

## **Museum-based Photo-elicitation in an Adult English as a Second Language Program:**

### **A Visual Ethnography**

#### **Student Researchers:**

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#### **Abstract:**

“English as a second language through photography,” is an innovative community partnership created by an interdisciplinary team of researchers from USF. This educational museum-based outreach program provides a unique setting for photo-based language learning through rich interaction between English language learners (ELLs) and volunteer museum educators. A qualitative photo-elicitation study on this participatory action research (PAR) project within the museum will use participant-created photographs, extensive field notes, and visual-based interview methods. Researchers will explore issues of cultural identity, language acquisition, and intercultural communication, revealing the often-untold stories of participants through rich visual ethnography. Visual methodologies are vastly under-used in education studies, yet are particularly useful for ELLs and exploring abstract ideas. This research will contribute to various areas of study, including a much-needed focus on adult ELLs; using innovative qualitative methods; visual-based PAR; and will address the complete research gap connecting museum based studies and language learning contexts.