

# SOPHIE ESCH

Rice University, Houston, Texas

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## EDUCATION

- 2010-2014 Ph.D. with distinction in Latin American Literature and Culture, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Tulane University
- 2002-2009 M.A. (Magister Artium, a German academic title equivalent to a combined B.A. and M.A.) in Latin American Literature, Political Science, and North American Studies, Freie Universität Berlin

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2024-present Director of the Center for Latin American and Latinx Studies, Rice University
- 2021-present Associate Professor of Mexican and Central American Literature and Culture, Department of Modern and Classical Literatures and Cultures, Rice University
- Director of the Initiative for the Study of LatinX America (ISLA), 2021-2023
- Program Director, Latin American and Latinx Studies since 2021
- Faculty affiliate, Program in Politics, Law & Social Thought
- Faculty affiliate, Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality
- 2018-2021 Assistant Professor of Mexican and Central American Literature and Culture, Department of Spanish, Portuguese & Latin American Studies, Rice University
- 2014-2018 Assistant Professor of Modern Mexican Literature and Culture, Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, Colorado State University
- Fall 2016 Global Teaching Scholar, Semester at Sea, Institute for Shipboard Education
- 2013-2014 Lecturer in Spanish, Romance Languages & Literatures Department, Boston College

2010-2012 Teaching Assistant, Department of Spanish & Portuguese, Tulane University

## RESEARCH AREAS

Revolutions and war in the Global South; violence, modernity & technology; gender & war; the non-human; animal-human studies; environmental humanities; Latin America-Africa; South-South comparatisms; internationalism & solidarity movements; comparative literature; Mexican literature; Central American literature; Luso-African literature; Latin American literature; photography and material culture; political song;

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

2018 *Modernity at Gunpoint. Firearms, Politics, and Culture in Mexico and Central America*, Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, Illuminations Series.

### **Winner of the 2019 LASA-Mexico Section Award for Best Book in the Humanities**

Reviewed in:

*Transmodernity* (2019 9.1) by Rafael Acosta;

*Chasqui* (2019 48.2) by Rebecca Janzen;

*Confluencia* (2019 35.1) by Andrew Bentley;

*Istmo* (2019 38) by Ricardo Roque Baldovinos;

*Revista de Estudios Hispánicos* (2020 54.1) by Carolyn Fornoff;

*Latin American Research Review* (2020 55.4) by Jenny Pearce;

*Arizona Journal of Hispanic Cultural Studies* (2021 24) by Arno Argueta;

*Tapuya: Latin American Science, Technology and Society* (2021 4) by Alexis De Greiff;

*Critical Reviews on Latin American Research* (2022 10.1) by Ximena Alba Villalever;

*Revista de Literatura Mexicana Contemporánea* (forthcoming) by Tamara Mitchell;

2022 Translation into Spanish: *Letra y metralla. Cultura y política durante los períodos de conflictos armados en México y Centroamérica (1910-2020)*, Mexico City: Bonilla Artiga Editores. Translated by Lorena Murillo.

### **Winner of the Premio Iberoamericano 2023, LASA**

Reviewed in:

*Gazeta* (2023) by Trudy Mercadal;

*New Books Network en Español* (2023); podcast interview by Diana Meléndez;

*Ístmica* (2024) by Jaime Ortega;

### Edited Volumes

- 2023 *Central American Literature as World Literature*, New York: Bloomsbury.
- 2006 *La gota de la vida. Hacia una gestión sustentable y democrática del agua*, co-edited with Helfrich, Silke; Delgado, Martha; Salazar, Hilda; Torregrosa, María Luisa; Zúñiga, Iván. Mexico City: Ediciones Boell.

### Special Issues of Journals

- 2026 “Native Fauna in Latin American Literatures: Precolonial to Present Times,” special issue for *Hispanic Review*, in progress
- 2024 “Critters in the Mexican Cultural Imagination: Small Life/Literary Forms,” special issue for *Humanimalia*, in progress
- 2020 “Passages: Routes of Migration and Memory in Central American Literature,” special dossier of the *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos*, vol. 54 no. 1.
- Reviewed in: *Istmo* (2020 41) by Miroslava Arely Rosales Vásquez

### Peer-Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters

- 2025 Guerrilla Narratives as Nature Writing: An Eccentric South-South Comparison,” *Eccentric Comparatists*, edited by Ignacio Sánchez Prado and Magalí Armillas-Tiseyra (under review)
- 2024 “The Animal Turn,” *More New Approaches in Latin American Studies*, edited by Juan Poblete (accepted by editor)
- 2024 “Zapata in Candyland: Cards, Games, and the Mexican Revolution,” *MLA Teaching the Mexican Revolution*, edited by Ignacio Sánchez Prado. (forthcoming)
- 2024 “Bonding in the Anthropocene: Climate Change, Collapse and Conviviality in Claudia Hernández’s Speculative Fiction (*De fronteras* and *Causas naturales*),” *Writing the Post-Global in Latin America: Collapse and Conviviality*, edited by Gesine Müller and Jan Knobloch (forthcoming)
- 2024 “El reino animal del narco: Zoológicos, soberanía y fantasía,” *El cártel que se repite. El mito globalizado del 'narco'*, edited by Oswaldo Zavala (forthcoming)
- 2023 “World Literature in Minor Key: The Central American Short Story,” *Central American Literature as World Literature*, edited by Sophie Esch (co-authored with Ignacio Sarmiento Panéz).
- 2022 “Learning from Senselessness: The Act of Reading in Horacio Castellanos Moya’s *Insensatez*,” *Teaching Central American Literature in a Global Context*, edited by Mónica Albizúrez and Gloria Chacón, Options for Teaching Series, MLA.

- 2022 “Stories of Giving Birth in Central America: Class, Race, and Politics in Women’s Health,” *Healthcare in Latin America: A Reader*, edited by David Dalton and Doug Weatherford, University of Florida Press. (co-authored with Alicia Miklos), 169-183.
- 2021 “Hippopotamus Dead or Alive: Animals and Trauma in Narratives of the Drug War,” *Revista Hispánica Moderna*, vol 74 no. 2, pp. 184-199.

**Honorable mention, best article in the humanities, LASA-Mexico Section, 2022**

- 2020 “Passages, Transits, Flows. Thinking Central American Literature across Space, Time, and Capital,” *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos*, vol. 54 no.1, pp. 7-24.
- 2020 “Naturaleza, tecnología y guerra: Modernidad encantada en la música sandinista,” *TRANS. Revista Transcultural de Música*, vol. 24, pp. 1-13.
- 2020 “Uneven Battles: Central American Cold War Literature,” *The Palgrave Handbook of Cold War Literature*, edited by Andrew Hammond, Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 451-470.
- 2018 “¿El arma en la sociedad? La novela del desmovilizado, militarismo e introspección en la obra de Castellanos Moya,” *Tiranías ficciones. Poéticas y políticas de la escritura en la obra de Horacio Castellanos Moya*, edited by Magdalena Perkowska and Oswaldo Zavala, Pittsburgh: Instituto Internacional de Literatura Iberoamericana. pp. 189-211.
- 2018 “El rifle como reliquia en las memorias letradas sandinistas: Gioconda Belli y Sergio Ramírez,” *Revista Telar*, no. 21, pp. 113-136.
- 2017 “In the Company of Animals: Otherness, Empathy, and Community in *De fronteras* by Claudia Hernández,” *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos*, vol. 51 no. 3, pp. 571-593.
- 2014 “In the Crossfire: Rascón Banda’s *Contrabando* and the ‘Narcoliterature’ Debate in Mexico,” *Latin American Perspectives*. vol. 41 no. 2: pp. 161-176. (translated from Spanish by Richard Stoller)
- 2009 “Travelers and Littérateurs at the Banks of the San Juan River: Intertextual Fluxion and the Desire for Universality (in Texts by Ephraim G. Squier, Mark Twain, José Coronel Urtecho and Gioconda Belli),” *Ciberletras*, no. 21. n.p. (word count: 8663)
- 2008 “¿El río San Juan como mausoleo de modernidades de Nicaragua? La negociación literaria del significado de modernidad a las orillas del río,” *L'Ordinaire Latino-américain*. 211: pp. 145-164.

**Short Scholarly Pieces**

- 2025 “Errantry as Method. On Glissant’s Poetics of Relation,” *Global South Studies*, edited by Magalí Armillas-Tiseyra and Sarah Quesada

## Encyclopedia Entries

- 2009 “EPR (Ejército Popular Revolucionario)” in: *International Encyclopedia of Revolution and Protest. 1500 to the Present* edited by Immanuel Ness, Wiley-Blackwell, pp. 1121–1123.

## Book Reviews

- 2020 “Maya Textures: Conceptualizing Contemporary Indigenous Poetics, Patterns, and Performances (*Unwriting Maya Literature* by Paul Worley and Rita Palacios),” *Confluencia* 35.2, pp. 165-167.
- 2020 “Review Essay: New Directions in Contemporary Central American, Mexican, and Mesoamerican Literary Studies (*Indigenous Cosmolectics* by Gloria Chacón and *Más allá del duelo* by Yansi Pérez),” *Chasqui*, 49.1, pp. 15-18.

## Work in Preparation

Book manuscript: *Multispecies Narratives of Revolution and War in Africa and Latin America* (under contract with Columbia UP, 75% complete)

Article: “Mosquito Agency and Beetle Doctrine: Talking Politics with Insects in the Lacandon Jungle”

Article: “A Contemporary Museum of Dead Animals. Collector’s Impulse and the Anthropocene in Latin American Literature”

Article: “Critters, Cadres, Kin: The Creaturely Cold War in Literatures of the Global South”

Book chapter: “The Sandinista Revolution as a World Literary Event,” *Red World Literature*

## AWARDS AND GRANTS

### External

- 2024 National Humanities Center Fellowship (alternate)
- 2023 Best Senior Scholar Conference Paper, for “The Animal Turn,” awarded by the Culture, Power & Politics section of the Latin American Studies Association
- 2023 Premio Iberoamericano for *Letra y metralla*, awarded by the Latin American Studies Association

- 2023 Short Term Research Visitor Fellowship, Maria Sibylla Merian Centre  
Conviviality-Inequality in Latin America, São Paulo
- 2022-2024 Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship for Experienced Researchers, Ibero-  
American Institute, Berlin; Department of Romance Languages, University of  
Cologne (spring/summer 2022, summer 2023, spring/summer 2024)
- 2022 Honorable Mention, Best Article in the Humanities for “Hippopotamus Dead or  
Alive: Animals and Trauma in Narratives of the Drug War,” awarded by the  
Mexico section of the Latin American Studies Association
- 2020 Summer Stipend of National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH) for book  
project “Animals and Armed Conflict in Latin American and African Literature”
- 2019 Best Book in the Humanities Prize for *Modernity at Gunpoint*, awarded by the  
Mexico section of the Latin American Studies Association
- 2014 LASA Travel Grant, Latin American Studies Association
- 2014 MLA Travel Grant, Modern Languages Association
- 2008 German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD): Student Research Excursion  
“Borders in Movement: Social and Cultural Dynamics” Costa Rica and Nicaragua
- 2007-2008 Fellowship of the Heinrich Böll Foundation, Berlin, Germany
- 2007 German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD): Research Exchange Program  
“Transnational Entanglements,” Mexico City
- 2004 German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD): Grant for an Internship Abroad,  
Mexico City

### **Internal**

- 2025 Vice President for Research Fellowship for Associate Professors, Spring 25
- 2024 Charles W. Duncan, Jr. Achievement Award for Outstanding Faculty
- 2024 Interdisciplinary Center Funding for ISLA, 119k/year for five years, PI
- 2023 Event Funding for manuscript workshop on *Creaturely Cold War* Humanities  
Research Center, Rice University
- 2023 Event Funding for “Third Coast Central America Collaborative,” Humanities

- Research Center, Rice University
- 2021 Faculty Fellowship (Fall 2021), Humanities Research Center, Rice University
- 2021 Research Project “Ecologies of War,” Feminist Research Seminar, Rice University (PI)
- 2020 Creative Ventures Fund for Scholarly and Creative Work Subventions for the publication of *Modernity at Gunpoint* in Spanish, Rice University
- 2020 Superior Faculty Associate, Hanszen College, Rice University
- 2020 Finalist for the Sophia Meyer Farb Prize for Teaching, Phi Beta Kappa chapter, Rice University
- 2020 Research Group “Violence, Liberation and Trauma in the Global South,” Feminist Research Seminar, Rice University (PI)
- 2017-2018 School of Global Environmental Sustainability Resident Fellow, Colorado State University
- 2015-2017 Several Professional Development Program competitive awards, College of Liberal Arts, Colorado State University
- 2015 Ann Gill Faculty Development Award, College of Liberal Arts, Colorado State University
- 2010-2013 Multiple fellowships and grants as a graduate student: Monroe Fellowship of the School of Liberal Arts; Summer Merit Fellowship; Graduate Assistantship Stipend; travel grants from the Provost, the Graduate Students Association, and the Department of Spanish & Portuguese, Tulane University

### **INVITED TALKS**

- 2024 “Rifles as Commodities, Artifacts, and Props in the ‘Drug War’ in Mexico,” Yale University, New Haven
- 2023 “The Nonhuman Dimensions of War: A Cultural and Literary Studies Perspective,” Freie Universität Berlin
- 2023 “Creaturely Cold War. More-Than-Human Narratives of Revolution and War in Africa and Latin America,” University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
- 2023 “Temporalities and Ends of Worlds in Rita Indiana,” *World Exhaustion in Latin*

*American Literatures and Cultures*, University of Cologne

- 2023 “Letra y metralla. Cultura y política durante los períodos de conflictos armados en México y Centroamérica (1910-2020),” *Panel invitado: Premio Iberoamericano*, Latin American Studies Association, Vancouver, BC
- 2023 “Letra y metralla. Cultura y política durante los períodos de conflictos armados en México y Centroamérica (1910-2020),” *Mecila Distinguished Lectures Series*, Maria Sibylla Merian Centre Conviviality-Inequality in Latin America, São Paulo
- 2023 “The Mesh of War: Human-Nonhuman Entanglements in Narratives of Armed Conflict in the Global South,” *Mecila Fellows Workshop*, Maria Sibylla Merian Centre Conviviality-Inequality in Latin America, São Paulo (April)
- 2023 “Letra y metralla. Presentación del libro,” UNITESO, ITESO, Guadalajara
- 2023 “Rifles y género,” Maestría de Derechos Humanos y Paz, ITESO, Guadalajara
- 2023 “Abaixo o Peixefritismo: The Politics of Eating Animals Across the Socialist South Atlantic,” *Atlantic Latinidades: New Models for Trans-Oceanic Engagement*, Duke University
- 2023 “Modernity at Gunpoint Revisited,” University of Virginia
- 2022 “Bonding in the Late Anthropocene: Collapse and Conviviality in Claudia Hernández,” *Writing the Post-Global in Latin America: Collapse and Conviviality*, University of Cologne, Cologne
- 2022 “Guerrilla Narratives from Africa and Latin America: A Comparative Perspective,” Ibero-American Institute, Berlin
- 2021 “El reino animal del narco,” *Congreso de Literatura Mexicana Contemporánea*, University of Texas El Paso, El Paso, TX
- 2020 “Modernity at Gunpoint: Q&A with the Author,” Mexican Studies Research Collective
- 2019 “Embattled Species: Animals and War in Contemporary Literature from the Global South,” Tulane University, New Orleans
- 2019 “Modernity at Gunpoint,” Forum for Latin American Studies, US Naval Academy, Annapolis
- 2019 “The Firearm as Cultural Artifact: Arts & Arms in Latin America,” Art and Confrontation in the Americas Symposium, University of Virginia, Charlottesville

- 2019 “Modernity at Gunpoint,” Summer School on Violence and Social Conflicts, Lateinamerika-Institut, Freie Universität Berlin, Berlin
- 2019 “Cartridge Belts & Machine Guns: Firearms, Politics, and Modernity in Mexico,” Department of Spanish and Portuguese Studies, University of Florida, Gainesville
- 2018 “Firing Squads as Aesthetic Experience and Political Paradigm in Mexico,” Rice-Humboldt Faculty Colloquium: Politics, Media, Medium, Rice University, Houston, TX
- 2017 “Trafficking Death and Government Staging: Firearms as Commodities and Props in the U.S.-Mexican Borderlands”, Borders & Borderlands Symposium, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO
- 2016 “Muchachos vestidos de verde olivo: Militarismo y cultura política centroamericana,” *Forum Ideas for Peace (Foro Ideas para la Paz)*, San Salvador, El Salvador
- 2014 “El rifle como artefacto político-cultural – Una lectura de conflictos armados desde los estudios culturales,” *Seminario: ¿Cómo pensar la violencia?*, Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás de Hidalgo, Instituto de Investigaciones Filosóficas, Morelia, Mexico

## CONFERENCES

### Papers Presented

- 2024 “Creatures in the Mesh of War: Theorizing Ecologies of Armed Conflict desde los estudios culturales,” *Latin American Studies Association*, Bogotá, Colombia (accepted)
- 2023 “The Animal Turn,” *Latin American Studies Association*, Vancouver, BC
- Best Senior Scholar Conference Paper, LASA-Section Culture, Power & Politics**
- 2023 “Critters, Cadres & Kin: The Creaturely Cold War in Cuban and Angolan Literature,” *Red World Literature*, Reykjavik, Iceland
- 2022 “Writing War With and Beyond the Human: Multispecies Perspectives in Luso-African Literature,” *African Studies Association of Africa Conference (ASAA)*, University of Cape Town
- 2021 “The Sandinista Revolution as World Literary Event,” *Central American Literature as World Literature Conference*, Rice University, Houston, TX
- 2021 “The Nature of War: Guerrilla Literature as Nature Writing and Contemplative Practice in Latin America and Africa,” Seminar on Eccentric Comparatists, Worlds Otherwise, *American Comparative Literature Association*, Chicago, IL

- 2020 “Of Elephants, Chickens, and Tanks: Total War and Redemption in Mia Couto's *Sleepwalking Land*,” *Modern Language Association*, Seattle, WA
- 2019 “Narcoviolence Now and Then: The Case of *Contrabando*,” *Latin American Studies Association*, Boston, MA
- 2019 “An Urgent Song for Nicaragua: Affect, Solidarity and the Latin American New Song Movement during the Sandinista Revolution,” *International, Transnational, and Global Histories of the Nicaraguan Revolution*, London School of Economics, London, UK
- 2018 “Hippopotamus Dead or Alive: Animal Bodies and Trauma in Narratives of the Drug War,” *Annual Juan Bruce-Novoa Mexican Studies Conference*, Irvine, CA
- 2017 “Contrabando de rinocerontes e hipopótamos: Algunas reflexiones sobre la nueva fauna de la literatura latinoamericana contemporánea,” *Southwest Council of Latin American Studies*, Campeche, Mexico
- 2016 “Rifles, Cartridges and Rebozos: Affirming Presence during the Mexican Revolution,” *Latin American Studies Association*, New York, NY
- 2015 “La balada que canta el cuerno de chivo: Armas de fuego, precariedad y actos performativos en el conflicto armado en México,” *Latin American Studies Association*, San Juan, PR
- 2015 “The Tremendous Reality of Firing Squads,” *Conference on Mariano Azuela and the Novel of the Mexican Revolution*, Los Angeles, CA
- 2015 “Desmovilizados: Las figuras abyectas de la pos-utopía centroamericana y su violenta búsqueda de reconocimiento,” *Congreso Internacional de Literatura Centroamericana (CILCA)*, New Orleans, LA
- 2014 “Aura, acceso y la pura verdad - Las funciones del corridista y del narcocorrido en *Contrabando y Trabajos del reino*,” *Instituto Internacional de Literatura Iberoamericana*, Colegio de México, Mexico City, Mexico
- 2014 “Rifles y auroras: Proyecciones de una modernidad encantada y estética militarista en las canciones de la Revolución Sandinista,” *Latin American Studies Association*, Chicago, IL
- 2014 “Searching for Human(e)ness: The Concealed Desire to Heal in Hernández's *De fronteras*,” *Modern Language Association*, Chicago, IL
- 2013 “Armas y afecto – Militarismo y política en el discurso musical de la Revolución Sandinista,” *Congreso de Estudios Culturales Centroamericanos*, Universidad de Costa Rica, San José, Costa Rica

- 2013 “Pushing the Limits – Semi-Human(e) Politics and Desires of Recognition Amidst Armed Violence,” *Latin American Studies Association*, Washington, DC
- 2013 “¿Quién tiene la voz? Tensiones del poder letrado frente al narco(corrido),” *Congreso de Literatura Mexicana Contemporánea*, University of Texas El Paso, El Paso, TX
- 2012 “Abundant/Absent Weapons in Central American Postwar Literature,” *Annual Meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association*, Brown University, Providence, RI
- 2011 “Something I Sought and Never Managed to Find - Utopia, the People and Violence in the Music of the Sandinista Revolution,” *Utopia/Dystopia. Romance Studies Graduate Conference*, Duke University, Durham, NC
- 2011 “Fusión de discursos y espacios de afectividad. Ubicando a la música de Carlos Mejía Godoy en la esfera literaria-política de la Revolución Sandinista,” *Congreso Internacional de Literatura Centroamericana (CILCA)*, Antigua, Guatemala
- 2009 “Nicaragua, Nicaragüita... La música de los Mejía Godoy: De *soundtrack* de la revolución a espacio disputado de la memoria,” *30 años de la revolución sandinista Conference*, Freie Universität Berlin, Berlin, Germany
- 2008 “Encuentros y desencuentros culturales en el estrecho dudoso. La constitución del espacio río San Juan por viajeros y escritores/as de las Américas,” *Transaméricas Conference*, Université de la Sorbonne Nouvelle III, Paris, France
- 2008 “Fantasmas del canal, frontera y el poeta en la orilla del río. La constitución del espacio río San Juan en la literatura,” *Centro de Investigación en Identidad y Cultura Latinoamericanas (CIICLA)*, Universidad de Costa Rica, San Jose, Costa Rica

### Conferences Organized

- 2023 *Third Coast Central America Collaborative Inaugural Meeting*, Rice University, Houston, TX
- 2021 *Central American Literature as World Literature*, Rice University, Houston, TX
- 2018 *Environment and Conflict in Latin America*, Symposium & Film Series, School of Global Environmental Sustainability, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO
- 2015 *Solitude and Exuberance: Gabriel García Márquez Symposium*, Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

- 2012 *Spaces Written in Violence/Violence Written in Space*, Spanish & Portuguese Graduate Student Conference, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA
- 2009 *30 años de la revolución sandinista – Retrospectiva y actualidad de un movimiento transnacional*, International Conference, Freie Universität Berlin, Berlin, Germany

### Panels Organized

- 2024 “The More-Than-Human Dimensions of War: Interdisciplinary Perspectives desde América Latina,” co-organized with Daniel Ruíz-Serna, LASA, Bogotá, Colombia
- 2023 “Decolonial Alliances,” co-organized with Estefanía Bournot, Africa Multiple Conference, Bayreuth, Germany
- 2023 “Critters in the Mexican Cultural Imagination: Small Life and Literary Forms,” *Modern Language Association* (Mexico Forum Session), San Francisco, CA.
- 2020 “Mexican Literature Beyond the Human,” co-organized with Carolyn Fornoff (University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign), *Latin American Studies Association*, Guadalajara, Mexico (canceled due to pandemic)
- 2020 “War, Animals, and Things. Perspectives on the Non-Human in War from the Global South,” *Modern Language Association*, Seattle, WA
- 2019 “Violence, Temporality & Writing in Mexico,” co-organized with Alicia Miklos (Texas Tech University), *Latin American Studies Association*, Boston, MA
- 2018 “Mexican and Central American Literatures: Entanglements and Connections,” co-organized with Carolyn Fornoff (Lycoming College), *Latin American Studies Association*, Barcelona, Spain
- 2016 “Weapons, Conflict and Gender in Greater Mexico,” *Latin American Studies Association*, co-organized with Niamh Thornton (University of Liverpool), New York, NY
- 2015 “Lo narco entre precariedad y poder: Matices políticos, performativos y afectivos,” *Latin American Studies Association*, San Juan, PR
- 2015 “Culturas posutópicas y ciudadanías abyectas,” *XXII Congreso Internacaiional de Literatura Centroamericana (CILCA)*, co-organized with Alicia Miklos (Ohio State University), New Orleans, LA
- 2014 “Música e imágenes de revolución: ética, política y estética en las guerrillas centroamericanas,” *Latin American Studies Association*, Central America section panel,

co-organized with Pablo Hernández (Universidad de Costa Rica), Chicago, IL

- 2013 “¿Haciendo la guerra, haciendo política? Un acercamiento transhistórico a la cultura político-militarista en Centroamérica,” *IV Congreso de Estudios Culturales Centroamericanos*, Universidad de Costa Rica, co-organized with Verónica Ríos Quesada (University of Texas at Austin), San José, Costa Rica
- 2013 “Human(ist) Promise and Trauma: Conceptualizing the Present and Future of Central America,” *Latin American Studies Association*, Central America section panel, co-organized with Diana Gubar (Georgetown University), Washington, DC
- 2012 “Gazing Back and Moving On: Postwar and Postrevolutionary Literature and Film in Luso-Africa, Central America and the Caribbean,” *Annual Meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association*, Brown University, co-organized with Ana Catarina Teixeira (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), Providence, RI

#### **Invited Discussant**

- 2021 Book Presentation of *Más allá del duelo. Otras formas de imaginar, sentir y pensar la memoria centroamericana* by Yansi Pérez, Transborder Temporalities and Imaginaries of the Future Conference, Northridge/San Salvador.
- 2019 Book Presentation of *Modernity and 'Whiteness'* by Bolívar Echeverría, translated by Rodrigo Ferreira, Rice University
- 2019 Post-screening discussion of *Roma*, Office of Multicultural Affairs, Rice University, Houston, TX
- 2017 Post-screening discussion of *Walls*, ACT Human Rights Film Festival, Department of Communication, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO
- 2016 Panel “Recovecos escondidos: La intimidad en la narrativa centroamericana contemporánea,” *Latin American Studies Association*, New York, NY
- 2012 “Altered State: Violence, Art and Border Culture in Contemporary Mexico” with Ramón Amezcua, Pepe Mogt, and Juan Carlos Reyna from the Nortec Collective -Tijuana Sound Machine, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA

#### **Research Presentations on Home Campus**

- 2021 “Insect Chatter: Political Violence and Liberation in the Lacandon Jungle,” Research

- Colloquium in Latin American and Latinx Studies, Rice University, Houston, TX
- 2021 “Songs of Guerrilla Warfare,” Music and War Graduate Seminar, The Shepherd School of Music, Rice University, Houston, TX
- 2020 “Animals and War in Contemporary Latin American and African Literature,” Feminist Research Seminar, Houston, TX
- 2019 Global Change Lightning Talks, Environmental Faculty, Rice University, Houston, TX
- 2019 Book presentation of *Modernity at Gunpoint*, Rice University, Houston, TX
- 2016 “Latin American Revolutions Through Photography and Song,” Semester at Sea Evening Seminar, Pacific Ocean
- 2014 “Ballads of War and Modernity,” Departmental Research Series, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO
- 2014 “Pancho Villa's Pistols and Embraces,” Latin American and Latino Studies Research Series, Morgan Library, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

## **TEACHING**

### **Rice University (2018-present)**

HUMA 502 Mellon Dissertation Writing (taught in English)

SPPO 452 Witnessing, Truth & Trauma. Testimonial Writing in Mexico and Central America (taught in Spanish)

SPPO 373 The Mexican Revolution in Literature, Music, and Visual Culture (taught in Spanish)

SPPO 330 Hispanic Writing (taught in Spanish)

SPPO 356 Understanding Central America: Race, Gender, Class, and Environment in Central American Cultures (taught in Spanish)

LASR 378 Latin American Political Thought: Identity, Modernity, Liberation (taught in English)

LASR 350 Pirates, Rebels, Narcos: Latin American Outlaws in the Political-Cultural Imagination (taught in English)

LASR 158 Introduction to Latin American Studies (taught in English)

HUMA 124 Is this the End? A Big Questions Course (taught in English)

### **Colorado State University (2014-2018)**

Graduate Courses (M.A.): LSPA 692 Outlaws: Pirates, Maroons, Bandits, Guerrilleros, and Narcos in Latin Am. Literature; LSPA 554 Bearing Witness: Testimonial Writing;

Undergraduate Courses: LSPA 454 The Mexican Revolution in Literature, Music, and Visual Culture; LSPA 449 Testimonial Writing (Genre Studies); LSPA 449 Contemporary Latin American Literature (Genre Studies); LSPA 436 Central American Cultural Studies; LSPA 436 Advanced Latin American Culture; LSPA 335 Issues in Hispanic Culture: History and Culture of the Spanish-Speaking World; LSPA 201 Second-Year Spanish

### **Semester at Sea (Fall 2016)**

LSPA 335 Transatlantic Studies: Issues in Hispanic Culture; LSPA 250 Pirates, Maroons & Other Latin American Outlaws (taught in English); LSPA 106 First-Year Spanish Review; and several lectures in team-taught Global Studies (courses taken by 600 students) on race in Latin America, the Atlantic slave trade; Columbus and the colonial gaze; Caribbean piracy

### **Boston College (2013-2014)**

RL015 Elementary Spanish I; RL016 Elementary Spanish II

### **Tulane University (2010-2012)**

SPAN 3130 Latin American Culture; SPAN 2040 Spanish Conversation and Composition; SPAN 2030 Intermediate Spanish; SPAN 1010 Basic Spanish

### **Talks Related to Teaching**

- 2021 “Zapata in Candyland,” Teaching Languages Across the Curriculum: Perspectives on Integrating Language and Content, Sixth Annual CLIC Conference, Rice University
- 2017 “Situating Oneself in an Interconnected World through Activities-Based Learning,” with Toni Zimmermann, Colorado State University
- 2017 “Engaged Learning: Teaching through a Scavenger Hunt,” Colorado State University

### **Professional Development Related to Teaching**

2017—2018 ACUE (Association of College and University Education) program on effective

teaching practices

- 2015—2016 Completed oral and writing proficiency and assessment training by American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)
- 2016 Attended workshop “Teaching as Close Reading,” Colorado State University
- 2015 Attended workshop “Creating Desirable Conflict in the Classroom,” Professional Development Institute, Colorado State University
- 2014 Attended talk “Creating Collaborative Digital Annotation Tools,” The Institute for Teaching and Learning, Colorado State University

## **MENTORING**

### **Undergraduate Students**

Anna Seballos, AY 2019-2020, Honors thesis: “Representación y enfrentamiento del trauma a través de la escritura: Un análisis psico-literario de las obras de Nellie Campobello,” Rice University (advisor)

Miriam Shayeb, AY 2018-2019, Honors thesis: “La representación de la enfermedad en tres novelas latinoamericanas contemporáneas,” Rice University (reader)

### **Graduate Students**

Melanie Ford Lemus (PhD Anthropology), “A Political Ecology of the Void: Design and Conservation in Postwar Guatemala City” third reader, Rice University

Bren Ram, (PhD English), “Apocalyptic Poetics after 1945” (third reader), Rice University

Adele Lonas, Fall 2018 (Joint MA Spanish/ESL): “The History and Development of Spanish-Language Initiatives in Public Libraries: A Case Study” (reader), Colorado State University

María Losada, Summer 2015 (MA Spanish): “La basura del mundo: Cambio social, distopía y consumo en las novelas futuristas *Waslala* y *Zombie*” (advisor), Colorado State University

### **Invited Workshops for Graduate Students**

2021 Invited to “Revista de Estudios Hispánicos Workshop on Academic Publishing,”

Washington University in St. Louis

2019 Invited Workshop for Graduate Students “Navigating the Academic Job Market,” School of Liberal Arts, Tulane University

## **SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION**

### **Office in Professional Societies**

- 2023-2028 Committee member, Scholarly Editions, Modern Language Association
- 2023 Evaluator, Grants, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)
- 2023 Evaluator, Fellowships, National Endowment of the Humanities
- 2022-2023 Committee member of 2023 Humanities Article Prize of the Mexico section of the Latin American Studies Association
- 2022-2023 Chair of “Literature Track” selection committee, LASA congress, 2023
- 2021-2026 Executive committee member of the LLC Mexican Forum of the Modern Language Association (elected position, 5-year term)
- 2019-2021 Executive committee member of the Mexico section of the Latin American Studies Association (elected position, 2-year term)
- 2019-2020 Chair of 2020 Humanities Book Prize of the Mexico section of the Latin American Studies Association
- 2014-2016 Secretary-Treasurer of the Central America Section of the Latin American Studies Association (elected position, 2 year-term)

### **Editorial Work & Manuscript Refereeing**

- Since 2023 Member of the Advisory Council of the Transatlantic Series, Edinburgh University Press
- Since 2022 Member of the Editorial Board of *Hispanic Review* (UPenn)

Articles: Ámbitos Feministas; Arizona Journal of Hispanic Cultural Studies; Ciberletras; Hispanic Review; Hispanófila; Humanimalia; Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies; Istmo; Mexican Studies/Estudios Mexicanos; Mitologías hoy; Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Literature; PMLA; Polity; Revista de Estudios Hispánicos; Revista Hispánica Moderna; Revista Poligramas; Revista Secuencia; Studies in 20th & 21st Century Literature; Symposium;

Transmodernity

Book manuscripts: Anthem Press; Bloomsbury; McGill Queen's University Press; North Carolina Studies in the Romance Languages and Literatures (NCSRL); Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México; University of Pittsburgh Press

### **International Cooperation**

- 2010 Interim Representative of the Freie Universität Berlin in Mexico; Support of International PhD Program between Mexican and German universities "Entre Espacios", Freie Universität Berlin, Colegio de México, Mexico City, Mexico
- 2009 Interim Academic Coordinator of the Research Network on Interdependent Inequalities in Latin America desigualdades.net at the Freie Universität Berlin and the Iberoamerikanisches Institut, Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz
- 2005 Program Coordinator (Water) at the Regional Office for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean of the Heinrich Böll Foundation, April 2005-March 2006

### **Memberships in Professional Societies**

Latin American Studies Association (Mexico section and Central America section)

Modern Language Association

American Comparative Literature Association

### **SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY**

#### **University**

#### Rice University

Chair, search committee for Transnational Latin American and Latinx Studies, 2023-2024

Undergraduate curriculum committee, Rice University, 2022-2023

Program Advisor, Latin American and Latinx Studies, Rice University, 2022-

Director, Initiative for the Study of LatinX America at Rice (ISLA), Steering Committee (since 2020)

Humanities Research Center Advisory Council, 2021-2023

Ad-hoc Interview committee, Rice Academy of Fellows, 2021  
Faculty Associate, Hanszen College, 2019-present  
Divisional Advisor in the Humanities, Hanszen College, 2019-2021  
Organizer of weekly Spanish table at Hanszen, 2019-2020

#### Colorado State University

Latin American & Caribbean Studies Committee, 2015-2018  
International Development Program Committee, 2017-2018  
Training through HERS Early Career Women Leadership Program, 2017

#### **Department**

##### Rice University

Latin American and Latinx Studies Search Committee, Chair, 2023  
Executive Committee, 2022-2024  
Steering Committee, 2020-2022  
Bylaws Committee, 2019

##### Colorado State University

Steering Committee, 2016-2018 (elected member)  
Graduate Committee, 2017  
Website Committee, 2015-2016  
PR and Recruitment Committee, 2014-2017 (chair 2015-2017)  
German Search Committee, 2015  
Departmental Social Media Liaison, 2014-2016

#### **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

2019 Invited talk on *Modernity at Gunpoint*, Society of Rice University Women,

Houston, TX

- 2019 Invited talk on *Modernity at Gunpoint*, Summer Academy for AP Global History Teachers, Glasscock School of Continuing Studies, Rice University, Houston, TX
- 2014 Presentation on Pancho Villa at Global Village Museum, Fort Collins, CO
- 2008 Curator of the Exhibition “*The Nicaragua route forever*” – *A transborder voyage through time and space on the San Juan River*, Freie Universität Berlin

## **LANGUAGES**

German (native speaker)

Spanish (near-native speaker proficiency)

English (near-native speaker proficiency)

Portuguese (advanced proficiency)

French (reading proficiency)