

NOTES

For an Interactive Campus Map (best for mobile devices): map.williams.edu

How to Access Wifi on the Williams College Campus:

Williams College provides free guest wifi access, which you may use while on the Williams campus. This network access is provided for the express purpose of facilitating simple Internet web communication, and use of the network implies agreement with all terms and conditions of appropriate behavior of Williams College's Acceptable Use Policy.

If you are affiliated with an educational or research institution, you may use the Eduroam system, which allows you to access the network as a guest without a Williams-specific code. For instructions on using Eduroam, please visit the Williams Office for Information Technology webpage describing "Eduroam" at: <https://oit.williams.edu/help-docs/eduroam/>

If you are not affiliated with an educational or research institution, you may access the Williams network as a guest. For instructions on how to do this, please visit the Williams Office for Information Technology webpage describing "Guest Wireless Access" at: <http://oit.williams.edu/help-docs/guest-accounts/>

We should note, however, that the instructions on the "Guest Wireless Access" webpage are slightly out of date. You will not receive a username/password, but rather a code to use for 8 hours of wifi access. Once one 8-hour period expires, you may request another code for another 8 hours of wifi access.

Co-Sponsors: Alumni Affairs / American Studies / Anthropology/Sociology / The Davis Center / English / History / Latina/o Studies / Lecture Committee / Oakley Center / Special Academic Programs / W. Ford Schumann '50 Program in Democratic Studies / Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies

#USCOLOMBIANIDADES
#WILLIAMS

U.S. COLOMBIANIDADES and the **FUTURE** of **LATINX STUDIES**

INAUGURAL INTERDISCIPLINARY SYMPOSIUM

October
20th-22nd, 2017

Oakley Center | Williams College
Williamstown, MA

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20th

Coffee and Pastries: 9:00-9:30AM

Welcome: 9:30-10:00AM

Panel 1 | 10:00-11:30AM | Mapping Colombianx Spaces across the Americas

Moderator: Diane Garbow

"El Hueco: Theorizing a Colombian Metaphor for Undocumented Migration"
Jennifer Harford Vargas (Bryn Mawr College)

"Colombia Park: Pan-Latino, Transnational Urbanism in the Midst of Gentrification"
Johana Londoño (University at Albany, SUNY)

"Silence in the Terminals: Investigating U.S. Airport Surveillance of Colombian Immigrants between 1975-1995"
Marcela Osorio (Williams College '15)

"'The Fault of the Jelly': Interpreting Colombianxamerican Dispossession in the U.S. Landscape from the Green Revolution to Plan Colombia"
John Mckiernan-González (Texas State University) and
Cary Córdova (University of Texas, Austin)

Lunch: 11:30-1:30PM

Panel 2 | 1:30-3:00PM | Screening Colombianidades: Scripts, Images, Audiences

Moderator: Camilo Andres Romero

"Moments of Recognition: Globalizing Latina/U.S. Colombiana Girlhood in Bomba Estéreo's 'Soy yo'"
María Elena Cepeda (Williams College)

"(Un)Modern Family: Gloria Delgado-Pritchett, the Myth of the U.S. Colombiana, and the Modern Quest for Belonging"
John Rodríguez (Williams College '18)

"The Future of a Brown Nation?: Manny as the Incorporated Latin(o) Citizen in *Modern Family*"
Yamil Avivi García (Independent Scholar)

Break: 3:00-3:20PM

Panel 3 | 3:20-5:00PM | Theorizing Literary Diaspora and Exile

Moderator: Isabel Porras

"The Dialectics of Exile in *The Veins of the Ocean*"
Astrid Lorena Ochoa Campo (University of Virginia)

"Imposed Exile and Diasporic Estrangement in *Vida*"
Catalina Esguerra (University of Michigan)

"Gabo's Journeys: Spiritual Experiences Lived by Colombians in the United States"
Néstor Gómez Morales (University of Denver and Iliff School of Theology)

"Imagining a U.S. Colombianx Diasporic Literature"
Arielle Concilio (University of California, Santa Barbara)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21st

Coffee and Pastries: 8:00-9:00AM

PANEL 4 | 9:00-10:30AM | Queering Aesthetics of Violence

Moderator: Angie Ocampo

"Dialogue across Artistic Borders in the Colombianx Diaspora"
Eileen McKiernan González (Berea College)

"Mi casa, su casa: Shakira and the Colombo-Transnational Queer Performance of Home"
Sergio Manrique (Williams College '15)

"Fatness and Violence in the U.S.-Colombian Borderlands"
Yesenia Barragan (Dartmouth College)

"en ese terrible día...: Performing the Trans-American Gothic in Carlos Motta's *Réquiem*"
Cathryn Josefina Merla-Watson (University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley)

PANEL 5 | 10:50-12:20PM | Political Awakenings

Moderator: Catalina Esguerra

"¡Paz, paz, que entre dos bandos no hay más!': The Critical Role of Colombia's Youth Diaspora in the Creation of Peace"
Camilo Andrés Romero (Independent Scholar)

"Transposing Transnational Trans Identities: Classroom Disciplines, Bodies, and State Identities"
Paula Natalia Mejía (Williams College '19)

"The Political Attitudes of Colombian-Americans"
Angela X. Ocampo (University of California, Los Angeles) and
Angie N. Ocampo (University of Pennsylvania)

"On Butterflies, Viruses, and Visas: Comics and the Perils of Diasporic Imagined Communities"
Héctor Fernández L'Hoeste (Georgia State University)

Lunch: 12:30-2:00PM

PANEL 6 | 2:15-3:45PM | Navigating Assimilation Imperatives

Moderator: Astrid Lorena Ochoa Ocampo

"Crafting Colombianidad in Philadelphia: Dialogues of Here and There, Then and Now"
Diane Garbow (Independent Scholar)

"Navigating Ethno-Racism in the American Workplace: The Experiences of Colombian and Puerto Rican Computer Engineers in the U.S."
Lina Rincón (Framingham State University)

"Female Beauty in New York's Little Colombia"
Viviana Benjumea (Williams College '14)

"Colombian and Dominican Children of Immigrants Growing Up in New York City: Parallel Experiences of Identity Negotiation, Divergent Life Trajectories"
Debora Upegui Hernández (City University of New York)

Break: 3:45-4:05PM

PANEL 7 | 4:05-5:35PM | Spaces of Embodiment: Race and Gender in Diaspora

Moderator: Angela Ocampo

"Embodied Geographies of Colombianidad: Race, Citizenship and Colombianx Transnationalism in New York"
Ariana Ochoa Camacho (University of Washington, Tacoma)

"Belleza natural: Nature, Beauty, Race, and Politics in el Concurso Señorita Independencia de Colombia"
Michelle Nasser De La Torre (Independent Scholar)

"Blackness, Heritage, and Belonging in Cartagena's Tourism Economy"
Isabel Porras (University of California, Davis)

"'Am I a Person of Color?': Racial Migrations of White Bogotax in the U.S."
Mercedes López Rodríguez (University of South Carolina)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22nd

Coffee and Pastries: 9:00-10:00AM

10:00-11:30AM | BUSINESS MEETING (All symposium presenters are welcome.)

PARTICIPANT BIOS

Yesenia Barragan is a first generation Colombian-American and Postdoctoral Fellow in the Society of Fellows at Dartmouth College. She is a historian of modern Latin America, focusing especially on Colombia and Afro-Latin America. Her work on Colombian politics and culture has been featured on Telesur, *Black Perspectives*, and *NACLA*.

Viviana Benjumea was born and raised in Queens, NY, around an area known as "Little Colombia." As a Williams student and a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow, she focused her research on Colombia, delving into politics, religion, history, media, culture, and the diaspora. Currently, she is an independent scholar working at a new charter school in Queens.

María Elena Cepeda is Professor of Latina/o Studies at Williams College. Cepeda specializes in the intersection of race and gender in transnational Latina/o media and popular culture. She is the author of *Musical ImagiNation: U.S.-Colombians and the Latin Music Boom* and co-editor of *The Routledge Companion to Latina/o Media*.

Arielle Concilio is a first year doctoral candidate in Feminist Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara. She holds an MA in Comparative Literature from Dartmouth College.

Catalina Esguerra is a PhD candidate in Romance Languages and Literatures at the University of Michigan. Her dissertation, "Beyond Testimony and the Archive: Violence and Subject Formation in Contemporary Colombia" analyzes how literary and artistic practices, from 2000 onwards, challenge the idea of post-conflict and demand re-thinking the notion of representation.

Héctor Fernández L'Hoeste is Professor at Georgia State University. His publications include *Narrativas de representación urbana* (1998), *Rockin' Las Americas* (2004), *Redrawing the Nation* (2009), *Cumbia!* (2013), *Sports and Nationalism in Latin/o America* (2015), and *Lalo Alcaraz* (2017). He edits academic series for University of Florida Press and Lexington Books.

Diane Garbow As an urban anthropologist, Dr. Garbow's research focuses on the experiences of Colombian migrants in Philadelphia and how they create a sense of social and political belonging in the context of shifting local and federal US immigration policy. Additional research interests include sanctuary cities, neoliberal statecraft, nationalism, citizenship, and racialization.

Yamil Avivi García (Ph.D. 2016, American Culture, University of Michigan) is a Jersey born and raised Colombian-American. Avivi is a gay cis-male, ArabLatino whose paternal grandfather was a Syrian Muslim. His research interests include youth of color identities and resistance, queer immigration, religious conversion, ethnic identity, ethnography, media, and textual studies.

Néstor Gómez Morales was born in Medellín. He's a student at the Joint PhD Program at the University of Denver/Iliff School of Theology. He is passionate about addressing issues confronting marginalized communities and advocating for social justice. He loves coffee in the morning, and ... yeah, in the afternoon, too!

Jennifer Harford Vargas is an Associate Professor of English at Bryn Mawr College. Harford Vargas specializes in transnational and comparative Latina/o cultural production. She is the author of *Forms of Dictatorship: Power, Narrative, and Authoritarianism in the Latina/o Novel* and the co-editor of *Junot Díaz and the Decolonial Imagination*.

Johana Londoño is an Assistant Professor of Latinx Studies at University at Albany, SUNY. She holds a PhD in American Studies from NYU and BFA from The Cooper Union. Her articles on Latinx urbanism appear in various journals including *American Quarterly*. This year, Londoño is completing a book while on a Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship.

Mercedes Lopez Rodriguez is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures at the University of South Carolina. Originally from Colombia, where she studied Anthropology, she also holds a PhD in Spanish Literature and Cultural Studies from Georgetown University. She is currently working on a book entitled *Blancura y otras ficciones raciales en los Andes Colombianos del siglo XIX*.

Eileen McKiernan González is an Associate Professor of Art History at Berea College, KY. Her master's thesis, "Geometric Abstraction as a Critique of La Violencia in the Work of Eduardo Ramírez Villamizar, 1948-1962," was followed by her doctoral thesis, "Monastery and Monarchy: the Foundation and Patronage of Santa María la Real de Sigüenza and Santa María la Real de Las Huelgas," completed in 2005.

John Mckiernan-González specializes in Latino Studies, History of Medicine, and Migration Studies. His book *Fevered Measures* traces the making of a federal medical border in the Texas borderlands. His co-edited book *Precarious Prescription* charts contestations over health between communities of color and American health systems.

Paula N. Mejía is a Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies and Economics double major at Williams College. She was born in Bucaramanga, Colombia and immigrated with her family to Miami at the age of 6 through political asylum. Since taking medical leave in May 2016, she has traveled in Colombia twice.

Cathryn Merla-Watson is an Assistant Professor in the Literatures and Cultural Studies Department at the University of Texas-Río Grande Valley. She recently co-edited with B.V. Olguín *Altermundos: Latin@ Speculative Literature, Film, and Popular Culture* (2017). Her current monograph is entitled *The Latinx Gothic: Apocalyptic Performances and Queer Eschatologies*.

Michelle Nasser De La Torre studies the ways in which US Colombians construct identity. She is fascinated by beauty pageants and narco aesthetics. She is especially interested in the intersections of beauty queens and narco trafficking.

Angela X. Ocampo is a PhD Candidate in Political Science at the University of California, Los Angeles. She studies American politics, racial and ethnic politics and methodology. Her research explores how racial, ethnic and religious minorities become politically incorporated both as everyday participants and as leaders within American institutions.

Angie N. Ocampo is a PhD student at the University of Pennsylvania's Department of Sociology. She received a B.A. in Sociology and Ethnic Studies from Brown University in 2015. Angie's research focuses on the process of immigrant adaptation among Latino/a/x immigrants, specifically investigating their incorporation into the racial hierarchy.

Ariana Ochoa Camacho, PhD American Studies, New York University, specializes in the intersection of gender, race, migration and nationalism. Her recent chapter on Colombian migration and her current book focuses on citizenship, belonging, race and performativity among Colombian migrants in New York. An Assistant Professor, she teaches Gender and Latino Studies at the University of Washington, Tacoma.

Astrid Lorena Ochoa Campo is a third year PhD student at the University of Virginia in the Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese. She holds a MA in Spanish from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and a B.Ed. from the Universidad del Atlántico in Barranquilla, Colombia. Her research interests include contemporary Latin American women writers, Feminist theory, Latinx studies, Disability studies and the Global South.

Isabel Porras is the Associate Director of O&E University for Out & Equal, a global LGBT workplace advocacy nonprofit. She holds a B.A. in Latin American Studies from Smith College and is a PhD Candidate in Cultural Studies at the University of California, Davis. Her dissertation research received national fellowship support from the American Association for University Women (AAUW) as well as the Mellon Mays Foundation.

Lina Rincón is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Framingham State University. Her most recent research examines the legal challenges and racial marginalization that Latin American and Caribbean migrant professionals encounter in American workplaces. Her work is featured in *Latino(a) Research Review*, *Latino Studies*, the *Humboldt Journal of Social Relations*, and in the edited book *Migration of Professionals in the City* published by Routledge.

John Rodríguez is a senior Latina/o/x Studies concentrator and Theatre major. His interests center on popular culture as a force of governmentality, as well as on performance as a form of resistance and subsistence among marginalized communities. After graduation, he plans to move to New York City and work in theatrical production management.