



CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICAN
AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES
AT BROWN UNIVERSITY

ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

The Resplendent Quetzal, an important symbol in Aztec and Mayan cultures and the national bird of Guatemala, is primarily found in Central America. Photographed in Costa Rica by Zdeněk Macháček.

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CLACS at Brown University!



Designed by Kate Goldman, Adriana Rodriguez '21, and Caiya Sanchez-Strauss '21.5.

The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS) at Brown University promotes knowledge, teaching, and research on all aspects of Latin America and the Caribbean. Read our Annual Report to learn more about CLACS's diverse program of undergraduate courses, academic lectures, and cultural events that connect the Brown and Providence communities with Latin America and the Caribbean.



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear CLACS community,

Welcome to the new academic year from us at CLACS! We are excited to be back on campus and look forward to seeing you after a challenging year and a half. We continue to hold most of our activities virtually in the Fall semester but hope to have some of our activities in person and hybrid in the Spring.

2020-2021 Academic Year

Last year, we adjusted to holding all of our programming online and to hybrid and online teaching. While we suffered from losing the ability to meet in person, we were able to increase our collaboration with other Departments and Centers at Brown and beyond and to broaden the reach of our programs, many of which were also delivered in Spanish. Our events included discussions on COVID-19, migration, gender and sexuality, contemporary political and social unrest, climate change and natural disasters, and the engagement of the Latinx community in national and state politics. We also held our graduate students' work-in-progress symposium this Spring and hosted two reading groups focused on gender this year.

We were delighted to successfully win, with our collaborators at the Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice and the Africana Studies Department, a Mellon Sawyer grant from the Mellon Foundation that focuses on historic and contemporary patterns of migration within Latin America and the Caribbean. Our main activities for the 2021/2022 academic year will center around the Sawyer Seminar, Rethinking the Dynamic Interplay of Migration, Race and Ethnicity in the



Caribbean and Latin America, and the DOF's lectureship series, Archives of Silence/Archivos del Silencio. Activities associated with the Sawyer Seminar include two conferences scheduled for November 4th and 5th, 2021 and March 17th and 18th, 2022, which bring together leading scholars and activists in North America, Latin America and the Caribbean, the details of which can be found on our website; a number of workshops; exhibitions; a film series and other events. The Archives of Silence/Archivos del Silencio lecture series features leading scholars, archivists, and artists, primarily from Latin America, to reflect on the creation of archives in periods of trauma, relevant to our current historical moment in which global archives of the COVID-19 pandemic are being built. We will also continue to reflect more broadly on the region's contemporary moment, including the pressing challenges of climate change, through a range of disciplinary foci, and we

welcome your usual participation in shaping our program. We were also pleased to participate in two initiatives under the Provost's program "Addressing Anti-Systemic Racism." We began working with the library's Digital Scholarship team, led by Ashley Champagne, on our Mapping Systemic Racism in Rhode Island project, which focuses on Rhode Island's response to the national (and global) anti-Black racism protests of 2020. Work on this program will continue this academic year. CLACS's Center Manager, Kate Goldman, who is also Head of University and Academic Partnerships of the group Respond Crisis Translation, also collaborated with Elena Shih (American Studies) to develop a toolkit to combat anti-Black racism in the US immigration system.

Our Director of Undergraduate Studies, Erica Durante, was crucial in creating a sense of community among our students in the Latin American and Caribbean studies (LACA) concentration, most of whom were taking classes remotely. The graduating class's strong endorsement of her stewardship and their enthusiastic participation in the research symposium and in the online graduation ceremony speak to her dedication. This academic year, LACA offers ten courses from CLACS Affiliated Faculty and our Interdisciplinary Opportunity fellow, four of which focus on migration. It also offers a significant number of cross-listed courses related to the region by other departments at Brown.

Hello and goodbyes
This year, we are delighted to welcome three Cogut Visiting Professors, a Visiting Scholar, a Postdoctoral fellow, and three graduate students to CLACS. Our Cogut Visiting professor, Lucila Nejamkis (Arturo Jauretche National University and CONICET, Argentina) joins us

for the Fall and Spring semesters, while Haroldo Dilla Alfonso (Arturo Prat University in Chile) and Kamala Kempadoo (York University--who was with us last Fall) will be in residence in the Spring. We also look forward to welcoming Felipe Fernandez (Cambridge University), jointly with the Department of History of Art and Architecture, in the Spring. We are also pleased to welcome our Sawyer Seminar Postdoctoral Fellow, Kristen Kolenz and our two Sawyer Seminar proctors, Alexandria Miller (Africana Studies) and Karyn De Mota (Portuguese and Brazilian Studies), as well as our Interdisciplinary Opportunity fellow, Mai Hunt (Hispanic Studies) this academic year.

We are sad to say goodbye but extend the best of wishes to our Outreach Coordinator, Ailton Barbosa, to our Cogut Visiting Professor, Maria Inclan (Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas, Mexico City), and our student assistant, Adriana Rodriguez. We are happy to welcome Caiya Sanchez-Strauss who recently joined us, and to welcome back Felipe Mendez as our student assistants for this academic year. We also say goodbye to our Sawyer Seminar summer proctors, Lubabah Chowdhury and Ayse Sanli, who did sterling work for the Center over the summer.

We also welcome back and look forward to continuing to work with the CLACS Advisory Committee and the Sawyer Seminar Steering Committee.

I wish you the very best for this year and look forward to engaging with our present and virtual communities.

Patsy Lewis, Director and Senior Fellow, Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs

Staff, Faculty, and Student Assistants





Patsy Lewis

Director

Visiting Professor of International and Public Affairs

Patsy Lewis is Visiting Professor and Faculty Fellow of the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs, Brown University. She is a graduate of Cambridge University (Mphil, PhD.) and the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica (BA). Before coming to Brown she was Professor of Regional Integration and Small States Development at the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica. Her work explores the development challenges of small Caribbean states, with a particular focus on regional integration, globalization, trade, agriculture, migration and environmental and political crises.

Erica Durante

Director of Undergraduate Studies

Visiting Associate Professor of Latin American and Caribbean Studies

Erica Durante is a visiting Associate Professor of Latin American and Caribbean Studies at Brown University. She has held the position of tenured associate professor of Comparative Literature at the University of Louvain (Belgium). Her research has focused on Italian, French, Spanish and Latin American literature, from the Middle Ages to the contemporary era, and on contemporary francophone and hispanophone literature of Africa and the Caribbean. She has published extensively in comparative literature, genetic criticism and Global Studies. Funded by the Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies at Harvard University, she has compiled the edition of Borges' personal library in the precious Borges' archive in Buenos Aires. She is the author of the books *Mallarmé et moi* (Pisa: ETS, 1999) and *Questions de poésie et d'écriture: Dante au miroir de Valéry et de Borges* (Paris: Honoré Champion, 2008), and she has edited *Los Meridianos de la Globalización* (Presses Universitaires de Louvain, 2015) and *Le Double: littérature, arts, cinéma. Nouvelles approches* (with A. Dehoux) (Paris: Honoré Champion, 2018). Her current research focuses on Latin American literature in an era of globalization. Her most recent book *Air Travel Fiction and Film: Cloud People* was published last year (NY: Palgrave Macmillan, 2020).



Kate Goldman

Center Manager

Kate Goldman holds a B.A. in Political Science and Modern Languages from Union College and an M.A. in Spanish American Literature from Rutgers University. Prior to joining CLACS, she worked as a translator, editor, and teacher in the United States and Chile. She is the Head of Academic and University Partnerships at Respond Crisis Translation, a collective of language activists providing compassionate, effective, and trauma-informed interpretation and translation services for migrants, refugees, and anyone experiencing language barriers.



Ailton Barbosa

Outreach Coordinator

Ailton Barbosa holds a B.A. in Political Science from Rhode Island College (RIC) and an M.A. in International Relations and Chinese Politics from Fudan University, Shanghai, China. Prior to joining CLACS, Ailton had long international career as an educator, teaching in China, Cape Verde Island and finally the US. He is an active member of his community and is a member of the Cape Verdean-American Community Development and a board member of the Institute for Portuguese Lusophone Studies at RIC.



Adriana Rodriguez '21

Student Assistant

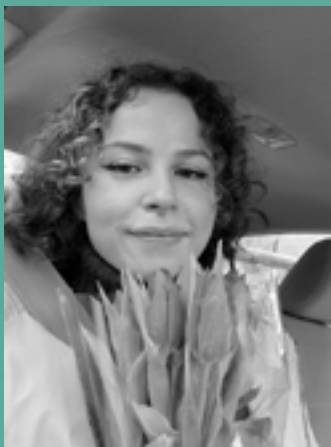
Adriana Rodriguez is a recent alumna with a B.A. in Latin American and Caribbean Studies and Political Science from Teaneck, New Jersey. Her decision to concentrate in LACA arose from her interest in studying her own Puerto Rican and Dominican heritage - specifically the history of U.S. intervention and imperialism on the two islands, as well as in Latin America and the Caribbean more broadly. Adriana has completed an honors thesis in LACA, which addresses the question of how community care both radically/materially and ideologically disrupt colonial constructs, with a specific focus on Puerto Rican political activism in the diaspora and on the island. She also participated in the Consortium for Advanced Studies Abroad program in Havana, Cuba during the fall semester of 2019 and loves (can't stop) talking about her experience there.



Caiya Sanchez-Strauss '21.5

Student Assistant

Caiya Sanchez-Strauss is a second semester senior from northeast Ohio double concentrating in Latin American and Caribbean Studies and Africana Studies. They initially became interested in Spanish, Latin America, and social movements of the Global South via their own family history and decided to concentrate in LACA because of a sustained interest in anti imperialist, abolitionist social movements in the region. They engage with these topics via an interdisciplinary approach combining Black feminist + queer theory, historical materialism, and abolitionist speculative fiction. During their time at Brown, Caiya has been involved with teaching English to adults in Providence (English for Speakers of Other Languages), local organizing on and off campus (Brown Immigrant Rights Coalition), and other migrant justice and anti-police efforts. They also cite their semester abroad in Cuba in the spring of 2020 as one of their most formative experiences at Brown and couldn't recommend the program enough!



Felipe Félix Méndez '22

Student Assistant

Felipe Félix Méndez is a rising junior from Panama and Uruguay concentrating in International and Public Affairs (Development). His interest in Latin America and the Caribbean comes from his family ties to several countries in the region, as well as lived experiences growing up and studying in an international school in Panama City. Felipe came to Brown to explore his passion for finding pragmatic, inclusive, and interdisciplinary solutions to the complex challenges facing the world today. To him, geographical, cultural and temporal context is a crucial aspect in determining the effectiveness of policies. Thus, Felipe looks to engage with these ideas through courses taught by CLACS-affiliated scholars, the Center's programming, and Portuguese language classes. At Brown, he has served as Teaching Assistant of "Economic Development in Latin America," member of the Watson Institute's Student Advisory Committee, and volunteered as a Tutor with the Brown Refugee Youth Tutoring and Enrichment Program. Outside of academics, he enjoys listening to and playing music, and watching football (soccer).



CLACS Advisory Committee 2020-2022

Pedro Dal Bo - Associate Professor of Economics, received his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of California, Los Angeles in 2002. He works in the areas of game theory, experimental economics, and political economy.

Colin Channer - Author of *Providential*, a collection of poems, and three books of fiction: *The Girl With the Golden Shoes*, *Passing Through* and *Waiting in Vain*. He has recently taught at Pacific University, Brandeis University, and at Wellesley College, and has led or been part of the planning committees for reading series and festivals in the United States and Senegal; in addition, he is past president of the Jamaican chapter of International PEN.

Evelyn Hu-Dehart - Professor of History, and Director of the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America at Brown. She joined Brown from the University of Colorado at Boulder where she was Chair of the Department of Ethnic Studies and Director of the Center for Studies of Ethnicity and Race in America. Bernstein '65 P '02 Assistant Professor of Political Science. Specializations: Machine politics in Latin America.

Juliet Hooker - Professor of Political Science. She is a political theorist specializing in racial justice, multiculturalism, Latin American political thought, Black political thought, and Afro-descendant and indigenous politics in Latin America.

Neil Safier - JCB Library, Beatrice and Julio Mario Santo Domingo Director & Librarian. Associate Professor in the Department of History at Brown University. Expertise: 18th-century European colonialism, Brazil, South America.

Laura López-Sanders - Assistant Professor of Sociology research examines the role of institutions and societal policies and practices in the patterning of inequality. Immigration, Race and Ethnic Relations, Inequality, Social Policy.

VISITING FACULTY: 2020 - 2021



Kamala Kempadoo

Craig M. Cogut Visiting Professor of Latin American Studies Spring 2021, AY'21-'22

Kamala Kempadoo, of Guyana/Barbados, is a sociologist and Professor in the Department of Social Sciences at York University, Canada. She teaches Caribbean Studies, Black Radical and Black Feminist Thought, Sex Work Studies, and Critical Antitraficking Studies and has published extensively on the Caribbean sex trade and global anti-trafficking discourses. She is currently working on a new book on racism, coloniality and anti-trafficking with Brown professor, Dr. Elena Shih. Professor Kempadoo has served as director of the Graduate Program in Social and Political Thought at York University and temporarily as head of the Centre for Gender and Development Studies at the University of the West Indies in Jamaica. She is the recipient of various awards, including the Distinguished Scientific Award of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Caribbean Studies Association. When not teaching in Toronto she lives in Barbados, where she is also associated with the Institute for Gender and Development Studies at the University of the West Indies-Cave Hill.

María Inclán

Craig M. Cogut Visiting Professor of Latin American Studies, Fall 2020

María Inclán is Profesora-Investigadora at the Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas in Mexico City. She has specialized on the study of comparative social movements and democratization processes. In particular, her research has focused on the development of social movements and cycles of protest within democratic transitions and individual triggers of protest participation. She is currently developing a research project on online political and mobilizing campaigns. Before coming to CLACS, she spent a year as a Visiting Fellow and Visiting Associate Professor of History at Princeton University's Program in Latin American Studies (2017-2018). Her first book *The Zapatista Movement and Mexico's Democratic Transition* was published in 2018 by Oxford University Press. Other works have been published in the *American Journal of Sociology*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *Latin American Politics and Society* and *Mobilization*.



Nicolás Campisi

Visiting Assistant Professor

Nicolás Campisi is a Visiting Assistant Professor in both the Hispanic Studies Department and the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. Nicolás' research examines the question of "the contemporary" in recent Latin American fiction. He understands the contemporary to be a period of intense awareness of the historical present, when the very idea of "the world" has come to be disputed – no longer concerned about debates over center vis-à-vis periphery, writers today are conjuring the world in all of its contemporaneous difference. Focusing on a corpus of literary fictions of the post-1989 era, his dissertation traces a cartography of how Latin American writers are accounting for the changing temporal regimes of our globalized present.



UPCOMING VISITING FACULTY: 2021 - 2022



Haroldo Dilla Alfonso

Craig M. Cogut Visiting Professor of Latin American Studies, Spring 2022

Haroldo Dilla Alfonso, (Havana, 1952) is a historian and sociologist, Doctor in Science from the Federal Polytechnic Institute of Lausanne, Switzerland. At present, he is a tenured professor and director of the Institute of International Studies (INTE) of the Arturo Prat University, Chile. He has been a researcher / visiting professor at Rutgers, Harvard, Puerto Rico, Hannover and FLACSO-Mexico universities. Between 2015 and 2018 he directed the research on the Tacna-Arica cross-border region on the Chilean / Peruvian border (Fondecyt 1150812) and currently directs the Fondecyt 1190133 on urban port intermediation in Arica. His most recent books are *La frontera dominico-haitiana* (The Dominican-Haitian border) (Editorial Manatí, Santo Domingo, 2010), *La migración haitiana en el Caribe* (Haitian migration in the Caribbean) (Centro Bonó, Santo Domingo, 2013), *Ciudades en el Caribe: un estudio comparado de La Habana, San Juan y Santo Domingo* (Cities in the Caribbean: a comparative study of Havana, San Juan and Santo Domingo) (FLACSO, Mexico, 2014), *La vuelta de todo eso: economía y sociedad en el complejo urbano transfronterizo Tacna/Arica* (The return of all that: economy and society in the Tacna / Arica cross-border urban complex) (RIL, Santiago de Chile, 2019) and *Donde el pedernal choca con el acero: Hacia una teoría de las fronteras latinoamericanas* (Where flint collides with steel: Towards a theory of Latin American borders) (RIL, Santiago de Chile).

Lucila Nejamkis

Craig M. Cogut Visiting Professor of Latin American Studies, AY 2021-2022

Lucila Nejamkis PhD in Social Sciences at Universidad de Buenos Aires. Her PhD thesis analysed immigration policies in Argentina and Mercosur. She also holds a M.A. in Political Action and Citizen Participation (Universidad Rey Juan Carlos y Colegio de Abogados de Madrid, Madrid-Spain). BA in Sociology (U.B.A). Ex-PhD fellow of Conicet, and Ex-MA fellow of Community of Madrid. Current Researcher of the Technological and Scientific Research National Council (CONICET). Associate Researcher at IDAES (National University of San Martín, UNSAM) where she co-directs a migration studies center. She is also an Associate Professor at Arturo Jauretche National University. She has published numerous academic papers and chapters in books and has participated in several migration research projects dealing with a variety of subjects such as public policies, state, nationality, citizenship, and human rights in Argentina and MERCOSUR. Since 2019, co-director of the action-research "Socio-environmental strategies of women migrant workers in the Reconquista River Basin", Buenos Aires Argentina) financed by the International Development Research Council (IDRC), Canada.



Cogut Visiting Professor Kamala Kempadoo (p. 10) will return for the Spring 2022 term.



Undergraduate Concentration



CLASS OF 2021 OUR CONCENTRATORS

Research at CLACS



BROWN UNIVERSITY
MELLON SAWYER SEMINAR
2020-2022



RETHINKING THE DYNAMIC INTERPLAY OF
MIGRATION, RACE, AND ETHNICITY
IN THE CARIBBEAN
AND LATIN AMERICA

SAWYER SEMINAR 2020-2022

RETHINKING THE DYNAMIC INTERPLAY OF MIGRATION, RACE, AND ETHNICITY IN THE CARIBBEAN AND LATIN AMERICA

Newseriesofdiscussions,performancesandpodcastsfocusesonthemigrantexperience.

NEWS FROM BROWN

ANDREW W. MELLON FOUNDATION AWARDS GRANT TO CLACS, AFRICANA STUDIES,
AND CSSJ



A grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation kickstarted a new series of initiatives and discussions at Brown University focused on migration to and from countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. The \$225,000 grant, awarded to the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS), the Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice (CSSJ) and the Department of Africana Studies at Brown, funds a Sawyer Seminar — in effect, a temporary, Mellon Foundation-funded research center.

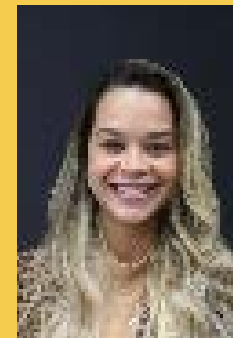
The seminar explores why people migrate to, from and within Latin America and the Caribbean, how attitudes about race and ethnicity influence and intersect with migration, and what kinds of policy and other political roadblocks migrants encounter. The grant funds a series of public discussions, arts performances and exhibitions, community-driven podcasts and more, held from Fall 2020 through Spring 2022.

SAWYER SEMINAR TEAM

SAWYER GRADUATE PROCTORS

The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies has selected two students to receive one-year graduate fellowships on 2021-2022 Mellon Sawyer Seminar Rethinking the Dynamic Interplay of Migration, Race, and Ethnicity in the Caribbean and Latin America supported by a Mellon Sawyer Seminar.

Karyn Mota is a Brazilian journalist, a Ph.D. student in the Department of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies at Brown University, and she is also pursuing a Master's degree in the Department of Africana Studies through the Open Graduate Education Program. She completed the Certificate in Afro-Latin American Studies offered by the Afro-Latin American Research Institute at the Hutchins Center, Harvard University. Mota holds a Master's degree in Communications from the Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro - PUC-Rio (Brazil) with the dissertation *Clarice Lispector in the Digital Era: the Appropriation of the Writer on the Web* (2018). She was a Visiting Research Fellow at Brown University, at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and at Université Paris 8 Vincennes - Saint Denis.



Alexandria Miller is a doctoral student in the Department of Africana Studies at Brown University. She earned a B.A. with distinction in African & African American Studies and History from Duke University in 2017, where she served on the Student Project Team of the SNCC Digital Gateway Project. Her research interests include social movements, Black Feminism, Caribbean performance art and music, and Afro-Jamaican women's protest. Her current research explores the history of Jamaican reggae and contemporary music culture and activism. She was selected as one of the 30 Under 30 Caribbean American Emerging Leaders by the Institute of Caribbean Studies in 2018.

SAWYER POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW

Kristen A. Kolenz earned her MA and PhD in women's, gender, and sexuality studies at The Ohio State University and her BA in philosophy at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio. Her research focuses on resistance to state violence, Central American social movements, migration, and the transformative potential of everyday practices through the lens of decolonial and transnational feminisms. She is currently working on her book manuscript, an analysis of the transnational movements and community-building practices of Central Americans subjected to forced migration, dangerous crossing



conditions, and confinement. In the study, Dr. Kolenz takes an interdisciplinary methodological approach that combines ethnographic methods, her own activist practice, and dance studies. The project bridges the fields of Latin American and Latinx Studies, bringing together research conducted in Guatemala, the Sonoran Desert, and immigrant justice movements in the US. The project's goal is to document the transformative possibilities that emerge from Central Americans' everyday practices of coping with loss, distance, and violence and to theorize transnational belonging in resistance to white supremacy.

SAWYER SEMINAR STEERING COMMITTEE

The steering committee will be recommending participants from a range of nations, backgrounds, and disciplines to participate in the seminar. This year's committee includes:

Geri Augusto - *Gerard Visiting Associate Prof. of International & Public Affairs and Africana Studies. Dir. of Development Studies. Watson Institute Faculty Fellow. Faculty associate at Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice, affil. with Native American and Indigenous Studies Program, Dept. of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies.*

Kevin Escudero - *Assistant Prof. of American Studies. Specializations: Comparative ethnic studies, critical refugee studies, immigration & citizenship, law & society, social movements.*

Kate Goldman - *Center Manager, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies*

Brian Meeks - *Prof. of Africana Studies. Chair of Africana Studies. Specializations: Social and political movements in the Caribbean.*

Lisa L. Biggs - *John Atwater and Diana Nelson Assistant Prof. of Africana Studies.*

Andrea Flores - *Assistant Prof. of Education. Specializations: Cultural anthropologist who specializes in the anthropology of education.*

Maiyah Gamble-Rivers - *Manager of Programs & Outreach, Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice*

Leila Lehnen - *Associate Prof. of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies, Chair of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies. Specializations: contemporary Brazilian and Latin American literature, intersection between social justice and cultural production.*

Anthony Bagues - *Asa Messer Professor of Humanities and Critical Theory and Professor of Africana Studies.*

Patricia Figueroa - *Curator of Iberian and Latin American Collections.*

Patsy Lewis - *Dir. and Visiting Prof. of Africana Studies. Watson Faculty Fellow. Specializations: Regional integration, small states development, Caribbean.*

Pablo Rodriguez - *Clinical Associate Prof. of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Specializations: Health care in the Dominican Republic.*

Mapping Social Movements related to Systemic Racism in Rhode Island

This research, funded under the Provost Initiative, "Addressing Systemic Racism", involves the creation of a historical archive of Rhode Island responses to the murder of George Floyd.

In the Wake of George Floyd: Responses to Anti-Black Racism in Rhode Island

Since the May 2020 murder of George Floyd, anti-racist social movements and counter-movements have captured the attention of the public in the U.S. and around the world. One of the responses of Brown University was to provide funding for projects that center anti-Black racism in the United States. Under this program, CLACS launched its project, "Mapping Social Movements in Rhode Island."

This project aims to record the various responses to George Floyd's murder and broader expressions of anti-Black racism and police violence in Rhode Island. Using cutting-edge technology, ethnographic research methods, and in-depth interviews with informants from local communities, our team will create an archive of anti-racist social movements and counter-responses in Rhode Island.

This research establishes the breadth and scope of these movements and the engagement of Latinx and Caribbean diaspora communities, in an effort to understand how their engagement reflects the ways in which the challenges they experience intersect with the lived realities of African-Americans. We will also explore and record the responses of different state bodies and of Brown University—departments, student organizations, senior administration, and DIAP committees to these events.

Mapping Social Movements related to Systemic Racism in Rhode Island

Patsy Lewis (Principal Investigator) is Senior Fellow, Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs and Director of the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS) at Brown University. She specializes in the political economy and development challenges of the Caribbean. She earned her PhD in History from Cambridge University.

Team Members:

Ashley Champagne is the Head of Digital Scholarship Project Planning for the Center for Digital Scholarship. She designs workshops, courses, and projects related to the broader digital humanities for the Brown University community. She earned her Ph.D. in English from University of California, Santa Barbara in 2018.

Patrick Rashleigh is the Data Visualization Coordinator for the Center of Digital Scholarship, where he works and teaches on the design and production of visual modes of scholarly communication, interaction, and analysis.

María Inclán is Profesora-Investigadora at the Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas in Mexico City. She has specialized on the study of comparative social movements and democratization processes. In particular, her research has focused on the development of social movements and cycles of protest within democratic transitions and individual triggers of protest participation.

Sophia Ellis is a Master's Student in Public Humanities at Brown University and studies Caribbean public art, informal learning, visual and material culture in the digital age, and digital storytelling. Her focus centers colonization and its afterlives in the art world and beyond.

Cody Carvel is the Digital Fellow for the Center for Digital Scholarship, where he is working to improve access and usability in the areas of digital arts and letters and humanities.

Alexis Gordon is an intern with the Center for Digital Scholarship and a Public Humanities Master's student at Brown University passionate about queering heritage and archival studies and building futurity and solidarity across marginalized publics through care.

Kate Goldman is the Center Manager at CLACS and Head of Academic and University Partnerships at Respond Crisis Translation, collective of language activists providing interpretation and translation services for migrants, refugees, and anyone experiencing language barriers.

CLACS Reading Groups

Each year, CLACS invites groups of affiliated graduate students and faculty to form interdisciplinary reading and/or writing groups. The purpose of this initiative is to enhance learning about a specific topic, country or region from a number of disciplinary perspectives.

Marginalized Motherhoods in the Americas


Through the works of seven women writers in the Americas, this reading group centered on ideas of motherhood and mothering, and their potential for a critique of systems of patriarchal violence, racism, classism, and extra-activism. This Reading group was organized by Regina Pieck (Graduate Student, Hispanic Studies), Tess Renker (Graduate Student, Hispanic Studies), and Iris Montero (Professor, Hispanic Studies).



Feminisms of Color in Latin America

This working group provided a low-stakes workshop space for participants of any discipline to learn about and produce work (for an academic audience or otherwise) regarding issues of modern social justice that intersect with feminist histories of race, gender, class, disability, and sexuality in Latin America, both past and present. Organized by Stephanie Wong (Graduate Student, History) and Emily Owens (Professor, History).





CLACS Awards and Recognitions

Undergraduate Thesis Awards

Each spring, CLACS recognizes the best academic essay written by a current Brown University undergraduate from any concentration on a topic related to Latin America, the Caribbean, and/or Latinx communities. More information is posted in the Opportunities section of our website.

CLACS was thrilled to announce a tie for this year's Undergraduate Thesis Award!

Adriana Rodriguez '21

"I Have Not Come Here Alone, I Carry My People With Me In My Bones: Histories of Puerto Rican Community Resistance"

Primary advisor: Daniel Rodriguez. Second reader: Naoko Shibusawa

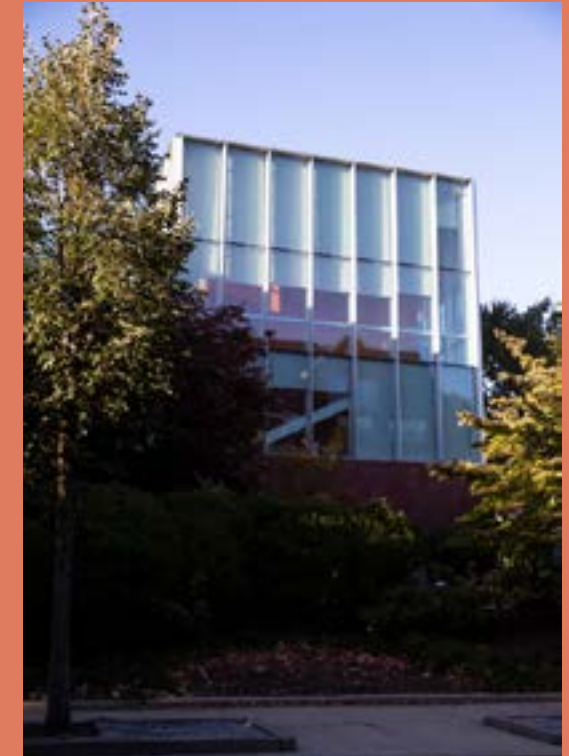
Adriana graduated with a double concentration in Latin American and Caribbean Studies and Political Science.

Zachary Kliger '21

"Agua para todos: The Mazahua Water Struggle and the Movement for Popular Sustainable Development in Mexico State"

Primary advisor: Daniel Rodriguez. Second reader: Evelyn Hu-Dehart

Zachary graduated with a concentration in Latin American and Caribbean Studies.



CLACS Dissertation Prizes

Congratulations to Miriam Rothenberg and Nicolás Campisi, the winners of the 2021 CLACS Dissertation Prize!



“Community and Corrosion: A Contemporary Archaeology of Montserrat’s Volcanic Crisis in Long-Term Comparative Perspective”
Miriam Rothenberg, (Ph.D., Archaeology and the Ancient World)

“In my dissertation, *Community and Corrosion: A Contemporary Archaeology of Montserrat’s Volcanic Crisis in Long-Term Comparative Perspective*, I explored the impacts of the 1995-present volcanic eruptions on the landscapes of the island of Montserrat and the communities that inhabit them. The project combined archaeological survey and recording with ethnographic interviews, participant observation, and archival research to document the sequence of the eruptive events and the ways in which these events have affected the island’s landscapes and material culture. In particular, I focused on disentangling the complex processes that have transformed Montserrat’s landscapes from vibrant, lived-in spaces to traumatic ruins, the crucial role of local practices of communal self-help as methods of coping with the disaster, and the many manifestations of the volcanic in Montserratian material culture.”



“The Return of the Contemporary: The Latin American Novel in the End Times”
Nicolás Campisi (Ph.D., Hispanic Studies)

“My dissertation, *The Return of the Contemporary: The Latin American Novel in the End Times*, studies a group of novels that narrate the apocalyptic catastrophes of our neoliberal present by going back in time to key moments in Latin American and Caribbean history. By analyzing novels from different parts of the Americas, I show how these authors frame the various crises of our present within the deep time of settler colonialism, global capitalism, and extractive violence. Some of the issues that I analyze include the 2001 socioeconomic collapse in Argentina in Pedro Mairal’s *Elaño del desierto*, the advent of humanitarian and environmental crisis in the Dominican Republic in Rita Indiana’s *La mucama de Omicunlé*, and the memory of the children of political exiles in *A resistência* by Julián Fuks or *Conjunto vacío* by Verónica Gerber Bicecci.”

Graduate Student Awards

CLACS offers several opportunities to graduate students who work in Latin America and/or the Caribbean or with Latinx populations in the United States. Each year, we provide support to Brown University graduate students who wish to participate in reading and writing groups, travel to the region, teach and conduct research at Brown, and collaborate on CLACS projects. Visit our website for the latest information.

Pre-dissertation Research Grant

Two graduate students received travel grants through the CLACS Pre-Dissertation Research Award, to be spent by June 2022. This award is sponsored by the Graduate School and the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs.

Alejandra Cueto, Sociology, received a travel grant to conduct preliminary dissertation research on the creation of entrepreneurship as an economic elite and its differentiation with other types of labor regimes. Her study investigates how race, gender, and migration status play a role in the categorization of entrepreneurship and how this affects their access to resources and knowledge. More specifically, the study examines how the state, national, and international organizations help build boundaries between those who belong to the informal sector and those who claim to be entrepreneurs. Her project involves conducting interviews with informal workers and entrepreneurs in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Luiz Paulo, History, received a travel grant to conduct preliminary dissertation research that analyzes the struggles for rights, land, and the state recognition of Indigenous identity in the Brazilian northeast during the military dictatorship (1964-1985). The research focuses on the strategies Indigenous peoples used to organize themselves during this period and their interactions with the military, the state, and institutions such as the National Indian Foundation (FUNAI) and the Missionary Indigenist Council (CIMI). His project involves visiting several archives in Recife, Rio de Janeiro, and Brasília.



2021 Sarmiento Fellowship

Adelaida Tamayo received an award through the Sarmiento Fellowship, which supports Brown University faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students who engage in social science or humanities research on non-Caribbean Latin America south of Panama, focusing on the period after 1830. All recipients must be natives or residents of a Spanish-speaking country south of Panama. The Sarmiento Fellowship is funded by the Sarmiento Flexible Fund for Latin American Studies, which was established through the generous support of Alfredo C. Cassiet, M.D. and Maria-Elena Cassiet.

Adelaida Tamayo (Graduate student, Anthropology) is an anthropologist focused on women’s narrative of the conflict in Colombia. She uses visual methods to tell the story of the conflict desde abajo. Before Brown, Adelaida worked at Art Without Borders in Bogotá (FASF), Human Rights Watch, Her Justice, and Planned Parenthood. She is originally from Colombia, and likes to paint in her free time. Adelaida is conducting her MA research about mothers’ advocacy for their children who were killed during the False Positive scandal. Her research question asks: How does emotion, particularly grief, become a resource for political action for mothers in Colombia? What possibilities do art and visual media create for Colombian women to produce a collective memory from below? She conducts this research in her hometown of Bogotá.



Events at CLACS

CLACS HOSTED EVENTS

CLACS hosted various panel and roundtable discussions this year focused on calling attention to important developments in Latin America and the Caribbean. Click on the posters to visit the full event description online or [visit our website](#).

The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS) presents

Panamá: COVID-19, Economía y Tejido Social Panama: COVID-19, the Economy and Social Fabric

Felipe Chapman-Brown '89
Chairman and managing partner of PDCSA,
Former Chairman and CEO of the Panama Stock Exchange

Anamar Mediano de Arista Barletta-Brown '89
President of Panama's Sovereign Wealth Fund

Laura Flores-Brown '90
Director, Americas Division at the UN Departments of Political and Peace-building Affairs & Peace Operations

Co-moderated by
Pedro Dal '86
Associate Professor of Economics and
Felipe Félix Méndez '22
Undergraduate Student

Tuesday, September 22, 2020
5:00 pm / ET
4:00pm / Panama City

The event will be held in Spanish. English translation will be provided

The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies presents

Racialization and Migration: Latinas and "Other" Women in Sex Work and Trafficking Discourses in the Caribbean

Featuring
Kamala Kempadoo,
Spring '21 Cogal Visiting Professor at CLACS
Ellena Shah,
Manning Assistant Professor of American Studies and Ethnic Studies

Moderated by
Patty Lewis
Director, CLACS
Visiting Professor of International and Public Affairs

October 19, 2020, 4 p.m.

Registration link:
www.clacs.org/events

"Onthesunnysideoftheroad.Cartagena,Colombia."PhotographedbyAlexanderSchimbeck,publishedonUnsplashforpublicuseonOctober27,2020.

CLACS EVENT COLLABORATIONS

A collaboration between OMSI and CLACS

 Georgetown, Rafael Institute for Civil Society and Citizenship, American University of Beirut, and the Latin American Caribbean Center, University of the West Indies

 Wednesday, January 27, 2021

 12:00-1:30 p.m.

 Webinar | Registration Required

Feminist Mobilizations at the time of COVID-19: Experiences from the Middle East, Latin America, and the Caribbean

OMSI HOSTS:

Lina Aboon Habib

 Assistant University of Beirut

Mozm Hassan

 Hosts for Feminist Studies

CLACS HOSTS:

Betilde Muñoz-Pogossian

 Organization of American States

Gabrielle Hosein

 University of the West Indies

Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies and The Choices Programs present

History, Revolution, and Reform: New Directions for Cuba

TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2021

 7:00 PM – 8:15 PM

 WEBINAR

CLACS EVENT COLLABORATIONS

The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies and the Taubman Center for American Politics and Policy present

"Tío Bernie" & A Conversation with Bernie 2020 Senior Advisor Chuck Rocha

Also featuring:

Richard Snyder, Professor of Political Science, Brown University

Louis Epstein, Brown University Class of '19.5, former Bernie 2020 staffer

Join us via Zoom on

Monday, October 5, 2020,

12:00-1:30 PM (EST)

Event registration:

<https://watson.brown.edu/events/2020/tiobernie>

Human Rights & Humanitarianism in Action

 A dialogue series on the intersection of human rights and humanitarian aid

The Biden Administration's Promises to Refugees at the US-Mexico Border: Successes and Challenges

Margaret Cargioli

 Managing Attorney at Immigrant Defenders Law Center

Daniel Berlin

 Deputy Director of Asylum Access Mexico

February 25, 2021

 12:00 - 1:00 PM EDT

 Webinar Registration Required



Looking Forward

Upcoming Events to Look Out For

Sawyer Seminar Conferences

The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, the Center of the Study of Slavery and Justice and the Africana Studies Department Rites and Reason Theatre at Brown University are hosting two conferences that explore the intersections of race, ethnicity and indigeneity in intra-Latin American and Caribbean migration.

Thursday, November 4th and Friday, November 5th, 9:00am-6:00pm
"Migration, Race and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean"
Event will be held virtually.

Thursday, March 17th and Friday, March 18th, 2022
"Histories of Migration and Violence in Latin America and the Caribbean"
Event is expected to be hybrid.

Dean of Faculty Lectureship Series

The Archives of Silence/Archivos del Silencio lecture series features leading scholars, archivists, and artists, primarily from Latin America, to reflect on the creation of archives in periods of trauma, relevant to our current historical moment in which global archives of the COVID-19 pandemic are being built.

Keep up to date with the latest updates on these events by visiting watson.brown.edu/clacs

LACA COURSES

FALL 2020

LACA 0500/HISP0750T

Around Latin America in 80 Days: An Historical and Cultural Journey

Erica Durante

This course will be constructed as a journey throughout the complex and diverse region of Latin America. By exploring the main geographical, historical, cultural and ethnic characteristics of this area of the globe, students will discover some critical junctures, and personalities that in the past centuries have defined Latin America as a unique, transnational and multilingual subcontinent. The course will be structured around three axes (foundational and modern myths, nation-building and cultural identities, and icons of popular culture) that will be explored from an interdisciplinary perspective, combining insights from the fields of archaeology, anthropology, arts, history, literature, and political science. The languages of instruction will be Spanish and English.

LACA 1900

Honors and Capstone Project on Latin American and Caribbean Topics

Erica Durante

This workshop was designed for juniors and seniors in any concentration who were researching and writing about Latin America and the Caribbean. It helped students to enhance their research and organization skills, refine their research or creative projects, and develop or complete a Capstone Project (e.g. honors thesis, honors project, substantial research paper).

SPRING 2021

LACA 1371L/HISP1371L

"Take My Breath Away:" A Cultural History of Air in Modern Latin America's Imagination and Literature

Erica Durante and Felipe Martínez-Pinzón

Latin America has been conjured up from opposing aerial images. On the one hand, Amazonia has been represented as the "lungs of the earth"; on the other, its megalopolis is polluted places where breathing is hazardous. From Neruda's poetic journey to Machu Picchu, passing through eco-feminist gothic fictions, all the way through accordion, flute and Caribbean music, flight narratives and space films, this course explores what "aire" allows us to recount—or choke—, to scent—or to smell— about being in place or traveling. The languages of instruction will be Spanish and English.

LACA 1402/IAPA 1402

Beyond Sun, Sea and Sand: Exploring the Contemporary Caribbean

Patsy Lewis

For many people, their image of the Caribbean is the tourist brochure and television advertisement representation of sun, sea and sand. This course challenges that through a broad introduction to the real society, economy and politics of the Caribbean region. Using literature, film and traditional texts, it captures the cultural and linguistic complexity of the region through the exploration of a range of central themes such as ethnicity, color, class, politics, as well as more specific, targeted areas including economic inequality, migration, and tourism.

LACA 1503S

Music and Sports in the Americas

Luis Achondo

This course explores how music mediates sports experiences in the Americas. Examining case studies including Bob Marley's relationship with sports, soccer fandom throughout the region, and Shakira and Jennifer Lopez's Super Bowl Halftime performance, we will discuss how genres, sports, and fandoms have conjointly shaped and have been shaped by varied sociocultural dynamics in Latin American and Caribbean countries and diasporas. Through readings, listenings, and viewings we will examine the musicality and athleticism of fans, artists, and sports persons as well as the promises and dangers of sports and music as spaces for sociality, politics, and expression.

LACA 1503T

Caribbean Feminisms

Kamala Kempadoo

This course is a study of the emergence and reconfiguration of Caribbean feminisms through the region's history of women's and gendered oppressions, subversions and resistances, taking into consideration colonialism, indigeneity, slavery and indenturedship, transnationality, and race, ethnicity, sexuality, and class. Attention is also paid to strategies for knowledge production that have been utilised for studying Caribbean gender and sexuality and to the types of research these have produced. Threaded through the course will be an ongoing focus on a recent Inter Guyanas feminism initiative that spans the Dutch, English and French-speaking Guyanas.

LACA 1503V

Health of Hispaniola

Timothy Empkie

Two developing countries, Dominican Republic and Haiti, have widely differing health outcomes despite centuries of shared experience on the Caribbean Island of Hispaniola. This course will examine the history, politics, economics, culture, international relations, demography, and geography, as well as epidemiology and health services, to demonstrate that multiple factors, both recent and long-standing, determine the present health of these populations.

CLACS AFFILIATED GRADUATE STUDENTS

Aimée Bourassa Political Science

Alejandra Irene Cueto Piazza Sociology

Alejandra Roche Recinos Anthropology

Alexandria Miller Africana Studies

Alexsandro Menez Portuguese and Brazilian Studies

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Amy Teller Sociology

Andrés Emil González Comparative Literature

Apollonya Porcelli Sociology

Benjamin Bradlow Sociology

Benjamin Chilson-Parks Earth, Environmental, and Planetary Sciences

Ben Salinas Anthropology

Bill Skinner History of Art and Architecture

Brendan Lambert Comparative Literature

Bryan Moorefield Anthropology

Cyril Bennouna Political Science

Daina Rivas-Tello Anthropology

Daniel McDonald History

Diego Gentile Passaro Economics

Diego Luis History

Emilia Brito Economics

Ethel Barja Hispanic Studies

Felipe Brugués Economics

Fernando Norat History

Hannah Baron Political Science

Harper Dine Anthropology

Jamie Corbett Music

Javier Fernandez Galeano History

Jonathon Acosta Sociology

Jon Nelson Sociology

Jordan Jones Portuguese and Brazilian Studies

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Joshua T. Schnell Anthropology

Juan Pedro Ronconi Economics

Katie Duarte Sociology

Kristen McNeill Sociology

Lauren E. Deal Anthropology

Lorenzo Aldeco Leo Economics

Luis Achondo Music

Mai Hunt Hispanic Studies

Mallory Matsumoto Anthropology

Maria Florencia Chiaramonte Hispanic Studies

Maria José Rodríguez Pliego Comparative Literature

Marlon Jiménez Oviedo Theatre Arts and Performance Studies

María López-Portillo Sociology

Marina Dias Lucena Adams History

Mateo Díaz Choza Hispanic Studies

Melaine Ferdinand-King Africana Studies

Miriam Rothenberg Archeology and the Ancient World

Morgan Clark Anthropology

Nasir Marumo Africana Studies

Nicolás Campisi Hispanic Studies

Omar Andres Alcover Firpi Anthropology

Pedro Almeida Portuguese and Brazilian Studies

Regina Pieck Hispanic Studies

Ricarda Hammer Sociology

Samuele Giambra Economics

Santiago Hermo Economics

Sílvia Cabral Teresa Portuguese and Brazilian Studies

Stephanie Wong History

Tess Renker Hispanic Studies

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Violet Cavicchi Music

Wafufani Poe Africana Studies

Wilton Scherka Africana Studies

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Kinzer, Stephen Watson Institute
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Nunn, Amy Warren Alpert Medical School
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Osaiymwese, Itohan History of Art and Architecture
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Tucker, Joshua Music
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Vivier, Patrick Warren Alpert Medical School
Ward, Kenneth John Carter Brown Library
Weitz-Shapiro, Rebecca Political Science
Whitfield, Esther Comparative Literature
Ybarra, Patricia Theatre and Performance Studies



"A colorful strip of buildings in Havana, Cuba." Photographed by Spencer Everett. Published on Unsplash for public use.



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