

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Spanish and Portuguese

University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico 2015

Master of Arts Spanish and Portuguese

University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 2007

Diplomado sobre Técnicas de Investigación en Cultura Sociedad y Comunicación

Universidad Veracruzana, Xalapa, Veracruz, 1995

Curso-Taller sobre Metodología de la Investigación

Dirección General de Cultural Populares, Xalapa, Veracruz, 1994

Licenciatura en Letras Españolas

Universidad Veracruzana, Xalapa, Veracruz, 1992

Professional Experience: Diversity Management, Diversity Education, Cross Cultural Communications, Physical Security, Information Security, and Process Management

RESEARCH

Dissertation

La ausencia de lo afro en la identidad nacional de México: Raza, y los mecanismos de invisibilización de los afrodescendientes en la historia, la cultura popular, y la literatura mexicana.

Recognizing the dire need for foundational texts in the burgeoning field of Afro-Mexican Studies, this dissertation illuminates transhistorical social, political, and cultural processes that led to the marginalization (invisibilization) of the African presence in Mexico. The project begins with an examination of the complementary relationship between hierarchy, integration, and “blanqueamiento” in the construction of Mexican national identity during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and concludes with a discussion of Afromexicanos in popular culture from the golden age of Mexican cinema to the present. Chapter One demonstrates how from its implementation in the eighteenth century until its abolition by Jose Morelos in 1813 the caste system facilitated the marginalization of the Black population in Mexico. The chapter explores racial and cultural factors that controlled the integration of “Los Afrodescendientes” in the decades following abolition. Chapter Two traces how “Positivists” used race in the construction of the modern nation and their attempts to marginalize and occlude the African presence on the eve of the Mexican Revolution. This analysis illuminates how Mexico’s intelligentsia used scientific racism and “mestizaje” to minimize or exclude Afrodescendientes from the imaginative discourse that shaped “the proyecto literario fundacional.” Chapter Three interrogates the omission, essentialization, and marginalization of Afrodescendientes in the construction of the

image of the ideal “national citizen” in the then newly imagined twentieth century nation. The chapter explores the interdependence of the ideal national citizen during the revolution and the post revolutionary period, the utopian construction of race, the ideology of mestizaje in José Vasconcelos’ *La raza cósmica*, and the negative treatment of Black figures in canonical literary works such as Fernando Rojas González’s *La negra Angustias*. Chapter Four is dedicated to a close analysis of Joselito Rodríguez’s iconic film *Angelitos Negros* and the debt that film owes to Blackface imagery from the United States and Cuba. The chapter closes with an assessment of the complicated and highly charged racial politics that surround Memín Pinguín. The dissertation concludes with a look at the often unacknowledged cultural and social contributions of Mexico’s Afrodescendientes and speculates about future directions in Afromexican Studies as an academic discipline.

PUBLICATIONS

La Cocina Afromestiza en Veracruz (Reedición). Careaga Gutiérrez, Dora Elena y Torres Cerdán, Raquel. Consejo Nacional para la Cultura y las Artes. México, DF. 2000.

La Cocina Tradicional de Jalcomulco. Careaga Gutiérrez, Dora Elena. Dirección General de Cultura Populares. Xalapa, Veracruz. 2000.

El Exótico Sabor de Veracruz. Careaga Gutiérrez, Dora Elena. Instituto Veracruzano de Desarrollo Rural. Xalapa, Veracruz. 2000.

La Cuenca del Papaloapan (Calendario-Recetario). Careaga Gutiérrez, Dora Elena (Investigación) y Arriaga Stransky, Leticia (Fotografía). Gobierno del Estado de Veracruz. Xalapa, Veracruz. 1996.

La Cocina Afromestiza en Veracruz. Careaga Gutiérrez, Dora Elena y Torres Cerdán, Raquel. Instituto Veracruzano de Cultura. Xalapa, Veracruz.. 1995.

Video Documentaries

La Tercera Raíz en Tamiagua, Veracruz 1999
Se aborda la influencia afromestiza en las tradiciones gastronómicas y en las artes de pesca de Tamiagua, Veracruz.

Coyolillo: Un Carnaval de Color 1996
Explora los elementos afromestizos del carnaval de la población de El Coyolillo, tales como la gastronomía, la danza y la música.

Entre dos Aguas 1996
Contiene los elementos afromestizos así como aquellos que tiene que ver con la vida diaria de Tamiagua

TEACHING

Graduate Instructor Summer 2006 - Present
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, New Mexico
The African Presence in Mexico - As part of our ongoing efforts to build lasting academic ties with Universities and cultural institutions in Mexico, I worked with the Department of Anthropology, the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, and Africana Studies Program at the University of

Mexico to partner with my alma mater the Universidad Veracruzana and local community leaders in Mexico to develop a research service learning study abroad opportunity for UNM students. These trips explore the African presence in Mexico from three different perspectives; Olmec Culture, colonial slavery, and contemporary Afromestizo communities. Working with Dr. Sagrario Cruz and my spouse Dr. Finnie Coleman, we explore African communities, visit historical locations associated with slavery in Veracruz, and delve into the roots of Olmec culture where we visit the colossal Olmec heads of Los Tuxtlas, La Venta, and San Lorenzo de los Negros. Beyond the African Presence we also take advantage of many other cultural opportunities in and around the communities we visit such as the great pyramids at Tajin and Lake Catemaco. (AFST 397, AMST 350, ANTH 340, ANTH 540)

Spanish Language - Spanish 202 is the last semester course in the four-semester Spanish as a Second Language Series. It is designed to review the content and materials students learned in their previous studies of Spanish and to prepare them for upper-division courses conducted in Spanish. It also aims to develop intermediate second language skills for both oral (speaking and listening) and written communication (reading and writing). In this course, students develop their ability to perform seven communicative functions. I taught this course spring 200. (SPAN 202)

Afromestizo Cuisine – I have taught a variety of cooking courses for individuals and small groups interested in Afromestizo cooking techniques.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Graduate Research Assistant Fall 2005 - Spring 2010
Albuquerque, NM

Worked as a research assistant for successive department heads in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese; Dra. Kimberle Lopez, Dr. J. Clancy Clements, Dr. Richard Santos, and Dr. Enrique Lamadrid.

Graduate Research Assistant Otoño 2004- Primavera 2005
The Cervantes Project

Texas A&M, College Station

The Cervantes Digital Library (CDL) is a digital library of Cervantes's complete works in several versions (*princeps*, old-spelling, modernized, English) along with the interfaces, hypertext links, and search engines to facilitate their use at multiple levels. Our goal was to develop a collection of texts and editions fully integrated with the other components of the *Project* (Bibliography, Images, and Links). The (CDL) is a project developed in collaboration with the Center for the Study of Digital Libraries and Prof. Fred Jehle of Indiana-Purdue University, and receives financial support from the College of Liberal Arts, Texas A&M University, and the Centro de Estudios Cervantinos, Alcalá de Henares (Spain). I contributed to the project by comparing the text of *Don Quixote de la Mancha* edition princeps of 1605 and 1615 with six versions of different publishers.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Conexiones Africanas

Director June 2012 to Present
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Headquartered in Albuquerque, New Mexico, this not for Profit organization provides support and guidance for Civil Associations committed to addressing healthcare and educational disparities in communities of African descent that comprise the African Diaspora. Beginning its work in Mexico, the organization is working to establish five field offices in the State of Veracruz; Tamiahua, Cuitlahuac, Apazapan, Santiago Tuxtla, and Catemaco. The leadership of

the organization is currently working with the University of New Mexico Law School's Law Clinic to finalize tax status and organizational structure.

Colectivo Afro-Tamiahua Civil Association

Founder and Lead Advisor
Tamiahua, Veracruz

Julio- 2014

Colectivo Afro-Tamiahua is a civil association established for the benefit of Afrodescendientes in Veracruz and other states in Mexico. The organization functions on three levels. On the national level, the association provides a voice for Tamiahua at national conferences and meetings. At the State level, Afro-Tamiahua works with other Afro-Mexican communities to form similarly focused Civil Associations. On the local level, the association understands that people in Tamiahua and other Afro-Mexican communities continue to suffer disproportionately and die from Cancer, Heart Disease, Hypertension, Sickle Cell Anemia, and Diabetes; the same set of preventable or treatable diseases that so disproportionately impact Black communities throughout the African diaspora. The association is committed to three lines of work. (1) The association's primary activity is an aggressive campaign for local screening and detection of diabetes and hypertension. (2) The Association complements this campaign with a nutrition program (intervention / prevention) based on the assets of the community. (3) The Association disseminates information about health and nutrition as part of its Cultural Awareness Program, that incorporate oral traditions, cultural retentions, and vintage photographs to establish a local historical chronicle.

Instituto Veracruzano para el Desarrollo Rural

Cultural Investigator
Xalapa, Veracruz

Julio-octubre, 2000

Conducted primary research on non-traditional or exotic cooking and food of Veracruz. Based on this research I published the cookbook *El exótico sabor de Veracruz*, developed a cooking workshop, and prepared sample cuisine on non-traditional and exotic Veracruz cuisine at the Fourth International EXPO Nontraditional Products or "Exotic Mexico."

Programa Más Cultura

Executive producer – Radiotelevisión de Veracruz
Xalapa, Veracruz

2000-1998

This program was dedicated to serving the academic, cultural, and scientific activities generated in Xalapa. As Executive Producer, I was directly responsible for program content, detailed script writing, programming, technicians, and conducted interviews and wrote a variety of reports. Produced special programs relating to traditional festivals, historic figures, and issues relating to the fine arts, academics, and science. With this program I had the opportunity to tour most of the state of Veracruz.

La Cocina Tradicional de Veracruz

1998 – 1995 Researcher and Executive Producer – Radiotelevisión de Veracruz Xalapa, Veracruz

1998 – Worked in the region of the Central Sierra of Veracruz, with a total of nine cities recorded: Orizaba, Cordoba, Coscomatepec, Huatusco, Jalcomulco, Coatepec, Naolinco, Banderilla, and Xico.

1997 – Worked two regions Huayacocotla Sierra and the Isthmus, with a total of six cities registered Huayacocotla, Zontecomatlán, Chicontepec, Jáltipan, Chinameca, and Chacalapa.

1996 – Worked two regions: La Huasteca and Totonacapan a total of twelve cities recorded: Tamiahua, Tuxpan, Naranjos, Tamalín, Tantima, Tancoco, Papantla, Tecolutla, San Rafael, Costa Esmeralda, Misantla, and Tlapacoyan.

1995 – Worked two regions: El Sotavento and Los Tuxtlas, a total of seven cities registered: Alvarado, Tlacotalpan, Saltabarranca, Boca del Rio, San Andrés Tuxtla, Santiago Tuxtla and Catemaco.

Investigación sobre la Cultura Afromestiza en Veracruz

Field investigator / Researcher – Instituto Veracruzano de Cultura 1995-1994
Xalapa, Veracruz
I conducted an ethnographic record in 12 Afromestizo populations in the state of Veracruz. Compiled the information for editing the cookbook *La Cocina Afromestiza en Veracruz*.

Investigación sobre la Cultura Culinaria en Jalcomulco

Fellow - Dirección General de Culturas Populares 1998-1999
México, D.F.
Programa de Apoyo a las Culturas Municipales Comunitarias (PACMYC) Dirección General de Culturas Populares. During this fellowship I conducted research that led to the publication of *Elaboración de un Recetario de la Cocina Tradicional de Jalcomulco*.

SELECTED ACADEMIC CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

- “Dispersed Peoples Peoples: The Cuban and the Others Diasporas”* 2012
Ninth Conference on Cuban and Cuban –American Studies
- Identities in Resistance* 2010
16th Annual University of New Mexico Conference on Ibero-American Culture and Society
- La presencia literaria de los afrodescendientes en México, Centroamericana y el Caribe* 2009
56th Annual Meeting of the Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies
- El devenir histórico y contemporáneo del Caribe* 2008
de la Asociación Mexicana de Estudios del Caribe
- The African Presence in Mexico* 2007
The National Museum of Mexican Art Chicago
- La Comida Afromestiza en Mexico* 2004
3rd Conference on Food Representation in Literature, Film, and the Other Arts
The University of Texas at San Antonio
- Interrogating The African Presence In Mexico* 2002
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- ¿What is African About our Food?* 2002
The 6th Annual Arturo A. Schomburg Symposium, Taller Puertorriqueño. INC
- Historical And Current Status of Black Towns In Mexico* 2001
Texas A&M University -Race and Ethnic Studies Institute Colleges Station, TX

- Presentation: Afro Mexican Kitchen 2001
Texas A&M University - The Dean of Students Office, Corpus Christi, Texas
- Presentation: Blacks in Mexico* 2001
Pensacola Public Library - Lu and Charlie's Preservation Society, Pensacola, Florida
- La Comida Afromestiza en Mexico* 2000
Congreso: Intercultural Development across the Border II: An International Research and Cultural Exchange Between the US and México. Texas A&M University and Universidad Veracruzana, Xalapa, Veracruz
- La Comida Afromestiza en Mexico* 1999
Mesa redonda: La herencia africana en México, College of Ethnic Studies, San Francisco State University, San Francisco
- The Black Experience in México* 1999
Mesa redonda "Mexicanos Negros?", Stanford University - Center for Latin American Studies, San Francisco
- The Black Experience in México* 1999
Mesa redonda El impacto de los afromexicanos en la cultura popular de México, North Seattle Community College - Faculty of Anthropology, Seattle, Washington
- The Black Experience in México* 1999
Mesa redonda Los afromexicanos en México, Seattle Central Community College-Humanities and Social Sciences, Seattle, Washington
- La Comida Afromestiza en Mexico* 1999
Congreso Anual de la Oral History Association, Panel The Hidden Past and Present of Afro-Mexicans y Muestra gastronómica de comida de influencia Afromestiza en Veracruz, Anchorage, Alaska
- La Comida Afromestiza en Mexico* 1999
Mesa redonda La herencia africana en México, Departments of African American Studies University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, California
- The Black Experience in México* 1999
mesa redonda La presencia africana en México, Afro-American Studies Dept, Laney College, Oakland, California
- El legado de la Gastronomía en el Centro de Veracruz* 1998
Unidad Regional Centro de Culturas Populares, Mesas de la Cultura Popular, con la ponencia 'Jalcomulco su cocina milenaria, y la cocina como un espacio de mujeres, Xalapa, Veracruz
- La Comida Afromestiza en Mexico* 1998
WTTW Channel 11, The Chicago Production Center, Muestra Gastronómica sobre 'La comida de influencia afro en Veracruz,' Xalapa, Veracruz
- La Comida Afromestiza en Mexico* 1998
Quinto Festival Internacional Afrocaribeño, Muestra Gastronómica sobre 'La comida de influencia afro en Veracruz,' Veracruz, Veracruz
- La Comida Afromestiza en Mexico* 1996
Tercer Festival Internacional Afrocaribeño, Foro Académico del Tercer Festival Internacional

Afrocaribeño, Veracruz, Veracruz

La Comida Afromestiza en Mexico

Asociación Mexicana de Estudios del Caribe, Tercera Conferencia Anual de la Asociación Mexicana de Estudios del Caribe, México D. F.

1996