

Aura Imbarus, PhD

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HIGHLIGHTS OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Strong Interpersonal Skills
- Demonstrated Creativity
- Creative Problem-Solving Skills
- Ability to Follow-Through Energetically
- Proven Writing and Speaking Skills
- Recognized Leadership Skills
- Motivational, charismatic behavior

EDUCATION AND CREDENTIALS

- Ph.D., Cum Laude, World Humanities., State University Lucian Blaga, Romania, 2003
- MA, American Literature, State University Lucian Blaga, Romania, 1996
- BA, English, State University Lucian Blaga, Romania, 1995
- TESOL Certificate, TEFL Certificate, CLAD Certificate, UCLA, 2001
- Single Subject Clear Teaching Credential, California State University Los Angeles, 2000
- Lifetime European Teaching Credential recognized by UCLA, College Career Center and International Education Research Foundation, 1995
- Training on English Instruction Methodology by visiting professors from University of Missouri, UCLA, Oxford, Sorbonne, and many other foreign universities, 1990-1996
- Clinical Hypnotherapist Diploma, Holmes Center for Hypnotherapy, 2013
- Advanced Studies in Hypnotherapy Diploma, Weiss Institute, 2014 – trained with the world renown Dr. Brian Weiss in Past Life Regression Therapy

FEATURED

NBC, ABC, CNBC, Good Morning San Diego, Forbes Romania, etc.

FOUNDED

- Founded *See Beyond Media*, a company focusing on adolescents' challenges in the 21st century, having as its launching platform *See Beyond Magazine*), highlighting the efforts of outstanding American and Romanian such as Dr. Cosmin Dumitrescu, Cristian Fatu - violinist, Alexandra Nechita - painter/artist
- Founded *See Beyond the Hill*, a Women's Empowerment Conference, highlighting local female entrepreneurs while giving back to the community through the *Young Female Leader's Fund*.

REPRESENTED

- One of the five members of the Romanian-American delegation to meet Prince Radu Duda of Romania, Prince of Hohenzollern-Veringen
Beverly Hills City Hall, March 2008

AWARDS

- **Awarded President Volunteer's Service Diploma/Award by Pres. Donald Trump --2019**
- Awarded Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 2005, 2015
- Awarded Someone Special at West High School, 2005
- Awarded Who's Who in America, 2004 Marquis' Edition
- Awarded Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 2004
- Awarded Who's Who in America, 2003 Marquis' Edition
- Outstanding Young Educator, Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce, 2003
- Outstanding Young Educator, City Council of the City of Torrance, 2003
- Outstanding Young Educator, County of Los Angeles, 2003
- Outstanding Young Educator, Certificate of Recognition, California State Senate, 2003
- Outstanding Young Educator, Certificate of Recognition, California State Assembly, 2003
- Outstanding High School Teacher, UC San Diego's Teacher Recognition Program, 2001-2002
- Research of Language and Literature, Color and Symbol in George Bacovia's Poetry, University "Lucian Blaga" Sibiu, Romania, 2000
- More than 20 editorials on politics, culture and language published in the National Journal, Romania

OVERVIEW

- Awarded educator, freelance journalist, motivational speaker, and author of the critically acclaimed Amazon best-seller and Pulitzer Prize entry, *Out of the Transylvania Night: A Story of Tyranny, Freedom, Love and Identity*, a memoir detailing her life in Romania during the Communist regime and the self-help book, Reader's Favorite and 2020 Best Book Awards Finalist, *Conversations with the Past*. Both books are highlighting Romania, one being endorsed by Nadia Comaneci – *Out of The Transylvania Night* (2010, Bettie Youngs Books) and *Conversations with the Past*, endorsed by Anita Moorjani, self-help author and New York bestseller writer, and translated in Romanian and published by Editura Creator/ Libris (2022).
- Trained with the brightest minds in the self-help arena, Dr. Brian Weiss, Dr. Joe Dispenza, and Dr. Robert Holden, becoming a life coach under Mary Morrissey.
- Trained in **MindUp** curriculum that was brought to and implemented in Romania through the partnership with AVE in România (<https://ave-romania.ro/>).
- Presented at **Super Teach Romania**, an event organized by Felix Tatar
- MC and auctioneer for the **Solidarity and Democracy - Solidarity for Ukraine**, an event organized by the Consulate General in Romania in Los Angeles, in 2022
- Presented at the **Brain IT - Innovative Technologies in Neurosurgery** -- Sibiu, 2021
- Presented at **International Conference in Education** organized by Consulate General in Romania in Los Angeles, 2000
- Supported and organized in LA for the American tour of **Via Transilvanica** in connection with **RUF - Romanian United Fund** and Mihai Lehene

- Organized Women Empowerment Movement in collaboration with **Association Maroco-Roumaine** and Catalina Bogoi
- Presented for **ARCA TV** -the Romanian TV in Texas - for the show "Pur si Simplu"

OTHER ROLES

- Ambassador for **Art in Conversation**, a UK platform launched in the US in 2021
- Cultural Director of Viitorul Roman, the oldest non-profit org in the US
- Founding member and President of **RAPN - Romanian American Professional Network** cultural organization in LA
- Founding member of RACC - Romanian American Chamber of Commerce in LA, 2019
- Promoter of Romanian culture -- presenter at **Be Romanian for a Day**, Rolling Hills, 2018
- Main speaker at **Romanian Festival** in Texas in 2011
- Producer of **Romania, I Love You!** (June 3, 2023), Gala for the Consul General in Romania in Los Angeles, Dr. Cosmin Dumitrescu

PROFESSIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of English, Los Angeles Harbor College, 2000 – Present

- Teach different classes of English from low level (English 21, 73) to advanced reading and composition ones (English 101) to students of diverse backgrounds.
- Develop the writing skills for different expository essays (compare and contrast essay; cause and effect essay; psychological and philosophical essay, descriptive essay; narrative essay)
- Instruct students on the techniques of completing a research paper using the Internet and other multiple sources.
- Expand students' skills in a wide range of college assignments necessary for effective scholarship across the curriculum.
- Implement new strategies in teaching short-term classes/intensive ones, like winter and summer intersession.

Instructor of ESL, English, and Reading, El Camino College, 2001 – Present

- Teach a wide array of classes from beginning, and intermediate to advanced reading and vocabulary level courses designed to improve students' reading skills, such as the ability to make inferences, draw conclusions, determine the main idea, explore themes, analyze plots, describe settings, examine characters, predict outcomes, interpret events.
- Instruct composition classes with hands-on computer assisted instruction.
- Develop critical reading in academic, personal, and professional situations.
- Employ word analysis skills, such as recognizing prefixes and suffixes, synonyms and antonyms, without the use of the dictionary.
- Use FOG program for extra grammar help.

ESL Specialist, Language Assessment Center, El Camino College, 2001 – present

- Test students on reading, writing and oral skills
- Place students in classes according to their needs and background

Philosophy, American Dream, and World Humanities Teacher, West High School, 2000 –Present

- Implemented Common Core Curriculum in my classes, strategy and formula I was already trained in Europe.
- Created my own Philosophy and World Humanities Curriculum, selected my own materials, and designed mid-term and finals.
- Expanded the Philosophy enrollment from one class to four classes.
- Teach classes for seniors focused on the American Literature and Philosophy, with an emphasis on John Steinbeck and the Great Depression, Mark Twain and the slavery issue, Plato, R.W. Emerson, F. Kafka, etc
- Expand their vocabulary through a variety of language-based exercises.
- Augment their writing and reading skills and oral communication.
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Master Teacher, West High School, 2004 – Present

- Supervise, instruct, coordinate student teachers in the Credentialing Program at California State University Long Beach

Instructor of English, Long Beach City College, 2002 – 2007

- Teach two classes of low level and advanced English Composition, emphasizing writing strategies, correct English syntax and morphology.
- School students in Standard American English and guide them in the use of computers and other forms of advanced technology utilized in providing high quality instruction and the understanding and successful use of learning technology.
- Lecture students on the steps of exploring a subject and developing a research paper based on MLA guidelines.

Instructor of English, Los Angeles City College, 1999 – 2000

- Taught a pre-developmental reading and writing class to a diverse student body (ENG 73)
- Developed punctuation, editing, and essay writing skills.
- Instructed students on grammar, mechanics, spelling and sentence structure.
- Facilitated the development of their critical thinking, reading and writing skills.
- Enhanced learning of English using computer technology

Linguistics/English Teacher, Le Conte International Humanities Magnet, 1998 – 2000

- Developed curriculum for a brand-new program in Comparative Linguistics based on four languages: Spanish, Italian, Romanian, and German
- Developed the budget, selected the material, and created the curriculum.
- Developed listening, speaking, reading, and writing English skills.
- Assisted in the development of programs designed to improve the teaching of English.
- Guided non-native speakers in the development of abilities in oral and written Communication

Assistant Professor of English/ESL, State University Lucian Blaga, Romania, 1995 –1997

- Taught EFL/ESL to students of all ages from many cultural backgrounds
- Taught TESOL courses from Methodology to Second Language Learning (SLL) and Second Language Acquisition (SLA).
- Developed course curriculum with an emphasis on EFL communication and Linguistic Analysis
- Responsible for the development of course syllabus, midterm and final exams

TEACHING RELATED POSITIONS

English Instructor – SYLVAN LEARNING CENTER	1998 - 1999
English Instructor – EXTENDED LEARNING SESSIONS ACADEMY (ELSA)	1998 - 1999
Mass Media and Foreign Languages Instructor – LE CONTE JUNIOR HIGH	1998 – 1999

WRITING EXPERIENCE

Writer for *Migrant Woman Magazine*. London, UK; *The Immigrant*, Beverly Hills Times Magazine, and four publications in Romania.

NON-RELATED TEACHING POSITIONS

President, Eurocircle – Professional Networking Club	2006 - Present
President LA Chapter, RAPN – Romanian-American Professional Networking	2006 –2015
Head of the News Department, Radio Contact, Romania	1993 - 1997
Publicity Manager, The National Journal, Romania	1994 - 1997
Interview Operator, Gallup Pool	1993 - 1997

ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

WASC Committee Member	2014- Present
Member of the School Site Council, LECONTE JUNIOR HIGH	1998 - 1999
Member of the School Leadership Council, LECONTE JUNIOR HIGH	1998 - 1999
Member of CTA	1998 - 2010
Member of CATESOL	2000 - 2010
Member of CATE	2000 - 2010
Member of MLA	2002 - 2010
Member of the American Association of University Women	2001 - present
Member of NCTE	2002 –2010
Member of Torrance Jaycees	2003 - 2010
Co-sponsor of the Key Club/Kiwanis	2000 - 2008
Co-sponsor of Arrowhead Club	2000 - 2008
Founder and sponsor of MSA Club	2001 –2010
Honor Member of Torrance Jaycees	2003 –2010

