

ALMITA ABIGAYL MIRANDA

EDUCATION

- 2017 Ph.D., Department of Anthropology
Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
Dissertation Title: “Living in Legal Limbo: Migration, Citizenship, and Mexican Mixed-Status Families in the Neoliberal Era”
Dissertation Committee: Micaela di Leonardo (Chair, Anthropology), Ana Aparicio (Anthropology), Shalini Shankar (Anthropology), Geraldo Cadava (History), Josef Barton (History)
- 2012 M.A., Department of Anthropology
Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
- 2008 B.A., Cultural Anthropology (Major), Global Health (Minor)
Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
Study Abroad Term in Global Health Program at Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch, South Africa

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Cultural and political/legal anthropology, race/ethnicity, gender, political economy, (im)migration, citizenship, transnationalism, social movements, migrant “illegality,” kinship/family, public sphere representations, Latina/o ethnography, U.S Latinas/os, *Mexicanas/os*; U.S, Mexico.

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS & AFFILIATIONS

- 2017-2019 **Postdoctoral Research Associate**, Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America (CSREA) and the Watson Institute, Brown University
- 2016-2017 **Visiting Lecturer**, Latin American, Latino, and Caribbean Studies and Department of Anthropology, Dartmouth College
- 2016 **Graduate Research Fellow**, Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University
- 2015-2016 **The César Chávez Dissertation Fellow**, Latin American, Latino, and Caribbean Studies, Dartmouth College
- 2013-2014 **Visiting Scholar**, *La Unidad Académica de Estudios del Desarrollo* (Development Studies), *Universidad Autónoma de Zacatecas* (Autonomous University of Zacatecas) in Mexico

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

Externally Funded

- 2017-2019 Presidential Diversity Postdoctoral Fellowship, Brown University
- 2017 Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of California at Merced (Declined)
- 2016 The Association of Latina and Latino Anthropologists (ALLA) Leadership Award
- 2015-2016 The César Chávez Dissertation Fellowship, Dartmouth College
- 2015 The Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship (Declined)
- 2015 The CMIA Minority Dissertation Fellowship, American Anthropological Association (Declined)
- 2013 Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Fieldwork Grant for Anthropological Research
- 2010-2013 National Science Foundation (NSF), Graduate Research Fellowship (GRF)
- 2009 The Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowship, Honorable Mention
- 2008 The Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois (DFI) Fellowship

Internally Funded

- 2014 WCAS/TGS Teaching Fellowship, Searle Center for Advancing Learning & Teaching
2012 Conference Travel Grant (CTG), The Graduate School, Northwestern University
2011 The Graduate Research Grant (GRG), Summer Research, Northwestern University
2011 Roberta Buffett Center for International and Comparative Studies, Summer Research Travel Award
2009 Roberta Buffett Center for International and Comparative Studies, Summer Research Travel Award (Declined)
2008 The Graduate School Fellowship, Northwestern University
2008 Award for Outstanding Thesis in U.S Latina/o Studies, Northwestern University
2007 Summer Research Opportunity Program (SROP), Northwestern University
2006 The Davee Fellowship for Summer Research, Northwestern University
2004 The Undergraduate Success in Science Program, Northwestern University

PUBLICATIONS

- 2016 Miranda, Almita A. “*Entre Compañer@s*: Reflections on ALLA’s Mentoring Initiative.” *Anthropology News*, American Anthropological Association, March [Digital Edition].
- 2015 Miranda, Almita A. “Remembering the *Bracero* Program.” Analytic essay published on the American Bibliographic Center’s (ABC-CLIO) online database, *The Latino American Experience: The American Mosaic*, November [Digital Publication].

In Preparation

Miranda, Almita A. “Immigration Limbo: Latino Mixed-Status Families and Citizenship Claims in the Age of Migrant Deportability.” Intended Journal: *American Anthropologist*

Miranda, Almita A. “*Hasta Que La Migra Nos Separe* (Till ICE Do Us Part): Marriage-Based Visas, Legal Discourses, and the Consequences of the 1996 IIRIRA.” Intended Journal: *Political and Legal Anthropology Review (PoLAR)*

INVITED TALKS

- 2016 Miranda, Almita. “Immigration Limbo: Latino Mixed-Status Families and Citizenship Claims in the Age of Migrant Deportability.” Invited talk for Latin American, Latino, and Caribbean Studies at Dartmouth College in Hanover, NH, February 9.
- 2014 Miranda, Almita. “*Los Retornados* (The Returnees): Return Migrants and their Families in Zacatecas, Mexico.” Invited talk for *La Unidad Académica de Estudios del Desarrollo* (Academic Unit of Development Studies) at *Universidad Autónoma de Zacatecas* (Autonomous University of Zacatecas) in Zacatecas, Mexico, September 17.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Sessions Organized

- 2017 “#NoBanNoMuro/SanctuaryForAll: Local and Transborder Resistance to Anti-Immigrant and Anti-Muslim Policies in Trump’s America.” Organizing session with Sergio Lemus for the 116th American Anthropological Association’s Annual Meeting in Washington D.C.

- 2016 “*Cruzando Fronteras* (Crossing Borders): Navigating Liminal Spaces of Belonging and Exclusion.” Organized and moderated LALACS Student Panel at Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, April 26.
- 2015 “Making the *Familia*(r) Strange: Understanding Kinship, Citizenship, and the State in the Age of Deportability.” Organized invited session with Diane R. Garbow at the 114th American Anthropological Association’s Annual Meeting in Denver, CO. Sponsored by the Association of Latina and Latino Anthropologists (ALLA) and the Society of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology (SLACA).

Mentoring Events Organized

- 2016 “Life After Graduation: Facing the Academic Job Market as a New PhD.” Organized and moderated the Association of Latina and Latino Anthropologists’ Special Event at the 115th American Anthropological Association’s Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, MN, November 16-20.
- 2015 “Latin@s in Academia: An ALLA Mentoring Event.” Organized and moderated the Association of Latina and Latino Anthropologists’ Special Event at the 114th American Anthropological Association’s Annual Meeting in Denver, CO, November 18-22.
- 2014 “Supporting the Next Generation of Latina/o Anthropologists: An ALLA Mentoring Event.” Organized and moderated the Association of Latina and Latino Anthropologists’ Special Event at the 113th American Anthropological Association’s Annual Meeting in Washington D.C., December 3-7.

Papers Presented (* Invited)

- 2017 Miranda, Almita. “*Entre Trump y Peña Nieto*: Neoliberal States, Mixed-Status Families, and Building Resistance Across Borders.” Paper abstract submitted for the 116th American Anthropological Association’s Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., December.
- 2017* Miranda, Almita. “*La Familia y el Estado*: Gender and Mexican Mixed-Status Families.” Invited lecture for Professor di Leonardo’s anthropology class at Northwestern University, May 11.
- 2016* Miranda, Almita. “Living in Legal Limbo: Race, Law, and the Making of Mexican Mixed-Status Families.” Invited lecture for Professor Melissa R. Herman’s sociology class at Dartmouth College, February 25.
- 2015 Miranda, Almita. “*De Regreso al Rancho*: Return Migrants, U.S.-born Children, and Challenges of (Re)settlement in an Unfamiliar Mexico.” Paper presented at the 114th American Anthropological Association’s Annual Meeting in Denver, CO, November 18-22.
- 2015* Miranda, Almita. “Fighting for Our Families: Unauthorized Migration, Familial Discourses, and the Struggle for Immigration Reform.” Invited lecture for upper-level “Anthropology of Gender” course at Northwestern University, March 3.
- 2013* Miranda, Almita. “Deserving Immigrants, Prospective Citizens’: Contesting Discourses of Belonging and Exclusion in Chicago’s Immigrant Rights Movement.” Paper presented at the 112th American Anthropological Association’s Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL, November 20-24.
- 2013* Miranda, Almita. “Lord, Deliver Us from *La Migra*: Liberation Theology, Immigration Politics, and Community Resistance at a Chicago Methodist Church.” Paper presented at the Latina & Latino Critical Legal Theory (LatCrit) Biennial Conference in Chicago, IL, October 4-6.

- 2013* Miranda, Almita. "A Subject Close to Home: Studying Mexican Mixed-Status Families in the Era of Homeland Security." Invited lecture for Professor Micaela di Leonardo's "Globalization, Political Economy, Others" graduate seminar at Northwestern University, Feb. 21.
- 2012 Miranda, Almita. "*¿Compa, Cuál Es Su Pregunta Pa' La Abogada?*" (Friend, What Is Your Question For The Attorney?): Radio Hosts, Latino Audiences, and the 'Safe Legal Space' of U.S. Spanish-Language Radio." Paper presented at the 111th American Anthropological Association's Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA, November 14-18.
- 2012* Miranda, Almita. "*La Jaula de Oro* (The Golden Cage): Undocumented Mexican Migration and Mixed-Status Families in a post-9/11 U.S." Paper presented for Immigration Awareness Week at Northwestern University, May 23.
- 2012 Miranda, Almita. "*¡Échele Ganas, Compa!*" (Work Hard, Friend!): The Linguistic Interaction between Spanish-Language Radio Hosts and their Latino Immigrant Audience." Paper presented at the "Manifesting Culture and Community: Materiality in Anthropology" Conference at University of Illinois at Chicago, March 3.
- 2011* Miranda, Almita. "*Ni Maria, Nor Madonna*: Two Mexican Immigrant Activists and their Challenge of Moral Motherhood and *Marianismo*." Invited lecture for Professor Ana Croegaert's "PASSAGES: Migration Through Gender & Culture" class at Loyola University, April 7.
- 2010 Miranda, Almita. "*¿Todos Somos Elvira?*: The Representation of Immigrant Motherhood in the Pro-immigrant Movement." Paper presented at the Association for Research on Motherhood's (ARM) Conference at University of Puerto Rico at Río Piedras, February 18-20.
- 2009 Miranda, Almita. "*¿Todos Somos Elvira?*: The Representation of Immigrant Motherhood in the Pro-immigrant Movement." Paper presented at the 4th Biennial Latino/a Graduate Student Conference at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, February 20-22.
- 2007 Miranda, Almita. "More Than a Family Affair: Mixed-Status Families and Chicago Community Activism." Paper presented at Summer Research Opportunity Program's (SROP) Final Student Presentations at Northwestern University, August.
- 2007 Miranda, Almita. "Divided by Citizenship: An Intimate Portrayal of Mixed-Status Families." Paper presented at the 3rd Biennial Latino/a Graduate Student Conference at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, February 23-25.

Public Engagement Events

- 2017 Invited participant for Anthropology Day panel, "Alternative Facts as Cultural Truths: The Need for Anthropological Understandings" at Dartmouth College in Hanover, NH, February 16.
- 2015 Invited discussant for "Women and Grassroots Organizing in a Time of Austerity: The View From the Front Lines," Association for Feminist Anthropology's Special Event organized by Susan Hyatt at the 114th American Anthropological Association's Annual Meeting in Denver, CO, November 18-22.
- 2014 Invited participant at the "Global Work and Global Working-Class Community in the Midwest Symposium," sponsored by the Northwestern Alice Kaplan Humanities Institute and the Mellon

Humanities Without Walls Global Midwest Initiative, event held at Northwestern University, September 26-27.

- 2014 Invited moderator for “Bittersweet Memories: A Conversation with Former *Bracero* Workers,” a panel discussion at the Opening Ceremony of the Smithsonian’s *Bittersweet Harvest: The Bracero Program (1942-1964)* bilingual traveling exhibit, hosted by Northwestern University, February 20.
- 2013 Invited participant at the American Anthropological Association’s “Public Education Initiative on Migration and Displacement Planning Meeting” held at Northwestern University, April 26.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2012-14 **Dissertation Fieldwork Research (24 months); Chicago, IL, and Fresno, ZAC (Mexico)**
During my dissertation fieldwork, I worked with three immigrant rights community organizations, Mexican mixed-status families in Chicago, IL, and recently returned migrants and their U.S. family members in Zacatecas, Mexico, conducting semi-structured interviews, participant observation, focus groups, archival and statistical data collection and analysis.
- 2012-14 ***Bracero* Oral History Project (18 months), Northwestern University and the Smithsonian Institution**
Coordinated and helped conduct oral history interviews with former *braceros* (Mexican guest-workers) and their families in an effort to document and archive their stories and experiences as part of a nation-wide exhibit of the bilateral labor agreements of the *Bracero* program (1942-1964), *Bittersweet Harvest*.
- 2011 **Summer Research in Mexico (2 months)**
Conducted preliminary fieldwork in the state of Zacatecas, Mexico.
- 2010 **Summer Research in Mexico (2 months)**
Conducted preliminary fieldwork in the Mexican states of Baja California, Guerrero, Michoacán, and Zacatecas. I visited a migrant shelter and the residences of former female leaders of the local immigrant rights movement. I also conducted interviews with Mexican citizens who were members of Latino transnational migrant families.
- 2007 **Summer Research Opportunity Program (SROP) (2 months), Chicago, IL**
Conducted ethnographic fieldwork with *Centro Sin Fronteras*, a Chicago pro-immigrant community organization.
- 2006 **Davee Fellowship for Summer Research (2 months), Chicago, IL**
Designed and carried out an independent summer research project in Chicago. Conducted twenty in depth narrative and life history interviews with different members of Latino mixed-status families.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2016-2017 **Visiting Lecturer**, Latin American, Latino and Caribbean Studies and Anthropology, Dartmouth College
LATS 44/ANTH 33: Crossing Over: Latin@ Migrant Roots and Transitions

- LATS 45/ANTH 34: US-Mexican Borderlands
LATS 46/ANTH 46: Politics of Latinx Ethnography
- 2015 **Instructor of Record**, Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University
ANTH 101-6: Critical Latin@ Ethnography: Latin@ Lives and the Politics of Representation, First-year seminar
- 2014-2015 **Graduate Student Fellow**, Teaching Certificate Program, Searle Center for Advancing Learning & Teaching, Northwestern University
- 2012 **Teaching Assistant**, Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University
ANTH 201: Global Cultures, Global Inequalities
- 2009-2010 **AVID College Prep Tutor**, North-Grand High School, Chicago Public Schools (CPS)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- 2013-2016 **Board Member**, Graduate Student Representative & Mentoring Program Coordinator, The Association of Latina and Latino Anthropologists (ALLA)
- 2012-2014 **Graduate Student Coordinator**, *Bracero* Oral History Project, Northwestern University and the Smithsonian Institution
- 2012-2013 **Instructor and Workshop Volunteer**, U.S Naturalization & ESL Classes, Citizenship Workshops, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR), Chicago and Waukegan, IL
- 2006-2016 **Volunteer in Legal Ministry and Immigrant Advocacy**, *Centro Sin Fronteras* (Center without Borders) & The Lincoln United Methodist Church, Chicago, IL
- 2005-2006 **Volunteer Canvasser**, Midwest Workers Association, Chicago, IL
- 2004-2006 **Volunteer**, Greenhouse Domestic Violence Shelter, Chicago Abused Women Coalition (CAWC), Completed 40-hr DV training, Chicago, IL

MEDIA APPEARANCES

- 06/01/17 *Northwestern Magazine*. Story about my dissertation research as a doctoral student and former undergraduate at Northwestern.
- 9/19/14 *La Jornada* (ljz.mx). Interviewed on my research with return migrants, deportees, and their US families in Zacatecas, MX.
- 1/28/14 *Daily Northwestern.com*. Interviewed on oral histories conducted with former *braceros* and their spouses in Chicago.
- 11/15/12 *Intervarsity.org*. Interviewed on my research with Latino mixed-status families and faith-based immigrant rights activism in Chicago.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Anthropological Association (AAA), since 2011
Association of Latina and Latino Anthropologists (ALLA), since 2011
Society for the Anthropology of North America (SANA), since 2011
Association for Political and Legal Anthropology (APLA), since 2012
Society of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology (SLACA), since 2013
Association for Feminist Anthropology (AFA), since 2015
Society for Urban, National, and Transnational/Global Anthropology (SUNTA), 2014-2015

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Spanish (native): fluent reading, writing, and speaking.

June 2017