

## Ruben Castaneda, PhD

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Psychological Sciences  
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**EDUCATION**      *Doctoral Candidate in Quantitative Psychology*, August 2012 - (expected) May 2017  
University of California, Merced, CA

*Bachelor of Arts, Psychology* August 2005 - May 2010  
California State University, Fresno, CA

**RESEARCH  
INTERESTS**      *Item Response Theory*  
*Person Fit Statistics*  
*Structural Equation Modeling*  
*Latent Class Analysis*  
*Growth Mixture Modeling*  
*Hierarchical Linear Modeling*

**CONFERENCE  
PRESENTATIONS**      Hiebert, E., Castaneda, R. (2017, July). An Analysis of the Features of Words That Influence Vocabulary Difficulty. Presented at the American Educational Research Association (AERA). Presentation.

Castaneda, R., Zelinsky, N., Turitz, M. (2016, July). Person-Fit Statistics with Model Misspecification: A Monte Carlo Study. Presented at the Annual International Measurement and Psychometrics Society Conference, July 25th. 2016. Asheville, North Carolina. Poster.

Castaneda, R., Liu, Y., Zelinsky, N., Vevea, J., Scott, J., & Flinspach, S. (2016, May). Modeling and Linking Speeded Tests: An Application with the VASE Vocabulary Tests. Presented at the Annual Modern Modeling Methods Conference, May 25th. 2016. Mansfield, Connecticut. Poster.

Castaneda, R. (2015, May). Assessing the Performance of Single Item Longitudinal Models over Varying Conditions. Presented at the Annual Modern Modeling Methods Conference, May 19th. 2015. Mansfield, Connecticut. Poster.

Castaneda, R., & Vevea L. J. (2015, March). Detecting local item dependence using a random effects meta-analytic model. Presented at the 3rd Annual Psychology Symposium. 2015 March, 3; 2014; Merced, CA. Oral Presentation.

Castaneda, R., Vevea L. J., Flinspach S. L., & Scott, J. A (2014, May). Using a vocabulary measure as a diagnostic tool for knowledge monitoring. Poster session presented at American Psychological society 26th Annual Convention; 2014 May 25; San Francisco, CA. Poster.

Castaneda, R. (2014, May). Turning a measure of vocabulary depth into a diagnostic

instrument for metacognitive-monitoring. Poster session presented at American Psychological society 26th Annual Convention; 2014 May 26; San Francisco, CA. Poster.

Castaneda, R. (2014, May). The relationship between knowledge-monitoring and test performance: A meta-analysis. Poster session presented at American Psychological society 26th Annual Convention; 2014 May 25; San Francisco, CA. Poster.

Flinspach, S.L., Castaneda, R., Vevea, J.L., & Scott, J.A. (2014). Exploring bilingual students' performance overall and on cognate words in a large-scale multidimensional vocabulary test. Annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association. Philadelphia, PA. Paper Presentation.

**MANUSCRIPTS  
IN PREP**

Felt, J. M., Castaneda, R., Depaoli, S., & Tiemensma, J. (in prep). Identifying "Atypical" Responses in the Cushing's Quality of Life (CushingQoL) Questionnaire: Using Person Fit Statistics to Detect Outliers.

Immekus, J., & Castaneda, R. (in prep). Assessing the Reliability and Utility of Bifactor Models. [Target Journal: Psych Methods]

Castaneda, R., & Vevea, J. (in prep). Modeling Local Item Dependence Using a Random-Effects Meta-Analytic Model Model. [Target Journal: Psych Methods]

Citkowitz, M., Sullivan, K, J., Castaneda, R., & Vevea, J, L. (in prep). Conditionally random inference in meta-analysis:A monte carlo study. [Target Journal: Psych Methods]

Castaneda, R., Vevea, J. L, Flinspach, S. S., & Scott, J. (in prep). Creating a measure of metacognition from the VASE vocabulary test. [Target Journal: Metacognition and Learning]

**RESEARCH  
EXPERIENCE**

*Ph.D. Research* Aug 2012 - Present  
University of California, Merced, CA

- Developed a confirmatory method for assessing local item dependence.
- Designed method for assessing metacognition integrated in an academic test.
- Conducted Meta-analyses to identify best method for assessing meta-cognition.

*VASE Research* Aug 2012 - May 2013  
University of California, Merced, CA

- Analyzed VASE tests for differential item functioning.
- Assessed VASE tests for violations of local item dependence & dimensionality.
- Linked multiple tests forms and produced test scores for multiple school districts for both administrator and parent consumption.

*Research Assistant* 2010 - 2012  
Fresno County SELPA & California State University, Fresno, CA

- Performed various analysis using SAS to identify factors that produce favorable behavioral outcomes in elementary school students.
- Presented results in the First Annual DPELFS Faculty Research Colloquium, Fresno, CA.

*Research Assistant* 2010 - 2012  
Psychometrics Lab, California State University, Fresno, CA

- Identified proper factor structure of the Connor-Davidson Resilience Scale (2001) on a migrant population of elementary school students.
- Results were used by Fresno County Office of Education to identify low resilience students and provide additional mentoring and support.

*Research Assistant* 2009 - 2010  
Anger and Emotion Lab, California State University, Fresno, CA

- Conducted research identifying the validity of using agent descriptions in identifying different models of anger.
- Coded videos for facial cues in order to identify anger type emotions.

*Research Assistant* 2008 - 2010  
Clinical Psychology Lab, California State University, Fresno, CA

- Entered data from interviews to be used for assessing depression.
- Conducted literature reviews on assessing depression.

*Research Assistant* 2008 - 2009  
Developmental Lab, California State University, Fresno, CA

- Study the effects of appearance on adults' attributions of children's competence.
- Created 3D models to mimic different aspects of appearance.
- Conducted literature review on attribution of competence.

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS** American Educational Research Association (AERA)  
American Psychological Association (APA)  
Association for Psychological Science (APS)  
National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME)  
International Measurement and Psychometric Society (IMPS)

**SOFTWARE** *Programming Languages:* Python, R, SAS.  
*Statistical Software:* MPLUS, IRTPRO, Excel, OpenBugs, JAGS.

**Languages** *Spanish:* Fluent.  
*English:* Fluent.