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Education

Graduate Theological Union- Berkeley, California

Systematic and Philosophical Theology

Allied Field: Art and Religion, Theological Aesthetics

Dissertation Title: “*Beautified by the Spirit: Community Murals as a Liberative Source for Constructive Pneumatology*”

Degree: PhD, May 2016

Saint Louis University - Madrid, Spain

Major: Peninsular and Latin American Literature

Degree: MA, May 2008

Graduate Theological Union- Berkeley, California

Major: Systematic and Philosophical Theology

Degree: MA, May 2007

Loyola Marymount University- Los Angeles, California

Majors: Theological Studies and Spanish

Minor: Philosophy

Dual Degree: BA, Cum Laude May 2004

Research Interests

U.S. Latinx and Latin American Religion, Art as Resistance, Chicana Studies

Courses Taught

Barrio Organization; Art, Religion, and Immigration; Prophetic Resistance in Latinx Communities; U.S. Latinx Culture and Religious Expression; Latinx Spirituality; Feminist, Womanist, and Mujerista Theology; Theology and Social Justice; In Search of a Way; Sex and the City of God; God and the Human Experience; Theological Themes (Teaching Assistant)

Publications

“Creating Sacred Space: The Contribution of Religion and the Arts to Chicana/Latinx Studies,” in *Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies* (Spring 2022, 47.1), 191-201.

“Latinx Catholicism”

Cambridge Handbook of American Catholicism (Spring 2021, Cambridge University Press)

“You don’t belong here,” in *Unruly Catholic Feminists: Prose, Poetry, and the Future of the Faith*. Eds. Jeanna Del Rosso, Leigh Eicke, and Ana Kothe. (Fall 2021, State University of New York Press)

“Latina Liberation: A Meditation on Writing,” In *Voices from the Ancestors and Beyond: Chicana and Latinx Spiritual Expressions*, Eds. Lara Medina and Martha Gonzales. (Fall 2019, University of Arizona Press)

“The Incarnate God and Embodied Desire,” In *Voices from the Ancestors and Beyond: Chicana and Latinx Spiritual Expressions*, Eds. Lara Medina and Martha Gonzales. (Fall 2019, University of Arizona Press)

“Telling Our Stories: The Cultural and Religious Insights of Sandra Cisneros,” in *The Journal of Latina Critical Feminism*, Vol. 1 Issue 1 (March 2018), 78-86.

Professional Employment

Lecturer, University of California Los Angeles- Los Angeles, California (Current position)
Lecturer in the César E. Chávez Department of Chicana/o Studies and Central American Studies.
Duties: Teaching graduate and undergraduate level courses on Latinx Spirituality, Art, and Community Organizing. Various tasks associated with academic research, teaching, and advising. Supervisor: Leisy Abrego, Ph.D.- Chair and Professor

Visiting Assistant Professor, Loyola Marymount University- Los Angeles, California
Duties: Teaching undergraduate level courses from 2018-2020 in Theological Studies and Gender Studies. Various tasks associated with academic research, teaching, and advising.
Supervisor: Amir Hussain, Ph.D.- Chair of Theological Studies

Visiting Scholar, Southern Methodist University- Dallas, Texas
Post-doctoral research and teaching fellow 2016-2017. Duties: Focus on scholarly research and publication through the support of the Louisville Institute. Various tasks associated with co-teaching a Master of Divinity and Master of Arts level seminar.
Supervisor: Edwin Aponte, Ph.D.- Executive Director of the Louisville Institute

Teacher in Religious Studies Department, Mercy High School– San Francisco, California
Full-time teaching position 2008-2011. Duties: Teaching first and third year students, various tasks associated with teaching including counseling and advising students. Supervisor: Principal Dorothy McCrea, Ed.D.

Research Assistant, Graduate Theological Union- Berkeley, California
Part-time position 2004-2006. Duties: Indexed various articles and documents, compiled reading packets, transcribed interviews for research projects.
Supervisor: Eduardo Fernandez, S.J., S.T.D. - Professor of Pastoral Theology

Resident Minister, University of San Francisco- San Francisco, California

Part-time position 2004-2006. Duties: providing counseling to undergraduate students, planning of events and retreats, engaged the students in community service opportunities; provide a pastoral presence in the residence halls. Supervisor: Mrs. Danielle Trimiew

Research Assistant, Loyola Marymount University- Los Angeles, California

Part-time position 2002-2003. Duties: Indexed various articles and documents, edited and corrected undergraduate student essays and exams, compiled reading packets. Supervisor: Jennifer Eich, Ph.D. – Professor in the Department of Modern Languages

Awards and Fellowships

American Academy of Religion, Travel Grant	Nov 2018
Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning, Grant	Aug 2018
Louisville Institute, Exploratory Grant	Feb 2018
UCLA Non-Senate Faculty Professional Development Award	Feb 2018
University of Notre Dame- ILS Young Scholars Symposium	Apr 2017
Latin American Studies Association, Travel Grant	Apr 2017
Louisville Institute Postdoctoral Fellowship	2016-2017
Graduate Theological Union, Travel Award	2015-2016
Forum for Theological Exploration Doctoral Fellow	2015-2016
Hispanic Theological Initiative/Luce Dissertation Scholar	2015-2016
Graduate Theological Union, Travel Award	2014-2015
Louisville Institute Doctoral Fellow	2012-2014
Graduate Theological Union, Newhall Fellowship Award	2012-2014
Hispanic Theological Initiative, Doctoral Fellow	2011-2014

Certificates

Graduate Theological Union Women’s Studies in Religion	Apr 2012
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Academic Presentations

Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians Colloquium Panel “Revisiting the Doctrine of Discovery”	Jun 2019
AAR Latino Religion, Culture, & Society Group “Reclaiming the Wisdom of the Ancestors: Decolonizing Chicanx and Latinx Spirituality”	Nov 2018
AAR Latino Religion, Culture, & Society Group; Session Moderator “Latinx Religion and Institutional Violence”	Nov 2018
Latinx Studies Association “Solid Ground? Latinx Religion in the Face of Social Struggle”	Jul 2018

AAR Latina, Latino, and Latin American Religion Unit; Session Moderator “Voices from the Margins: Practices of Hope and Resistance”	Mar 2018
AAR Latino Religion, Culture, & Society Group; Session Moderator “Protest and Accommodation: Latinx Responses to the Protestant Reformation”	Nov 2017
Latin American Studies Association “Popular Religion and Devotion to La Virgen De Guadalupe”	May 2017
University of Notre Dame- ILS Young Scholars Symposium “Beautified by the Spirit: Towards a Latino/a Constructive Pneumatology”	April 2017
SMU Perkins School of Theology, Faculty Colloquium “Beauty in the Barrio: Community Murals as Popular Religion”	Nov 2016
SMU Center for the Study of Latino/a Christianity and Religions “Hispanics and Theological Education”	Nov 2016
Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians of the United States, Colloquia “Reimagining the <i>Imago Dei</i> : Insights of Sandra Cisneros”	Jun 2016
University of San Francisco, Guest Lecturer “Religión Popular y la Estética Teológica como fuente de liberación”	Mar 2016
Santa Clara University, Guest Lecturer “Popular Religion”	May 2015
Las Hermanas: An Interdisciplinary Symposium “Black Madonnas: Mary as Mediatrix and the Role of Inculturation”	Mar 2015
Loyola Marymount University, Guest Lecturer “The Future is Mestizo”	Feb 2015
AAR Latino Religion, Culture, & Society Group; Session Moderator “Decolonizing Pedagogies Project: Senses, Bodies, and Education”	Nov 2014
American Academy of Religion Conference, Western Region "The <i>Cuy</i> of Christ: Visual Culture & the Articulation of Andean-Christian Religious Identity in the New World"	Mar 2014
University of San Francisco, Guest Lecturer “Ideología, conocimiento, y la mediación socioanalítica”	Mar 2014

AAR Latino Religion, Culture, & Society Group; Session Moderator
“The Shifting Lens of Gendering” Nov 2013

University of San Francisco, Guest Lecturer
“Liberation Theology: The Role of Gender” Nov 2013

Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians Colloquium Panel
“ACHTUS Through the Generations” with Allan Figueroa Deck, S.J.
and Miguel Diaz, PhD June 2013

Professional Affiliations

GEMRIP Argentina, International Member 2016-current
Latina/o Studies Association, Member 2016- current
Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians of the United States, Member 2012- current
American Academy of Religion, Member 2011- current
La Comunidad of Hispanic Scholars of Religion, Member 2011- current

Service to the Academy

La Comunidad Scholars of Religion, President 2019-2022
Latin American Studies Association, Religion & Spirituality Unit, Co-Chair 2017- 2018
AAR Latino Religion, Culture, and Society Unit, Co-Chair 2017- current
AAR Western Region, Latino/a & Latin American Religion Unit, Co-Chair 2017- 2019
ACHTUS Nominations Committee Chair 2016-2017
ACHTUS Board, Member-at-Large 2015-2017
ACHTUS Communications Committee, Member 2015- 2016
La Comunidad Scholars of Religion, Committee Member-at-Large 2015-2019
AAR Latino Religion, Culture, & Society Unit Steering Committee Member 2013- 2017

Service to the University

GTU Women’s Studies in Religion Steering Committee Member 2012- 2014
GTU Student Advisory Committee Member 2012- 2014
GTU Latino Doctoral Group, Member & Coordinator 2011- 2014

Service to the Community

LAM Latino Professionals Network, Member 2011-2017
Loyola Marymount University Alumni Reunion Committee Member 2014-2015
Big Brothers, Big Sisters of the Bay Area Volunteer 2011-2014
Hispanic Scholarship Fund Alumni Volunteer 2010-2012

Media Presence

<i>ARC Theopoetics Podcast</i> “A Poetics of Beauty and Justice”	Oct 2018
<i>Forum for Theological Exploration</i> Blog post: “Oh the places we will go...to write!”	Mar 2018
<i>Forum for Theological Exploration</i> Blog post: “Five Influential People You Meet In Grad School”	Jan 2018
<i>Forum for Theological Exploration</i> Blog post: “Dissertation in a Nutshell: From Topic to Defense”	Oct 2017
“ <i>Books We Love</i> ” Political Theology Blog	Aug 2017
<i>Hispanic News Online- Interviewed by Jose David Cantu</i> Hispanic Heritage Month #30430 Series	Oct 2015
<i>Forum for Theological Exploration</i> Blog post: “Racism: The Most Sinful of Legacies”	Jun 2015

Languages

Bilingual: Spanish and English

Reading Knowledge: French and Italian