

Dr. Ernesto Colín was born in Redwood City, California to a hard-working couple who migrated from Michoacán, México. His parents worked in restaurants, factories, and landscaping jobs in order for their children to have a good, strong education. Ernesto has an older sister and a younger brother and more aunts, uncles, and cousins than he can name. He grew up traveling back and forth to México and is very proud to be bilingual, and bicultural. Dr. Colín attended a mix of public and Catholic schools in the bay area, and while in high school in San José he became involved in a student club called La Raza Unida. He became involved in the Chicanx student movement and in activism for movements such as the labor rights movement for migrant farm workers. He was also introduced to Danza Azteca which later became a formative part of his identity.

Dr. Colín is a first-generation college student whose parents did not have an opportunity for a high school education; He did not have a clear vision for attending college until he received encouragement and support from his sister, and some of his high school teachers. He worked diligently in high school to achieve good grades which allowed him to be admitted to various universities. He decided to attend Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. Ernesto credits his parents for much of his success; so when he made the difficult decision to leave home at the age of 17 to pursue his dreams of a higher education, he promised his parents he would never waste his college experience.

Dr. Colín successfully completed a double major in Chicanx Studies, and Spanish, and became involved in several extracurricular activities which he felt helped him learn and grow just as much as his classes. He became involved in tutoring, MEChA, sports, leadership groups, spiritual retreats, service trips, art exhibits and research. Through his campus involvements, Dr. Colín made life-long friendships he treasures. While in college Ernesto became very involved with Danza Azteca and public radio. He has now been a danzante for 22 years and has attended indigenous ceremonies all over the United States and México. He wrote a book based on his experiences in Danza recently and continues to do artwork centered on Danza Azteca. Dr. Colín also started a radio show in Los Angeles called Serenata de Trios in 1998 on 88.9 FM KXLU. The show which plays love songs/boleros from Latin America is still going strong almost 19 years later, and can be heard every Sunday night at 6 pm PST (Live stream on kxlu.com).

In his post-college years Ernesto worked as a Spanish Teacher and soccer coach. He loved working with high school students and helping them through their formative years. After teaching high school and completing his Master's degree in Education, Ernesto decided to continue his education and was accepted at Stanford University, where he completed a Ph.D. in Anthropology in 2011. Upon graduation he was offered a job teaching at Loyola Marymount University where he continues to teach in the Department of Urban Education.

Dr. Colín is passionate about helping people, especially students. He is a Bay Area sports fanatic and movie lover. As a health enthusiast, he enjoys long distance and trail running, fitness, healthy eating and relaxation. He enjoys international travel and has traveled to Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Philippines, England, France, Spain, Perú, Ecuador, Cuba, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Canada.