



# The Bilingual Counselor's Guide to Spanish: Basic Vocabulary and Interventions for the Non-Spanish Speaker

By Roberto Swazo

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Designed specifically with mental health professionals in mind, *The Bilingual Counselor's Guide to Spanish* is perfect for counselors interested in expanding their client base and language skill set. Featuring terminology and cultural phrases specific to the mental health profession, this text offers an easy introduction to both the Spanish language and interfacing with Spanish-speaking clients in a counseling setting. Sections of useful and practical vocabulary are followed by *¡Practique!* sections, which enable the reader to put his or her developing skills to use. These sections are augmented by case studies in English and Spanish, as well as brief overviews of Latino history, customs, and social manners that will greatly enhance any counselor's depth of interaction with Spanish-speaking clients. For counselors who want to communicate with the large and rapidly expanding population of Spanish speakers in the United States, or for those who are simply interested in developing or improving their Spanish-language skills, *The Bilingual Counselor's Guide to Spanish* is the place to start.

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#### **Review**

"At last, a multicultural text that goes beyond awareness and knowledge to actual skills development in counseling with Spanish speaking clients! This book will help counselors both walk the walk *and* talk the talk."

?Courtland C. Lee, PhD, department of counseling, higher education and special education, University of Maryland and past president of ACA

"Dr. Swazo has written a superb guide to help bilingual counselors working in a range of settings to deliver better services in Spanish. From greetings, to intake interview and follow up, Dr. Swazo offers culturally relevant Spanish expressions, meaningful practice sessions, and illustrative case examples. This book is a must-read for practitioners at all levels of their cultural competency and cultural humility development who are interested in or currently serving the Latin population in the U.S."

?Andrés J. Consoli, PhD, department of counseling, San Francisco State University and visiting professor, Universidad del Valle, Guatemala City, Guatemala

"Learning the language and culture of today's Latino/Hispanic clientele is essential for contemporary clinical practice. Dr. Swazo provides practical and common-sense strategies to understand and speak Spanish, augmented by specific examples of phrases frequently used in the clinical setting and a back story of Latino/Hispanic culture that contributes to multicultural competency. An essential book for clinicians wanting to develop culturally sensitive bilingual skills!"

?Bruce Dykeman, PhD, associate professor of counseling, Roosevelt University

"*The Bilingual Counselor's Guide to Spanish* is well written, readable, and insightful. It should be required reading for any professional in a counseling or health field who has contact with Spanish-speaking or Hispanic clients."

– James P. Choca, PhD, professor and chair of psychology, Roosevelt University

"Once again Dr. Roberto Swazo is leading the way to the enhancement of multicultural counseling. Through these pages he brilliantly intertwines theory, experience and practice, offering a gem that will contribute significantly to mental-health services that are culturally relevant and respectful to the Hispanic/Latino community?particularly those that have Spanish as their dominant language. This book is a masterful resource that should join the libraries and desks of those who are committed to the wellness of Latino/as."

?Maria del Pilar Grazioso, PhD, director, masters program in counseling psychology and mental health, Universidad del Valle de Guatemala

## About the Author

**Roberto Swazo**, PhD, is an associate professor and coordinator of the counselor education program at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University in Tallahassee, Florida. In addition to teaching, Dr. Swazo is a frequent speaker at professional conferences, and conducts workshops throughout the United States and abroad on multicultural issues and psychobilingual training for schools and mental health agencies. He is the author of *Fantasías e ilusiones desde el exilio* (*Fantasies and Illusions from the Exile*) and co-author of *Assessment and Intervention with Children and Adolescents: Developmental and Multicultural Approaches*.

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