



Member Spotlight: Jaime Malatesta
Affiliation: The Center for Advanced Studies in Measurement and Assessment (CASMA) at the University of Iowa
Position: Associate Research Scientist

What do you currently do? Are you working on anything in particular you'd like to briefly share with the NCME community?

Our center holds research-driven contracts with various large-scale testing organizations and I lead several of these projects. I'm also working on a separate research study that uses univariate, multivariate, and extended multivariate Generalizability Theory to investigate measurement invariance of the 4th grade TIMSS assessment. In general, I like to conduct research related to Scaling & Equating, applications of Item Response Theory, and G Theory.

What sparked your initial interest in educational measurement?

Like many, I got into this field in a roundabout way. I was in a PhD program for school psychology back in 2009 and started to question the methodology behind the assessments being used. At the same time, I was working as a graduate assistant under Dr. Cindy Walker in her research center at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. After learning more about the Measurement field indirectly through my GA projects and from various chats with Cindy and another GA, Sonya Sedivy (who was in the measurement program at the time), I decided to pursue my degree in Educational Measurement.

What does NCME mean to you?

It's a community of peers and friends who are all working towards similar goals with respect to advancing the field of educational measurement.

If you could cast yourself in a movie, what would it be?

The Devil Wears Prada. It's a favorite of mine and so far from my everyday life.