**Naima Bhana, PhD, BCBA**

Assistant Professor of Special Education

Department of Advanced Teacher Education

Niagara University

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**Areas of Specialization**

Early Intervention

Communication and Literacy

Cultural, Ethnic, and Linguistic Diversity

**Education**

2021 *Doctor of Philosophy in Special Education*

The Pennsylvania State University

*Applied Behavior Analysis Graduate Certificate*

Board Certified Behavior Analyst Certification Number: 1-21-54519

The Pennsylvania State University

2013 *Master of Science in Curriculum and Instruction-Exceptional Student Education*

Concentration in Autism Spectrum Disorders

Florida State University

2012 *Bachelor of Arts in Exceptional Student Education, Minor in Psychology*

Florida State University

**Current Academic Appointment**

2021-Present *Assistant Professor of Special Education*

Department of Advanced Teacher Education

College of Education

Niagara University

**Professional Experience**

2017-2021 *Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant*

Department of Educational Psychology, Counseling, and Special Education

The Pennsylvania State University

University Park, Pennsylvania

2013-2017 *Autism Support Teacher*

Buckhorn Elementary School

Hillsborough County Schools

Valrico, Florida

2012- 2013 *Bilingual Research Assistant*

*Project:* Spanish-English Language Learner’s Early Literacy Skills

Florida Center for Reading Research

Tallahassee, Florida

2010-2011 *Teaching Assistant*

Florida State University Children Center

Tallahassee, Florida

**Professional Certifications**

2020 Graduate Student Online Teaching Certificate

Penn State University- World Campus

2013 *Florida Department of Education*

Exceptional Student Education

Elementary Education

English for Speakers of Other Languages (Academic Endorsement)

Autism Spectrum Disorders (Academic Endorsement)

**Publications**

1. Taylor, J.T., & **Bhana, N.** (2021). Incorporating High-Leverage Practice 7 in Classroom/Behavior Management Courses: Creating Supportive Learning Environments. *Journal of Special Education Preparation.* <https://doi.org/10.33043/JOSEP.1.1.47-54>
2. **Bhana, N.,** McNaughton, D., Raulston, T.J., & Ousley, C. (2020). Supporting communication and participation in shared storybook reading using visual scene displays. *Teaching Exceptional Children, 52*(6)*,* 382-391*.* https://doi.org/10.1177/0040059920918609

1. Raulston, T.J., **Bhana, N.,** & McIntyre, L.L., & Ousley, C. (2020). Supported joint engagement with peers: Collateral effects of a playdate intervention for children with autism. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders.* Advance online publication. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10803-020-04544-x
2. Ousley, C., Raulston, T., McNaughton, D., Gregori, E., **Bhana, N.,** & Mantzoros, T. (2020). A comparison of single-case evaluation tools applied to functional communication training with augmentative and alternative communication supports for students with developmental disabilities. *Research in Developmental Disabilities, 107.* <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ridd.2020.103803>
3. Rangel, G., & **Bhana, N.** (2020) ¿Y cómo te fue hoy? La comunicación en niños/as con capacidad verbal limitada (And how did it go today? Communication in children with limited speech). *Revista Aula De Innovacion Educativa, 299.*
4. Frantz, R., Douglas, S., Meadan, H., Sands, M., **Bhana, N.,** & D’Agostino, S. (2020). Exploring the professional development needs of early childhood paraeducators and their supervising teachers. *Topics in Early Childhood Special Education.* Advance online publication.<https://doi.org/10.1177/0271121420921237>
5. Raulston, T.J., Hansen, S., Frantz, R., Machalicek, W., & **Bhana, N.** (2020). A parent implemented playdate intervention for children with autism and their peers. *Journal of Early* *Intervention. 42, 303-320.* <https://doi.org/10.1177/1053815119880943>
6. Raulston, T. J., Hieneman, M., Caraway, N., Pennefather, J., & **Bhana, N**. (2019). Enablers of behavioral parent training for families of children with autism spectrum disorder. *Journal of Child and Family Studies, 28, 693-703*. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10826-018-1295-x

***Manuscripts Submitted for Publication***

1. **Bhana, N.,** Rangel, G., & Raulston, T.J. (2020). *Barriers and facilitators to special education services in the Republic of Panama*.Department of Advanced Teacher Education. Niagara University.

***Manuscripts in Preparation***

1. **Bhana, N.,** Raulston, T. J., McNaughton, D., & Ousley, C. (2020). *Tell me more! Effects of family photographs and telecoaching on conversations about past events between parents and children with autism*. Department of Advanced Teacher Education. Niagara University.
2. Deger, G., **Bhana, N.**, & Frank., J. (2020). *¡Escúchame! Using simulations to prepare special educators to communicate positively with families with LEP*.Department of Educational Psychology, Counseling, and Special Education. The Pennsylvania State University.

***Nonrefereed Articles and Reports***

1. **Bhana, N.,** Andresen, J. (2021). *Supporting doctoral students: lessons from and online peer mentoring group.* In A. Markelz, (Ed.), TED 2021 Conference Proceedings: Steering into the Future (pp 07-11). Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, Fort Worth, TX.

**Invited Presentations**

1. **Bhana, N.,** Sallese, M., & Rodriguez, W. (2021, November 2nd-5th*). Preparing for the transition from doctoral student to independent scholar* [Panel]. Council for Exceptional Children, Teacher Education Division, Kaleidoscope Committee.
2. **Bhana, N.** (2021, August 9-12). *Conversaciones con padres panameños sobre sus hijos/hijas con discapacidad y la comunicación aumentativa y alternativa.* In Soto, G. (Moderator) *De la investigación en CAA a la práctica en la comunidad hispanohablante investigaciones actuales y necesidades en la investigación en español* [NIH sponsored round table presentation]. International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC) Connect International Conference.
3. **Bhana, N.** (2019, August 24). *Creating new communication opportunities through augmentative and alternative communication systems* [Conference session in Spanish].Invited speaker at the XIII Fundacion Soy Capaz Simposio de Autismo Patologias Afines, Panama City, Republic of Panama.

**Conference Presentations**

1. **Bhana, N.** (2022; February 1-4). *Tell me MORE: Natural Strategies to Promote Social Skills and Communication.* Council for Exceptional Children Annual Conference, Virtual Program.
2. Sallese, M., **Bhana, N.** (2022; January 16-19). *Data, Data, Data: Collect it and Report!* Council for Exceptional Children Annual Conference, Orlando, Florida.
3. **Bhana, N.,** Andresen, J. (2021; November 2-5). *Supporting doctoral students: Lessons from an online peer mentoring group*. Council for Exceptional Children, Teacher Education Division (TED) National Conference, Ft. Worth, Texas.
4. McNaughton, D., Ousley, C., Baker, K., **Bhana, N.,** Cherry, M., & Stroschein, B. (2021, July 7-9). *A scoping review of video modeling interventions to support community participation for autistic adolescent and adults*. Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA) National Conference.
5. Deger., G., **Bhana., N.,** & Frank., J. (2021, March 8-13). *¡Escúchame! Using simulations to prepare special educators to communicate positively with families with LEP.* [Panel session]. Council for Exceptional Children Learning Interactive Virtual Event (L.I.V.E)
6. Ousley, C., & **Bhana, N.** (2021, March 8-13). *DICE: A strategy for practitioners on how to decrease challenging behavior and replace it with appropriate communication* [Poster session]. Council for Exceptional Children Learning Interactive Virtual Event (L.I.V.E)
7. **Bhana, N.** (2021, August 3-6). *Conversations with Panamanian parents regarding their children with disabilities and AAC*. Biennial International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC) Conference, Cancun, Mexico. (Conference postponed)
8. **Bhana, N.** (2021, August 3-6). *Creating new communication opportunities through augmentative and alternative communication system (in Spanish).* Biennial International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC) Conference, Cancun, Mexico. (Conference postponed)
9. \*Deger., G., **Bhana., N.,** & Frank., J. (2019, November 5-8). *¡Escúchame! Using simulations to prepare special educators to communicate positively with families with LEP.* [Poster session- Kaleidoscope] Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division Conference, New Orleans, LA. \*Awarded best mixed methods poster.
10. **Bhana, N.,** Raulston, T.J., Hieneman, M., Caraway, N., & Pennefather, J. (2019, May 23-27) *Enablers of behavioral parent training for families of children with autism spectrum disorder* [Poster session] Association for Behavior Analysis International Conference, Chicago, IL.
11. Raulston, T., Hansen, S., Frantz, R., Machalicek, W., & **Bhana, N*.*** (2019, April 3-5) *Coaching parents of children with autism spectrum disorder to embed social skills instruction during playdates* [Poster session] 52nd Annual Gatlinburg Conference, San Antonio, TX.
12. **Bhana, N.,** & McNaughton, D., & Light, J. (2019, January 30-February 3). *Visual Scene Displays (VSD) to promote early literacy skills with children with complex communication needs* [Poster session] Assistive Technology Industry Association Conference, Orlando, FL.
13. **Bhana, N.** (2018, August 6-9). *Peer delivered academic interventions for students with autism spectrum disorders: A review of the literature* [Poster session]. National Autism Conference, State College, PA.
14. **Bhana N.,** Gormley, J., McNaughton D., & Light J. (2018, February 7-10). *Presentation of a massive online open course on alternative access* [Poster session- Kaleidoscope]. Council for Exceptional Children Conference, Tampa, FL.

**University Teaching and Preservice Teacher Supervision**

2021-2022 ***Instructor of Record, Niagara University***

EDU778- Nature of Autism: Theory and Practice

EDU 757- Research Methods in Applied Behavior Analysis

EDU 239- Characteristics of Students with Exceptionalities

EDU 455- Assessment of Students with Exceptionalities

*EDU604-* Observation & Assessment of Young Children and Young Children with exceptional Learning Needs

2017-2019 ***Instructor of Record, The Pennsylvania State University***

SPLED 418- Assistive Technology for Persons with Disabilities

SPLED 419 Assistive Technology for General Education Teachers

SPLED 411- Intervention for Students with Severe Disabilities (Supervised)

2017-2020 ***Teaching Graduate Assistant, The Pennsylvania State University***

SPLED 412- Explicit Instruction for Students with Disabilities

SPLED 418- Assistive Technology for Persons with Disabilities

2017- 2019 ***Supervisor for Pre-Service Teaching, The Pennsylvania State University***

Practicum Experience in Special Education

Graduate Level Student-Teacher Internship

Practicum Experience in an Integrated Inclusion Classroom

2017-Present ***Selected Invited Guest Classroom Presentations***

*Deploying Feminist Activism in the Classroom (2021, February)*

Guest Lecture for “Studies in Gender and Feminism: Women and Work- From Sojourner Truth to Notorious RBG” (ENG 383)

The University of Mississippi

*Conducting IEP Meetings with Bilingual Families* (2019, April)

Five Guest Lecture Series for “Working with Families and Professionals in Special Education” (SPLED 404)

The Pennsylvania State University

*Teaching Writing Skills to Students with Severe Disabilities* (2019, April)

Guest Lecture for “Seminar in Writing and Content Literacy Instruction for Students with Disabilities” (SPLED 509B).

The Pennsylvania State University

**Grants & Awards**

**2021** *Niagara University Research Support Grant (funded)*

Project:Diversifying the Education Workforce in Special Education, $906

November 2021

*Travel Award for BIPOC Early Career Faculty*

2022 Council for Exceptional Children Convention

**2020** *Travel Award for Emerging Researchers*

Biennial Conference of the International Society of Alternative and Augmentative Communication (*Conference Postponed due to COVID-19*)

*Organization for Autism Research (unfunded)*

Project: Supporting Conversations with Teachers for Children with ASD and CCN using Visual Scene Displays

February 2020

**2019** *First place mixed methods poster*

¡Escúchame!: Using Simulations to Prepare Special Educators to Communicate Positively with Families with LEP.

Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division Conference.

**2015** *Nominated for the Viva Tampa Hispanic Heritage Teacher Award*

Hillsborough County Schools

**2012** *Recipient of the Carolyn Daffin McAfee Scholarship*

Florida State University

**2012** *Recipient of the Latin American and Caribbean Scholarship*

Florida State University

**Community Outreach**

**2021**

Nurturing in the Neighborhood Community Presentations

“Learning Through Play” and “Behavior Tools to Support Families at Home”

Niagara Falls, NY

Consultant for Online Article

“My Kid Is The Youngest (Or Oldest) In the Classroom. Does That Matter? for sheknows.com

<https://tinyurl.com/2pt7dx3b>

**2019**

Invited Speaker on Radio Show

Topic: Autism Spectrum Disorders

“La Esquina de Manuel Nunez” Talk Show

RPC Radio Panama

**Service**

**2021**  *Ad-Hoc Manuscript Reviewer*

Sage Open

*Ad-hoc Manuscript Reviewer*

TEACHING Exceptional Children

*Committee Member*

BIPOC Student Recruitment and Retention Committee

Niagara University

*Proposal Reviewer*

Council for Exceptional Children

Teacher Education Division Annual Conference

*Social Validity Section Lead*

Single Case Research Design Twitter Chat

<https://tinyurl.com/yxwlyalf>

*Proposal Reviewer*

Multidisciplinary Association of Educational Research

International Multidisciplinary Conference on Educational Research

**2020** *Co-Founder*

Disability Scholars Collective (DISCO) Writing and Peer Mentoring Group

*Ad-hoc Manuscript Reviewer*

TEACHING Exceptional Children

*Research Strand Proposal Reviewer*

Council for Exceptional Children

Division for Early Childhood 36th Annual International Conference

**2019** *Mentor*

Council for Exceptional Children

Pioneers Division Mentoring Program

*English to Spanish Translator*

PrAACtical AAC/Hablando PrAACticamente Website

<https://praacticalaac.org/>

**2015** *Developer and Instructor*

Mindfulness and Meditation Summer Camp for Students of All Abilities

Buckhorn Elementary School, Valrico, FL

**2013-2017** *Minority Representative*

School Advisory Council

Buckhorn Elementary, Valrico, FL

**2010**  *Reading Tutor for “At-Risk” Population*

Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

*Companion for Adults with Disabilities*

Leon Advocacy and Resource Center, Tallahassee, FL

**2008-2009** *Art Therapist Assistant*

“Soy Capaz” Foundation for Teens and Adults with Autism

Panama City, Republic of Panama

**Languages**

Spanish (Native Proficiency)

Gujarati (Intermediate Proficiency)

**Professional Memberships**

Association for Behavior Analysis International

International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication

Council for Exceptional Children

Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities

Teacher Education Division

Division for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Learners

**Online Presence**

Personal Website: [www.nbphd.com](http://www.nbphd.com)

Google Scholar: <https://tinyurl.com/y29rcc73>

Research Gate: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Naima_Bhana>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BhanaNaima>