

## Carmen Granda

Senior Lecturer in Spanish

You are the consummate teacher of Spanish language and culture, and your commitment to your students' academic success and well-being is unparalleled. One of your hallmarks is connecting lessons taught in your classroom with experiences in the "real world"—with life-changing results. In one course, after covering the origins of the *Camino de Santiago* through the Middle Ages—and its recent transformation into a cultural sensation—you travel to Spain with your students and experience part of the pilgrimage's route first-hand—the ultimate in learning by doing! For a course you designed to help heritage language learners find their "bilingual voice," you created a platform for students to share their stories, perspectives, and cultures with the Amherst community.

You take cutting-edge approaches—making use of innovative digital tools in your courses; helping to move language teaching in the Spanish department into the twenty-first century; and playing a key role in your department's transition to a culture-based model of language teaching in which students are exposed to the breadth and depth of the Spanish-speaking world through its culture, while learning its language.

An admired and beloved mentor, you have helped hundreds of Amherst students realize their potential. From working tirelessly to create a culture of belonging in your department and serving as the faculty liaison to the women's golf team, to leading pedagogical learning circles and stimulating lively conversations at the Spanish language table, you have helped build community across the College.

In recognition of the extraordinary skill, passion, creativity, care, dedication, and innovative approaches that you bring to your teaching; the enduring impact that you have had on your students and colleagues; and your contributions to the curriculum and our community, **Amherst College is honored to award you the 2022 Jeffrey B. Ferguson Memorial Teaching Prize.** 

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Michael A. Elliott President September 4, 2023