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Curriculum Vitae

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Education

- 2001 Ph. D. Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures/Latin American Literature and Culture (concentration in Afro Hispanic literature), University of Tennessee-Knoxville
- 1995 M.A. Philosophy of Education (concentration in Foreign Language Education), Furman University, Greenville, SC

Teaching Experience in the Academy

- 2010-present Associate Professor of Spanish, Purdue University
2004-2010 Assistant Professor of Spanish, Purdue University
2001-2004 Assistant Professor of Spanish, Iowa State University

Workshop Facilitation and Practice-Oriented Presentations

- “Thinking Freely, Teaching Differently. Developing a Pedagogy for Equity and Social Consciousness for the Teaching of Literature in The College Language Classroom.” A Teaching-in-Practice presentation 106th Annual Conference of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese. Portland, Oregon. 29 June 2024.
- “Using Strategic Questioning to Promote Cognitive Development and Empathy in Teaching Literature” A Teaching-in-Practice presentation. Annual Convention of the American Council of Teachers of Foreign Language. Chicago, IL. 19 November 2023.
- “Thinking Freely, Teaching Differently. Developing a Pedagogy for Equity and Social Consciousness for the Teaching of Literature in The College Language Classroom.” Purdue Intercultural Learning Community of Practice, CILMAR. A Teaching-in-Practice presentation. Purdue University 24 March 2023.
- “An Interculturalist, Anti-Racist Approach to Teaching Literature and Culture in the Undergraduate Classroom”. A Teaching-in-Practice presentation. Annual Conference of the Modern Language Association (MLA). Washington, D.C. 6-9 January 2022.
- “De-Centering Whiteness.” Co-Facilitator, Step-Up Zone Series Virtual Workshop, CILMAR. Purdue University 12-28 July 2022.

Publications

a. Books

The Development of Literary Blackness in the Dominican Republic. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2004; 136 pgs.

La negritud literaria en la República Dominicana. Trans. J. Marcelino González. Quito, Ecuador: Abya-Yala Editorial, 2010;

b. Refereed Articles

"Teaching Afro-Hispanic Literature in the Introductory Hispanic Literature Course: An Antiracist Approach" (10,223 words) *Hispania* Special Edition Celebrating the Closing of the Decade (2014-2024) of the African Descendant. Vol.107, no. 2-3, pp. 273-88. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/hpn.2024.a929128>.

"The Archetypes of the Physical and the Immaterial Bodies of the African 'Supernatural': Transience, Sexual Ambiguity, and Santería in Contemporary Hispanic Caribbean Novels." *Chasqui*. 42.2 (2013); 3-14.

"Las máscaras como modo de expresar identidad en el teatro puertorriqueño del siglo XX". *College Language Association Journal*. 53:4 (2010); 410-36.

"The Mirrored Text: Gender Performativity and Character Symmetry in Otra vez el mar". *Chasqui*. 37.1 (2008); 36-48.

"Multiculturalism and Diversity in the Spanish Undergraduate Classroom: Truth, Tradition, Literary Canons, and Academia's Resistance to Integration". *Association of Departments of Foreign Languages Bulletin*. 38:3 (2007); 29-33.

"El cimarrón: el arquetipo de la inspiración de la identidad afro en América Latina". The Publication of Afro-Latin American Research Association. 10 (2006); 23-29.

"Literary Negrism in Latin America: Blackness Defined by the White Imagination". *Hispanic Journal*. XXV:1-2 (2005); 73-88.

"Haitians, Cocolos and African Americans: The Authors of Contemporary Afro-Dominican Literature". *Journal of Caribbean Literatures*. 4:1 (2005); 39-48.

"El otro Francisco, la ideología, el cine y la voz todavía perdida del esclavo negro". *Revista monográfica*. XV (2000); 75-85.

c. Book Chapters

"Howard University's Latinx Legacy: the Contributions of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities to Afro Romance Studies in the US" (7480 wds) in Contributions of Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the 21st Century Anisah Bagasra, Alison McLetchie, and Jonathan Wesley, eds. IGI Global (2022). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4018/978-1-6684-3814-5.ch006>

d. Book Reviews

- “Review of *Manuel Zapata Olivella (1920-2004): Pensador político, radical y hereje de la diáspora africana en las Américas*. By George Palacios.” For the *Publication of the Afro-Latin /American Research Association*. 25.1 (2021); 25-27. (2225 wds) DOI: <https://doi.org/10.32855/palara.2021.005>
- “Review of *Divergent Dictions: Contemporary Dominican Literature*. By Néstor E. Rodríguez.” For *New West Indian Guide / Nieuwe West-Indische Gids*. 86.3-4 (2012).
- “Review of *The Latin American Identity and the African Diaspora. Ethnogenesis in Context*. By Antonio Olliz Boyd.” For *New West Indian Guide / Nieuwe West-Indische Gids*. 86.1-2 (2011).
- “Review of *Black Behind the Ears: Dominican Racial Identity from Museums to Beauty Shops* by Ginetta E. B. Candelario” for *American Ethnologist*. 36.1 (2009); 201-02. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1548-1425.2008.01111.16.x>
- “Review of *Afro-Cuban Religiosity, Revolution, and National Identity* by Christine Ayorinde.” For the *Publication of the Afro Latin American Research Association*. 10 (Fall 2006); 75-77.
- “Review of *Haitian-Dominican Counterpoint: Nation, State, and Race in Hispaniola* by Eugenio Matibag”. For the *Journal of Haitian Studies*. 11:1 Fall (2005); 178-180.
- “Review of *Daughters of the Diaspora* by Miriam Da Costa-Willis”. For the *Publication of the Afro-Latin American Research Association*. Fall (2004).

Works in Progress

- [Contract] *A TODA VOZ: enseñando la literatura hispana en contexto*. [At Full Volume: Teaching Hispanic literature in Context.] An antiracist pedagogical anthology of Hispanic literature Forthcoming 2027, Routledge Press. (A manuscript).
- Urgent Words, Compulsory Silences: The Myth of Racial Democracy, the Black Press, Black Activism, and the Cost of Cuban Citizenship*. (A manuscript).
- “A Pedagogy for Anti-Racist Teaching: Comparative Strategies for Using Critical Pedagogy in the Undergraduate Hispanic Literature Classroom.” An essay.
- “Celebrating 50 Years of Afro Hispanic Studies in the United States.” An essay.
- “Creating the Black Cuban Patriot or Countering the Myth of Black Dangerousness in the Era of Cuban Nation-Making.” An essay.

Invited Lectures

- “Dangers to Society: Single Women in the Margins of Latin American Literature”. Inaugural Talk for the “Women in the Americas Lecture Series”. For the Women and Gender Studies Program. University of Texas-Arlington. 10 September 2014.
- “Life in the Brothels in Latin American Literature: The Public Woman as a Danger to/an

Agent for Society". The 2013 Summer Institute: "Re-Thinking Pop Cultures" Minority Cultures and Languages Program, Indiana University-Bloomington. 10 May 2013.

Conferences/Symposia

"*Con todos, para otros*: Eurocentrism, Slavery, and the Ethics of Insurrection in the Cuban Independence Movement (1795-1878)." Annual Conference of the College Language Association (CLA). Emory University, Atlanta, GA. 4-6 April 2023.

"The Afro-Latin/American Research Association [ALARA]: The Birth of a Movement. Its 20th Century Contributions to and Its 21st- Century. Implications for the Academy in the U.S." The First Continental Conference on Afro Latin America. Afro-Latin American Research Institute. Cambridge, MA; 11-13 December 2019.

"Privilege vs Prejudice: How Cuban Journalism Made a Black Activism Possible" 26th Annual Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference. Knoxville, TN; 4-6 October 2018.

"Defining the Nation: The Role of Racial Uplift in the Black Cuban Press of the 19th Century" Biennial Conference of the Afro Latin American Research Association. Houston, TX; 7-11 August 2018.

"Urgent Words, Compulsory Silences: Essays on the State of Cuban Blackness in the Moment of Cuban Nation-Making and Re-Claiming" Biennial Conference of the Afro Latin American Research Association. Nieuwspport, Curaçao; 2-7 August 2016.

"La tragedia del ángel del hogar: El retrato de la mujer sexual en la literatura femenina de Hispanoamérica" American Culture Association/Pop Culture Association. Chicago, 16-19 April 2014.

"The Defense of the Independence Movement of the Adolescent and Her Resistance to "Decency" Congreso Internacional de Literatura Hispánica, Cartagena de Indias, Colombia; 12-16 March 2014.

"The Danger of the Sexual Woman: The Promiscuous Woman in the Latin American Narrative", pt 2. Kentucky Foreign Language Conference. University Kentucky, Lexington. 18-20 April 2013.

"El peligro de la mujer sexual: el leer y escribir la prostituta en la narrativa latinoamericana", pt 1. First Annual Hispanic Studies Symposium. University Tennessee-Knoxville. 25-27 October 2012.

"María Antonia, the Lucumí Carmen, and the Use of Myth". Afro-Latin American Research Association. Lima, Peru. 3-7 August 2010.

"Transcience, Sexual Ambiguity and the Black Aphrodite in Hispanic Caribbean Novels" College Language Association. Brooklyn, NY. 7-11 April 2010.

"Carmen and the Third Aesthetic". Kentucky Foreign Language Conference. University of Kentucky. 16-18 April 2009.

- “Their ‘Rightful’ Share: Measures of Equality in the Cuban Revolution.” Symposium of the Latin American and Latino Studies Program . Purdue University. 22 January 2009.
- “The Black Carmens: Is Sergio Giral’s María Antonia an Afro Cuban Version of the Carmen?”. Afro-Romance Film and Culture International Symposium. Afro-Romance Institute University of Missouri-Columbia . April 3-5, 2008.
- “Boriqué en crisis: El teatro como modo de expresar la identidad puertorriqueña: el uso de las mascararas en el teatro puertorriqueño”. Afro-Romance Theatre and Culture International Conference. Afro-Romance Institute University of Missouri-Columbia. April 6-7, 2006.
- “Las Cimarronas: Afro-Cuban Resistance in Post Revolutionary Cuba”. Women’s History Month Guest Speaker for Women’s Writers Series. 24 March 2006.
- “The Afro-Hispanic Women’s Body in Caribbean Poetry” Trans/Positions: Women’s Studies Conference. Purdue University. 7-9 April 2005.
- “The Dominican, the Caribbean, and the African in the Poetry of Blas Jiménez: The Call for a Cultural Awakening”. Submitted to Our America: Transnational Utopias and the Haitian Revolution in Caribbean and Latin American Culture. University of Missouri-Columbia. 4-6 November 2004.
- “‘Ennegreciendo’ a Cuba (Castro o la nación): la mujer toma la palabra”. Bi-Annual Conference of the Afro-Latin/American Research Association (ALARA), San Juan, PR. 10-15 August 2004.
- “Multiculturalism and Diversity in the Spanish Undergraduate Classroom: Truth, Tradition, Literary Canons, and Academia’s Resistance to Integration”. Annual Conference of the American Association of the Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese. (AATSP), Acapulco, Mexico. 29-31 July 2004.
- “National Identity and the Politics of Race: The History of Literary Culture in the Dominican Republic” Faculty Colloquium Series. Iowa State University. (A presentation to the public) 23 October 2003.
- “Don’t call me ‘mulata’!: Afro-Hispanic Women’s Writing in the Caribbean”. Women’s Studies Research Seminar Iowa State University. (A presentation of my research) 30 April 2003.
- “Literary Negritude: The Vanguard’s Exploitative (Afro-Hispanic) Literature” 63rd Annual Convention of the College Language Association (CLA), Washington, DC. 23-26 April 2003.
- “El cimarrón: la inspiración de la identidad afro en América Latina”. Fourth Biennial Conference of the Afro-Latin American Research Association (ALARA), Panama City, Panama. 5-10 August 2002.

“Haitians, Cocolos and African Americans: The Authors of Contemporary Afro-Dominican Literature”. 62nd Annual Convention and 65th Anniversary of the College Language Association (CLA), Memphis, Tennessee. 25-27 April 2002.

“The Issues of Race, Color, and Culture in the Modern Construction of Dominican Identity” 32nd Popular Culture Association and 24th American Culture Association Annual Conference (PCA/ACA), Toronto, Canada. 13-16 March 2002.

“Corrobando la retórica: las fallas en la novela-histórica Enriquillo de Manuel de Jesús Galván”. Afro-Hispanic Literature Conference, San José, Costa Rica. 4-6 July 2000.

“El otro Francisco, Ideology, the Cinema and the Lost Voice of the Black Slave”. 24th Annual Colloquium on Film & Literature, University of W. Virginia at Morgantown, 16 October 1999.

University, College, and Departmental Service

2022-present Member, SLC Graduate Professional Development Committee
2020-2023 Member, CLA Faculty Affairs Committee
2021-present Member, Faculty Benefits and Compensation Committee
2018-present Affiliate, Comparative Literature Program, SIS
2014-present Member, Advisory Committee on Institutional Equity
2012- 2016 Chair, Department of Spanish & Portuguese SLC
2014-2017 Member, University Grade Appeals Committee
2012-2016 Faculty Mentor, Horizons Program
2013- 2015 Chair, SLC Recruitment Committee
2012-2014 Member, Grade Appeals committee, CLA
2011-2012 Resident Director of Study Abroad Program in Madrid for the Wisconsin-Indiana-Purdue consortium
2010-2011 Member, Media & Marketing Committee, FLL
2010-2011 Chair, Diversity Action Committee
2009-2012 Member, Advisory Board for the Sexuality Studies Program
2008-present Affiliate, Latin American/Latino Studies Program
2008 -2010 Member of CLA Diversity Action Committee
2007-2010 University Appeals Committee
2006-2009 Undergraduate Committee
2006-2007 CLA Interviewing Committee of Dean Candidates (a sub-committee of the Faculty Senate)
2005-2008 Member, Faculty Affairs Committee, CLA
2005-2007 Member, Purdue/Cuba Educational Exchange Committee
2005- present Affiliate, African American Studies Program
2005-2006 Associate Editor of the Publication of the Afro-Latin American Research Association
2004-2015 Affiliate, Women’s Studies Program
2004-2007 Member, Social Committee, FLL

Other Professional Service and Professional Development

2024- present Fellow, ACTFL Facilitator-in-Training Program (18-month program)

- 2024- present Fellow, CILMAR Growing Intercultural Leaders, Mentorship
- 2023 Chair/Panel Organizer for ACTFL Conference (17-19 November 2023)
- 2020-2022 Faculty Ally, Susan Bulkeley Butler Center for Leadership Excellence
- 2020-2022 Fellow, CILMAR Growing Intercultural Leaders, Level II
- 2021 Hosted the visit of Dir. Kim Haas, "Afro Latino Travels with Kim Haas" (Hispanic Heritage Month Keynote Address)
- 2019-2021 Fellow, CILMAR Growing Intercultural Leaders, Level I
- 2019 Chair/Panel Organizer for Conference of Afro Latin American Research Institute of the Afro Latin American Research Center (11-13 December)
- 2018-2020 Member of Executive Committee, Afro Latin American Research Association
- 2018 Reviewer for *Literature and Religion* (topic: Afro Cuban religion)
- 2018 Review for *Transgender Studies Quarterly* (topic: Afro Cuban trans* sexuality)
- 2017 Manuscript reviewer for University Press of Mississippi. (topic: Afro Latin American literary criticism)
- 2017 Manuscript reviewer for University of Alabama Press. (topic: Afro Latin American literary criticism)
- 2017 Led discussion following the screening of the film "Loving" for ASHA Global Film Festival (26 Feb 2017)
- 2016 Manuscript reviewer for University of Tennessee Press
- 2016 Host, Dir. Renzo Devia, Screening of the documentary "Afro Latinos: An Untaught Story" (14 Nov 2016)
- 2016 Led discussion following the screening of the Film "Viva" for SLGSTP Film Festival (23 Oct 2016)
- 2016 Reviewer for *The Black Scholar* (topic: Race in Dominican Literature)
- 2016 Reviewer for *Arizona Journal of Hispanic Culture* (topic: Caribbean culture)
- 2015 Discussed/Screened Documentary "The Latino Americans: Immigration" LCC Latin American Film Festival (24 September 2015)
- 2015 Hosted Afro Cuban Scholar Tomás Fernández Robaina (November 2015)
- 2015 Organizer the CIC Conference for Chairs/Coordinators of Romance Languages (27 October 2015, Chicago)
- 2014 Instructor of Record Brazil Study Abroad in Rio de Janeiro/Salvador for BCC
- 2014 Reviewer for *Callaloo* (topic: Afro Caribbean literature)
- 2013 Host, Prof. Michael Handelsman, "From Domination to 'Buen Vivir'. Latin America and Contested Globalizations" (22 October 2013)
- 2013 Manuscript Reviewer for University of Alabama Press
- 2013 Discussed/Screened Film "Alicia en el pueblo de las maravillas" for LCC Latin American Film Festival (13 April 2013)
- 2012 Presented Dominican Racial History and Culture for Service-Learning Study Abroad course sponsored by Civil Engineering titled "Water Supply in Developing Countries" (12 February 2013)
- 2011 Reviewer for *Bulletin of Hispanic Studies* (topic: Afro-Dominican literature)
- 2009 Reviewer for *Chasqui, Journal of Latin American literature* (topic: male sexuality in Latin American literature)
- 2008 Reviewer for *LACES* (Latin American, Caribbean, and Ethnic Studies)
- 2004 Chair of Afro-Hispanic literature and culture panel for AATSP conference
- 2003-2006 Reviewer *Afro Hispanic Review* (topic: Afro Caribbean literature)

Research Interests

Afro-Hispanic Literature and Culture

Race, Ethnicity, and National Identity in Latin American Literary Culture
Insurrection Ethics and Critical Pedagogy
Insurrection Prose of the Cuban Revolutionary Era (1762-1898)
Intercultural Competence as developmental priority in language teaching
The Image of the Black character in Latin American literature
Culturally Responsive teaching in the World Literature undergraduate classroom
Revolutionary Cuban Cinema
Sexuality and Gender Issues in Latin American Culture

Active Memberships in Professional Organizations and Associations

Afro Latin American Research Association
Association of American Teachers of Spanish & Portuguese
Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education
Modern Language Association
American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages
College Language Association
SIETAR (Society for Intercultural Education Training and Research) USA/Europe