**Critical language pedagogy: Language teaching for social justice and equity**

Friday, November 6 2:30 to 4:15  WMDC Building, 3rd Floor, Room 3

**Abstract:** Together we will explore both what critical language pedagogy is and how it facilitates our opportunities to teach language with a focus on social justice and equity. Considering personal biases, critical perspectives on curriculum, instruction and assessment as well as the opportunities to turn a language classroom into an engaging space to collaboratively battle marginalization and oppression, this session will offer theoretical and practical perspectives focused on improving our instructional practices.

**Biography:** Kara Mitchell Viesca, PhD, is an assistant professor of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Education at the University of Colorado Denver. Her research centers on advancing equity in the policy and practice of educator development, particularly for multilingual learners and their teachers. She has taught German and English in US middle schools in California and Virginia and has worked with many ages of multilingual learners (K-20) across contexts like Massachusetts, Mexico, Germany and China. Currently, she is the lead PI on the e-Learning Communities for Academic Language Learning in Mathematics and Science (eCALLMS) grant that is focused on improving educator development for pre- and in-service teachers of multilingual learners (see [http://ecallms.ucdsehd.net/](http://ecallms.ucdsehd.net/)). She is also leading a collaboration in the state of higher educators called “Higher Educators in Linguistically Diverse Education” (HELDE).