



BROWN UNIVERSITY'S
**CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICAN
AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES**

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022



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Designed by Mack Ford '25, Emily Ruebelman, Sebastian Adriano '25, and Gilberto Castro-Bernal '23.

Cover photo courtesy of Mezcla Latin Dance Troupe, 2022.



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.

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[watson.brown.edu/clacs](https://www.watson.brown.edu/clacs)

And find us on YouTube by searching CLACS at Brown University!



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear CLACS community,

I wish to thank you for your support over the past academic year. Given the prevalence of the pandemic, most of our activities were held virtually, although we moved increasingly to hybrid events. This allowed us to continue to reach audiences not possible with in person events.

Our activities centered primarily around the Mellon Foundation supported Sawyer Seminar "Rethinking the Dynamic Interplay of Migration, Race, and Ethnicity in the Caribbean and Latin America" and the "Archives of Silence/Archivos del silencio" lectureship supported by the Office of the Dean of the Faculty through the Herbert H. Goldberger Lectureships Fund.

The Sawyer Seminar, which represents a collaborative effort with the Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice (CSSJ) and Africana Studies Department, Rites and Reason Theater, held two conferences. The first was held in November 2021 under the theme "Migration, Race and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean," and the second in March 2022 under the theme "Histories of Migration and Violence in Latin America and the Caribbean." These brought together more than 60 participants representing a range of academic institutions and groups. The March conference featured the Panamanian Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Erika Mouynes. The Sawyer Seminar also featured an exhibition "Breaking Out: Immigration Art from Stewart Detention Center" organized by Kristen Kolenz, the Mellon Sawyer Postdoctoral Fellow, with support from Art at Watson.

We also offered several talks over the course of the spring 2022 semester under the "Archives of Silence/ Archivos del silencio" lectureship. The series addressed several critical issues related to the constitution and preservation of archives, including censorship, anonymity, sensitivity, and the materiality or immateriality of the archive itself. The lectures featured academics Milagros Ricourt (City University of New York), Mónica Moreno Figueroa (Cambridge University) and Peter Wade (University of Manchester), and Gustavo Guerrero (CY Cergy Paris Université); filmmaker Juan Manuel Echavarría of Colombia; and writer Mariana Enriquez of Argentina, among others.

We organized 13 events during the Fall 2021 semester, including a two-day Sawyer Seminar conference and musical event. CLACS also launched a new reading group "From Hyperrealism to Horror: The New Boom of Contemporary Latin American Women Writers" and a faculty lecture series. We organized 20 events during the Spring 2022 semester including a two-day Sawyer Seminar conference and academic and cultural events. We were also thrilled to launch our faculty lecture series, which featured presentations by CLACS affiliated faculty. We also hosted book launches during this period, including Jeremy Lehnen's recent publication, *Neo-Authoritarian Masculinity in Brazilian Crime Film*.

We continued to work on our research project, "In the Wake of George Floyd: Responses to Anti-Black Racism in Rhode Island," which was supported under the Provost's "Addressing Systemic Racism" Fund. This project



(originally titled "Addressing Systemic Racism in Rhode Island"), explores the protests across Rhode Island in the wake of the police killing of George Floyd. The project, which is also supported by the Brown University Library Center for Digital Scholarship, will be launched in the Fall of 2022.

This year we hosted one Cogut Visiting Professor, Lucila Nejankis of Argentina. Lucila taught two LACA courses, organized panel discussions on her research topic, one in collaboration with the Center for Middle East Studies, and participated in academic events at CLACS and elsewhere on campus. Next year we will welcome Luis Martín Valdiviezo Arista and José Miguel Niego Olivar of Peru and Brazil, respectively. We also welcomed Mai Hunt (Hispanic Studies) as our Interdisciplinary Opportunity Fellow. Mai taught a course titled "Haunting Childhood and Social Justice in Latin America" and co-organized our CLACS Reading Group with DUS Erica Durante, and we are happy to share that she completed her degree this Spring. Next year's Interdisciplinary Opportunity Fellow will be Mateo Díaz Choza, also from Hispanic Studies.

Our team grew this year as well. In addition to the Sawyer Seminar team, we welcomed our new Communications Coordinator, Emily Rubelman, and three undergraduate student assistants: Mackenzie Ford, Sebastian Adriano, and Gilberto Castro-Bernal. All of them contributed to the success of our spring events and especially to the creation of this Annual Report.

This year we graduated eight Latin American and Caribbean (LACA) concentrators, including Rhodes Scholar and Commencement Orator Alexandra Ali Martinez and Phi Beta Kappa member Maxwell Harris. Our

students were also very involved in our academic programming, participating in both of our Sawyer Seminar conferences. Under the direction of DUS Erica Durante, they also presented their research at the 2021 conference of the New England Council of Latin American Studies (NECLAS).

Despite no longer receiving research funding from the Tinker Foundation which supported pre-dissertation research, we managed, with support from the Watson Institute, to provide Field Research grants to our affiliated graduate students to support travel to Latin America and the Caribbean, including Brazil. We also would like to recognize the students who completed field research this year: Luis Paulo Ferraz (History), Adelaida Tamayo (Anthropology), and Alejandra Cueto Piazza (Sociology). This year, we benefited from the tremendous support of students, faculty and staff at CLACS and from the broader Watson community and Brown. We were particularly fortunate to have the support of Mellon Sawyer Seminar postdoctoral fellow Kristen Kolenz and graduate proctors Alexandria Miller and Karyn Mota for our Sawyer Seminar activities, in particular the Fall and Spring conferences.

This year, we owe a debt of gratitude to affiliated faculty who played a significant role in our programming either as members of our CLACS Advisory Committee or as the Sawyer Seminar Committee. We take this opportunity to thank the outgoing advisory committee: Juliet Hooker, Evelyn Hu-Dehart, Laura Lopez-Sanders, Neil Safer, Pedro Dal Bo, Colin Channer; and to welcome our incoming Committee members: Dixa Ramirez-D'Oleo (English), Ralph Rodriguez (American Studies), Paja Faudree (Anthropology), José Itzigsohn (Sociology), and Leila Lehnen (Portuguese and Brazilian Studies).

We look forward to continuing our collaboration with the Sawyer Seminar Committee as the Sawyer seminar continues in the upcoming (2022/2023) academic year and take this opportunity to thank them for their support this past academic year: Brian Meeks, Tony Bogues, Geri Augusto, Patricia Figueroa, Richard Snyder, Maiyah Gamble-Rivers, Kate Goldman, Pablo Rodriguez, Lisa Biggs, and Leila Lehnen.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the support of the Center for Digital Scholarship, in particular, its Director Ashley Champagne, Patrick Rashley, and Cody Carvel, as well as former Cogut Visiting Professor María Inclán and our team of students: Nyoshi Parekh, Karthik Saravanan, Isabella Garo, Sophia Ellis, Alexis Gordon, Mathilde Barland, Madison Hough, Liliana Mack, and Ayanna Tafe for their central role in our research project, In the Wake of George Floyd. We are also grateful for the support of faculty who took the time to mentor and supervise our concentrators and to serve on our dissertation prize committees. In particular, we acknowledge the work of Claudia Elliott, Veronica Ingham and Felipe Martinez-Pinzon in adjudicating the undergraduate thesis prize; and Parker Van Valkenburg, Kareen Rozen, Jennifer Lambe, and Ralph Rodríguez who served on the graduate dissertation prize committee

We acknowledge the generous support we have enjoyed from Ed Steinfeld, Director of the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs; other Centers at Watson, in particular the Center for Middle East Studies and the Climate Solutions Lab and Watson's communications team; the Dean of the Faculty; other departments that have co-sponsored events; and faculty who have contributed to and supported our events, especially the faculty seminars. At the center of CLACS's efforts are its Center Manager, Kate Goldman;

Director of Undergraduate Studies, Erica Durante; Event and Outreach Coordinator, Emily Ruebelman; and student workers: Felipe Felix Mendez, Mackenzie Ford, Sebasstian Adriano, and Gilberto Castro-Bernal.

Congratulations

We are always happy for the opportunity to extend congratulations to members of our community. We are particularly happy to congratulate Erica Durante for receiving Brown's 2022 Excellence in Research Mentoring Award, for her stellar support of our Latin American and Caribbean (LACA) concentrators in guiding them through the research process, supervising many of them, and her general role in mentoring our concentrators. We also extend congratulations to Kristen Kolenz as she takes up a position as Assistant Professor of International Studies at Centre College (Danville, Kentucky).

We are pleased to extend awards this year to two outstanding dissertations. The CLACS Dissertation Award is given to the best dissertation(s) in the area of Latin American and Caribbean Studies written by a current Brown University graduate student from any discipline who will defend and submit the PhD dissertation by April 30 of that year. This year's winners are Lauren Deal, Department of Anthropology and Melanie White, Department of Africana Studies. Melanie was also awarded the Graduate School's Joukowsky Outstanding Dissertation Prize. We extend heartiest congratulations to them both!

We are pleased to congratulate Nell Salzman, who was awarded the Dean's dissertation prize for the best thesis in the LACA concentration, for her thesis "Secondary Traumatization in Migrant Caregivers: Critical Reflections on Humanitarian Aid in El Paso." Nell was a double concentrator in LACA and the Department of English. We also congratulate the following students who have received support from us to conduct pre-dissertation research in the 2022/2023 academic year: Augusta da Silveira, Department of History; Débora Duque, Department of Political Science; Jay Loomis, Department of Music; and Alexandria Miller, Department of Africana Studies. We also congratulate the new recipients of the Sarmiento awards: Juan Pedro Ronconi and Santiago Hermo, both from the Department of Economics.

This year, we will offer exciting programming focused on urgent global issues, exploring how these are manifested in Latin America and the Caribbean. Our first event, co-hosted with the Center for Middle East Studies, focuses on challenges to reproductive rights across both regions. Our lectureship series "Climate Justice in Latin America and the Caribbean", which is sponsored by the Charles P. Sisson II Memorial Lectureship, will feature speakers from throughout the region with unique perspectives on pressing issues related to the environmental crisis. Our Sawyer Seminar continues this year and will begin with a performance by Guatemalan hip-hop "activist" Rebeca Lane, whose May 2022 show had to be postponed. In addition to the performance itself, Ms. Lane will offer a workshop on reproductive rights and activism to Brown University undergraduates.

We very much look forward to working with you all in the upcoming year to strengthen our programming and outreach efforts.

Patsy Lewis



STAFF



Patsy Lewis
Director
Senior Fellow

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. Prior to coming to Brown University, she held a tenured Associate Professor position in Comparative Literature at the University of Louvain, after completing her doctoral studies at the Sorbonne. In particular, she has authored four books, edited two volumes, and published a large number of articles in leading journals and influential edited volumes. Her most recent book, “Air Travel Fiction and Film: Cloud People” was published in 2020 by Palgrave MacMillan. She is the founding editor of “Recto/Verso,” a journal published by the French CNRS Institute of Modern Texts and Manuscripts at the École Normale Supérieure in Paris. She has been appointed to the editorial boards of several international journals (“Genesis,” “Les Lettres romanes,” and “Manuscritica”) and has actively contributed to international research networks. She has devoted the past decade to examining globalization’s impact on contemporary literature and the cultural industry, exploring the anthropological and cultural paradigms that define the global imaginary of contemporary literature. Her current book project, tentatively entitled “El horror femenino y feminista: una perspectiva literaria latinoamericana contemporánea,” focuses on genre in present-day Latin American fiction.



Kate Goldman
Center Manager

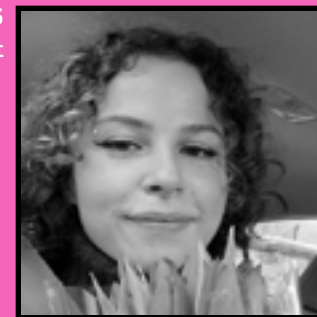
Kate Goldman holds a B.A. in Political Science and Modern Languages from Union College and an M.A. in Spanish American Literature from Rutgers University. Prior to joining CLACS, she worked as a translator, editor and teacher in the United States and Chile. In addition to her work at CLACS, Kate is on the leadership team of Respond Crisis Translation, serving as Head of University and Academic Partnerships, and is one of the leaders of Engaged East Greenwich, a non-partisan organization focused on increasing political engagement at the local level.



Emily Ruebelman

Outreach Coordinator: Center for Middle East Studies, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies

Emily holds a B.A. in Communication Management with minors in Human Rights, and Race and Social Justice from the University of Dayton. Prior to beginning her position at Brown, Emily worked in higher education study abroad programming to help provide equitable access to study abroad opportunities for students across the U.S. Her passion for the intersections of education and DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion) can be understood in her volunteer work with an international non-profit and study abroad experience through Semester at Sea. In her free time, Emily can be found coaching group and individual boxing/kickboxing classes, listening to podcasts, and playing games with friends.



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 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).

Sebasstian Adriano '25

Student Assistant

Sebasstian Adriano '25 is a freshman interested in Behavioral Decision Science, Economics, and International and Public Affairs. He is particularly passionate about policy-making around poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean. Sebasstian is Puerto Rican and his family is Mexican. He has studied Latin American history and engaged with immigrant rights organizations such as Make the Road NJ. Sebasstian is a strong supporter of recognizing multi-racial heritage in the Latin American identity. He also believes firmly in the power of the youth to accomplish social change, as he has observed through such iconic events as the protests from youth that led to the resignation of governor Ricardo Rosello in Puerto Rico. In his free time, Sebasstian enjoys listening to music (reggaeton and Spanish pop at the top), writing poetry, and meditating.



Gilberto Castro-Bernal '23

Student Assistant

Gilberto Castro-Bernal '23 is a junior from Salt Lake City, UT concentrating in International and Public Affairs (Development). Prior to matriculating at Brown, he served as a missionary for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for two years in Arizona, teaching individuals in English and Spanish in the Phoenix metropolitan area and the White Mountains. In his free time, Gilberto enjoys biking along the East Bay Bike Path, playing intramural soccer, and watching movies with his friends.



Mack Ford '25

Student Assistant

Mack Ford '25 is a freshman pursuing a B.A. in Comparative Literature in English, French, and Spanish. She is passionate about literature, and particularly about inspiring that same love of literature in others. In pursuing this goal, Mack has worked directly with various organizations to combat education inequities that many Spanish speaking students face in California, her home state. She has worked for the past three years with the bilingual academic enrichment programs at Peninsula Bridge Education Program and Siena Youth Community Center. At Brown, she works as a narrative staff writer for the Brown Daily Herald, as well as copy editor for the College Hill Independent Newspaper. She is also part of an acapella group on campus!



FACULTY



VISITING FACULTY: 2021-2022

Lucila Nejamkis
Craig M. Cogut Visiting Professor

Lucila Nejamkis holds a PhD in Social Sciences at Universidad de Buenos Aires. Her PhD thesis analyzed 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.



Kristen Kolenz
Postdoctoral Fellow, Mellon Sawyer Seminar: Rethinking the Dynamic Interplay of Migration, Race, and Ethnicity in the Caribbean and Latin America

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 performative 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.



VISITING FACULTY: 2021-2022

Mai Hunt
Interdisciplinary Opportunity Fellow

Mai Hunt earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Romance Languages and Literatures from Harvard University in 2014. Upon graduation, she spent two years as an English Teaching Assistant with the Fulbright Program in Madrid, Spain. Mai completed her Ph.D. in Hispanic Studies at Brown in 2022. Her interests include family narratives of trauma, memory and inheritance in contemporary Colombian literature and film. She has published articles in "A Contracorriente: una revista de estudios latinoamericanos," "Studies in Spanish and Latin American Cinemas" and the "Revista Canadiense de Estudios Hispánicos."



Brown offers interdisciplinary opportunities to support advanced graduate students in the humanities and social sciences. These opportunities provide an enhanced context for advanced doctoral students, allowing them to engage in the activities of interdisciplinary Centers and Institutes at Brown. They are designed to embed students in a community of scholars, with professional development and research opportunities, in order to support students as they complete their degrees and launch their careers. The Graduate School anticipates supporting approximately 16 fellows through this initiative each year, with most Centers and Institutes hosting one fellow. For more information, visit <https://www.brown.edu/academics/gradschool/>.

STUDENTS

OUR CONCENTRATORS: CLASS OF 2022



Alexandra Ali Martínez
International & Public Affairs (Honors)
and Latin American & Caribbean Studies
(Honors)



Nell Salzman
Comparative Literature and Latin
American and Caribbean Studies



Maxwell Harris
Political Science and Latin American
and Caribbean Studies



Ciara Carlyle
Environmental Studies (Environment
and Inequality) and Latin American and
Caribbean Studies



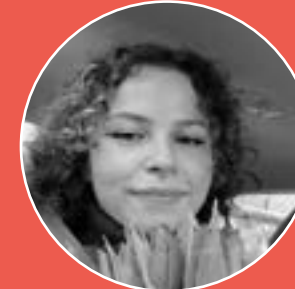
Lenika Rivas Sánchez
Environmental Science and Latin
American and Caribbean Studies



Felipe Félix-Méndez
International and Public Affairs
(Development) and Latin American and
Caribbean Studies (Honors)



Teresa Conchas
International and Public Affairs
(Development) and Latin American and
Caribbean Studies



Caiya Sanchez-Strauss
Africana Studies and Latin American and
Caribbean Studies

LACA COURSES

FALL 2021

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).

LACA 1503W

Migration and Gender in Latin America: Crossing Borders and Bridging Disciplines

Lucila Nejankis

In this course, students will be introduced to the field of international migration with a special focus on the Latin American context. They will explore the different migratory systems from the Latin American region and will engage in an effort to dismantle the dominant myths regarding the movement of people. Students will be introduced to transnational perspectives and scholarly literature on borders and gender studies, particularly the ethnographic and qualitative approach. The concept of intersectionality will be fundamental to the course, as it enables us to engage in a deeper discussion of gender, race, ethnics/nationality, generation and social class relations when it comes to singular migrations.

SAMPLE CROSS-LISTED COURSES 2021

HISP 750B: Latin American Diaspora in the US

Iris Montero

HISP 0750V: Digitally Dialoguing: New Latin American Cinema of the 21st century

Jeremy Lehnen

HISP 1331: Savage Gardens: An Ecocritical Journey through Latin America

Felipe Martínez-Pinzón

AFRI 1270: lavery, Democracy, and Racial Violence in the Americas

Marceo Rosanova Ferraro

AFRI 1420: Caribbean Imaginations: Writing and Cultural Production

Warren Harding

AFRI 0670: Global Black Radicalism

Brian W E Meeks

COLT 0510R: War and the Arts: Guantanamo, Twenty Years On

Esther K Whitfield

SPRING 2022

LACA 1503V

Health of Hispaniola

Timothy Emplie

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.

LACA 1503Y

Latin America in Motion: Migration and Crisis in the Post-globalization Era

Lucila Nejankis

This course introduces students to migratory systems in Latin America with a focus on case studies and analyses. We will explore key concepts related to international migration to debunk commonly held myths and beliefs. We will also examine other categories associated with the movement of people, such as refuge, asylum, and forced displacement. The topics that we will address include public policies on migration and the role of international and regional organizations in the management of migration. Students will analyze the unique experiences of each country, considering sub-regions, borders, and their territorial context. The course will also include the analysis of South-South migration. In this context, we will rethink the link between migration and crisis and notions of global and local and will consider the impact of the pandemic and post-pandemic periods on regional movements.

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.

HISP 0650

Advanced Spanish Through Literature & Film

Erica Durante

Este curso sirve como una introducción a la literatura y la cultura del mundo hispanohablante, y a las prácticas de la lectura crítica y la escritura analítica. HISP 0650 no sólo provee un panorama histórico y contextualizado de la literatura en español, sino que también aporta estrategias de leer, pensar, y escribir sobre textos literarios y cine, preparando el/la estudiante para cursos más avanzados de literatura y cultura. A lo largo del semestre, se realiza un repaso de gramática a nivel avanzado para aclarar dudas y fortalecer el español hablado y escrito de cada estudiante.

CLACS AWARDS

2021 Sarmiento Fellowship Recipients

The Sarmiento Fellowships support 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.

Juan Pedro Ronconi, Department of Economics

Santiago Hermo, Department of Economics

LACA Honors Thesis Prize Recipients

This Award is for LACA concentrators who wish to submit their thesis for consideration. This award is presented by the Dean of the College.

Nell Salzman, Department of English and CLACS concentrator

Thesis: “Secondary Traumatization in Migrant Caregivers: Critical Reflections on Humanitarian Aid in El Paso”

Pre-dissertation Research Grants

CLACS awards Brown University graduate students Field Research Grants to support research travel to Latin America and the Caribbean, including Brazil.

Augusta da Silveira, Department of History

Débora Duque, Department of Political Science

Jay Loomis, Department of Music

Alexandria Miller, Department of Africana Studies

2022 Excellence in Research Mentoring Award

The intent of the award is to recognize and reward Brown University faculty who have shown exceptional commitment in mentoring undergraduate researchers, as well as for their promotion, encouragement, and training of diverse students in undergraduate research.

Erica Durante, Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Latin American and Caribbean Studies

The nominations that Professor Durante received all praised her work as an outstanding undergraduate research mentor as well as her commitment to developing research infrastructure in the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies to support students.

CLACS AWARDS: DISSERTATION PRIZE



Lauren Deal

Senior Experience Design Researcher, VP at Bank of America

Lauren E. Deal is a linguistic and cultural anthropologist and former fellow for the Mellon-Sawyer Seminar on Race and Indigeneity in the Americas at CLACS. Her dissertation explores the ways in which everyday actors in Buenos Aires seek to disrupt official constructions of Argentine national identity as exceptionally white and European through the appropriation, or “recuperation,” of Andean Indigenous language and music. Her analysis considers the intersections of racialization, colonialism, and decolonization as she explores how this reimagining of Argentine identity is framed, performed and experienced by her interlocutors. She reveals how this reimagining is understood as shifting away from aspirational “Europeanness” and toward an embrace of “Latin Americanness,” and traces how the categories of whiteness, indigeneity, mestizo, and Latin American are made and remade in the process. Her work also holds in tension frameworks of interculturalism and cultural appropriation as she examines the politics of cultural circulation at stake in appropriating Andean Indigenous cultural forms in the name of decolonial work thereby also illuminating meanings of colonialism and decolonization for her interlocutors. Finally, her dissertation advocates for an approach that considers both the harms and the transformative potentialities of this type of work, which, while ethically and politically fraught, is also a site of profound joy and creativity vital to the work of imagining an otherwise.

Melanie White

Distinguished Faculty Fellow at Georgetown University

Melanie White earned her B.A. in Cultural Anthropology with a minor in Africana Studies from the University of Pennsylvania, where she was a Posse Scholar and Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow. Prior to pursuing a PhD in Africana Studies at Brown University, she obtained her M.A. in African and African Diaspora Studies from the University of Texas at Austin. She is the recipient of a Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship, a Brown Global Mobility Research Fellowship, a Steinhaus/Zissoon Pembroke Center Research Grant, a Joukowsky Summer Research Award, a Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship, and a Woodrow Wilson Dissertation Fellowship in Women’s Studies. Most recently, she was awarded a Joukowsky Family Foundation Outstanding Dissertation Award and a Marie J. Langlois Dissertation Prize. Her dissertation, “What Dem Do to We No Have Name: Intimate Colonial Violence, Autonomy, and Black Women’s Art in Caribbean Nicaragua,” charts a history of intimate colonial violence in the Nicaraguan Mosquitia, or Caribbean Coast. Through careful examination of enslavers’ wills, colonial correspondence, Euro-American travel narratives, US survey photography, Moravian missionary photography, and Nicaraguan cultural production, her dissertation traces the racialized, gendered, and sexual violence Afro-Mosquitian women and girls have experienced at the hands of key colonial actors in their history. These intimate colonial violences are then juxtaposed with the counter-visualities of Black women artists from the region who engage Black women and girls’ histories of gender-based violence and the critical yet taken-for-granted importance of bodily autonomy in their work. In the fall, Melanie will begin

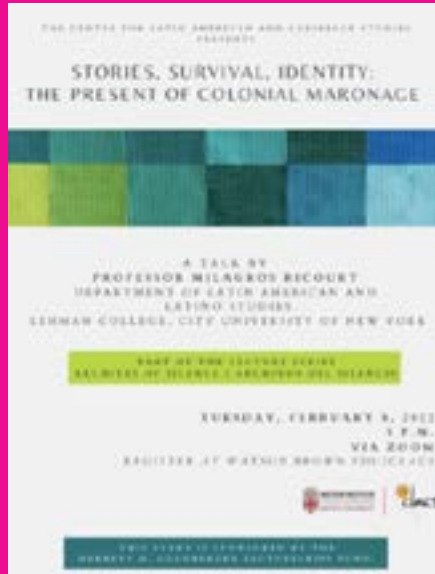
a tenure-track position as a Provost’s Distinguished Faculty Fellow in the Department of African American Studies and the Program in Women’s and Gender Studies at Georgetown University. .



EVENTS

ARCHIVES OF SILENCE LECTURESHIP

This lectureship intended to facilitate cross-disciplinary conversations about the present and future archives of recent and contemporary Latin American and Caribbean history. CLACS has put together a lecture series to address several critical issues related to the constitution and preservation of archives, including censorship, anonymity, sensitivity, and the materiality or immateriality of the archive itself will focus on the experience of the COVID-19 pandemic in historical context, as well as concurrent phenomena that emerge in or around silence, such as the erasure of indigenous communities, domestic violence during the pandemic, and the repression of political protest throughout the Americas during this period of exception.



Professor Ricourt used her research experience on Dominican peasantry, domestic violence in the Dominican community of Washington Heights, New York City, and Dominican undocumented immigration to Puerto Rico to educate us on extricating the Latinx community from a modern-day [slavery](#).



Mónica G. Moreno Figueroa and Peter Wade explored antiracism and academic activism, feminist theory and the interconnections between beauty, emotions and racism, as well as organizing for social change in Latin America as part of their talk on Grammars of Anti-Racism in Latin [America](#).

ARCHIVES OF SILENCE LECTURESHIP



J. M. Echavarría spoke on the intersection between violence and art in Latin America in this lecture, which focused on a documentary called "Réquiem NN" about the town of Puerto Berrio in [Colombia](#).



Professor Guerrero utilized his experience as a professor of Spanish American literature and culture, as well as as Latin American editor for Gallimard press to talk about agents, markets and books in the modern publishing [industry](#).



Argentine writer Mariana Enríquez gave a public interview on her books and creative [process](#).

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

The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, the Center of the Study of Slavery and Justice, as well as the Africana Studies Department Rites and Reason Theatre at Brown University were awarded a \$225,000 grant in 2020 from the Mellon Sawyer Foundation. The focus on the seminar is “Rethinking the Dynamic Interplay of Migration, Race, and Ethnicity in the Caribbean and Latin America.”

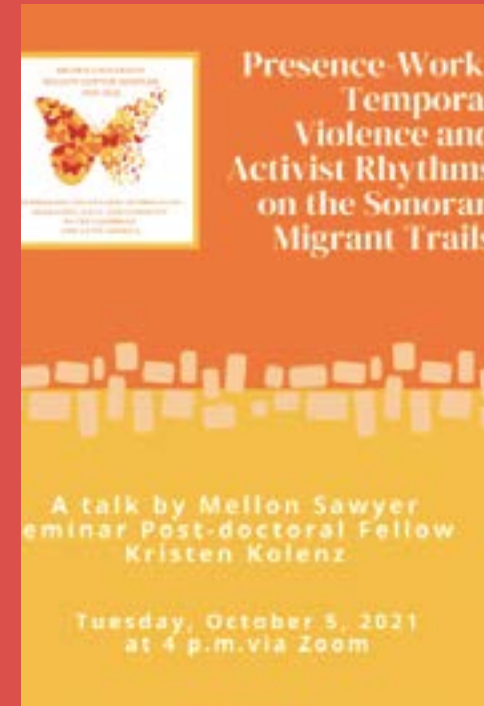
Due to the pandemic, the seminar has been extended and will run through June 2023. Highlights from the first year of the seminar include: two conferences “Presence Work,” and “Exploring Themes in Intra-Regional Migration” held in November 2021 and March 2022; an art exhibit launched in March 2022; and two music events highlighting music from the region held in November 2021 and May 2022.

This year’s events will include an October 28 performance by Guatemalan ‘artist’ Rebeca Lane and a one-day symposium on detention camps in the 21st century organized by Professor Esther Whitfield on December 5.

<https://watson.brown.edu/clacs/sawyer-seminar-series>



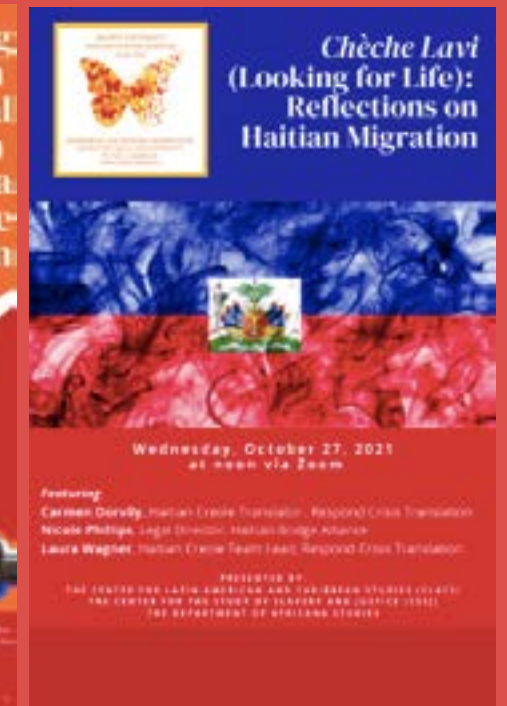
SAWYER SEMINAR EVENTS



Mellon Sawyer Seminar Post-Doctoral Fellow Kristen Kolenz spoke on activism in music, combining ethnographic methods, and her own activist [practice](#).



CLACS Visiting Professors discussed topics related to intra-regional migration in Latin America and the [Caribbean](#).



CLACS hosted a panel discussion on recent developments in Haitian migration that featured advocates and [interpreters](#).

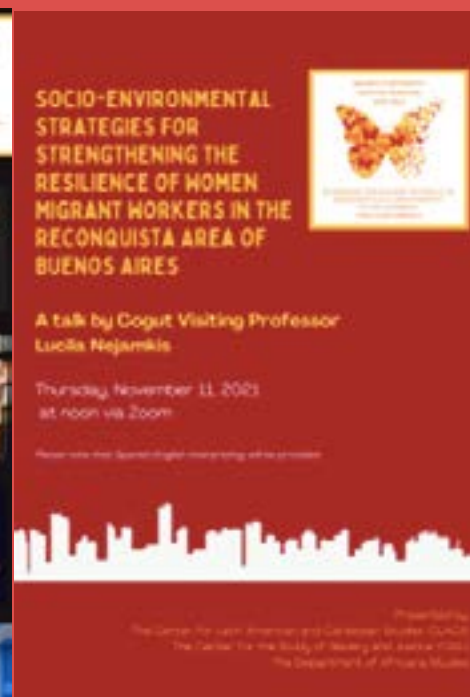
SAWYER SEMINAR EVENTS



This two-day conference featured scholars and activists who explored the dynamics of race and ethnicity in migration in the [Americas](#).



CLACS hosted a virtual dance party that included three live performances by emerging Latin American artists to round out the first day of our conference on race and migration in the [Americas](#).



Cogut Visiting Professor Lucila Nejmkis spoke on the experience of women migrant workers in Buenos [Aires](#).

SAWYER SEMINAR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CLACS is grateful to the members of the Sawyer Seminar Steering Committee for all of their hard work and contributions to these two years of activities

Geri Augusto, Gerard Visiting Associate Professor of International & Public Affairs (IAPA) and Africana Studies

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

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Leila Lehen, Associate Professor of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies, Chair of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies

Anthony Bagues, Asa Messer Professor of Humanities and Critical Theory and Professor of Africana Studies

Patsy Lewis, Director, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies; Senior Fellow in International and Public Affairs

Kevin Escudero, Assistant Professor of American Studies

Brian Meeks, Professor of Africana Studies. Chair of Africana Studies.

Andrea Flores, Assistant Professor of Education

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

Patricia Figueroa, Curator of Iberian and Latin American Collections

Pablo Rodriguez, Clinical Associate Professor Emeritus of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Warren Alpert Medical School

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Choza, Mateo Díaz Hispanic Studies

Clark, Morgan Anthropology

Cueto Piazza, Alejandra Irene Sociology

Deal, Lauren Anthropology

Dine, Harper Anthropology

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Hermo, Santiago Economics

Hunt, Mai Hispanic Studies

Knight, Kiana Africana Studies

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Marumo, Nasir Africana Studies

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