

## TESS RENKER

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### PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS:

- 2023- Assistant Professor of Spanish, University of Oklahoma
- 2022-2023 Visiting Assistant Professor of Spanish, Washington and Lee University

### EDUCATION:

- Ph.D. Brown University, Hispanic Studies, June 2022  
Committee: Michelle Clayton (chair), Sarah Thomas, and Esther Whitfield
- Dissertation: "Conflictive Voices: Authorship, Authority, and Peru's Internal Armed Conflict"
- M.A. Brown University, Hispanic Studies, May 2020
- M.A. University of New Hampshire, Spanish, December 2016
- Thesis: "El rap como performance: Un estudio transnacional de raperos quechuas"
- B.A. University of New Hampshire, Spanish, May 2014
- Senior Honors Thesis: "El uso del quechua en el Perú: La identidad y el performance cultural"
- SIT Peru: Indigenous Peoples and Globalization Program; Cuzco, Peru, 2013

### FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS:

- 2022 Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching, Brown University Graduate School
- 2022 David and Ruth Kossoff Prize for Leadership in Language Teaching, Brown University Department of Hispanic Studies
- 2019 Joukowsky Summer Research Grant, Brown University
- 2019 Pre-Dissertation Grant for Field Research in Latin America, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Brown University
- 2016 Princeton in Latin America Fellowship (completed at the Centro integral de la niñez y adolescencia; Quito, Ecuador)

- 2016 Fulbright Student Programs Grant for English Teaching in Peru (Declined to accept Princeton in Latin America Fellowship for the same term)
- 2016 Foreign Language Award for Excellence in Graduate Work in Spanish, University of New Hampshire

## RESEARCH INTERESTS:

**Primary Field:** 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Latin American Literature and Film

**Areas of Inquiry:** Andean Studies; Indigenous Studies; Migration and Border Studies; Race and Ethnicity Studies; Rural Studies; Mexican Studies; Transnational Studies; Memory Studies; Popular Culture; Gender and Sexuality; Transitional Justice.

## PUBLICATIONS:

### Articles:

- (1) "Whiteness, Coloniality, and Distributive Justice in Claudia Llosa's *La teta asustada* (2009)." *Hispanic Review*, 2024. [FORTHCOMING]
- (2) "Southern Cone Memory Discourse and Cuba's *Generación de los Hijos* in Camila Guzmán Urzúa's *El telón de azúcar* (2006)." *Revista Canadiense de Estudios Hispánicos*, 2023. [FORTHCOMING]
- (3) "Chronicle Logic and Human Rights Discourse in the Migration Non-Fiction of Francisco Cantú and Óscar Martínez." *Chiricú Journal: Latina/o Literatures, Arts, and Cultures*, 2023. [FORTHCOMING]
- (4) "Rethinking Peruvian 'Borderlands' through Grupo Chaski's *Gregorio* (1982)." *Modern Language Notes*, 2023. [FORTHCOMING]
- (5) "Looking Elsewhere: Editorial Amartí's (Re)presentation of post/Conflict Ayacucho." *Transmodernity: Journal of Peripheral Cultural Production of Luso-Hispanic World*, vol. 10, no. 2, 2023. pp. 128-150.
- (6) "An Arguedean Revolution on the US/Mexico Border: José María Arguedas's *El zorro de arriba y el zorro de abajo* and Yuri Herrera's *Señales que precederán al fin del mundo*." *Arizona Journal of Hispanic Cultural Studies*, vol. 26, 2022, pp. 101-122
- (7) "The 'Generation After' Talks Back: Contestations of Postmemory in Recent Latin American Literature." *Chasqui*, vol. 51, no. 1, 2022, pp. 113-133.
- (8) "The 'Other Johnny': Jazz, Race, and Existentialism in Julio Cortázar's *El perseguidor* and Jack Kerouac's *On the Road*." *A Contracorriente: una revista de estudios latinoamericanos*, vol. 19, no. 3, 2022, pp. 212-235.

### Under Review:

- "Extractive Care, Economic Violence, and Horizons of Grievability in *Canción sin nombre* (2019)"

**Works in Progress:***Book-length Manuscripts*

“Undoing the Conflict Canon: Author(ity), Circulation, and Peru’s Internal Armed Conflict”

“Radical Borders: Race, Extractive Capitalism, and Peruvian Borderlands”

*Articles*

“Landscape Photography as Resistance in post-Conflict Ayacucho”

“Rural Gazes, Rural Feminisms in Recent Latin American Literature”

**TEACHING****Courses Taught:**University of Oklahoma, Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics:

- SPAN 5413: The Latin American Novel of the Post-Boom (Graduate Seminar).  
Spring 2024
- SPAN 3853: Introduction to Hispanic Literature and Culture. Spring 2024.
- SPAN 3853: Introduction to Hispanic Literature and Culture. Fall 2023. (18 students)
- SPAN 3423: Spanish in Written Communication. Fall 2023. (17 Students)
- SPAN 5990: Pre-Dissertation Independent Study, “20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Latin American Film.” Fall 2023. (1 student)

Washington & Lee University, Department of Romance Languages:

- SPAN 398: Migration and Bordering in Latin American Literature and Film. Winter 2023. (12 students)
- SPAN 220: Introduction to Spanish Literature. Winter 2023. (15 students)
- SPAN 164: Advanced Intermediate Spanish. Winter 2023. (8 students)
- SPAN 161: Intermediate Spanish I. Fall 2022 (2 sections, 16 students each)
- SPAN 164: Advanced Intermediate Spanish. Fall 2022 (15 students)

Brown University Department of Hispanic Studies:

- HISP 0500: Advanced Spanish I. Spring 2021 (9 students)
- HISP 0650: Advanced Spanish Through Literature & Film. Fall 2020 (15 students)
- HISP 0400: Intermediate Spanish II. Spring 2020 (13 students)
- HISP 0200: Basic Spanish. Spring 2019 (13 students)
- HISP 0100: Basic Spanish. Fall 2018 (15 students); Fall 2019 (13 students) \*

University of New Hampshire

- HMGT 570: International Food & Culture. Spring 2022 (35 students)
- ESL 431: Advanced Speaking and Listening. Summer 2015 (6 students)
- SPAN 402: Elementary Spanish II. Spring 2015 (18 students)
- SPAN 401: Elementary Spanish I. Fall 2014 (19 students)

\*Courses supervised

**Academic Advising and Dissertation Committees:**University of Oklahoma, Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics:

- Cristián Doig, Dissertation Director, project on Mexican cinema
- Antonio Núñez, Dissertation Committee, “AfroCuba: El discurso etnográfico y la Resistencia cultural en la narrativa cubana de mediados del siglo XX (1920-1940)”
- Shandi Mohammadi, Dissertation Committee, project on Ecofeminisms and contemporary Latin American science fiction
- Pío A. Gasca Prieto, Dissertation Committee, project on constructions of masculinity in 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century Mexican narrative

**Teaching Certificates:**

The Harriet W. Sheridan Center for Teaching & Learning in Higher Education, Brown University:

- Seminar for Transformation Around Anti-Racist Teaching. (January 2021-September 2021)
- Certificate IV: “Teaching Consultant Program.” (Fall 2019)
- Certificate I: “Reflective Teaching.” (Fall 2018)

**PRESENTATIONS:****Conference Presentations:**

“Seeking Climate Justice in José María Arguedas’s *El zorro de arriba y el zorro de abajo* (1971).”  
MLA Annual Convention, Philadelphia, January 2024.

“Cyborgs, Migration, and Anti-Imperialism in Yuri Herrera’s *Señales que precederán al fin del mundo*.”  
MLA Annual Convention, San Francisco, January 2023.  
\*Panel delayed until January 2024 due to weather.

“National Politics in the Private Sphere: Divorce, Resistance and Female Protagonism in Two Novels by Karina Pacheco Medrano.” Latin American Studies Association Annual Conference, Virtual Conference, May 2021.

“Migration, Environmental Injustice, and the ‘B Side’ of Global Capitalism in *Gregorio* (1982).”  
Northeast Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Virtual Conference, March 2021.

“Myth, Migration and Mechanization in *El zorro de arriba y el zorro de abajo* and *Señales que precederán al fin del mundo*.” Latin American Studies Association Annual Conference, Virtual Conference, May 2020.

“Parody, Postmemory and Empty Inheritances in José Carlos Agüero’s *Persona* (2018) and Verónica Gerber Bicecci’s *Conjunto vacío* (2016).” Boston University Romance Studies Graduate Conference, Virtual Conference, April 2020.

- “Myth, Magical Realism and the Construction of Exceptional Spaces in Recent Ayacuchan Literature.” Northeast Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Boston, March 2020.
- “Charting New (Intellectual) Frontiers: Andean Avant-Gardes, *El Boletín Titikaka* and the Reimagining of Puno.” Charles F. Fraker Graduate Conference, University of Michigan, February 2019.
- “La papa sigue prosperando: Trauma, Coloniality and Resistance in Claudia Llosa’s *La teta asustada*.” New England Conference of Latin American Studies, Clark University, November 2018.
- “Bilingual Quechua Rap as Performance: A Strategic Re-imagining of ‘Public’ Space.” New England Conference of Latin American Studies, University of New Hampshire, November 2017.
- “Cinematographic Representations of Political Violence: Legacies of Story Telling in Ayacucho, Peru.” New England Conference of Latin American Studies, Tuft’s University, November 2015.
- “I’m on top of the world: Representations of Elite Language Practices in a Peruvian TV Sitcom.” The Linguistic Association of the Southwest Annual Conference, University of Arizona Lake Havasu, September 2015.
- “Translating the Untranslatable: Variation in Past and Future Verb Tenses in José María Arguedas’ *Yamar Fiesta*.” University of New Hampshire Graduate Research Conference, May 2015.

### **Conference Panels Organized and Chaired:**

- Session Chair, *Care, Control and Crisis: Family Narratives of Rupture in Latin America*. Latin American Studies Association Annual Conference, Virtual Conference, May 2021.
- Session Co-Organizer and Chair, *Voices from the Underground: Extractivism and Violence in Latin America*. Roundtable, Northeast Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Virtual Conference, March 2021.
- Session Organizer and Chair, *Radical Ruptures: Alternative Ways of Being and Knowing in Contemporary Latin American Cultural Production*. Latin American Studies Association Annual Conference, Virtual Conference, May 2020.
- Session Co-Organizer and Chair, *Alternative Narratives of Trauma in Recent Latin American Cultural Production*. Roundtable, Northeast Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Boston, March 2020.

### **Departmental Presentations:**

- “Going Digital: Curating Other Paths in Latin American Cultural Production with Scalar,” Departmental of Hispanic Studies Colloquia Series, Brown University, October 2020.

### **Invited Talks:**

- “Crear y criar: literaturas de la maternidad en México.” Consulate General of Mexico in Boston, June 8, 2021. Appeared alongside Dr. Iris Montero and Regina Pieck.

**SERVICE:**

**To the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Linguistics, University of Oklahoma:**

Member of Search Committee for Colonial Latin American Literatures position, Fall 2023.

Committee Member, Scholarship Committee, Fall 2023-present.

Newsletter and Publicizing Committee, Fall 2023-present.

**To the Department of Romance Languages, Washington and Lee University:**

Faculty Co-Advisor, Grant Writing and Outreach Committee. English for Learners of Other Languages (ESOL) Student Group, Fall 2022-Spring 2023.

**To the Department of Hispanic Studies, Brown University:**

Committee Member, Diversity, and Inclusion Action Plan Committee (DIAP), Spring 2021-Summer 2022.

Committee Member, Curricular Subcommittee to the DIAP Committee, Spring 2021-Summer 2022.

Co-Organizer, Film Series, *Defiant Memory, Enduring Voices: Transitional Justice in Latin America*, Fall 2021-Spring 2022.

Graduate Student Representative, Fall 2018-Spring 2019.

**To Brown University:**

Co-Organizer, Interdisciplinary Reading Group Series, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, *Marginalized Motherhoods in the Americas*, Fall 2020-Spring 2021.

Co-Organizer, reading and Q&A with Mexican authors Isabel Zapata and Jazmina Barrera, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, April 2021.

Co-Organizer, discussion and Q&A with Colombian author Pilar Quintana, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, February 2021.

Co-Organizer, discussion and Q&A with Mexican author Brenda Navarro, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, February 2021.

Graduate Student Council Representative, Fall 2019-Spring 2020.

**OTHER RESEARCH ACTIVITIES:**

Digital Humanities Proctor and Researcher, Database of Indigenous Slavery in the Americas, Brown University Library, Summer 2021

Research Assistant to Professor Holly Cashman, University of New Hampshire Department of Spanish, Summer 2015.

**OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE:**

Volunteer-Intern Coordinator and Steering Committee Member, Centro Integral de la Niñez y Adolescencia (CENTI), Quito, Ecuador, August 2016-August 2017.

Supervised Interns and Research Fellows from the following Institutions: Utrecht University, the US Fulbright Program, Universidad San Francisco de Quito, Universidad de las Américas (Quito, Ecuador), Ghent University, Artevelde University.

Spanish Teacher, St. Patrick's School, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, August 2015-June 2016.

**MEMBERSHIPS:**

Modern Language Association

Northeast Modern Language Association

Latin American Studies Association

**LANGUAGES:**

English – Native Speaker

Spanish – Near Native Fluency

Quechua – Advanced-Intermediate Speaking and Writing

Portuguese – Reading Knowledge

Nahuatl – Beginning Reading Knowledge

**LETTERS OF RECCOMENDATION:**

1. Michelle Clayton, Associate Professor of Hispanic Studies, Brown University,  
[michelle\\_clayton@brown.edu](mailto:michelle_clayton@brown.edu)

2. Sarah Thomas, Associate Professor of Hispanic Studies, Brown University,  
[sarah\\_thomas\\_2@brown.edu](mailto:sarah_thomas_2@brown.edu)

3. Esther Whitfield, Associate Professor of Hispanic Studies, Brown University,  
[esther\\_whitfield@brown.edu](mailto:esther_whitfield@brown.edu)