

**Adrian Castillo**  
**Medical Anthropology, Innovation**  
**Innovation Fellows Program - University of Florida**  
**Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering/Warrington College of Business**

I'm an undergraduate Medical Anthropology and Innovation student at the University of Florida. My top three strengths are self-assurance, adaptability, and strategic planning so I take initiative for making sure work is getting done smoothly.

I teach schoolwork, cleanliness, and paperwork filing to elderly and adolescent refugees from Burma, Congo and Cuba, who have limited access to healthcare. I teach them how to take good care of themselves from the western-US perspective, and to do so, I have to create innovative instruction and teaching methods. For example, children from the Congo have trouble learning while sitting still so I incorporated workouts into their teaching to help them learn more.

I have conducted research in Chemistry since my freshman year of college regarding the chemical vapor deposition of metal sulfide films so they can be applied to make better batteries, sensors, and electronics. The dimensional transition metal chalcogenides allow for fine nanostructures of deposited materials and the material can grow based on interactions with the substrate.

I first started my career in Innovation at Boalt Industries, where I worked with the “Dental Whale” company to increase patient care and financial success as business could be developed all online with a click. After this marketing experience, I joined the Innovation Leadership Program in partnership with Dr. Jeff City to increase my professional communication skills and raise over \$5000 for the Girls Place center for empowering underprivileged young women in the Gainesville Community. I then completed the Innovation “Catalyst” program and brought home the Gator Good Award for incorporated 3D printing, laser cutting, and Arduino computing hardware into one model project that helped bring learning accessibility to color blind adolescents.

The next innovation projects I was excited to work with, were with the University of Florida Enactus team to reassess my entrepreneurship skills by identifying sustainable changes starting in the Gainesville community, and IA Health to implement these positive behaviors in our community at the Ronald McDonald house for families, the UF Colleges of Pharmacy, Dentistry, and Medicine in hopes that I could ignite the constructive attitudes I want to see here in my Gainesville community. The Innovation Fellows Program has presented the opportunity to harness all the skills I have previously learned and incorporate them in a group setting to create innovation.

