

LITO ELIO PORTO, Ph.D.

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Personal Summary	Award-winning educator, communicator, and writer with deep experience comprehending, synthesizing, and communicating complex problems and potential solutions; A proven, forward-thinking leader and mentor with an innate ability to connect and deal intelligently and candidly with people of diverse backgrounds.
Education	<p>Ph.D., 2000, in Comparative Literature <i>University of Texas at Austin</i>, Austin, Texas; (GPA 3.945, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>)</p> <p>M.A., 1994, in International Relations <i>Boston University</i>, Boston, Massachusetts; (GPA 3.7, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>)</p> <p>B.A., 1992, in Russian and Eastern European Studies <i>University of Texas at Austin</i>, Austin, Texas; (GPA 3.5, <i>Cum Laude</i>)</p>
General Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Native in English and Spanish; Fluent in French and Italian; Conversant in Russian; Resuscitable Turkish and Portuguese• International work experience (France, Russia, Colombia, Italy, Ukraine, Turkey, Spain)• Global cultural experience and understanding: 1 or more years residence in France, Italy, Colombia, Russia, Turkey; 1 or more months in China, Brazil, Spain, Ukraine, Peru, Greece, Mexico; travels into the heart of over 34 countries• Award-winning university educator of 29 years with exceptional evaluations and references• Internationally educated• U.S. citizen
Project Development and Representation	<p>Represented <i>The University of Texas</i> and served as liaison between U.T. Austin, Academic Programs International (API), and Universidad de Cádiz-Andalusia for U.T.-Austin's freshly inaugurated Study Abroad Program in Cadiz, Spain. Established positive, constructive relations between U.T.-Austin and the various entities involved and served as local voice for the concerns of the U.T.-Austin administration. (2005)</p> <p>Co-developed the <i>Program in Cultures, Civilizations, and Ideas</i> at Bilkent University, a top-tier English-medium university in Turkey. Today the Program is a success, and the majority of the 11,000 student body is required to take the interdisciplinary, year-long course of study. (2000-2001)</p> <p>Met with potential clients at corporations, consulates, and embassies in the newly formed Commonwealth of Independent States to promote the services of Sovam Teleport, a telecommunications joint-venture in Moscow and St. Petersburg. Working with British Cable and Wireless, Sovam Teleport was the first company to implement satellite communications networks in the C.I.S. (1992-1993)</p>
Communication	Taught a wide variety of subjects at The University of Texas at Austin, The University of Texas at Arlington, Bilkent University (Turkey), Loyola University (New Orleans), and The New School (NYC). Topics taught include: Latin American history, literature, culture; comparative literature (Italian, Russian, French, Latin American, and others); advanced persuasive and analytical composition in English and Spanish; the intersection of systems ecology and human meaning systems; and Italian and Spanish languages. (1996-2025)

	<p>Interpreted Italian, Russian, and English languages during meetings, negotiations, and presentations in Central and Southern Italy, Ukraine, and Crimea. Entities involved: individual archeologists, museum directors, delegates, and ministers at the American Academy in Rome, ICCROM (branch of UNESCO), the American Embassy in Kiev, and the Ukrainian Ministry of Culture. (1996)</p> <p>Translated technical manuals from French to Spanish and English for the <i>Société d'Études en Architecture Marine et Équipement Naval</i> (Nantes, France). Acquired an understanding of the technical language as well as of the translation methodology for books and project manuals. (1987)</p> <p>Published essays, analytical/critical articles, fiction and poetry in such journals as <i>Ecological Modelling: International Journal on Ecological Modelling and Systems Ecology</i>, <i>Kybernetes: The International Journal of Cybernetics, Systems and Management Sciences</i>, <i>Revista Hispánica Moderna</i> (Columbia University), <i>Russian Literature</i> (Amsterdam), <i>Afro-Hispanic Review</i>, <i>The Collagist</i>, <i>Black Warrior Review</i>, <i>Unsaid</i>, <i>Diagram</i>, and others.</p>
Teaching Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Associate Professor of Instruction, Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese, <i>The University of Texas</i> (Austin: 2021-2025) • Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese, <i>The University of Texas</i> (Austin: 2016-2021) • Lecturer, Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese, <i>The University of Texas</i> (Austin: 2009-2016) • Visiting Faculty, Literary Studies, <i>The New School University</i> (New York: 2008-2009) • Lecturer, Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese, <i>The University of Texas</i> (Austin: 2002-2008) • Visiting Professor, Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures, <i>Loyola University</i> (New Orleans: 2002) • Assistant Professor, (Founding Cohort), Program in Cultures, Civilizations, and Ideas, <i>Bilkent University</i> (Ankara, Turkey: 2000-2001)
Service	<p>Original Faculty Member, SHIFT, The School of Undergraduate Studies, The University of Texas at Austin. I was asked to be a pilot member of the SHIFT Program since its founding in 2019. Knowing that to be successful in the classroom a student must be of healthy mind and body, UT Austin's SHIFT initiative aims to make student wellness central to the work we do as educators. I contributed by developing programs regarding student well-being and creating a training module video on "Boundaries and Expectations."</p> <p>Member, Graduate School Committee, Program in Comparative Literature, The University of Texas at Austin, 2023-2025.</p>
Awards and Honors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Plan II Chad Oliver Teaching Award</i>, The University of Texas at Austin, 2023-2024. • <i>President's Associates Teaching Excellence Award</i>, The University of Texas at Austin, 2021-2022. • <i>Leslie Waggener Centennial Teaching Award</i>, The University of Texas at Austin, 2020-2021. • <i>Holleran Steiker Award for Creative Student Engagement</i>, The University of Texas at Austin, 2020-2021. • <i>Ivory-Billed Woodpecker Award for Fiction</i>, <i>UNSAID</i> (New York: 2010). • <i>Pushcart Prize Nomination</i>, for "Bronze," "Brown," "Crimson," "Gold," "Gray," "Mustard," "Ochre," "Orange," "Sky-Blue," "Sobak," "White" and "Yellow." (2010).