

Abel Rodriguez, Ph.D.

har2109@tc.columbia.edu • 972-238-6304

EDUCATION

- 2011 Ph.D. in Cognitive Studies in Education
Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY
Dissertation: "How Regulatory Focus Impacts Knowledge Accessibility"
Advisors: E. Tory Higgins & James Corter
- 2004 Master of Music in Music Education
Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
- 1995 Bachelor of Music in Music Education with All-Level Certification
University of North Texas, Denton, TX

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Richland College Music Faculty/Orchestra Director, Aug 2017 – present
Dallas County Community College District, Dallas, TX

North Mesquite High School Orchestra Director, Aug. 2012 – June 2017
Mesquite Independent School District, Mesquite, TX

- Wrote 5 levels of books to facilitate the development of technique
- Expanded the program from 2 string orchestras to 4 string orchestras, 1 Jazz string ensemble, and 1 symphony orchestra to provide a more comprehensive music program
- To further develop student independence, assisted with the establishment of primarily student led ensembles in which students arranged music, recruited members, and led rehearsals
- Established a team of private teachers and sectional coaches, nationally recognized clinicians, and guest artists to increase the diversity of educational perspectives for the students
- In 2016, earned more 1st Divisions at U.I.L. Concert and Sight-Reading Contest than any other high school orchestra program in district history.
- In 2016, helped students earn more 1st Divisions at U.I.L. State Solo & Ensemble than all of the other schools in the region combined.

Wheeling High School Orchestra Director, Aug. 2000 – June 2005
Township High School District 214, Arlington Heights, IL

- Redesigned the curriculum to provide students with a more comprehensive understanding of orchestral music history
- Established the Jazz string orchestra program to create a more diverse music program
- Established the Wheeling Symphony League, an independent non-profit support organization, to enhance educational opportunities for the orchestra students
- Established a team of private teachers and sectional coaches, nationally recognized clinicians, and guest artists to increase the diversity of educational perspectives for the students
- Created inter-district, semi-annual, orchestra festivals to provide students with a broader perspective of student achievements and opportunities
- Supervised student teachers to increase individual student attention and the availability of well-trained educators

District Orchestra Coordinator/Orchestra Director, Aug. 1997 – June 2000
Allen Independent School District, Allen, TX

- Established the orchestra program to form a more comprehensive music program for the district
- Increased enrollment from 54 to 200+ students in 3 years
- Designed the curriculum and wrote the beginner method book/accompaniment CD to maximize student achievement by tailoring the curriculum to build specifically on the students' previous musical education
- Taught at the elementary, middle, and high school levels
- Administrated budgets, inventory, purchasing, music libraries, scheduling, and staffing for 8 elementary schools, 2 middle schools, 1 freshmen center, and 1 high school

Robert E. Lee High School/Middle School Orchestra Director, Jan. 1996 – June 1997
Tyler Independent School District, Tyler, TX

- Coordinated curriculums for south cluster middle schools to utilize the specific skills of the faculty
- Taught high school string orchestra, high school music theory, and middle school orchestra classes

Abel Rodriguez, Ph.D.

har2109@tc.columbia.edu • 972-238-6304

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- **Rodriguez, H. A.** (2019). *The cognitive science of effective practicing*. Address, Texas Music Educators Association Convention, San Antonio, TX
- **Rodriguez, H. A.** (2019). *Two and a half steps to better intonation*. Address, Texas Music Educators Association Convention, San Antonio, TX
- **Rodriguez, H. A.** (2016). *How to use motivation science to maximize achievement*. Address, Texas Music Educators Association Convention, San Antonio, TX
- **Rodriguez, H. A.** (2015). *How memory systems work to improve musicianship*. Address, Texas Music Educators Association Convention, San Antonio, TX

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Lab Member, September 2006 – May 2011

Higgins Lab, Dr. E. Tory Higgins, Principle Investigator

- Collaborated on the development of regulatory engagement measures and developed tasks for measuring knowledge accessibility
- Developed and conducted independent research
- Created computer programs for projects
- Recruited, trained, and supervised research assistants

Project Associate, September 2005 – December 2007

Education for Thinking Project, Dr. Deanna Kuhn, Director

- Assisted with the implementation of a research project, which examined the development of argument and inquiry skills using a microgenetic experimental design
- Trained another associate
- Assisted with the qualitative coding of argument scripts

EDITORIAL ACTIVITY

Motivation and Emotion, ad hoc Reviewer

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Creative Arts Coordinator and Philosophy Instructor, March – December 2007

Columbia Secondary School for Math, Science & Engineering, New York, NY

After School Music Composition Instructor, September 2006 – May 2007

Community Action School, New York, NY

Director of Orchestras, Spring 1998-2000

Stephen F. Austin University, Spring Orchestra Festival

Director of Orchestras, Summer 1996 – 1997

Stephen F. Austin University Strings Camp

OTHER SKILLS

Expertise in SPSS, Java, Flash, HTML, Finale, Sibelius, Media Lab, and Direct RT

OTHER ACADEMIC INTERESTS

Complex Systems and Philosophy of Science