

Ismatara Reena, Ed. D., CHES

Title Department Office Number Extension E-mail Address	Assistant Professor School of Kinesiology (Health Promotion and Wellness) Bourgeois Hall- 130A Ismatara.reena@louisiana.edu
Education	Ed.D. – Educational Leadership, Lamar University M.S. - Health Promotion, Lamar University M.A. - Food and Nutrition, Lamar University MBBS - Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, Rajshahi Medical College, Bangladesh CHES - Certified Health Education Specialist, National Commission for Health Education Credentialing
Teaching Philosophy	Being a teacher is my childhood dream as I grow up by seeing my dad as an elementary school teacher. My teaching philosophy as a higher educator is to help students to grow both personally and professionally by providing resources to attain knowledge of their subject matters. I want to enhance their learning desire to be a lifelong learner by creating the opportunity to connect their knowledge with real life events and make them ready for the real world. I also encourage my students to get involve in research and creative activities which give them foundation for higher education or gain professional expertise in their own fields. I always have an extend hands for the students who wants to overcome all the obstacles by walking extra miles to learn and grow. Keeping students engage and motivate is challenging in online environment, I try to overcome those challenges through continuous learning opportunities sus as ULearn certificates. I try to align contents, learning objectives, and activities to keep them engage and motivated in the online learning environment and to succeed in their own discipline.
Bio	Prior to earning her doctorate degree form Lamar university in 2018, Dr. Reena started her journey as an educator as a substitute teacher in a Mother’s Day Out program and Beaumont independent School District. She started her career in higher educational institute as adjunct instructor in the Department of Health and Kinesiology and Department of Biology at Lamar University. While working as an adjunct faculty she started her Doctorate in Educational Leadership. Dr. Reena is currently an Assistant Professor at the School Kinesiology’s Health Promotion and Wellness Program at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. She certified by the Office of Distance Learning as ULearn Certified Course Designer and ULearn Certified Online Teacher. She obtained her Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) Certification from the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing. Before coming to the United States, she worked as a Medical Officer, back home Bangladesh. She was involved in many volunteer organizations in her medical school. Dr. Reena holds professional memberships of American Public Health Association (APHA), Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES), and Phi Kappa

	<p>Phi. Currently she is working APHA's Health Education and Health Promotion Section's Innovation Lab Project.</p> <p>Dr. Reena aims to continue to work on social determinates of health and its impact on health disparities and health inequities.</p>
Courses Taught	<p>HLTH 452: Epidemiology (Online)</p> <p>HLTH 412: Human and Sexuality (Online)</p> <p>HLTH 218: Drug and Society (Online)</p>
Advising	<p>Dr. Ismatara Reena advises on average of 20 students per semester in Health Promotion and Wellness Concentration.</p>
Graduate Committees	<p>Appointed in two thesis committee</p>
Research Interests	<p>My research interests are minorities, underrepresented group, health literacy, mental health, social determinants of health, COVID-19, health equity.</p>
Teaching Experience	<p>Assistant Professor - Department of Kinesiology, Health Promotion and Wellness, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Lafayette, LA (2020- present).</p> <p>Adjunct Instructor - Department of Health and Kinesiology, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX (2014 – 2020).</p> <p>Adjunct Instructor - Department of Biology, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX (2013 – 2019).</p>
Publications	<p>Hernandez, B. L., <u>Reena, I.</u>, Strickland, G., & Ruiz, C. (2015). The impact of infant feeding method on childhood obesity/overweight levels of children at age 2, 3, and 4 years. <i>Global Journal of Health Education and Promotion</i>, 16(2), 1 – 17.</p> <p>Reena, I., Ruiz, C. S., Shows, A. R., & Wallet-Chalambaga, K. A. (2014). Breastfeeding Promotion in an Ethnically Diverse Adolescent Sample. <i>International Journal of Nursing</i>.</p>
Presentations	<p><u>International Conference</u></p> <p>Reena, I. & Monceaux, A. D. (2017). <i>A Multicultural Education Training Framework: Understanding Diversity and Creating Inclusivity</i>. 44th PRATESOL Annual Convention, Guayanilla, Puerto Rico. (Postponed because of Hurricane Maria)</p> <p><u>Regional Conferences</u></p> <p>Reena, I., Parentue, C., & Dipti, S. M. (2021). <i>The impact of COVID-19 pandemic on college students' mental health: A systematic review</i>. 2021 LERA Virtual Exposition and Conference.</p> <p>Reena, I., Gope, N. C., Dipti, S. M., Das, K. P., Hebert, E., & Doe, R. (2021). <i>The impact of COVID - 19 pandemic on international students' mental health</i>. The Universities of Louisiana 4th Annual For Our Future Conference (virtual)</p> <p>Reena, I., Welch, B., Young, I. K., & Singh, M. (2019). <i>The Impact of STEM-Specific Programs on Academic Achievement, STEM Retention, and Graduation Rate of At-Risk College Students in STEM Majors at a Texas College</i>. Education Research Conference, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX.</p>

	<p>Reena, I., Welch, B., Young, I. K., & Singh, M. (2019). <i>The Impact of STEM-Specific Programs on Academic Achievement, STEM Retention, and Graduation Rate of At-Risk College Students in STEM Majors at a Texas College</i>. Southwest Educational Research Association (SERA) Conference, San Antonio, TX.</p> <p>Reena, I., Welch, B., Young, I. K., & Singh, M. (2018). <i>Impact of STEM-specific program on "at risk" students</i>. Education Research Conference, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX.</p> <p>Reena, I., Welch, B., Young, I. K., & Singh, M. (2018). <i>Impact of STEM-specific program on "at risk" students</i>. Southwest Educational Research Association (SERA) Conference, New Orleans, LA..</p> <p>Reena, I. & Young, J. K. (2017). <i>Increasing the success of women and minorities in STEM: Evaluate the impact of the STEM-specific programs at Lamar University</i>. Education Research Conference, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX.</p> <p>Monceaux, A., Reena, I. & Simpson, T. (2017). <i>Understanding diversity and creating inclusive classroom: Multicultural education training framework</i>. Education Research Conference, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX.</p> <p>Reena, I., Jawah, A., Young, J. K., & Marshall, V. (2016). <i>An equity audit of a southeast Texas regional university writing center services to international students</i>. 3rd Annual HASSE Conference, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX.</p> <p>Reena, I. (2016). <i>Challenges south Asian international graduate students face in higher education: Strategies to overcome those challenges</i>. Education Research Conference, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX.</p> <p>Brauss, M., Lin, X., Reena, I., & Baker, B. (2016). <i>Should I stay or should I go? Institutional factors influencing International Students</i>. Education Research Conference, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX.</p> <p>Reena, I., Ruiz, C. S., Shows, A. R., & Wallet, K. A. (2015). <i>Breastfeeding believes and attitudes about breastfeeding among high school students</i>. 2nd Annual HASSE Conference, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX</p>
Grants	<p>Ruiz, M., Barber, A., & Reena, I. (2020) (\$11,000.00). Leadership Education in Neurodevelopment and Other Related Disabilities. LSU Health Science Center, New Orleans.</p> <p>Research grant (\$500.0). The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, Baton Rouge, LA (2018).</p> <p>Research grant (Up to \$500.0). The College of Graduate Studies, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX (2018).</p>
Conference Attended	<p>20th Annual IAH Health Literacy Conference (2021)</p> <p>Inaugural Health Literacy Texas Conference (2021)</p> <p>AUCD 2021 Conference</p> <p>Universities of Louisiana 4th Annual For Our Future Conference (2021)</p>

	<p>2021 LERA Virtual Exposition and Conference (2021)</p> <p>6th LSUS [Virtual] Regional Student Scholars Forum (2021)</p> <p>Education Research Conference, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX (2019).</p> <p>Southwest Educational Research Association (SERA) Conference, San Antonio, TX(2019).</p> <p>Education Research Conference, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX (2018).</p> <p>Southwest Educational Research Association (SERA) Conference, New Orleans, LA (2018).</p> <p>Education Research Conference, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX (2017).</p> <p>Education Research Conference, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX (2016).</p> <p>3rd Annual HASSE Conference, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX (2016).</p> <p>2nd Annual HASSE Conference, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX (2015).</p>
Professional Membership	<p>American Public Health Association (APHA)</p> <p>Louisiana Public Health Association (LPHA)</p> <p>Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES)</p>
Awards	<p>Reena, I., Jawah, A., Young, J. K., & Marshall, V. (2016). <i>An equity audit of a southeast Texas regional university writing center services to international students</i>. Oral presentation at the 3rd Annual HASSE Conference, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX. 3rd best presentation award \$100.00</p>
Additional Skills	
Dissertation	<p><i>The Impact of STEM-Specific Programs on Academic Achievement, STEM Retention, and Graduation Rate of At-Risk College Students in STEM Majors at a Texas College.</i></p> <p>Chair: Dr. J. Kenneth Young</p>
Service	<p>Graduate Faculty Member (2020 – Present)</p> <p>Zonta Club of Lafayette Member (2021 – Present)</p> <p>Abstract reviewer, APHA 2021 Annual Meeting & Expo</p> <p>Judge, Graduate Student Research & Project Showcase Paper Competition, UL Lafayette</p> <p>Judge, 6th LSUS [Virtual] Regional Student Scholars Forum (2021)</p> <p>Moderator, 6th LSUS [Virtual] Regional Student Scholars Forum (2021)</p> <p>Moderator, APHA 2021 Annual Meeting and Expo (2021)</p>