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Graduate in History and Geography. Complutense University of Madrid (1982-1989).

Master of Science in History of Art. University of Edinburgh (1995-1996).

Master in Teaching Spanish as a Foreign Language (2001-2002).

**Research Interests:** Multimodality, Multiliteracies, Multimodal Classroom Practices, Second Language Acquisition, Art-based Pedagogy, Visual Thinking Strategies.

**Supervisors:** Dr. Angela Leahy and Dr. Ryoko Sasamoto.

**Research Project:***Teaching literacy in Spanish as a Foreign Language through the Use of Paintings*

**Abstract:**

Elena Lopez's action-based classroom research examines new multimodal pedagogies in the Spanish as a second language classroom. Drawing on multimodal pedagogies, her approach explores a pedagogy based on active literacy practices in the classroom with the aim of allowing students to become active meaning-makers. In particular, her research evaluates how the use of paintings and Visual Thinking Strategies can support language teaching and learning.