Dr. Cardenas holds a PhD in Educational Administration (Higher Education), an MS in Health Administration, and a BS in Community Health from New Mexico State University, and is a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES). Dr. Cardenas has taught in higher education for 21 years in undergraduate and graduate community/public health degree programs at universities in New Mexico, Texas, and New York. She most recently worked as Contributing Faculty for the PhD in Health Education and Promotion Program in the College of Health Sciences at Walden University, where she taught graduate students online, and served students as a member on doctoral dissertation committees. Her teaching areas include health assessment, planning, and evaluation; grant writing; public health education; theory-based interventions; and various health context courses such as human sexuality, women's health, stress management, and wellness. Before joining academia, Dr. Cardenas worked in the field of public health at a State Department of Health, and in migrant and community health programs. Additionally, she recently worked as program manager and researcher for a federally-funded 5-year grant program for teen pregnancy prevention, youth development, and adolescent risk reduction. Dr. Cardenas is excited to be back in her hometown of NYC-- having been born and raised in Brooklyn is looking forward to working with Hunter College colleagues and students.