Marcelo Suárez-Orozco
Wasserman Dean & Distinguished Professor of Education

Wasserman Dean Marcelo Suárez-Orozco leads two academic departments, 16 nationally renowned research institutes, and two innovative demonstration schools at UCLA’s Graduate School of Education & Information Studies. His research focuses on cultural psychology and psychological anthropology, with an emphasis on mass migration, globalization, and education. Upon arriving at UCLA in 2012, he founded the Institute for Immigration, Globalization, and Education (IGE), which he co-directs with Dr. Carola Suárez-Orozco, UCLA Ed&IS professor of education.

Suárez-Orozco’s award-winning books have been published by Harvard University Press, the University of California Press, Cambridge University Press, and New York University Press; and his scholarly papers, in a range of disciplines and languages, appear in journals including Harvard Educational Review, Revue Française de Pédagogie (Paris), Cultuur en Migratie (Leuven), Temas: Cultura, Ideología y Sociedad (Havana), Ethos, International Migration (Geneva), Anthropology and Education Quarterly, and others. His research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, W.T. Grant, Spencer, Ford, and Carnegie and by multiple philanthropic donors.


In 2004, Dean Suárez-Orozco was elected to the National Academy of Education, and in 2006, was awarded the Mexican Order of the Aztec Eagle Mexico’s highest honor to a foreign national. He served as special advisor for education, peace, and justice to the chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court in The Hague. He authored briefs for the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, Pope Francis’ main scientific advisory board. In 2014 Dean Suárez-Orozco was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and appointed as the inaugural Wasserman Dean of Education & Information Studies. In 2018, Pope Francis appointed Dean Suárez-Orozco as an Academician of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences.

A native of Buenos Aires, Suárez-Orozco earned his A.B. in psychology, M.A. in anthropology, and Ph.D. in anthropology at UC Berkeley. At Harvard University he served as the Victor S. Thomas Professor of Education and Culture (2001-04), and co-founded and co-directed the Harvard Immigration Project in 1997. Prior to arriving at UCLA, Suárez-Orozco was the inaugural Courtney Sale Ross University Professor of Globalization and Education at NYU.