

Naima Bhana, PhD, BCBA-D

Assistant Professor of Special Education

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Areas of Specialization

Autism Spectrum Disorders and Developmental Disabilities

Cultural, Ethnic, and Linguistic Diversity

Early Intervention

Implementation Science

Education

2021 *Doctor of Philosophy in Special Education*
Cognate in Augmentative and Alternative Communication
Pennsylvania State University

2013 *Master of Science in Curriculum and Instruction*
Concentration in Autism Spectrum Disorders
Florida State University

2012 *Bachelor of Arts in Exceptional Student Education*
Florida State University

Professional Certifications

2021 *Board Certified Behavior Analyst Doctoral*
Certification Number: 1-21-54519

Current Academic Appointment

2021-Present *Assistant Professor of Special Education*
Department of Advanced Teacher Education
College of Education
Niagara University

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>
3. 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*. 51(1) 357-363. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10803-020-04544-x>
4. 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>
5. 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*. 42(1), 20-30. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0271121420921237>
6. 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>
7. 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. (2022). *Barriers and facilitators to services for individuals with disabilities in the republic of Panama*. Department of Advanced Teacher Education. Niagara University.
2. **Bhana, N.**, Raulston, T. J., Ousley, C., & Bagawan, A. (2022). *Sequential Analysis of Photographs and Parent Training to Support Conversations about Past Events between Caregivers and Children with Autism*. Department of Advanced Teacher Education. Niagara University.

Nonrefereed Articles and Reports

1. **Bhana, N.**, Andresen, J. (2021). *Supporting doctoral students: lessons from an 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.

2. 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.

Manuscripts in Preparation

1. **Bhana, N.**, Raulston, T. J., McNaughton, D., & Gilhuber, C., (2022). *Collateral effects of the Tell Me MORE! intervention on the joint reminiscing of parents of children with ASD*. Department of Advanced Teacher Education. Niagara University.
2. **Bhana, N.** & Bagawan, A. (2022) *Recommendations for the provision of family-centered services to Muslim clients*. Department of Advanced Teacher Education. Niagara University.
3. Deger, G., **Bhana, N.**, & Frank., J. (2022). *¡Escúchame! Using simulations to prepare special educators to communicate positively with families with LEP*. Department of Special Education. Westminster College.

Ongoing Research Project

1. *Diversifying the Educational Workforce in Special Education*.
Principal Investigator
Data Analysis Phase
2. *Evaluation of the Social and Cultural Validity of the POWR+ Intervention in Latin America*.
Principal Investigator
Data Collection Phase

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 Annual Conference, 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.

Oral Presentations

1. **Bhana, N.** (2022; August 1-4) *Sequential Analysis of Photographs and Parent Training to Support Conversations about Past Events between Caregivers and Children with Autism*. National Autism Conference, State College, Pennsylvania.
2. **Bhana, N.** (2022; April 1). *Review of the Article "A Parent-Implemented Playdate Intervention for Young Children with Autism and Their Peers*. Behavior Analysis Certification Board Naturalistic Developmental Behavioral Interventions Special Interest Group, Virtual.
3. **Bhana, N.**, Ousley, C., Bagawan, A. (2022; March 23-25). *Primary and Collateral Effects of a Single Case Intervention for Children on the Autism Spectrum*. Badar-Kauffman Conference, Kent, Ohio.
4. **Bhana, N.** (2022; February 1-4). *Tell me MORE: Natural Strategies to Promote Social Skills and Communication*. Council for Exceptional Children Annual Conference, Virtual.
5. Sallese, M., **Bhana, N.** (2022; January 16-19). *Data, Data, Data: Collect it and Report!* Council for Exceptional Children Annual Conference, Orlando, Florida.
6. **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.
7. 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.
8. 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)
9. 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)
10. **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)
11. **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)

12. *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.
13. **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.
14. 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.
15. **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.
16. **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.
17. **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-Present *Instructor of Record, Niagara University*

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
 EDU572X- Reading Difficulties: Identification and Intervention*
 *Independent study co-taught with Dr. Kathleen McGrath
 EDU 700- Educational and Assistive Technology
 EDU778- Nature of Autism: Theory and Practice
 EDU 757- Research Methods in Applied Behavior Analysis

- 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***

Accommodations and Modifications for Assessing Students with Special Educational Needs (2022, February)
Guest Lecture for Assessment of Learning (EDU 451)
Niagara University-Vaughn Campus

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

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

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

Professional Certifications

- 2020 Applied Behavior Analysis Graduate Certificate
Penn State University- World Campus
- 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)

Community Outreach

- 2022 Invited Speaker
Islamic Foundation of Panama Community Event
Topic: Child Development and Behavior Tools to Support Families at Home
Panama City, Republic of Panama
- Invited Co-Presenter
Magic Leap, INC. Autism Awareness Month Event
Topic: Assistive Technology
Nationwide, Online
- Invited Speaker
Nurturing in the Neighborhood Community Event
Topic: “Behavior Tools to Support Families at Home”
Niagara Falls, NY
- Speaker
Niagara Frontier Industry Education Council and the Niagara Orleans Counseling
Association Career Exploration Night
Topic: Careers in Education
Niagara Falls, NY
- 2021 Invited Speaker
Nurturing in the Neighborhood Community Event
Topic: “Learning Through Play” and “Behavior Tools to Support Families at
Home” Niagara Falls, NY
- Consultant
Topic: “My Kid Is The Youngest (Or Oldest) In the Classroom. Does
That Matter?”
<https://tinyurl.com/2pt7dx3b>

2019 Invited Speaker
Topic: Autism Spectrum Disorders
“La Esquina de Manuel Nunez” Talk Show
RPC Radio Panama

Service

State and National Organizations Committee Work

International Member at Large (Elected Position, 2022-Present)

Division of Emotional and Behavioral Disabilities
Executive Board
Council for Exceptional Children

Secretary (Appointed Position, 2022-Present)

Executive Board
NY State Council for Exceptional Children (NYCEC)

Administrative Service

Review Board Member

Journal of Special Education Preparation

Ad-Hoc Manuscript Reviewer

Review of Educational Research
TEACHING Exceptional Children
Advances in Neurodevelopmental Disorders
Sage Open

Grant Reviewer (2021)

Development of IHE-District Partnerships to Develop, Implement, and/or Extend/Expand
Effective Teacher Education Candidate Bridge to Practice Programs Grounded in the Science of
Reading, Ohio Deans Compact on Exceptional Children

Proposal Reviewer

Council for Exceptional Children
2021 Teacher Education Division Annual Conference

Multidisciplinary Association of Educational Research

2021 International Multidisciplinary Conference on Educational Research

Council for Exceptional Children, Research Strand Proposal Reviewer

2020 Division for Early Childhood 36th Annual International Conference

University Service

BIPOC Student Recruitment and Retention Committee (2021, Present)

Niagara University

Pi Lambda Theta Honor Society (2021, Present)

Niagara University Chapter

Other Service to the Profession

Invited Panelist (2022)

Microconference on Single Case Research & Questionable Research Practices

Organizers: Tim Slocum, Ronnie Detrich, Matt Tincani, Jason Traver, & Art Dowdy

Workgroup Member (2022)

Aided Language Modeling (ALM) Supports for Low Resource Countries

Organizers: Dr. Sarah Douglas, Michigan State University and Dr. Shakila Dada
University of Pretoria

Co-Founder (2020-Present)

Disability Scholars Collective (DISCO)

Graduate and Early Career Writing and Peer Mentoring Group

Social Validity Section Lead (2020-2021)

Spring 2022 Single Case Research Design Twitter Chat

<https://tinyurl.com/2s9sr84w>

Fall 2021 Single Case Research Design Twitter Chat

<https://tinyurl.com/yxwlyalf>

Guest Speaker (2021)

Tips for the Job Search Process Virtual Panel, CEC Kaleidoscope Committee Virtual Event

Mentor (2019)

Council for Exceptional Children Pioneers Division Mentoring Program

English to Spanish Translator (2019)

PrAACTical AAC/Hablando PrAACTicamente Website

<https://praacticalaac.org/>

Minority Representative (2013-2017)

School Advisory Council

Buckhorn Elementary, Valrico, FL

Assistant for Art Therapy Classes (2008-2009)
“Soy Capaz” Foundation for Teens and Adults with Autism
Panama City, Republic of Panama

Professional Memberships

Association for Behavior Analysis International
International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication

Council for Exceptional Children:
 Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities
 Division for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Learners
 Division for Emotional and Behavioral Health
 Teacher Education Division

Languages

Spanish (Native Proficiency)
Gujarati (Intermediate Proficiency)

Online Presence

Personal Website: www.nbphd.com
Google Scholar: <https://tinyurl.com/y29rcc73>
Research Gate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Naima_Bhana
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BhanaNaima>