowship 2016

### PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

*Planting Seeds: Life Stories of Awakening Self-Awareness* published in Google Scholars: stars.library.ucf.edu and etd.fcla.edu

*Dancing With Words. An Anthology of Inmates Life Stories.* (Chapter of thesis). Published in *Academia.com* and *ReaserchGate.com*

*Ethnodrama and the Aesthetic of the Media in Relationship to Our Communities. Creating a Script from a Newspaper/Media Artifact.* Workshop presented at New York University Symposium on Ethnodrama

*Ethnodrama and the Aesthetic of the Media in Relationship to Our Communities.* Workshop presented at the Florida Council on Crime and Delinquency 88th Annual

*Privilege* Docudrama at Valencia College. Co-writer

*Absolute Power* produced by Project Spotlight UCF. **Winner of Best Creative Director.**

*RED Light: Why It Doesn't Stop.* Director at **Valencia College**

*Azulejos* film by Maria Arboleda produced by the University of Miami (UM)

#### **UNPUBLISHED – in progress**

*Ethnography Dramaturgy: Inside the World of Indecent* by Paula Vogel. *Interfacing Gender, Class, and Race*

*Qué pasa? BASTA! The Adventure of Colonialism in Puerto Rico at the Wake of Hurricane Maria*

#### **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Human Trafficking - Social Inequalities, Social Justice and Change, Colonialism in particular  
Colonialism in Puerto Rico, Crime and Prevention, Inmates, Homelessness, and others.

#### **EDUCATION**

University of Central Florida (UCF)

**Ph.D. Student** (expected graduation) **2026**

University of Central Florida

**MA Theatre Studies**

**Honors: Magna Cum Laude 2017**

Ashford University

**MBA Organizational Leadership 2008**

**Honors: Summa Qum Laude**

Valencia College 2005

**AS Degree in Paralegal Studies**

Honors: Magna Cum Laude

New York University

**BFA Theatre- Acting**

#### **LANGUAGES**

English – speaks, reads, and writes with high proficiency

Spanish – native language; speaks, reads, and writes with high proficiency.

#### **REFERENCES**

Upon Request