

**Lucia Juarez**

*RGISC Rio Research Roundup Coordinator*

*Hispanic*

*Female*

Lucia's passion for education and continuous learning was what first attracted her to RGISC. She was hired in July 2017 to coordinate RGISC's award-winning Rio Research Roundup. Due to her thirteen plus years in the education field, as a tutor and English instructor, she was the right fit for the position. Lucia has devoted and immersed herself into the arduous work of coordinating and programming RGISC's event filled agenda. She believes her work at RGISC transcends and will have a significant impact on generations to come after her.

Being born in the sister-city of Nuevo Laredo, and immigrating to the United States at age 5, Lucia learned to embrace her bi-cultural heritage and embrace the connection that the Rio Grande, naturally, created between her two beloved cities. She has passed on this love for the environment and our Rio Grande to her 5-year old daughter, Renata. Both spend much of their time outdoors and engaging in community events.

In 2007, Lucia received her Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice with a minor in English Literature from Texas A&M International University. She followed this with a Master of Science in Criminal Justice in 2010 and graduated in both instances with summa cum laude distinction. She accomplished all this while working for nine years at her dear H.E.B. and would later join her career long mentor, Dr. Claudia San Miguel, in coordinating and conducting webinars for Texas A&M International University's Border Studies Institute.

She is also an active English Adjunct Instructor for the International Language Institute at Texas A&M International University.

She takes pleasure in reading, watching and playing soccer, attending cultural/social events, and devoting time to her parents and daughter.