



INSTITUTE FOR
**CITIZENS &
SCHOLARS**

Career Enhancement Fellowship for Junior Faculty

2023 RETREAT GUIDE

AUGUST 13–16





August 13, 2023

Dear Career Enhancement Participant:

Welcome to the 2023 Career Enhancement Fellowship Retreat! On behalf of the Institute for Citizens & Scholars (C&S), I am excited to join Fellows, mentors and guests for our first convening in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

We are pleased to bring together outstanding scholars and mentors who have demonstrated an unsurpassed level of commitment to campus diversity, engagement, and critical research that advances the humanities and humanistic social sciences. Beyond fostering inclusion on college campuses, the Career Enhancement Fellowship is a key tool in ensuring that students become well-informed and productively engaged citizens.

We are truly grateful to the Mellon Foundation for supporting the Career Enhancement Fellowship, including the Annual Retreat, for more than two decades. As a result of their generous donation, junior faculty within the program are provided critical time to focus on research, a stipend toward research completion, travel, or publication expenses, mentoring, and professional development.

The retreat framework encourages candid discussions, explores best practices, and showcases outstanding research. Throughout the conference, we sincerely hope that you find this experience productive and inspiring as you connect with colleagues. At the conclusion of the retreat, please complete the follow-up survey to help us identify emerging issues and develop critical tools for future Fellows.

Sincerely,
Caroline Harper, Ph.D.
Senior Program Officer, Mellon Programs

THE C&S TEAM



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RETREAT AGENDA

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

4:00pm Arrival/Check-in

6:30pm–9:30pm Welcome Registration/Reception

Franciscan Ballroom & Franciscan Foyer

MONDAY, AUGUST 14

7:00am–9:00am Breakfast

Alvarado Ballroom

9:00am–10:15am Welcome Remarks and Icebreaker

Franciscan Ballroom

10:15am–10:30am Break

Franciscan Foyer

10:30am–12:00pm Mentoring Panel

Franciscan Ballroom

MODERATOR: **Dr. Richard Reddick** *Professor in Educational Leadership and Policy, University of Texas, Austin*

Dr. Darren Ranco *Associate Professor of Anthropology and Coordinator of Native American Research, University of Maine*

Dr. Herman Beavers *Professor of English and Africana Studies, University of Pennsylvania*

Dr. Duchess Harris *Professor of American Studies, Macalester College*

12:00pm–1:30pm Lunch

Alvarado Ballroom

1:30pm–3:00pm Publishing Panel

Franciscan Ballroom

Dr. Cassie Pitman Claytor *Associate Professor; Acting Co-Director of African & African American Studies Minor, Case Western Reserve University*

Dr. Rebecca Tesfai *Associate Professor of Sociology, Temple University*

Dr. Eric Schwartz, *Editorial Director, Columbia University Press*

Dr. Kinohi Nishikawa *Associate Professor of English and African American Studies, Princeton University*

3:00pm–3:30pm Break

Franciscan Foyer

3:30pm–5:00pm Panel 1: Politics of Bodies and Perception

Franciscan Ballroom

MODERATOR: **Dr. Rachel González-Martin**

Dr. Tahereh Aghdasifar, *Queering the Quotidian: Subjecthood and Everyday Erotics in Tehran*

Dr. Marcos Gonzalez, *Revolting Indolence: The Politics of Slacking, Lounging, and Daydreaming in Queer/Trans Latinx Cultural Production*

Dr. Kathleen Cruz, *Bodies Laid Bare: Horror Ancient and Modern in Lucan's Bellum Civile and Statius' Thebaid*

Dr. Adolfo Béjar Lara, *Undocumented Migration and the Politics of Writing*

5:00pm–6:00pm Fellow-Mentor Time: Planning Session

Franciscan Ballroom or anywhere

6:00pm–9:00pm Dinner and Dance

Alvarado Ballroom

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15

7:00am–9:00am

Breakfast

Alvarado Ballroom

9:00am–10:30am

Panel 2: Cultural Nuances of Life and Liberty

Franciscan Ballroom

MODERATOR: **Dr. Chandan Reddy**

Dr. Fidel Tavarez, *Empirical Statecraft: The Emergence of an Information Empire in the Eighteenth-Century Spanish Atlantic*

Dr. Ángela Pérez-Villa, *Daily Life and the Law in Colombia's Independence Wars, 1808–1831*

Dr. Joy Sales, *'We Are Revolution': Empire, Diaspora, and Transnational Filipinola American Activism*

Dr. Evelyn Soto, *Tainted Translations: Early Latinx Political Imaginaries and Trans-American Empire*

10:30am–10:45am

Break

Franciscan Foyer

10:45am–12:15pm

Panel 3: Contextual Community Building

Franciscan Ballroom

MODERATOR: **Dr. Laura Kwak**

Dr. Samiha Rahman, *Black Muslim Freedom Dreams: Islamic Education, Diasporic Exchange, and Collective Care*

Dr. Mai Thai, *Kids and Cops: Schools, Junior Police, and the Paradox of Hope*

Dr. Jorge Leal, *More than Ruido: Young Latina/o Ingenuity, Sound, and Solidarity in Late Twentieth-Century Los Angeles*

Dr. Natalie Novoa, *Home Away From Home*

12:15pm–1:30pm

Lunch

Alvarado Ballroom

1:30–3:00pm

Work/Life Balance Panel

Franciscan Ballroom

Dr. Kathryn Mariner Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Rochester

Dr. David Cort Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Massachusetts

Dr. Stephanie Jones-Rogers Associate Professor of History, University of California, Berkeley

3:00pm–3:30pm

Break

Franciscan Foyer

3:30pm–5:00pm

Tenure Workshop

Franciscan Ballroom

Dr. Ramon Rivera-Servera Dean and Professor in the College of Fine Arts, The University of Texas at Austin

6:00pm–9:00pm

Explore Old Town Albuquerque/Free Time

Followed by dinner on your own

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

7:00am–9:00am	Breakfast	Alvarado Ballroom
9:00am–10:30am	Panel 4: Culture, Context and Community <small>MODERATOR: Dr. Koritha Mitchell</small> Dr. Alyssa Lopez , <i>Reel Freedom: Black Film Culture in Early Twentieth-Century New York City</i> Dr. Douglas Ishii , <i>Something Real: Asian American Arts Criticism and the Racialization of Sophistication</i> Dr. SaraEllen Strongman , <i>The Sisterhood: Black Women Building Black Feminism</i> Dr. Brittney Edmonds , <i>Who's Laughing Now? Black Literary Satire and the Evolution of Black Cultural Forms</i>	Franciscan Ballroom
10:30am–10:45am	Break	Franciscan Foyer
10:45am–12:15pm	Panel 5: Movements, Responses and Social Inequities <small>MODERATOR: Dr. Faustina DuCros</small> Dr. Aida Villanueva Montalvo , <i>Women, Work and Families: Studying the Reproduction of Gender Disadvantage in Labor Markets</i> Dr. Brandon Erby , <i>A Mother on a Mission: Mamie Till-Mobley and the African American Rhetorical Tradition</i> Dr. Diane Wong , <i>You Can't Evict A Movement: Housing Justice and Intergenerational Activism in New York City</i> Dr. Sarah Smith , <i>Poetics of Bafflement: Aesthetics of Frustration</i>	Franciscan Ballroom
12:15pm–1:45pm	Lunch/Closing Remarks	Alvarado Ballroom



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PANELISTS & SPEAKERS

MENTORING PANEL

Monday, August 14 | 10:30am–12:00pm

Dr. Herman Beavers (hbeavers@upenn.edu) is the Julie Beren Platt and Marc E. Platt President's Distinguished Professor of English and Africana Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, where he has been teaching African American Literature and Creative Writing since 1989. As a scholar who specializes in African American literary and cultural studies, Professor Beavers is the author of five books including his scholarly monograph, *Wrestling Angels into Song: The Fictions of Ernest J. Gaines and James A. McPherson*, which was published in 1995 by the University of Pennsylvania Press. His latest monograph, *Geography and the Political Imaginary in the Novels of Toni Morrison*, was published in 2018. He has published critical essays in a large number of peer reviewed volumes of literary criticism, including work on Michael S. Harper, Charles Johnson, Toni Morrison, August Wilson, Richard Wright, and Ralph Ellison. His poems have appeared in a number of publications, including *Whiskey Island*, *Cross Connect*, *Peregrine*, *The Painted Bride Quarterly*, *Callaloo*, *MELUS*, *The Langston Hughes Colloquy*, *Versadelphia*, *Cleaver Magazine*, *The American Arts Quarterly*, and *Submission*, Issue no. 2. His work is anthologized in several volumes, most recently in *Who Speaks for America?* (Temple UP); *For Gwen* (Moonstone Press); *Show Us Your Papers* (Main Street Rag Press), and *The 25th Annual Poetry Ink Anthology* (Moonstone). His chapbook, *Obsidian Blues*, was published in May 2016 by Agape Editions for its Morning House Chapbook Series. His most recent chapbook, *The Vernell Poems*, was published in June of 2019 by Moonstone Press. He also serves as an advisory editor for *The African American Review*, *Modern Fiction Studies*, and *The Black Scholar*.

Dr. Duchess Harris (harris@macalester.edu) is a Professor of American Studies at Macalester College, author of “Black Feminist Politics from Kennedy to Trump,” and co-editor with Bruce D. Baum of “Racially Writing the Republic: Racists, Race Rebels, and Transformations of American Identity.” Her new book with Julie Schwieter Collazo, *Racism and the British Empire: The Meghan Markle Reader*, will be published by the University of Arizona Press in 2024. Professor Harris was a founding member of the American Studies department and served as chair for eight years, including as its inaugural chair. She currently co-chairs the College's curriculum committee.

Dr. Darren Ranco (darren.ranco@maine.edu), a citizen of the Penobscot Nation, is a Professor of Anthropology, Chair of Native American Programs, and Faculty Fellow at the Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine. He has a Masters of Studies in Environmental Law from Vermont Law School and a PhD in Social Anthropology from Harvard University. His research focuses on the ways in which Indigenous Nations resist environmental destruction by using Indigenous science and diplomacies to protect their natural and cultural resources. He teaches classes on Indigenous intellectual property rights, research ethics, environmental justice and tribal governance. As a citizen of the Penobscot Nation, he is particularly interested in how better research relationships can be made between universities, museums, Native and non-Native researchers, and Indigenous communities.

MENTORING PANEL MODERATOR:

Dr. Richard J. Reddick (richard.reddick@austin.utexas.edu) is Senior Vice Provost for Curriculum and Enrollment and Dean of the Undergraduate College at UT Austin. Reddick previously served as the inaugural Associate Dean for Equity and Distinguished Service Professor in the College of Education. He is also faculty co-chair of the Institute for Educational Management (IEM) and Bravely Confronting Racism in Higher Education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE). He also served on UNESCO's Countering Racism in Textbooks Committee. Dr. Reddick conducts research on the experiences of faculty of color at historically White universities, mentoring, Black families in America, and work-family balance. He has co-authored and co-edited four scholarly volumes, published in leading educational journals and has had his work highlighted by *NPR*, the *BBC*, *CNN*, *Fortune*, *Nature*, and the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. Dr. Reddick is a former teacher and also worked in student affairs. A first-generation collegian, Pell Grant recipient, Reddick earned his bachelor's at UT (Plan II, 1995), and his masters and doctorate at Harvard (1998, 2007). A dad to two, husband, son, and brother, Dr. Reddick is also the co-host of the NPR podcast, *Black Austin Matters*, and author of the forthcoming book, *Restorative Resistance in Higher Education: Leading in an Era of Racial Awakening and Reckoning* (Harvard Education Press, Fall 2023). Reddick has appeared on several game shows, including *Wheel of Fortune*, *Jeopardy!*, and *Who Wants to be a Millionaire?*

PUBLISHING PANEL

Monday, August 14 | 1:30pm–3:00pm

Dr. Kinohi Nishikawa (kinohin@princeton.edu) Kinohi Nishikawa is Associate Professor of English and African American Studies at Princeton University. He is the author of *Street Players: Black Pulp Fiction and the Making of a Literary Underground* (2018), and he is currently writing *Black Paratext*, a history of modern African American literature and book design. Nishikawa's essays have appeared in *PMLA*, *American Literary History*, *MELUS*, *Chicago Review*, and other journals.

Dr. Cassi Pittman Claytor (clp77@case.edu) is an assistant professor of sociology at Case Western Reserve University. Her research focuses on how racial minorities, particularly Blacks, manage contemporary forms of racism. Using qualitative methods her work uncovers how contemporary processes of social exclusion and inequality function to disadvantage even those racial minorities who have access to economic and cultural capital. In Pittman Claytor's book *Black Privilege: Modern Middle-Class Blacks with Credentials and Cash to Spend* (Stanford University Press), she enriches our understanding of the Black middle class, focusing particularly on their economic reality and experiences as consumers. She has investigated Blacks' experiences "shopping while Black" in retail settings, as well as their experiences of discrimination in the mortgage market. Pittman Claytor received her B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania and her Ph.D. from Harvard University.

Dr. Eric Schwartz (es3387@columbia.edu) Eric I. Schwartz is Editorial Director at Columbia University Press. He is the acquiring editor for sociology and handles special projects including the Black Lives in the Diaspora series, a partnership between Columbia University and Howard University. He has a Ph.D. in political science from The New School for Social Research.

Dr. Rebecca Tesfai (rebecca.tesfai@temple.edu) My research provides a comprehensive account of black immigrants' economic, political and residential incorporation over time and across place. Using quantitative methods, I study black immigrants' occupational, wage, voting, housing, and residential patterns. As a social demographer, I use these analyses to re-examine our theoretical understanding of both immigrant incorporation and racial stratification. Specifically, my work investigates whether black immigrants have – like Asian immigrants in the U.S. – attained a model minority status in their host country or if black immigrants' race confines them to the bottom of their racially stratified host society. I find that – due to the rigidity of racial boundaries – black immigrants are largely unable to escape racial discrimination resulting in outcomes similar to (if not worse than) native-born black individuals in the United States and the most marginalized groups in Europe. Because the U.S. is one of the largest immigrant receiving countries in the world, the patterns observed could be assumed to occur in other immigrant receiving countries however, there is a great deal of cross-national variation in immigrant incorporation.



PANELISTS & SPEAKERS

Work-Life Balance Panel

Tuesday, August 15 | 1:30pm–3:00pm

Dr. David Cort (dcort@soc.umass.edu) David Cort is Professor and Associate Chair of Sociology at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. He is an incoming co-editor of the *American Sociological Review*, the leading scholarly journal of the American Sociological Association (ASA). He is also a member of the ASA's Minority Fellowship Program Advisory Panel and is the co-chair of the ASA's Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE). A 2018 Fulbright Scholar (to South Africa), his current research interests span the areas of social epidemiology, social demography, and social stratification. His scholarship has appeared in multiple journal outlets, including *Social Science & Medicine*, *International Migration Review*, *Social Science Research*, *Academic Medicine*, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *South African Medical Journal*, and *Research on Stratification and Social Mobility*.

Dr. Kathryn A. Mariner (kathryn.mariner@rochester.edu) As a cultural anthropologist additionally trained and licensed in clinical social work, Kate Mariner investigates how historical and contemporary structures of power, such as race and racism, shape how people construct notions of family and community in their everyday lives. An associate professor of anthropology at the University of Rochester, she is the author of *Contingent Kinship: The Flows and Futures of Adoption in the United States* and is the director of the Local Ethnography and Archiving Fellowship in joyful partnership with Flower Cite Noire Collective. Along with designer Miguel Cardona and community partners, Kate produces the annual *Fertile Ground Zine*, and is currently working on an experimental branching plot ethnography based on fieldwork in Rochester. Her scholarly ambition is to blend teaching, research, and service into a holistic praxis of curiosity, care, and transformation.

Dr. Stephanie Jones-Rogers (sejr@berkeley.edu) Stephanie E. Jones-Rogers is an Associate Professor and Chancellor's Professor of History at the University of California, Berkeley, where she specializes in African-American history, the history of slavery, and women's and gender history. She is the author of *They Were Her Property: White Women as Slave Owners in the American South* (2019), which won the Lapidus Center for the Historical Analysis of Transatlantic Slavery (at the New York Public Library's Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture) 2020 Harriet Tubman Prize for the best nonfiction book published in the United States on the slave trade, slavery, and anti-slavery in the Atlantic World, the Southern Association for Women's Historians 2020 Julia Cherry Spruill Prize awarded for the best book in southern women's history, the Southern Historical Association's 2020 Charles S. Sydnor Award which is awarded for the best book in southern history published in an odd-numbered year, the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic's 2020 Best Book Prize, and the Organization of American Historians' 2020 Merle Curti Prize for the best book in American social history. Jones-Rogers was also the first African-American and the third woman to win the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize in History since the award's inception in 1980. In 2023, she received the Dan David Prize, the largest history prize in the world. Jones-Rogers is currently at work on her second book, which reorients our understanding of the British Atlantic slave trade by centering the experiences of free and captive women in its telling.

Tenure Workshop

Tuesday, August 15 | 3:30pm–5:00pm

Dr. Ramón Rivera-Servera (ramon.riveraservera@austin.utexas.edu) Ramón H. Rivera-Servera, Dean of the College of Fine Arts at UT Austin, is an ethnographer by training and profession, who holds research and teaching specialties across the visual and performing arts. Born and raised in San Juan, Puerto Rico, he received a Ph.D. in Performance as Public Practice from the UT-Austin Department of Theatre and Dance in 2003 as the first graduate of the program. For over 20 years, he has been an interdisciplinary scholar in the arts with a focus on creative ethnography, new work development in performance, and Black and Latinx arts and cultures in North America and the Caribbean. His writings and research explore transformational changes in the arts and creative communities, especially around issues of equity and inclusion.



FELLOW RESEARCH STATEMENTS



FELLOW RESEARCH STATEMENT DIRECTORY



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Dr. Tahereh Aghdasifar

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Mentor: Dr. Chandan Reddy

Queering the Quotidian: Subjecthood and Everyday Erotics in Tehran

My monograph, *Queering the Quotidian: Subjecthood and Everyday Erotics in Tehran*, offers Tehran's bra shops as a valuable site to measure the interplay between women's homosociality and the Iranian economy, demonstrating how the erotic is a necessary tool to understand the gendered ramifications of Iranian theocratic neoliberalism. Based on eighteen combined months of fieldwork and interviews with bra manufacturers, bra shop employees, owners, and customers, the book traces generational changes in patterns of physical movement, consumption, and affect in what I call "communal" and "individual" bra shops in Tehran. Communal bra shops employ shared fitting rooms where women undress together and are evaluated by shop employees for bras, while individual shops have private dressing rooms where women try on bras they select on their own. These two types of shops also sell different products; communal shops have contracts with local manufacturers who produce simple and functional bras, while individual shops sell imported bras which often swap functionality for glamour. Individual shops are burgeoning across the city because of neoliberal economic policies instituted by Iran, threatening both the homosociality found in communal shops and the jobs of working-class seamstresses who produce bras for them. *Queering the Quotidian* offers a timely articulation of the stakes of Iranian women's pleasure at a time of upheaval in Iran.



Dr. Adolfo Béjar Lara

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Mentor: Dr. Oswaldo Zavala

Undocumented Migration and the Politics of Writing

Adolfo Béjar Lara is a Latin/x American literary and cultural studies scholar whose work examines the intersections of undocumented migration, law, race, and power in a hemispheric context. His book manuscript, *Undocumented Migration and the Politics of Writing*, analyzes cross-border migration and immigrant/refugee narratives from Mexico, Central America, Haiti and the U.S. to offer a hemispheric view of the ongoing forcible displacement of peoples across the region. Most importantly, the text argues that forcible displacement is a form of neoliberal governance founded on processes of racialization and criminalization that facilitate the political destitution and state-sanctioned abandonment of migrants and refugees across the Americas. Throughout five chapters, this project engages with Latin/x American migration/refugee literature as narratives of displacement to probe the limit and potential of literature as a tool to reimagine migrant justice and freedom. *Undocumented Migration and the Politics of Writing* contributes to debates on Latin/x American literature and globalization by centering the figure of the migrant/refugee as a subject that reveals the contradictions of neoliberal governance, while also providing a critical imagination about belonging beyond notions of citizenness/citizenship.



Dr. Kathleen Noelle Cruz

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Mentor: Dr. Nandini Pandey

Bodies Laid Bare: Horror Ancient and Modern in Lucan's *Bellum Civile* and Statius' *Thebaid*

Kathleen Cruz works primarily on the evocation of horror and aesthetic manipulation of violence in the imperial Latin epic poetry of ancient Rome. She is currently preparing a book manuscript on two 1st-century CE Latin epics—Lucan's *Bellum Civile* and Statius' *Thebaid*—that she argues are especially preoccupied with manipulating the vulnerability of the human body in order to elicit horror from their readers; her analysis rests on an interdisciplinary approach conceived from modern horror studies, affect theory, and the philosophy of the emotions and aesthetics. In this project, Kathleen also demonstrates how setting the horror produced by these two ancient poems alongside horror media from the 19th century onwards not only allows us to appreciate what has been consistently horrifying about the human experience but also to understand how shared anxieties can be dramatically shaped by distinct historical, social, and cultural contexts. In this book project and in further research on related topics in Mediterranean antiquity, Kathleen focuses on how ancient understandings of—and anxieties about—the human body inform the images and themes of creative works.



Dr. Brittney Michelle Edmonds

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Mentor: Dr. Adrienne Brown

Who's Laughing Now?: Black Literary Satire and the Evolution of Black Cultural Forms

My book manuscript, *Who's Laughing Now?: Black Literary Satire and the Evolution of Black Cultural Forms*, offers a literary historical account of the substantial outpouring of satire following the cessation of the Civil Rights Movement. I explain why Black writers turned to literary satire, a political form, after the conferral of de jure civil rights, and I explore why that engagement was overwhelmingly male. Across the socially and politically transformative forty-year period under study, I argue that Black satirical writing offers a measure of the discursive possibilities of contemporary Black writing—as an agent of social change, assimilation, defiance, and racial definition—and self-consciously stakes out black representational space in relationship to institutional and market-saturated notions of blackness and African American literature. With my project, I will achieve four intellectual ends. Firstly, I will provide an account of an unlikely literary phenomenon. Second, I will analyze Black literary satire in the contexts of the Black Arts Movement, the mainstreaming of African American literature as a category of markets and institutions in the 1980s and beyond, against the backdrop of intensified class stratifications within Black communities. Third, I will demonstrate how Black literary satire departs from narratives of postmodernism. Fourth, I will demonstrate Black satire's indebtedness to a long tradition of African American humor and catalog its formal strategies, styles, and techniques of engagement.



Dr. Brandon M. Erby

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Mentor: Dr. Koritha Mitchell

A Mother on a Mission: Mamie Till-Mobley and the African American Rhetorical Tradition

My scholarly research amplifies how African Americans strategically use language and communicative acts to respond to injustices and create social change. My first book, *A Mother on a Mission: Mamie Till-Mobley and the African American Rhetorical Tradition*, examines the activism of Emmett Till's mother, whose 1955 decision to hold an open-casket funeral for her teenage son made a powerful statement against racial violence and arguably positioned her as the most recognizable grieving Black mother of the Civil Rights Movement. Because most scholarship on Till-Mobley focuses heavily on her decision to display Till's brutalized corpse, scholars tend to remember her as a one-dimensional protestor whose only contribution was linked to her son's casket. My project, however, offers a more complete account of Till-Mobley's work and relationship to the African American freedom struggle and argues that Till-Mobley was not simply the mother of a civil rights martyr but a civil rights icon in her own right. Mamie Till-Mobley's rhetorical prowess and practice expanded far greater than how she is typically remembered, and my monograph—via the examination of memoirs, media coverage, literary works, speeches, interviews, and other sources—provides an explanation of how an African American rhetorical tradition influenced Till-Mobley's actions as a mother, speaker, educator, playwright, and public servant, and illustrates how her legacy continues to inform responses to anti-Black racism and inspire new waves of activism and protest.



Dr. Marcos Gonzalez

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Mentor: Dr. Ramon Rivera-Servera

Revolting Indolence: The Politics of Slacking, Lounging, and Daydreaming in Queer/Trans Latinx Cultural Production

Revolting Indolence: The Politics of Slacking, Lounging, and Daydreaming in Queer/Trans Latinx Cultural Production, examines how scenes of queer and trans Latinx indolence, those moments of pleasurable leisure and doing nothing, challenge and reimagine oppressive logics tied to neoliberal capitalism and anti-queer/trans of color oppression. Through an interdisciplinary examination of literature, film, television, photography, muralism, and installation art, this research analyzes instances of queer/trans Latinx affective-performative comportments like slacking off, lounging, loitering, partying, and daydreaming, to show how the aestheticizing of indolence by queer/trans Latinx cultural producers enables social critique and transformational worldmaking. Focusing on the pleasure, intimacy, joy, and erotics inherent in aestheticized indolence undertaken by queer and trans Latinx people, rather than queer and trans of color suffering or violence which is typically the site of analysis for minoritized groups, mobilizes alternative theoretical and political pathways for researching how queer and trans of color people contribute to the betterment of society. The project pays analytic attention to an underexamined, even pilloried, mode of queer/trans Latinx cultural production to demonstrate how to devise liberatory sensoriums, aesthetic strategies, and world-making practices against the grain of anti-queer/trans of color exploitation, violence, and death.



Dr. Douglas S. Ishii

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Mentor: Dr. Joseph Jeon

Something Real: Asian American Arts Criticism and the Racialization of Sophistication

Douglas S. Ishii is currently completing his book-in-progress, *Something Real: Asian American Arts Criticism and the Racialization of Sophistication*. *Something Real* takes stock of Asian American arts criticism from its historical origins in the Asian American Movement (1968-1977) to the present. Asian American arts criticism represents networks of creators, actors, organizations, and social texts that effort to define what matters as an activist intervention and amplify those social justice campaigns through an aesthetic object to preserve movement analyses beyond that moment. *Something Real* assembles archives of this arts activism to construct an intellectual history of the legacies of the Asian American Movement. At the same time, while conservative racism continues to function through material deprivation, the limited redistribution of wealth across the color line since the Civil Rights Movement has enabled a liberal racism through cultural capital by reinforcing whiteness as the “appropriate” way of performing class—as premised on the devaluation of blackness. Examining how Asian American artists, activists, and critics have evoked traits associated with cultural sophistication—such as artistry, learnedness, worldliness, and status—as activist stratagems, *Something Real* thus traces the rise of the racialization of sophistication, or how sophistication has been deployed in post-Civil Rights culture as a technology of racial differentiation.



Dr. Jorge Nicolás Leal

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Mentor: Dr. Deb Vargas

More than Ruido: Young Latina/o Ingenuity, Sounds, and Solidarity in Late Twentieth-Century Los Angeles

My work incorporates audio, textual lyric analysis, spatial examination of Latina/o neighborhoods, archival research of English and Spanish language publications, and oral histories. By examining song lyrics, self-published magazines, and hand-drawn maps, I illustrate how Rock Angelino participants claimed themselves as part of Los Angeles, pushed against the anti-immigrant rhetoric of the 1990s, and advocated for equality and social justice in the U.S. and Latin America. My book manuscript, *More than Ruido: Young Latina/o Ingenuity, Sounds, and Solidarity in Late Twentieth-Century Los Angeles*, is a historical analysis of near-present Southern California. This study permits us to understand crucial aspects of this period including the urban rebellion of Abril 1992, approval of Propositions 187 and 227, and repeal of Proposition 209. My research demonstrates how Southern California's Latinas/os responded to these legislative assaults by developing a more encompassing understanding of ethnic identity and solidarity as Latinas/os, and crucially, how they pushed against the xenophobia through their cultural production directed at them during this tumultuous period. Most significantly, my work makes visible the emergence of cultural expressions as usable knowledge that has continued to inform how Latinas/os/xs have contested systemic racism and marginalization efforts in the following decades until the near-present.



Dr. Alyssa Lopez

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Co-Mentors: Dr. Cara Caddoo and Dr. Paula Massood

Reel Freedom: Black Film Culture in Early Twentieth Century New York City

Dr. Alyssa Lopez is a historian of African American history and Black film history with interests in the relationship between film/film culture and urban space. Her current work, a book manuscript titled *Reel Freedom: Black Film Culture in Early Twentieth Century New York City*, explores the impactful, yet often overlooked, ways that Black New Yorkers interacted with cinema as laborers, cultural consumers and producers, protestors and critics, and unyielding individuals. *Reel Freedom's* central argument is that Black film culture served as a significant avenue of Black activism in the early twentieth century that made it possible for Black New Yorkers to create space, both physical and psychological, for themselves in the city. In looking at the individual choices and demands that make up Black film culture, it becomes clear that they were all part of a larger fight for freedom and equality in the city that included fair wages, reclamation of public space, desegregation efforts, and resistance to the limitations of Black representation onscreen. Dr. Lopez's next project is an exploration of Marlon Riggs and his visual articulations of Black queer life. She aims to assess how Riggs's films are linked to social and political change in turbulent times & the ways that he endeavored to recover Black humanity in deeply personal ways. In particular, she is interested in the role that city life plays in community building and feelings of belonging in his work.



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Home Away from Home

My research provides a deeper understanding of the social experiences of the Black community in the San Francisco Bay Area from 1920 through the post-WWII period—specifically, how Black residents living in the Bay Area carved out a sphere of recreation despite the daily grind of work and the pervasiveness of social and institutional racism. My manuscript, tentatively titled *Home Away from Home*, considers to what extent the demand for, and participation in recreation alleviated the racial tensions they confronted at work and school, as well as in their neighborhoods and communities. My work links literature in urban history and African American history to demonstrate the unique circumstances that the city landscape presented to Black Americans and how they not only responded to those circumstances, but also how they shaped them. In particular, the project examines the ways in which Black-founded and Black-directed recreation centers acted as an affirmative alternative to the confrontations and humiliations that awaited them at segregated recreational venues and public amusements. Lastly, this work explores why, how, and with what consequences these Black recreation centers contributed to the changing geography of the Bay Area.



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Mentor: Dr. Sarah Chambers

Daily Life and the Law in Colombia's Independence Wars, 1808–1831

Ángela Pérez-Villa is currently working on her first book manuscript in which she turns to the judicial archive to reconstruct a legal and social history of the wars of independence (1808–1830) in Popayán, a major slave-trading center in colonial Colombia. By shifting the focus from the battlefields to the private and judicial spheres, her book argues that judicial courts, open and active through most of the war period, became loci of the larger conflict in which competing factions attempted to debilitate their opponents by criminalizing actions and making arrests that would further their political interests. By providing a more intimate portrait of war, her book demonstrates how moral and sexual policing of poor Indians and African-descended peoples was central to the political strategies of factions fighting to establish legitimacy and control. Despite their fragmentary nature, these judicial accounts paint images of everyday life that humanize the narratives of war while adding texture and complexity. With all their imperfections, these sources, together with other archival collections such as official and personal correspondence, force us to think about unconsidered trajectories in the study of the wars of independence like the manifestation of emotions and their relevance in interpreting poor people's actions and authorities' legal decisions in times of turbulent political transition.



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Black Muslim Freedom Dreams: Islamic Education, Diasporic Exchange, and Collective Care

Since the 1980's, dozens of African American Muslim parents have searched for educational experiences that would nurture their children's religio-racial identities amidst the anti-Black racism, anti-Muslim racism, and economic marginalization that constrained their everyday lives across the urban U.S.'. In their search for more affirming educational opportunities for their children, these parents have sent their daughters and sons unaccompanied to Medina Baye, Senegal, where they envisioned that being Black and Muslim would be normative and celebrated. While much has been written about how schools in the U.S. can be reformed, *Black Muslim Freedom Dreams: Islamic Education, Diasporic Exchange, and Collective Care* expands the horizon of national educational equity efforts. It asserts that the African continent is a rich destination of educational possibility for African American Muslim students. The book develops the concept of collective care, an African-diasporic Islamic Tijani ethos and everyday practice wherein young people learn to develop the religio-racial imperative to leverage their knowledge, skills, and labor to sustain one another spiritually, educationally, socially, and economically. Principles and praxes of collective care extend the understanding held by Black people on both sides of the Atlantic and enables Black Muslims to enact modes of being and belonging in the world oriented towards prophetic excellence and collective liberation in the face of intersecting systems that seek to dehumanize them.



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‘We Are Revolution’: Empire, Diaspora, and Transnational Filipino/a American Activism

‘We Are Revolution’: Empire, Diaspora, and Transnational Filipino/a American Activism traces the history of anti-imperialist Filipino American activists and their transnational connections to social movements in the Philippines. I argue that anti-imperialist activism became central to diasporic Filipino American grassroots politics, beginning in the mid-twentieth century and blossoming in the 1970s and 1980s, when activists became an integral part of their homeland’s struggles for sovereignty and democracy through their oppositions to U.S. empire (i.e., U.S. military bases, security assistance to the Philippines, U.S. support for right-wing presidents, and transnational surveillance). Using evidence from archival research in the U.S. and the Philippines, the collection of oral histories, participant-observation at political rallies and cultural events, and autoethnography, *We Are Revolution* follows the migration stories, anti-imperialist critiques, and political organizing of Filipino American activists beginning in 1946, when the Philippines was granted “independence” by the U.S., and ending in 2022, the last year of the Rodrigo Duterte administration and the election of Ferdinand Marcos Jr. as president.



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Mentor: Dr. Laura Kwak

Poetics of Bafflement: Aesthetics of Frustration

My book, *Poetics of Bafflement: Aesthetics of Frustration*, draws on art objects by Black women and queer artists in the United States and South Africa for how these artists disrupt cohesive national identities. Turning to the work of Torkwase Dyson, Ayana Jackson, Zanele Muholi, Sethembile Msezane, Mary Sibande and Mickalene Thomas, I argue that modalities of bafflement—frustration, dis-ease, and elsewhere—provide alternative modes of perception, encounter and relation within these radical visual archives and achieve a more expansive articulation of belonging. I define a poetics of bafflement as how elements of the art text come together and produce different, often difficult, effects and affects on the reader. Bafflement as an unorthodox way of approaching “Black art” and aesthetics broadly is not only a recuperative stance, but a useful methodology for understanding what contemporary artists, in the era of multiculturalism, bring to understandings of subjectivity and identity outside the nation-state. I situate this work within a broader pan-global Black Art movement prior to the 1990s and utilizes Black transnational movements as an analytical frame. Further, contemporary Black visual art is contextualized within neoliberal notions of multiculturalism. *Poetics of Bafflement* enters over a century-long debate about race, gender formation and representation in visual culture by theorizing how black cultural production frustrates nation-state belonging and how these nation-state narratives of belonging influence the circulation of art objects and cultural producers.



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Mentor: Dr. Carmen Lamas

Tainted Translations: Early Latinx Political Imaginaries and Trans-American Empire

My research, grounded in literary studies, brings interdisciplinary methods to bear on the literary and cultural production of the early Americas. It also participates in hemispheric approaches to literature, which demand a shift of questions and concerns beyond the U.S. nation-state. The book manuscript I am currently revising, *Tainted Translations: Early Latinx Political Imaginaries and Trans-American Empire*, reveals creative forms of political community forged in the crucible of hemispheric geopolitics throughout the long nineteenth century. This project situates Latina/o/x political pasts within a new literary and cultural geography: of densely interconnected revolutionary movements across the Caribbean, continental South America, and U.S. during and beyond the independence uprisings of 1808–1826. As yet, these revolutionary movements do not command the level of critical attention that the U.S., Haitian, or French revolutions receive in early American literary studies. My book therefore attends to the ways in which revolutionaries from the Spanish colonies read along negative discourses of colonial degeneracy—known in Latinx and Latin American studies as “The Black Legend”—in order to undermine them, and to cull from the process new political possibilities. *Tainted Translations* uncovers the hitherto untold story of this inter-imperial discourse as revolutionary movements in the Americas repurposed it. These political imaginaries ask us to engage—however fleetingly—with unfamiliar forms of sovereignty, non-nationalist belonging, and cross-racial political collaboration.



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Mentor: Dr. Erica Edwards

The Sisterhood: Black Women Building Black Feminism

The Sisterhood: Black Women Building Black Feminism examines the moment when Black Feminism came into being as a body of thought and an activist movement during the 1970s and 1980s. Specifically, it argues that networks of black feminists, including the superstars we know but also exceeding them, were crucial to the development of black feminist thought during this time period. By attending to how individual black feminists, formal organizations, and informal collectives developed their politics through writing poetry, publishing journals, organizing conferences, and attending retreats, simultaneously forging rich interpersonal relationships as friends, lovers, and comrades, *The Sisterhood* reveals how black feminist networks were crucial to the development of what we know today as Black Feminism. Each chapter of the book explores on a different site of this importance collaborative theorizing and advocacy: literary recovery, poetry communities, publishing, and academia. I deploy an intersectional Black feminist framework that considers the combined, simultaneous effects and interactions of the categories of race, gender, and sexuality on individuals' lives to analyze how Black women's multiple identities simultaneously shaped their experiences, work, and relationship to feminism as a political and personal project. This project is deeply interdisciplinary. I utilize methodologies from literary studies, queer theory, African American studies, and intellectual history to analyze a diverse genre of sources including published literary and scholarly works as well as extensive archival materials, including unpublished manuscripts and correspondence.



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Empirical Statecraft: The Emergence of an Information Empire in the Eighteenth-Century Spanish Atlantic

Convinced that Spain suffered from a shortage of “useful” information, imperial bureaucrats launched numerous research expeditions to collect economic, administrative, cultural, geographic, and botanical information about Spain’s colonies. *Empirical Statecraft* interrogates what lay behind this obsession with collecting empirical information, which transformed the Spanish Atlantic into a dynamic, though also conflictive, space of information flow. Over the course of the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, when the diffusion of the concept of improvement, together with a long period of imperial, economic, and military decline, impelled statesmen to appreciate that the future could be different from the present if the crown endeavored to make informed policy decisions. By tracing the origins and development of this future-oriented science of state and the many information-gathering enterprises it generated, *Empirical Statecraft* brings to light the emergence of an information empire in the eighteenth-century Spanish Atlantic. Furthermore, this book project combines perspectives from the history of science, political economy, imperial governance, colonial information gathering, and the court’s political culture to demonstrate that the Spanish Atlantic became a vast laboratory of the modern information age, a development that brought to the fore both the promise of informed governance and the perils of misinformation.



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Mentor: Dr. Kristin Turney

Kids and Cops: Schools, Junior Police, and the Paradox of Hope

What does “good” policing look like? Perhaps this is the wrong question to ask. The book that I’m writing during the fellowship, *Kids and Cops: Schools, Junior Police, and the Paradox of Hope* (University of Chicago Press), explores the phenomenon of junior police academies, school-police partnerships that expose kids to school resources and careers in law enforcement. These programs expanded in the U.S. in the last few decades due to the growth in career and technical education and the renewed national interest in community policing to increase the public’s trust in officers. For years I studied junior police academies in Esperanza, a city in a west coast metropolitan area. Based on interviews conducted during observational fieldwork, I found that while individual youth members gained material benefits from participating as cadets, these policing programs—no matter how benign they appear—can come with community costs. By exploring what communities gain and lose, *Kids and Cops* challenges the myth of “good” policing, and instead, encourages readers to imagine the creative possibilities beyond it, including making a case for police abolitionism. I am a sociologist with specializations in criminology/criminal justice, youth, education, race/ethnicity, culture, and qualitative methods. Outside of sociology, I am also conducting a study on teaching and learning about undergraduate students’ experiences examining race through the lens of whiteness.



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Mentor: Dr. Abigail Weitzman

Women, Work and Families: Studying the Reproduction of Gender Disadvantage in Labor Markets

I am a sociologist who studies the intersection of gender inequality, families, and women's employment in Latin America and the United States as highlighted in my manuscript, *Women, Work and Families: Studying the Reproduction of Gender Disadvantage in Labor Markets*. My research agenda takes a cross-national, comparative approach to explore women's work and the reproduction of gendered disadvantage in labor markets. My portfolio is organized along three branches: (1) mothers' employment in contexts of precarity, (2) adolescents and family labor, and (3) household structure. In this vein, I situate my projects in countries at different levels of industrialization and capitalist development, formal and informal work, and women's labor force participation. I currently have projects in two main lines of research. A first line investigates mothers' employment and household dynamics during the COVID-19 crisis including household composition, mothers' own employment trajectories before the crisis, and severity of the strain on the public health care system during the pandemic. A second line of my research portfolio focuses on daughters' unpaid family labor within their own households, during adolescence. I explore this topic working with population representative data from Brazil and Mexico and address connections between daughters' family labor and their mothers' employment and parental fertility decisions.



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Mentor: Dr. Anthony Ocampo

You Can't Evict A Movement: Housing Justice and Intergenerational Activism in New York City

The rate at which working-class residents, immigrants, and communities of color are being displaced from their homes is happening on a scale not seen since the federally sponsored urban renewal programs in the 1960s. In New York City where one out of ten renters are taken to housing court by their landlords each year, displacement has come to intimately shape the political lives of Asian immigrants and their families. My book project, *You Can't Evict A Movement: Housing Justice and Intergenerational Activism in New York City*, explores the overlooked role of Asian Americans in the contemporary housing justice movement. Drawing on a variety of qualitative methods including ethnography, participatory mapping, archival research, augmented reality, and oral history interviews, this project offers a nuanced understanding of the conditions under which Asian Americans are active in the making of urban space and urban politics, shifting away from a common narrative that portrays them as disengaged from democratic processes. This work is about emplacement as much as it is about displacement, it is about what Asian women, youth, immigrants, and elders are doing to stay in place from tenants fighting eviction, neighborhood activists, grassroots groups, housing attorneys, language interpreters, archivists, artists, and mutual aid collectives. Fundamentally, this work broadens the scope of how we think about Asian American activism in the 21st century and where it unfolds on the ground, importantly shaping how we understand democratic citizenship and political possibilities in urban immigrant communities.



CAREER ENHANCEMENT MENTORS



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I specialize in American and African American cultural production in the twentieth century, with an emphasis on the history of perception as shaped by the built environment. My teaching and research interests include critical race studies, architecture and urban studies, American studies, Modernism, postmodernism, the Harlem and Chicago Renaissances, popular culture, visual culture, and sound studies. I've also taught in the Chicago studies program here at U of C

With Valerie Smith, I co-edited the volume *Race and Real Estate*, an interdisciplinary collection rethinking narratives of property and citizenship. My book, *The Black Skyscraper: Architecture and the Perception of Race* recovers the skyscraper's drastic effects not only on the shape of the city but the racial sensorium of its residents. I am working on a new book that charts the impact of the U.S.'s move to mass homeownership in 20th century on how Americans experienced residential space as a social, spatial, and, most significantly, a racial unit. I'm also working with Prof. Britt Rusert to collect and publish W.E.B. Du Bois's short fiction.

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Sarah C. Chambers is Professor and Chair of History at the University of Minnesota. She has also served as Associate Chair, Director of Graduate Studies, Director of the Center for Early Modern History, and chaired both the departmental and college Tenure and Promotion Committees. For ten years, she was one of the North American editors of the journal *Gender & History*. Her research explores political culture, citizenship, law, gender, migration, and exile during the transition from colonialism to independence in Spanish America. In addition to numerous articles and book chapters, she is author of *Families in War and Peace: Chile from Colony to Nation* (Duke, 2015) and *From Subjects to Citizens: Honor, Gender, and Politics in Arequipa, Peru, 1780–1854* (Penn State, 1999), and co-editor of *Latin American Independence: An Anthology of Sources* (Hackett, 2010) and *Honor, Status, and Law in Modern Latin America* (Duke, 2005).

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Erica R. Edwards is Professor of African American Studies and English at Yale University. She is the author of *The Other Side of Terror: Black Women and the Culture of U.S. Empire* (NYU Press, 2021), which was awarded the John Hope Franklin Prize from the American Studies Association, earned an honorable mention for the MLA's James Russell Lowell Prize, and was a finalist for the National Women Studies Association's Gloria Anzaldúa Book Prize, the Association for the Study of African American Life and History's Book Prize, and the Prose Award in Literature from the Association of American Publishers. Her first book, *Charisma and the Fictions of Black Leadership* (University of Minnesota Press, 2012), was awarded the Modern Language Association's William Sanders Scarborough Prize. Edwards is the co-editor, with Roderick Ferguson and Jeffrey Ogbar, of *Keywords for African American Studies*. Before moving to Yale, Edwards taught at Rutgers University, New Brunswick and the University of California, Riverside. She founded the Lindon Barrett Scholars Mentoring Program and the UC Center for Black Studies in California. Her work has been supported by grants and fellowships from the Institute of Citizens & Scholars, the Mellon Foundation, and the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study.

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Rob Gioielli is an environmental historian whose work focuses the intersection race, sustainability and justice in American cities. He is the author of *Environmental Activism and the Urban Crisis: Baltimore, St. Louis, Chicago* (Temple, 2014), and is currently working on an environmental history of white flight. He is a professor of history and environmental studies at the University of Cincinnati, where he also directs the UC Blue Ash Honors Program. He has received fellowships from the American Council of Learned Societies and the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society in Munich, Germany.

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Joseph Jonghyun Jeon is Director of the Center for Critical Korean Studies and Professor of English and Asian American Studies at the University of California, Irvine. He is the author of *Vicious Circuits: Korea's IMF Cinema and the End of the American Century* (Stanford University Press, 2019) and *Racial Things, Racial Forms: Objecthood in Avant-Garde Asian American Poetry* (University of Iowa Press, 2012).

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My research has explored the history of social movements in the U.S., the African Diaspora, and Africa; Black intellectuals; music and visual culture; Surrealism, Marxism, among other things. My essays have appeared in a wide variety of professional journals as well as general publications, including the *Journal of American History*, *American Historical Review*, *The Nation*, *Monthly Review*, *New York Times*, *Color Lines*, *Counterpunch*, *Souls*, *Journal of African American History*, *New Labor Forum*, *Re-Thinking Marxism*, *Spectre*, *Signs*, *Social Text*, *Transition*, and *Boston Review*, for which I also serve as Contributing Editor.

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Laura J. Kwak is Associate Professor in the Graduate Programs in Socio-legal Studies and Sociology, York University, Toronto, Canada. Her research has been published in the *Oñati Socio-Legal Series*, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, the *Canadian Journal of Women and the Law*, and *Amerasia Journal*. She is developing her first monograph "Playing by the Racial Rule(s): Asian Conservatives in Canada's Federal Legislature," which challenges the supposed incommensurability of racialized identity and Conservative politics. Contributing to literature on political representation and racial governmentality, the book investigates how paradoxically raced in the name of racelessness, politicians of colour are vital to the state's narrative of post-racialism as a way to sustain the social order. Her SSHRC funded research project "Race and Representation in Canada's Parliament, 2006-2019" examines the contributions of racialized MPs across Canada's three main federal political parties. She is the book reviews co-editor for *Lateral: Journal of the Cultural Studies Association*.

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Carmen E. Lamas is Associate Professor of English and American Studies at the University of Virginia. Her book *The Latino Continuum and the Nineteenth-Century Americas: Literature, Translation, and Historiography* (Oxford 2021) was the recipient of the 2022 Latinx Studies Section Book Award of the Latin American Studies Association. She is co-editor of the critical edition *Irene Albar. Novela cubana (1885, 1886) por Eusebio Guiteras. Edición facsimil* (Editorial Calambur 2023). Her work has appeared in *Revista Hispánica Moderna*, *Latin American Research Review*, *Latino Studies*, *Oxford Bibliographies in Latino Studies* and in the edited volumes *The Latino Nineteenth Century* (NYU, 2016) and the *Cambridge History of Latina/o American Literature* (2018). Professor Lamas is a co-founding editor of *Pasados: Recovering History, Imagining Latinidad*, a new journal published with the University of Pennsylvania Press. She is on the Advisory Board of Recovering the US Hispanic Literary Heritage Project and is a co-founder of the Latina/o Studies Association, an academic organization that brings together scholars, students, artists, filmmakers, community partners, and activists in the study of Latinx concerns.

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Paula J. Massood is professor of screen studies at Feirstein Graduate School of Cinema at Brooklyn College, CUNY, on the doctoral faculty in the film studies certificate program and program in theatre at The Graduate Center, CUNY and the past president of the Society for Cinema and Media Studies. She is the author of *Black City Cinema: African American Urban Experiences in Film* (Temple UP, 2003) and *Making a Promised Land: Harlem in 20th-Century Photography and Film* (Rutgers UP, 2013), editor of *The Spike Lee Reader* (Temple UP, 2007), and co-editor of *Media Crossroads: Intersections of Space and Identity in Screen Cultures* (Duke UP, 2021) and the “Precarious Mobilities,” special issue of the journal, *Feminist Media Histories* (U of CA Press, 2021).

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Koritha Mitchell is a literary historian and cultural critic who has been a professor of English at Ohio State University for 18 years. She is author of *Living with Lynching: African American Lynching Plays, Performance, and Citizenship* (2011) and *From Slave Cabins to the White House: Homemade Citizenship in African American Culture* (2020). She is also editor of Frances E.W. Harper’s 1892 novel, *Iola Leroy*, and of Harriet Jacobs’s, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*, (1861), the first book-length autobiography by a formerly enslaved African American woman. Her scholarly articles include “James Baldwin, Performance Theorist, Sings the Blues for Mister Charlie,” published by *American Quarterly*, and “Love in Action,” which appeared in *Callaloo* and draws parallels between lynching and violence against LGBTQ communities. Mitchell has been invited to offer guidance to scholars at every stage of their careers by various types of institutions, including the Ford Foundation, the American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR), the New Jersey Department of Education, Vanderbilt University, Michigan State University, the College of Wooster, and Princeton University. Her professional development workshops include *Responsible Teaching in a Violent Culture* and *Writing & Publishing Scholarly Books*. Her public commentary has appeared in outlets such as *Time*, *CNN*, *Good Morning America*, *The Huffington Post*, *NBC News*, *PBS Newshour*, and NPR’s *Morning Edition*. On Twitter, she’s @ProfKori.

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Anthony Ocampo, Ph.D. is Professor of Sociology and Faculty Co-Director of the Office of Interdisciplinary Ethnic Studies at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. He is the author of “Brown and Gay in LA: The Lives of Immigrant Sons” and “The Latinos of Asia: How Filipino Americans Break the Rules of Race,” which have been featured on *NPR*, *NBC News*, *Literary Hub*, and in the *Los Angeles Times*. He is an Academic Director of the National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity. His writing has appeared in *GQ*, *Catapult*, *BuzzFeed*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Colorlines*, *Gravy*, *Life & Thyme*, and the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, among others. He has received fellowships from the Ford Foundation, Jack Jones Literary Arts, Tin House, and the VONA/Voices of Our Nations Arts Foundation. Raised in Northeast Los Angeles, he earned his BA in comparative studies in race and ethnicity and MA in modern thought and literature from Stanford University and his MA and PhD in sociology from UCLA.

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Nandini Pandey is a Romanist broadly interested in Latin literature, political and intellectual history, visual culture, and the conversations among them. She loves interrogating how meanings are made and change over time and across media; how words, images, and built environments interact with humans; and how identities and ideologies have been constructed alongside interpretations of the classics, from antiquity to the present day.

Professor Pandey’s prize-winning first monograph, *The Poetics of Power in Augustan Rome: Latin Poetic Responses to Early Imperial Iconography* (Cambridge 2018), explores the role of Roman writers, readers, and artists in creating and contesting Augustus’ public image from below. Her second book project explores social practices, legal underpinnings, and lived experiences of ethnic and cultural diversity in the Roman empire, with an eye toward modern diversity and inclusion initiatives. This research has been generously supported, among others, by the American Council of Learned Societies, the American Academy in Berlin, a Basel Fellowship in Latin Literature, the Loeb Classical Library Foundation, and the Institute for Research in the Humanities at the University of Wisconsin.

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Chandan Reddy is Associate Professor in the departments of Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies and the Comparative History of Ideas at the University of Washington, Seattle. His book, *Freedom With Violence: Race, Sexuality and the U.S. State* (2011) from Duke University Press won the Alan Bray Memorial award for Queer studies from the MLA as well as the Best Book in Cultural Studies from the Asian American Studies Association, both in 2013. He is co-author of *Abolishing Poverty: Towards Pluriverse Futures and Politics* (University of Georgia Press, 2023) and, with Jodi Byrd, Alyosha Goldstein, and Jodi Melamed, of “Predatory Value,” which appeared in their co-edited special issue, “Economies of Dispossession: Indigeneity, Race, Capitalism,” *Social Text* (Spring 2018). He is co-author with Jodi Melamed of the forthcoming book, *Operationalizing Racial Capitalism: On Liberalism’s Command Powers* (with Verso Press), which reconceives liberalism writ large as a theory and system of administration or command powers for sustaining racial capitalist worlding. And, in July 2022 he became Co-Editor-In-Chief (with C. Riley Snorton) of *GLQ: A Journal of Gay and Lesbian Studies*. In 2021, he was the Frehling Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Humanities Institute at the University of Michigan.

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Ramón H. Rivera-Servera, Dean of the College of Fine Arts at UT Austin, is an ethnographer by training and profession, who holds research and teaching specialties across the visual and performing arts. Born and raised in San Juan, Puerto Rico, he received a Ph.D. in Performance as Public Practice from the UT-Austin Department of Theatre and Dance in 2003 as the first graduate of the program. For over 20 years, he has been an interdisciplinary scholar in the arts with a focus on creative ethnography, new work development in performance, and Black and Latinx arts and cultures in North America and the Caribbean. His writings and research explore transformational changes in the arts and creative communities, especially around issues of equity and inclusion.

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Dr. Robyn Magalit Rodriguez is a scholar-activist. She is best known for her role as professor emerita of Asian American Studies at the University of California, Davis as well as founding director of the Bulosan Center for Filipinx Studies. A prolific writer, Dr. Rodriguez has published 8 books and nearly 50 scholarly articles and book chapters as well as journalistic pieces. A dynamic speaker, Dr. Rodriguez has addressed thousands of people around the world through keynote addresses and educational lectures from the most prestigious universities such as Cornell and Oxford, to local grassroots organizations like Migrante Vallejo. A committed community organizer, Dr. Rodriguez has helped to found or lead numerous organizations in the Filipino and Asian American community like the the Asian American Liberation Network based in Sacramento, CA, of which she serves as board chair. She is also the president of the Filipino American Educators Association of California. A mother, Dr. Rodriguez has two sons, Amado Kkaya and Ezio. Her eldest, Amado Khaya, passed at the age of 22 while serving indigenous communities in the Philippines and her youngest, Ezio is in grade school and learning how to be a farmer on Remagination Farm, a property of Dr. Rodriguez and her husband, Joshua Vang. The farm represents Dr. Rodriguez's latest venture where she and her family are learning to implement agroecological techniques to raise animals and grow organic produce in a sustainable and regenerative manner. Dr. Rodriguez intends for the farm to serve as her new classroom where she will offer learning experiences informed by social justice movements; indigenous and land-based knowledge; the arts; radical love and healing.

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Neil Safier is Associate Professor in the Department of History at Brown University, where he also holds affiliations with the Department of Hispanic Studies, the Institute at Brown for Environment and Society, the Program in Science, Technology, and Society, the Native American and Indigenous Studies Initiative, and the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. He received his Ph.D. from the Johns Hopkins University in 2004 and has held teaching and research appointments at the University of Michigan, the University of Pennsylvania, and the University of British Columbia, Vancouver. He is the author of *Measuring the New World: Enlightenment Science and South America* (Chicago, 2008; paperback edition, 2012), which was awarded the 2009 Gilbert Chinard Prize from the Society for French Historical Studies and the Institut Français d'Amérique. A Spanish translation, *La Medición del Nuevo Mundo*, was released from *Marcial Pons* (Madrid) in 2016. Together with Joan-Pau Rubiés, he has co-edited *Cosmopolitanism and the Enlightenment*, forthcoming in 2023 with Cambridge University Press. Recipient of numerous research fellowships at libraries and archives, including the Huntington Library, the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin, the New York Botanical Garden, and the Institute for Research in the Humanities at the University of Wisconsin, he has a wide collection of published books and articles to his name, including essays in *Isis*, *Book History*, *The Huntington Library Quarterly*, *Revista Brasileira de História*, and *Annales: Histoire, Sciences Sociales*. From 2013 to 2021, he served as Beatrice and Julio Mario Santo Domingo Director and Librarian of the John Carter Brown Library. His current research relates to the transnational history of knowledge-making in the late-eighteenth-century Atlantic world and the connections between plantation cultures of the eighteenth-century Caribbean and Brazilian natural history, including sugar, indigo, coffee, and cotton. He also has an ongoing interest in the environmental and ethnographic history of the Amazon River basin, from the prehuman to the present, and looks forward to receiving inquiries from graduate students on topics that include: the history of science and knowledge-making in a global context; environmental history in the Atlantic world; the colonial history of the Americas; and history of print culture in the early modern world.

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Kristin Turney is a Dean's Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of California, Irvine. She investigates the role of stressors in creating, maintaining, and exacerbating social inequalities in health and wellbeing. Her current research uses quantitative and qualitative methods to understand the repercussions of stressors (particularly, but not exclusively, those stemming from the criminal legal system) on families and children. She is also working to bring greater transparency to the conditions inside jails and prisons through the creation of a digital archive, *PrisonPandemic*. She is a professor in the Department of Sociology (and, by courtesy, Criminology, Law and Society) at the University of California, Irvine.

Dr. Deb Vargas
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Deborah R. Vargas is Associate Professor of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Ethnicity, Race, and Migration at Yale University. As an interdisciplinary scholar, her work engages the fields of queer studies, feminist studies, Chicana/x Latina/x Studies, and American Studies with an emphasis on the cultural politics of the U.S.-Mexico borderlands. Vargas is the author of *Dissonant Divas in Chicana Music: The Limits of La Onda*, awarded Best Book in Chicana/o Studies, The Woody Guthrie Prize for Best Book in Popular Music Studies, and an honorable mention for Outstanding Book in Latino Studies. She is also co-editor with Nancy Raquel Mirabal and Lawrence La Fountain-Stokes of *Keywords for Latino Studies*. Vargas is currently working on a manuscript titled "Toward a Sociology of Culture," (under contract, Duke University Press) that explores Chicana/x working-class aesthetic forms and queer gender performances deemed as "cultures of poverty" in relation to normative Latino citizenship.

Dr. Abigail Weitzman
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Dr. Abigail Weitzman is an Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Texas at Austin. Her research examines social psychological processes that, in the aggregate, contribute to demographic patterns, with a particular focus on the causes and consequences of violence, expectations, and desires in interpersonal relationships. She received her PhD from New York University and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Michigan. Prior to becoming an academic, she served in the Peace Corps in Peru and Belize and interned at the United Nations.

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Oswaldo Zavala is Professor of contemporary Latin American literature and culture at the College of Staten Island and at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York (CUNY). He is the author of "La modernidad insufrible. Roberto Bolaño en los límites de la literatura latinoamericana contemporánea" (2015), "Volver a la modernidad. Genealogías de la literatura mexicana de fin de siglo" (2017), "Los cárteles no existen. Narcotráfico y cultura en México" (2018), and "La guerra en las palabras. Una historia intelectual del 'narco' (1975-2020)" (2022). He co-edited, with Viviane Mahieux, "Tierras de nadie: el norte en la narrativa mexicana contemporánea" (2012); with José Ramón Ruisánchez, "Materias dispuestas: Juan Villoro ante la crítica" (2011); and with Magdalena Perkowska, "Tiranías ficciones. Poética y política de la escritura en la obra de Horacio Castellanos Moya" (2018). He has published more than fifty articles on contemporary Latin American narrative, the U.S.-Mexico border, and the link between violence, culture and late capitalism.



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