

Rebecca Janzen, PhD

Education

Ph.D., Department of Spanish and Portuguese, University of Toronto, 2013

Title: "Collective Bodies and Collective Change: Blindness, Pilgrimage, Motherhood and Miracles in Twentieth Century Mexican Literature"

M.A., Department of Spanish and Portuguese, University of Toronto, 2009

B. A. (Honours), History and Spanish, University of Waterloo, 2007

Professional Appointments

University of South Carolina, Dept. of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

2024-present Professor, Spanish and Comparative Literature

2021-2023 Associate Professor, Spanish and Comparative Literature (tenured)

2017-2021 Assistant Professor, Spanish (tenure-track)

- McCausland Faculty Fellow (2022-2025)
- Director of Graduate Studies (2021-2023)
- Spanish Graduate Advisor (2021)
- Faculty Associate, Rule of Law Collaborative; Latin American Studies (2017-present)

Bluffton University, Dept. of English and Language

2014-2017 Assistant Professor of Spanish (tenure track)

2013-2014 Assistant Professor of Spanish (non-tenure-track)

- Spanish Program Director
- Faculty Affiliate, Women and Gender Studies

Publications

Books

2022 *Unlawful Violence: Mexican Law and Cultural Production*. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press, Critical Mexican Studies Series.

Discussion in From Violence to Peace in Latin America working group (2023)

Reviewed in *Chasqui* (2023, 52.1); *Latin American Review of Books* (9 Dec 2023); *Mexican Studies* (2024; 40.1); *Transmodernity* (2024; 11.2)

2021 *Unholy Trinity: State, Church and Film in Mexico*. Albany: State University of New York Press. Latin American Cinema Series.

Reviewed in *CHOICE: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries* (2022, 60.1) the *Catholic Historical Review* (2024, 110.1); *Hispanófila* (2024, 201); *Chasqui* (2022, 51.2)

Interviewed about the book for the *New Books in Latin American Studies* (2022) and *New Books Network en español* (in Spanish) (2021) podcasts.

2018 *Liminal Sovereignty: Mennonites and Mormons in Mexican Popular Culture*. Albany: State University of New York Press.

Reviewed in *Chasqui* (2019, 48.2), *Preservings* (2019, 39), *Mennonite World Review* (2020), *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos* (2020, 54.2), *Journal of Mennonite Studies* (2020, 38) *Mennonite Quarterly Review* (2020, 94)

Interviewed for the *New Books in Latin American Studies* (2019), *Scholars and Saints* (2020) and *Mormon Book Reviews* (2021) podcasts.

- 2015 *The National Body in Mexican Literature: Collective Challenges to Biopolitical Control*. New York: Palgrave-Macmillan. Literatures of the Americas Series.
Reviewed in *Практики и Интерпретации [Practices and Interpretations]* (2019, 4), *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos* (2017, 51)
Interviewed for the *New Books in Latin American Studies* podcast (2018)

Edited Volumes

- 2017 Edited by Julie Ann Ward, sub-directors **Rebecca Janzen**, David Lisenby and Pilar Munday. *Antología Abierta de Literatura Hispana*. Rebus. <https://press.rebus.community/aalh/>.

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters

- N.d. Sarah Polley's *Women Talking*: Adaptation, Trauma, and the Representation of Sexualized Violence in Film. *Conrad Grebel Review*. Accepted.
- n.d. "La eco-teología en la obra y el proyecto social de Ernesto Cardenal." *Balajú*.
- 2024 Lay Religious Associations in Extractive Zones: A Case Study of Diamantina, Brazil *Religions* 15.11, Special issue on Religion in Extractive Zones.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/rel15111328>
- 2024 Mexican Mormon Art and Architecture. *Retrospective: A Center for Latter-Day Saint Arts Publication*. Ed. Mason Allred and Amanda Beardsley. Oxford University Press, pp. 276-302.
- 2024 Citizenship and Water Conflict: Mormons and the Mexican State. *The Mexican Jacobins: Anti-Catholicism in the Revolution, 1913-1940*. Eds. David S. Dalton and Jürgen Buchenau. University of New Mexico Press, pp. 213-235.
- 2023 "La muerte y el estado en *Luz silenciosa* de Carlos Reygadas." *El cine mexicano desde México y el extranjero*. Coord. Lauro Zavala. Aguascalientes, Mexico: Universidad Autónoma de Aguascalientes Press, pp. 203-228. (Date is 2023, published in 2024)
- 2023 "Violencia y venganza en *La amante del ghetto* de Pedro Ángel Palou." *La novela infinita: Lecturas críticas de Pedro A. Palou*. Ed. Héctor Jaimes. Raleigh, NC: A Contracorriente Press, pp. 181-196.
- 2021 "El cambio/*The Change* Joskowicz ([1971] 1975): Mexican counterculture and the futility of protest in the 1970s." *Studies in Spanish and Latin American Cinemas*, 17.2, pp. 159-175.
- 2021 "Conflict and Change among the LeBarons in Mexico." *Journal of Mormon History* 47.3, pp. 69-90.
- 2020 "Old Colony Mennonite Women's Lives in Mexico from the 1920s to the 1940s." *Journal of Amish and Plain Anabaptist Studies*, 8.2, pp. 125-138.
<https://idealexchange.uakron.edu/amishstudies/vol8/iss2/5/>.
- 2020 "Land Conflict in Mexico between Mennonite Colonies and their Neighbors." *Anabaptist Witness*, 7.2, pp. 25-44.
- 2019 "Páramos y *La foto del invernadero* de Reina María Rodríguez: La formación de un sujeto individual y colectivo." *Revista Canadiense de Estudios Hispánicos*, 43.2, pp. 291-307.
- 2018 "Mexican Lawlessness: Genocide and Massacre in Julián Herbert's *La casa del dolor ajeno*." *Transmodernity*, 8. 3, pp. 86-98. <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/26b5g6fz>.
- 2018 "American Old Order Teachers Write Home from Mexico: Reflections on Gender, Religion and Caregiving." *Journal of Mennonite Studies*, 36, pp. 237-258.
- 2018 "Expanding Low German Childhood: The Children's Feature in the *Mennonitische Post* [*Mennonite Post*]." *Mennonite Quarterly Review*, 92.1, pp. 471-481.

- 2018 “Embodiment Envy: Love, Sex and Death in Pedro Ángel Palou’s *Con la muerte en los puños*.” *Mexican Literature in Theory*, ed. Ignacio M. Sánchez Prado, New York: Bloomsbury, pp. 197-209.
- 2018 “Mennonite and Mormon Women’s Life Writing.” *Education with the Grain of the Universe*, ed. J. Denny Weaver, Telford, PA: Cascadia, pp. 223-239.
- 2016 “Plurinational Bolivia Protects Low German Mennonites: Reading the Ghost Rapes.” *A contracorriente*, 13.6.
<https://acontracorriente.chass.ncsu.edu/index.php/acontracorriente/article/view/1401>.
- 2015 “Representing Horror through Ritual: José Revueltas’ *Los motivos de Caín*.” *Hispanófila* 173, pp. 293-301.
- 2015 “Still Life/Mexican Death: Mennonites in Visual Culture.” *Arizona Journal of Hispanic Cultural Studies* 19, pp. 81-96.
- 2015 “Marginalization and Miracles in Vicente Leñero’s *El evangelio de Lucas Gavilán*.” *Confluencia*, 31.1, pp. 78-86.
- 2014 “El cuerpo en *La feria* de Juan José Arreola: represión católica y desafío lúdico.” [“The body in *The Fair* by Juan José Arreola: Catholic Repression and Playful Defiance”] *Signos literarios*, 10.20, pp. 64-76.

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters in Progress

- N.d. Human Rights and Capitalist Realism. *ASAP/J* cluster edited by Maria Bose and Robin Blyn.
- n.d. “LeBaron Mormons Shot and Killed in Mexico.” *How Events Transform Society*. Edited by Michael Duignan. Submitted to Routledge.
- n.d. Religion and Light in Mexican Literature. *Unveiling the Sacred: Religion in Latin American Literature*. Ed. Alexander Torres and Pablo Baisotti. Submitted to Routledge.

Book Reviews

- n.d. Review of Leroy Martin for JPAC.
- 2024 “Healing from the Ground up.” Review of Laure Ferguson Wilbert’s *The Understory*. *Christian Century*. November. <https://www.christiancentury.org/books/healing-ground>
- 2024 Review of Mónica García Blizzard’s *The White Indians of Mexican Cinema: Racial Masquerade Throughout the Golden Age*. *Chasqui*. R26-R27.
<https://escholarship.org/content/qt0fq135bw/qt0fq135bw.pdf>
- 2023 Review of Rebekka King, ed., *Key Categories in the Study of Religion*. *Religion and Society: Advances in Research* 14.1: 204-205. Note not in 2023 APR
- 2023 Review of Terra Schwerin Rowe’s *Of Modern Extraction: Experiments in Critical Petro-theology*. *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture*. Vol 17, pp. 326-237.
<https://journal.equinoxpub.com/JSRNC/article/view/25272/27857>.
- 2022 Review of Royden Loewen’s *Mennonite Farmers: A Global History of Place and Sustainability*. *Mennonite Historian*, p. 12.
- 2021 Review of Ben Nobbs-Thiessen, *Landscape of Migration: Mobility and Environmental Change on Bolivia’s Tropical Frontier, 1952 to the Present*. *Journal of Mennonite Studies* 39, pp. 239-241.
- 2021 Review of Mary Ann Loewen, ed., *Finding Father*. *Great Plains Quarterly* 41.1-2, pp. 151-152.
- 2021 Review of Aurelia Gómez Unamuno, *Entre fuegos, memoria y violencia de Estado*. *Transmodernity*. 9.6, pp. 138-141. <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/30k812jn>.
- 2021 “What Can Latin American Journalism Teach the US?” *Public Books* January 15. Review essay of Pablo Calvi’s *Latin American Adventures in Literary Journalism*, Gabriela Polit Dueñas’

- Unwanted Witnesses* and Daniel Worden's *Neoliberal Nonfictions*.
<https://www.publicbooks.org/what-can-latin-american-journalism-teach-the-us/>.
- 2019 Review of Aníbal González's *In Search of the Sacred Book: Religion and the Contemporary Latin American Novel*. *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos* 53.3, pp. 1054-1055.
- 2019 Review essay of Sophie Esch's *Modernity at Gunpoint: Firearms, Politics and Culture in Mexico and Central America*, Héctor Jaimes' *You Are Always With Me: Letters to Mama*, Adela Pineda Franco's *Steinbeck y México: Una mirada cinematográfica en la era de la hegemonía estadounidense* and Ignacio M. Sánchez Prado's *Strategic Occidentalism: On Mexican Fiction, the Neoliberal Book Market and the Question of World Literature*. *Chasqui* 48.2, pp. R9-R10.
- 2019 Review of Stuart A. Day, ed., *Modern Mexican Culture: Critical Foundations*. *Hispanófila* 185, pp. 141-142.
- 2018 Review of Yolanda Martínez-San Miguel, Ben. Sifuentes-Jáuregui and Marisa Belausteguigoita, eds. *Critical Terms in Caribbean and Latin American Thought: Historical and Institutional Trajectories*. *Revista Iberoamericana* 84.254, pp. 832-835.
- 2017 Review essay of Juan Rojo's *Revisiting the Mexican Student Movement of 1968*, Mario T. García's *Literature as History*, Carolyn Wolfenzon's *Muerte de utopía* and John E. Dean's *How Myth Became History*. *Chasqui* 46.2, pp. R1-R3.
- 2017 Review of Deirdra Reber's *Coming to Our Senses: Affect and the Order of Things for Global Culture*. *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos* 51.3, pp. 561-563.
- 2016 Review of Ignacio M. Sánchez Prado and Mabel Moraña, eds., *Heridas abiertas: Biopolítica y representación en América Latina*. *Romance Notes* 56.1, pp. 169-170.
- 2016 Review of Pedro García-Caro's *After the Nation: Postnational Satire in the Works of Carlos Fuentes and Thomas Pynchon*. *Transmodernity: Journal of Peripheral Cultural Production of the Luso-Hispanic World* 6.1, pp. 196-199. <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/30m598pj>.
- 2015 Review of Oswaldo Estrada's *Ser mujer y estar presente*. *Revista de literatura mexicana contemporánea* 66, pp. 139-140.
- 2015 Review of Pedro Ángel Palou's *El fracaso del mestizo*. *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos* 49.1, pp. 38-40.
- 2012 Review of Beth A. Haller's *Representing Disability in an Ableist World: Essays on Mass Media*. *Canadian Journal of Disability Studies* 1.2, pp. 109-111.

Media Appearances

- 2024 "Holy Holes" Interview for *Hagley History Hangout* podcast. March.
<https://www.hagley.org/research/history-hangout-rebecca-janzen>
- 2023 Profiled in *Grebel Now* for career in history. <https://uwaterloo.ca/grebel-now/grebel-now-fall-2023/feature/alumni-careers-rooted-history>
- 2023 Interviewed for *Filmadora* documentary about Mormons in Mexico
- 2023 Interviewed for *Christianity Today* article on Mennonites in Latin America
- 2023 "Meet Rebecca Janzen." *Bold Journey*. September 19. <https://boldjourney.com/news/meet-rebecca-janzen/>
- 2022 Extended appearance in *Conform: The Mennonite Migration to Mexico*. Dir. Andrew Wall. Refuge 31 Film. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0p7R4c-bQ0s>
- 2022 "Meet Rebecca Janzen." *South Carolina Voyager*. September 15.
<https://southcarolinavoyager.com/interview/meet-rebecca-janzen-of-columbia/>
 Interviewed in "Los LeBaron ¿Por qué una massacre tan vil?" *Impacto Mundo*, August 27.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cIEE_xonSoQ&ab_channel=ImpactoMundo

- 2021 “The Longest Sunrise: A Discussion on Silent Light.” Interviewed for *Just Plain Wrong* podcast. April 14. <https://feeds.buzzsprout.com/1390033/8329486-the-longest-sunrise-a-discussion-on-silent-light>.

Non-Peer Reviewed Publications

- N. d. “In and of the Research Environment: Mennonites, Latin America, and Religious Studies.” *NAASR Working Papers*. Ed. Teemu Taira. Sheffield: Equinox.
- n.d. “Why do We Like Women Talking.” *Journal of Amish and Plain Anabaptist Studies*. Fall. Forthcoming.
- 2024 “Mining for Information in the Marian Library.” *Marian Library, University of Dayton*. Sept 16. <https://udayton.co/dzy>
- 2024 Old Colony Mennonites in Latin America. *World Religions and Spirituality Project* (Online Encyclopedia). May 4. <https://wrldrels.org/2024/04/17/old-colony-mennonites/>
- 2023 “*Women Talking*: A Displaced Act of Female Imagination.” *Anabaptist Historians*. March 9. <https://anabaptisthistorians.org/2023/03/09/women-talking-a-displaced-act-of-female-imagination/>
- 2023 “Mexico made criminal justice reforms in 2008 – they haven’t done much to reduce crime.” *The Conversation*. Feb 7. <https://theconversation.com/mexico-made-criminal-justice-reforms-in-2008-they-havent-done-much-to-reduce-crime-198277>
Translated into Spanish as “México hizo reformas al Sistema justicia penal en 2008, aunque no han hecho mucho para reducir la delincuencia.” *The Conversation* Mar 13. <https://theconversation.com/mexico-hizo-reformas-al-sistema-de-justicia-penal-en-2008-aunque-no-han-hecho-mucho-para-reducir-la-delincuencia-201657>
- 2021 “‘Lady of Guadalupe’ Avoids Tough Truths about the Catholic Church and Indigenous Genocide.” *The Conversation* June 14. <https://theconversation.com/lady-of-guadalupe-avoids-tough-truths-about-the-catholic-church-and-indigenous-genocide-160079>.
- 2020 “L.M. Montgomery, Physical Books, and the Pandemic.” *Journal of L. M. Montgomery Studies* November 24. <https://journaloflmmontgomerystudies.ca/vision-forum/lm-montgomery-physical-books-and-pandemic>.
- 2020 “Why the Virgin of Guadalupe is more than a Religious Icon to Catholics in Mexico.” *The Conversation* December 10. <https://theconversation.com/why-the-virgin-of-guadalupe-is-more-than-a-religious-icon-to-catholics-in-mexico-151251>
- 2019 “Mexican Mennonites Combat Fears of Violence with a New Christmas Tradition.” *The Conversation* December 11. <https://theconversation.com/mexican-mennonites-combat-fears-of-violence-with-a-new-christmas-tradition-127982>.
- 2019 “Mormons in Mexico: A Brief History of Polygamy, Cartel Violence and Faith.” *The Conversation* November 6, <https://theconversation.com/mormons-in-mexico-a-brief-history-of-polygamy-cartel-violence-and-faith-126493>
Translated into Spanish as “La familia LeBarón en México: una historia de fe, poligamia y violencia de los cartels de Droga,” November 8, <https://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias-america-latina-50341719>.
- 2019 “Reflections on Selective Immigration and Questions of Belonging.” *Anabaptist Historians Blog*. 7 Sept. <https://anabaptisthistorians.org/2019/09/07/reflections-on-selective-immigration-and-questions-of-belonging/>
- 2019 “How Much to Change.” *Anabaptist Historians Blog*. 18 Jan. <https://anabaptisthistorians.org/2019/01/18/how-much-to-change-amish-teachers-in-mexico/>.

- 2018 “Mennonites in Mexico.” *Anabaptist Historians Blog*. 4 Oct.
<https://anabaptisthistorians.org/2018/10/04/mennonites-in-mexico/>.
- 2017 “Whose Land? Conflict between Colonies and Ejidos in the Mexican State of Chihuahua.” *Preservings* 37, pp. 45-50.
- 2012 “Nicaragua and its Folklore.” *Celebrating Latino Folklore*, vol. 2, edited by Maria Herrera-Sobek, ABC-CLIO, pp. 838-850.

Awards

- 2017-present University of South Carolina Research – Breakthrough Star (2022); McCausland Faculty Fellowship (2022-2025); Book Manuscript Finalization (2018, 2020, 2021, 2024); Conference; Faculty Research (2019, 2020, 2021, 2023); Walker Institute Research (2019; 2023); Excel Grant (2023-2024)
- 2017-present University of South Carolina Teaching – Innovative Pedagogy; Integrative Learning; Open Educational Resources
- 2024-2025 Plett Foundation Short-Term Fellow, Centre for Transnational Mennonite Studies, University of Winnipeg
- 2024 Marian Library Visiting Scholar Fellowship, University of Dayton
- 2024 Short-Term Residency and Kilian McDonnell Fellowship, Collegeville Institute
- 2024 Common Ground Scholarship
- 2024 H. B. du Pont Fellowship, Hagley Library and Archives
- 2023 Exploratory Grant, Hagley Library and Archives
- 2017 Kreider Fellowship (Semester-long fellowship), Elizabethtown College
- 2016-2017 Midwest MLA Short-Term Fellowship at the Newberry Library in Chicago
- 2016-2017 Karl B. Schultz Faculty Development Grant (6 credit course release, 50% of teaching load for one semester)
- 2016 Bluffton University Research Council Grant (Summer research funding)
- 2015-2016 C. Henry Smith Peace Lectureship
- 2014-2016 DF Plett Historical Research Foundation Grant
- 2014-2015 Bluffton University Innovation Council Grant (course release for Hispanic student retention and Spanish department recruitment)
- 2014 LASA Travel Grant for non tenure-track faculty members
- 2014 MLA Travel Grant for non tenure-track faculty members
- 2012 Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores, Scholarship for Doctoral Research in Mexico
- 2011-2012 Ontario Graduate Scholarship
- 2011 Canadian Association of Hispanists Best Graduate Essay

Guest Lectures

- 2024 Is Violence Unlawful: A Humanities Approach to Human Rights in Mexico. October 21.
- 2024 Unholy Trinity. HISTCATMEX network. Zoom. Sept 25.
- 2024 Mennonites and Mormons in Mexico. Speaker Series, Church History Library, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Salt Lake City/Zoom. Aug 28.
- 2023 Violencia y la niñez. Universidad Iberoamericana. Mexico City. Oct 24.
- 2023 Mennonites in Latin America: Community, Land Claims, and Environmental Issues. University of Wisconsin-Madison. Madison, Wisconsin. Sept 27.
- 2023 Unlawful Gendered Violence. Texas A and M International University. Laredo, Texas. March 28.
- 2023 The Role of Gender in Cultural Studies Analysis. Texas A and M International University. Laredo, Texas. March 28.

- 2023 Research Methodologies from Cultural Studies. RELG 488. University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC. March 2.
- 2023 Unlawful Violence. Mexican Law and Cultural Production. Mexican Studies Research Collective. January. Virtual research group presentation.
- 2022 Unlawful Violence: Migrant Rights in 21st Century Mexico. Colorado State University – Fort Collins. Nov.
- 2022 Unlawful Violence: Women’s Rights in 21st Century Mexico. University at Albany. Albany, NY. 21 Sept.
- 2022 Mormons and Mormon Art in Mexico. Invited to speak for two days as part of NEH Summer Seminar at Claremont Graduate University, July.
- 2022 Mennonites in Mexico. Brigham Young University. February.
- 2021 Unholy Trinity: Mexican Film as a Commentary on Mexican History. University of North Carolina-Charlotte. 5 Nov.
- 2021 Unholy Trinity: History, Film, and the Catholic Church in Mexico. University of San Diego, San Diego, CA. 28 Sept.
- 2020 “*El crimen del padre Amaro*, Religion and Mexican Film.” North Carolina State University course (Prof. Shelley Garrigan), Raleigh, NC. 27 Oct.
- 2020 “Mennonites in Mexico and their Relationships with their Neighbors.” Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, IN. 31 Mar.
- 2020 “Human Rights in Mexico.” King’s University, Edmonton, AB. 5 Mar.
- 2019 “¿Mejorando la raza?: Selective Immigration and the Mexican State.” Presentation at Wake Forest University. 13 Nov.
- 2019 “Who Gets In? Immigration to Mexico.” Presentation at the University of Vermont. 4 Oct.
- 2018 “Unexpected Connections: Mennonites in Mexican Media.” Presentation at the University of Winnipeg, Winnipeg, MB. 17 May.
- 2018 “Representaciones del cuerpo en la literatura mexicana: el ejemplo de los cuentos de José Revueltas.” Presentation at the Universidad de Guadalajara-Sur Campus, Ciudad Guzmán, Mexico. 15 Mar.
- 2018 “*Con la muerte entre los puños* por Pedro Ángel Palou” in Métodos de análisis textual at Universidad de Guadalajara-Sur Campus, Ciudad Guzmán, Mexico. March.
- 2018 “Los cuentos de Arredondo” in Teoría literaria at Universidad de Guadalajara-Sur Campus, Ciudad Guzmán, Mexico. March.
- 2018 “La investigación literaria en los EUA” in Técnicas de investigación literaria at Universidad de Guadalajara-Sur Campus, Ciudad Guzmán, Mexico. March.
- 2018 “Narratives of Movement: Mennonites and Mormons in Mexico.” Keynote address for the Languages, Literatures, and Cultures Graduate Student Association Conference. University of South Carolina, Columbia SC. 3 Mar.
- 2017 “Fit in a Box: Masculinity and Femininity in Immigration Documents.” University of Florida, Gainesville FL. 21 Sept.
- 2017 “Encountering Low German Mennonite Women in Mexican Archives.” Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown PA. 30 Mar.
- 2016 “Whose Land is it Anyway? Mormons and Land Reform in Mexico.” Bluffton University, Bluffton OH. 23 Sept.
- 2016 “Small Signs of Pluralism in Mexico: Identification Cards and Other Images of the Low German Mennonites.” Goshen College, Goshen IN. 1 Mar.
- 2016 “We See Them but We Don’t Know Them: Mennonites in Mexican Popular Culture”. C Henry Smith Peace Lecture. Bluffton University, Bluffton OH. 23 Feb.

- 2016 “Minorities in Mexico: Mennonites and the 21st Century State.” Conrad Grebel University College, Waterloo ON. 20 Jan.
- 2013 “Luke’s Gospel in Mexico: Vicente Leñero’s *Gospel of Lucas Gavilán*.” Faculty Colloquium, Bluffton University, Bluffton OH. Nov 22, 2013.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Papers Presented

- 2025 MLA presentation. January.
- 2024 NAASR presentation. North American Association for the Study of Religion at the American Academy of Religion meeting. San Diego, CA. November.
- 2024 ASAP seminar. October.
- 2024 Discussion of *Women Talking* in CanLit Adapts Roundtable. Modern Language Association. January.
- 2023 “Pedro Palou and Canonical Literature.” UC-Mexicanistas. Guadalajara, Mexico. November.
- 2023 “Mining Religion: Religious Sites and Extractive Industries Across the Americas.” American Academy of Religion. San Antonio, TX. November.
- 2023 “In and of the Research Environment: Mennonites, Latin America and Religious Studies.” North American Association for the Study of Religion at the American Academy of Religion meeting. San Antonio, TX. November.
- 2023 “Questioning Fugitivity” seminar member. Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present. Seattle, WA. October.
- 2023 “Short Stories and State Power: Nadia Villafuerte’s *Barcos en Houston* and Mexico’s Migration Laws.” University of California-Irvine. February.
- 2022 “Reflecting on a Hundred Years: Mennonite Food in the Americas.” Center for Transnational Mennonite Studies, University of Winnipeg. October.
- 2022 “La representación de la segunda guerra mundial y la llamada guerra contra el narco en *La amante del ghetto* de Pedro Ángel Palou.” Latin American Studies Association, May.
- 2021 “Stately Reciprocity in the Work of Fernanda Melchor.” Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present Seminar Presentation. Virtual Conference, 25 Oct.
- 2021 “Short Stories and State Power: Portrayals of the Carceral State in Nadia Villafuerte’s *Barcos en Houston*.” American Comparative Literature Association. April.
- 2021 “Gender, Power and New Forms of Religious Expression in Mexico: The Case of *Ángel de Fuego*.” North Carolina Consortium on Latin American Studies. 20 Feb.
- 2019 “La imagen de la virtud y el encuentro del vicio en microcuentos xalapeños.” UC-Mexicanistas, Mexico City, Mexico. Nov.
- 2019 “Complicated and Corrupt Priests: *Las chicas malas del Padre Méndez* [Father Méndez’s Bad Girls].” Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present. College Park, MD. Oct.
- 2019 “Embodied Corruption and Limited Resistance in *El crimen del Padre Amaro*.” *Transient Bodies and Gender Politics in 21st-Century Mexico*. Chapel Hill, NC. Oct.
- 2019 “Neoliberal Reform, Necropolitics and Aesthetics of Fragmentation: Jorge Volpi’s *Una novela criminal*.” Latin American Studies Association. Boston, MA. May.
- 2019 “Deportation and Repatriation: Posters, Call Centers and Hugo García Manríquez’s *Anti-Humboldt*.” Modern Language Association. Chicago, IL. Jan.
- 2018 “El proceso de investigación de Julián Herbert expuesto en *La casa del dolor ajeno*: problemas y desafíos del archivo.” UC-Mexicanistas, University of California-Santa Barbara. Santa Barbara, CA. Nov.

- 2018 “Mormons in Mexico’s Drug Wars: Victims in Literature and in the Media.” Mexican Literature, Culture and Film across Borders: Translation, Migration and Frontiers Conference. Boston, MA. Oct.
- 2018 “Women against Violence: A Gesture Towards the End of Capitalism.” Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present Seminar Presentation. New Orleans, LA. Oct.
- 2018 “No Way Out of the Patriarchy or Capitalism in Inés Arredondo’s *Río subterráneo*.” Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present Roundtable Presentation. New Orleans, LA. Oct.
- 2018 “When the Law is Haunted: Afro-Mexicans’ Disappearance from Legal Discourse.” Latin American Studies Association. Barcelona, Spain. 25 May.
- 2018 “Fantasies of Control, Creation of Accidents: Alfredo Joskowicz’s *El cambio*.” Juan Bruce-Novoa Conference. University of California-Irvine. Irvine, CA. April.
- 2018 “Whose Ideal Populace? Indigenous Rights and Women’s Rights in Mexico.” American Comparative Literature Association. Los Angeles, California. 31 Mar.
- 2018 “José Revueltas: 1968 Figurehead.” 1968 in Global Perspectives. Columbia, South Carolina. 27 Feb.
- 2018 Mexican Literature in Theory roundtable presentation. Modern Language Association. New York City, NY. 7 Jan.
- 2017 “Another Look at Mexico: Amish Teachers Meet Mennonites in Mexico.” Mid-America Conference on Hispanic Literatures. Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO. Oct 28.
- 2017 “Transparency and History: “La culpa es de los tlaxcaltecas” and the Tlaxcalan Correspondence with the Spanish King.” Invited presentation at Transparencias: Mexican Cultural Production through the Twenty-First Century. University of Toronto. Toronto, ON. 30 Sept.
- 2017 “Mennonites, Mormons and Ejidatarios Interrupt Bureaucratic Procedure in Chihuahua (1930-1985).” Latin American Studies Association. Lima, Peru. 30 April.
- 2017 “Omnipresent Massacre and Absent Genocide in Julián Herbert’s *La casa del dolor ajeno*.” Modern Language Association. Philadelphia, PA. 7 Jan.
- 2016 “Land Conflict and Cartel Violence among Mennonites and Mormons in Mexico.” IV Conference of the International Association of Inter-American Studies. University of California-Santa Barbara. Santa Barbara, CA. 5 Oct.
- 2016 “Flattened in Time: Images of Dietsche (Low German) Women.” Still/Moving: Stories of Dietsche (Low German Mennonite) Women. London, ON. 26 Aug.
- 2016 “Mexican Law and Polygamous Order: The Kidnapping of Eric LeBaron.” American Comparative Literature Association. Boston, MA. 18 Mar.
- 2016 “Subjectivities beyond Identity in North America and the Caribbean.” Roundtable presentation. Modern Language Association. Austin, TX. 10 Jan.
- 2015 “Webcomic *MacBurro* and *El Heraldo* de Chihuahua’s Reports of the “Three Races’ in Día de la Raza parades.” Midwest Modern Language Association. Columbus, OH. 12 Nov.
- 2015 “Contagion, Religiosity and Border-Crossing: Low German Mennonites in Popular Culture.” Transforming Contagion. Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ. 23 Oct.
- 2015 “Remembering Our Way to Peace: Literary Studies and Peace Education.” Mennonite Educators’ Conference, Bluffton University, Bluffton, OH. 16 Oct.
- 2015 “Mennonite Migration in Mexican Visual Culture: Macburro and *Die Mennonitsche Post*.” Tepoztlán Institute for the Transnational Study of the Americas. Tepoztlán, Mexico. 22 Jul.
- 2015 “La muerte y el Estado en México: Los menonitas en *Luz silenciosa* de Carlos Reygadas.” I Encuentro de Investigadores de Cine Mexicano e Iberoamericano. México, DF. 25 June.

- 2014 “Migrantes en la tele: El Menona de *Los Héroes del Norte*.” UC-Mexicanistas, University of California-Santa Barbara. Santa Barbara, CA. 7 Nov.
- 2014 “State, Church and Blindness in José Revueltas’ *Dios en la tierra*.” Latin American Studies Association. Chicago, IL. 29 May.
- 2014 “Low German Mennonites’ Pilgrimage to Death: Carlos Reygadas’ *Stellet Licht* and Eunice Adorno’s *Las mujeres flores*.” Juan Bruce-Novoa Conference. University of California-Irvine. Irvine, CA. 16 May.
- 2014 “Cuerpos grotescos, religión, y marxismo en *Dios en la tierra* de José Revueltas.” Contemporary Mexican Literature Conference. University of Texas-El Paso. El Paso, TX. 7 Mar.
- 2013 “A Mennonite, an Affair and an Unhurried Film: Carlos Reygadas’ *Stellet Licht (Silent Light)*.” Latin American Studies Association. Washington, DC. 30 May.
- 2013 “El metro, la marginalización y los milagros en la literatura y crónica mexicana.” Juan Bruce Novoa-Conference. University of California-Irvine. Irvine, CA. 25 April.
- 2013 “La *chora* de una ciudad en ruinas: *Páramos* y *La foto del invernadero* de Reina María Rodríguez.” American Comparative Literature Association. University of Toronto, Toronto, ON. 5 April.
- 2013 “Al otro lado de la novela, una misa: *Aparta de mí este cáliz* y ‘Misa Iowa’ de Luis Humberto Crosthwaite.” Contemporary Mexican Literature Conference. University of Texas-El Paso, El Paso, TX. 9 Mar.
- 2012 “El intelectual humanizado: *Dios en la tierra* de José Revueltas.” La toma de la palabra. Oaxaca, Mexico. 16 Nov.
- 2012 “Creating Religion and Recreating the Past: Rosario Castellanos’ *Oficio de tinieblas*.” Hispanic Literary and Cultural Institute. California State University-Dominguez Hills, Carson, CA. (Mar.
- 2012 “Leñero, Liberation Theology and Luke’s Gospel: Miracles in *El evangelio de Lucas Gavilán*.” Contemporary Mexican Literature Conference. University of Texas-El Paso, El Paso, TX. 3 Mar.
- 2010 “Ernesto Cardenal: Resistance to Oppression from a Position of Power?” Latin American Studies Association. Toronto, ON. 7 Oct.
- 2009 “Conmemorando la Revolución: ¿Hagiografía en Batahola Norte?” Asociación Canadiense de Hispanistas. Carleton University, Ottawa, ON. 23 May.
- 2008 “If I Were President: Using Popular Education as a Tool for Building a Democratic Society.” Learning Democracy by Doing. University of Toronto, Toronto, ON. 10 Oct.

Panels Organized

- 2019 Religion and Latin American Cinema. Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present. College Park, MD. October.
- 2019 With Santiago Rozo Sánchez. Fracaso y éxitos del neoliberalismo: biopolítica y necropolítica en la producción cultural latinoamericana. Latin American Studies Association. Boston, MA. May.
- 2018 Late Capitalism and its Discontents: Reflections from Latinx, Lusophone African and Latin American Contexts. Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present. New Orleans, LA. Oct. (roundtable)
- 2018 With Amanda L. Petersen). Haunting Her(Story): Specters of Gender in a Global Mexico. Latin American Studies Association. Barcelona, Spain. 25 May.
- 2018 With Ashley Byock. Race, Law and the Emergence of Biopolitics in the Americas Seminar. American Comparative Literature Association. Los Angeles, California. 30-31 Mar.

- Youth and State Violence in 1968 Mexico. 1968 in *Global Perspectives*. Columbia, South Carolina. Feb.
- 2017 Interrupting the Effects of the Bureaucracy in Mexico and in Mexican Studies. Latin American Studies Association. Lima, Peru. 30 April.
- 2017 Habits and Disruptions in Bureaucratically Correct Mexicanist Scholarship. Latin American Studies Association. Lima, Peru. 30 April.
- 2014 “The Body at the Heart of Church-State Conflict in Mexico.” Latin American Studies Association. Chicago, IL. 29 May.
- 2013 “Mapping the Body in Contemporary Latin American Literature.” American Comparative Literature Association. University of Toronto, Toronto, ON. 6 April.

Other Conference Participation

- 2023 Presentation of *La novela infinita: Lecturas críticas de Pedro A. Palou* with Ignacio M. Sánchez Prado, Tomás Regalado-López and Ramón Alvarado-Ruiz. UC-Mexicanistas, Guadalajara, Mexico. November.
- 2023 Presentation of Mónica García Blizzard’s book *The White Indians of Mexican Cinema*. University of California-Irvine. Irvine, CA. February.
- 2022 Respondent to Sawfat Marzouk, Mennonite Scholars at the American Academy of Religion. Nov.
- 2019 Interview with Julián Herbert for Latin American Literature class at the University of Kansas. Skype. 15 April.
- 2018 Book Presentation of *Mexican Literature in Theory* with Christian Soto van der Plas, Ignacio M. Sánchez Prado and Sergio Gutiérrez Negrón. UC-Mexicanistas, University of California-Santa Barbara. Santa Barbara, CA. Nov 9.
- 2018 Book Presentation of *Liminal Sovereignty* with Sergio Gutiérrez Negrón. UC-Mexicanistas, University of California-Santa Barbara. Santa Barbara, CA. Nov 9.
- 2017 Introducing film and director; moderating discussion (with Emily Hind). “La Delgada Línea Amarilla/The Thin Yellow Line.” Gainesville Latino Film Festival, Gainesville, FL. Sept 23.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Brigham Young University (by invitation)

- Religion and Mexican Film, 1 credit course for MA students, Feb 2022.

University of South Carolina, 2017-present

- Cádiz, Spain, Maymester Study Abroad Director (2023)
- Cultural Readings and Advanced Conversation
- Special Topics (in Spanish): Law and Literature
- Special Topics (in English): Introduction to Mexican Culture; Religion in Mexico
- Latin American Culture
- Latin American Literature
- Contemporary Latin America
- Contemporary Latin America: focus on religion and mining (graduate/undergraduate)
- Contemporary Spanish American Literature
- Religion in Mexican Film (graduate)
- Hispanic Women Writers (graduate)
- Human Rights in Law and Literature in Mexico (graduate)

Bluffton University, 2013-2017

- Spanish American Literature
- Latin American Culture
- Spanish Peninsular Culture and Civilization
- Spanish Peninsular Literature
- Spanish Prose and Composition
- Advanced Grammar
- Intermediate Spanish
- Beginning Spanish 1 and 2
- Beginning Spanish 1 (hybrid course)
- Values in a Global Community (Capstone Seminar)
- Becoming a Scholar (First-Year Seminar)

University of Toronto, Fall 2008-Spring 2013

- Business Spanish
- Intermediate Spanish (standard course)
- Introduction to Mexican Literature (course for non-academic students)

Centro Cultural Batahola Norte, Managua, Nicaragua, 2007-2008

- Facilitator, domestic violence workshops with 8-12 year olds

DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

University of South Carolina, 2017-present

Departmental service

- 2018-present Organized visits of Ignacio M. Sánchez Prado (2019), Olivia Cosentino (2020); Emily Hind (2020), Stephanie Pridgeon (2021), Kieley Sutton (2022), Rebecca Ingram (2022)
- 2017-present Undergraduate Advisor, 5-12 students per semester
- 2021-2023 Director of Graduate Studies. In this role: Graduate advisory committee chair; Graduate admissions committee chair; Senior staff member; Faculty advisory council (Department governing body) member
- 2021 Spanish graduate advisor. In this role: Spanish admissions committee chair; Graduate Advisory Committee member; Graduate Admissions Committee member
- 2018-2020 Cantey Award Committee Member, Comparative Literature Program
- 2019-2021 Spanish Major Curriculum Committee
- 2017-2018 Search Committee Member, Assistant Professor of Spanish (Peninsular)

University service

- 2023 Building an Inclusive Community of Integrative and Experiential Learners
- 2023 Co-ordinate an effective teaching workshop (together with Instructional Designer Casey Carroll and Dr. Ashley Williard)
- 2021-2023 University library committee, provost appointee
- 2022 Organized book proposal workshop for pretenure faculty in the humanities
- 2018-2021 Faculty Senator

2020 Reviewer, Undergraduate and Graduate Awards; Walker Institute for International Studies

Graduate students

2017-present PhD committees (exams and dissertations): Adrienne Banko (PhD Spanish, graduated), David Beek (PhD Comparative Literature, graduated), Katherine Crouch, Andrés Arroyave
 2018-present External member: Sunshine Dempsey (PhD English, graduated) Dominique Barbee (MFA, English, graduated); Sophia Farthing (PhD English)
 2022-2023 MA thesis supervisor: Catalina Lancheros Villa (graduated)
 2021-2023 MA thesis committee: Chunyu Liu (graduated), Perla Richerson (graduated)
 2017-2022 PhD advisor (joint): Fritz Culp (graduated), Hyanghee Lee (graduated)

Undergraduate students

2024-present Honors thesis director: Allison Phelps (2024-present)
 2020-present Honors thesis reader: Malika Lightbourne (2022); Alana McAndrews (2020)

Bluffton University, 2013-2017

2013-2017 Advisor, Spanish Club
 2013-2017 Supervisor, Spanish teaching assistants and tutors
 2015-2017 Member, Faculty Development Committee
 2013-2016 Organizer, Spanish Immersion Days
 2013-2016 Reviewer, Presidential Scholarship Essay Competition
 2014-2015 Faculty Advisor, Sexuality Series
 2014-2015 Faculty Member, Campus Conduct Board
 2014-2015 Supervisor, undergraduate student research for new placement test
 2014-2015 Spanish Recruitment and Hispanic Student Retention Initiative
 2014-2015 Evaluator, Multiculturalism in Education Project

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

2024-present Journal of Amish and Plain Anabaptist Studies board member
 2023-present Tenure and Promotion external reviewer; Full Professor Promotion Reviewer (Institutions available upon request).
 2021-present Book blurbs: Downstate Legacies Undiscovered Americas series, 2023; Bucknell UP 2023
 2021-present Manuscript Reviewer: Bloomsbury (2021); University of Florida Press (2021; 2023); SUNY P (2024)
 2014-present Article Reviewer: *American Art* [Smithsonian American Art Museum], *Balajú*, *Chasqui*, *Cincinnati Romance Review*, *Diálogo*, *Geographical Review*, *Hispania*, *Hispanic Research Journal*, *Hispanic Review*, *Hispanic Studies Review*, *Hispanófila*, *Humanística*, *Journal of Amish and Plain Anabaptist Studies*, *Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies*, *Mexican Studies*, *Public Governance, Administration and Finances Law Review*, *Revista Canadiense de Estudios Hispánicos*, *Revista de estudios de género y sexualidades*, *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos*, *Signos literarios*
 2014-present Juror: Book Prize, Association of the Study of the Arts of the Present (2019); Dissertation Prize: LASA Mexico Section (2014-2016); Article Prize, LASA Mexico Section (2021-2022); Chair, Travel scholarships committee, LASA Mexico Section (2022-2023)

- 2022-2023 Chair, LASA Mexico Section.
In this role: Acting secretary-treasurer. Coordinated 4 panels at the LASA annual meeting. Organized 6 committees: 2 book prizes, 2 article prizes, 1 dissertation prize, and 1 travel scholarship.
- 2021-2022 Center for Transnational Mennonite Studies Annual Conference, Organizing Committee University of Winnipeg, 2021-2022
- 2015-2017 LASA Mexico Section, Standing Committee member

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- 2023 Lutheran Services of the Carolinas Refugee Program Volunteer
- 2013-2022 Batahola Norte Cultural Center, Project Education Translator
- 2020 Research and affidavits for immigration case, Chandra Law Firm and Ontario Legal Aid
- 2015 “El español en la universidad.” Presentation to Wayne Trace High School students. Haviland, OH. 23 April.
- 2015 “Pathways to College.” Presentation to Goshen High School Latino/a students. Goshen, IN. 21 April
- 2015 “Mirando hacia México y Latinoamérica.” Spanish Immersion Day Presentation to regional High School students, Bluffton OH. 10 April.
- 2015 “Me gusta la gasolina: Music, Sex and Relationships.” Bluffton University Sexuality Series Event, Bluffton OH. 11 Feb.
- 2014 “Español y la enseñanza.” Presentation to Carey High School, Carey, OH. 13 Mar.
- 2014 “Español como oportunidad.” Presentation to Ada Exempted Village High School, Ada, OH. 11 Mar.
- 2014 “Aprender y viajar en Latinoamérica.” Presentation to Hardin Northern High School, Washington, OH. 7 Jan.
- 2012 Casa de los Amigos (Quaker House), Mexico City, Migrant Program Volunteer.
- 2009-2010 Casa Canadiense Board Member, Toronto, ON.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Modern Language Association
- Latin American Studies Association
- UC-Mexicanistas
- American Academy of Religion

LANGUAGES

- English: Native speaker
- Spanish: Near-native level
- French: Advanced level (written and spoken)
- Portuguese: Beginner (reading knowledge)
- German: Beginner (reading knowledge)
- Low German: Beginning (conversational)