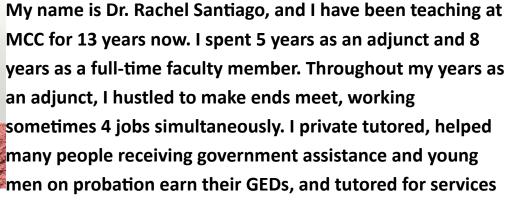
## Hispanic Heritage Month



in the Rochester area all while teaching as an adjunct at MCC. When I earned my position as full-time instructor, it was one of the most stress relieving experiences as it allowed for greater financial freedom for myself.

I was born and raised in the inner city of Rochester, NY in a Puerto Rican household, where many of my formative years were spent at my grandparents' house off of Conkey Avenue. Realizing that education was my ticket to personal liberation, I earned a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Applied Mathematics from RIT, as well as a Doctorate in Executive Leadership from SJFC. I continue to strive for greater achievements which has inspired me to start my own education consulting business: Rachel Santiago Education Consulting (RSEC), and to start a podcast called Sabor y Luz. When COVID shut down campus, I was motivated to create my own YouTube channel, Nerd Talk with Dr. Santi, where I continue to post my lecture videos for students to watch whenever they need.

I am incredibly passionate about helping students overcome their greatest fears in their educational journey: taking Mathematics! I am fueled to show my students their innate ability to do math and to validate their lived experiences through our collaboration. My students and I tend to come from similar backgrounds, so it becomes a responsibility on my part to show them they can achieve their goals. I treat the educational journey as a collaborative process, and therefore I prove that I am the best coach, accountability partner, and supporter for my students. I love what I do, and it shows!