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For thirty years, I have been involved in the acquisition and teaching of Spanish, as both a researcher and an educator. These three decades have not dulled my passion for the marvel that is language acquisition. Whether I am watching beginning language learners' initial attempts to use language or whether I am helping graduate students with their research projects, it all fascinates me. As a language program director, I enjoy the challenge of creating a proficiency oriented program and educating collegiate instructors. I work to inspire others by showing them the complexity and intricacy of language acquisition and how the mind goes about creating a linguistic system. And I hope to help others make decisions about the teaching of Spanish using insights from the empirical research on language, communication, and language acquisition.

[Click here](#) to read more about Dr. VanPatten's work as a language scientist.



Bill VanPatten is Professor of Spanish and Second Language Studies at Michigan State University where he also directs the language programs in Spanish and French. He is an international scholar in second language research but is known to members of the language teaching community for his books for language teachers as well as his best-selling textbooks in Spanish and French. He has received awards for his scholarship, teaching, mentoring, and leadership. You can learn more about him at his [website](#).