

OMARIS Z. ZAMORA  
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## EDUCATION

Ph.D.	University of Texas at Austin Iberian and Latin American Literatures and Cultures	Summer 2016
	<i>Dissertation: (Trance)formations of an AfroLatina: Embodied Archives of Blackness and Womanhood in Transnational Dominican Narratives</i>	
M.A.	University of Texas at Austin African and African Diaspora Studies	Fall 2013
B.A.	University of Chicago Romance Languages and Literatures Latin American and Caribbean Studies	Spring 2011
	Semesters Abroad	
	ACBEU (Salvador da Bahia, Brazil)	Summer 2012
	Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona, Spain)	Fall 2009

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

- 20<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> century Hispanic Caribbean
- Race, gender, and sexuality
- Critical Race Theory
- Hispanic Caribbean Transnational Migration
- Dominican Studies
- AfroLatinx literature & culture

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer-Reviewed Articles

“AfroLatina Bodies in (Trance)formation in Nelly Rosario’s *Song of the Water Saints*.” *Label Me Latina/o*. Special issue: Black and Latin@: Conceptualizing Afro-Latinidad in Afro-Latina/o Literature and Performance. Summer 2017.

“El tiguere sin cola: La emasculación de una dominicanidad transnacional.” *University of California-Berkeley Comparative Literature Undergraduate Journal*. 2 (1), 2011: 78-94.

### Academic Forums

“Refashioning Blackness, Refashioning Our Histories”. *Portal*. 8 (1), 2013: 24-25. Lozano Long Institute for Latin American Studies at the University of Texas at Austin.

### **Book Chapters**

“Queerengue: Afro-dominicanidad y performance en el merengue callejero del Rey Tulile”. *Caribbean Without Borders: Beyond the Can(n)on’s Range*. Newcastle, U.K.: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2015.

### **Book Reviews**

“Rethinking diaspora: The In Visible Corporeal Movements of Nuyorican Poetry.” *SX Salon* 22, June 2016.

### **Translations**

“Memoria de las cosas mas notables, que acaecieron en Béxar el año de 13 mandando el Tirano Arredondo” *A World Not to Come: A History of Latino Writing and Print Culture*. Raúl Coronado. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2013.

### **Creative Writing**

“Dancing with my Eyes.” *La Galería Magazine*. [www.lagaleriamag.com](http://www.lagaleriamag.com). 2015.

“I Wanna Write in Red.” *Our Stories, Our Dreams*. BUILD Ink Press: Chicago, 2009.

“Roots for Sale.” *From Rags to Riches: The Grind* edition of Blacklight Literary Magazine at the University of Chicago: Chicago, 2009.

“All in the Mix.” (Audio) *From the Entrails of the Monster*. Café Teatro Batey Urbano: Chicago, 2005.

### **AWARDS**

CUNY Dominican Studies Institute Archives and Library Research Award	Summer 2016
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Professional Development Award—University of Texas-Austin	Summer 2016
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Honorable Mention—Ford Foundation Pre-Doctoral Fellowship	Spring 2014
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Summer Research Award—Department of Spanish & Portuguese, University of Texas-Austin	Summer 2013
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Outstanding Graduate Student Award—Warfield Center for African American Studies at University of Texas at Austin	Spring 2013
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Honorable Mention—Ford Foundation Pre-Doctoral Fellowship	Spring 2013
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Graduate Student Travel Grant—Department of Spanish & Portuguese	Spring 2013
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## Graduate Student Organization

Black Studies Travel Grant—Warfield Center for African American Studies University of Texas-Austin	Spring 2013
Professional Development Award—University of Texas-Austin	Fall 2012
Summer Faculty-Led Program Scholarship for Salvador, Brazil Department of Spanish & Portuguese, University of Texas-Austin	Summer 2012
Professional Development Award—University of Texas-Austin	Spring 2012
Fath Endowment Fund Fellowship—Department of Spanish & Portuguese University of Texas-Austin	Fall 2011
Diversity Recruitment Fellowship—University of Texas-Austin	Fall 2011
Howell Murray Alumni Association Award—University of Chicago	Spring 2011
Dean’s List—University of Chicago	Fall 2007 – Spring 2011
Gates Millennium Scholarship, Hispanic Scholarship Fund	Fall 2007 – Spring 2011
Abbey Scholarship, BUILD, Inc.	Fall 2007 – Spring 2009
Heilmann Scholarship, BUILD, Inc.	Fall 2007 – Spring 2008
Leaders for Tomorrow Scholarship, St. Mary’s University of Minnesota	Spring 2007

## CONFERENCES AND INVITED LECTURES

### Conference Papers

“Redressing Caribbean bodies of Girlhood in Nadia Celis Salgado’s *La rebelión de las niñas: El Caribe y la “conciencia corporal”*.” Caribbean Philosophical Association Annual Meeting. Borough of Manhattan Community College: New York, New York. June 22-24, 2017.

“Black (Trance)formative Bodies in Josefina Baéz’s *Levente no. Yolayorkdominicanyork*.” Modern Languages Association Convention. Philadelphia Convention Center and Downtown Marriott Hotel: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. January 5-8, 2017.

“Queerengue: Afro-dominicanidad y Performance en el merengue callejero del Rey Tulile” 5<sup>th</sup> Graduate Students Conference Caribbean Without Borders: Beyond the Can(n)on’s Range. University of Puerto Rico: Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico. March 19-21, 2014.

“Translocating Afro-Latina Body Knowledges in Transnational Dominican Literature” 7<sup>th</sup> Biennial Association of the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora Conference. Instituto Tecnológico: Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. October 30-November 2, 2013.

“Where are We?: The Search for an Afro-Latina Feminist Thought in Transnational Dominican Literature” 1<sup>st</sup> Biennial U.S. Latina/o Literature & Literary Theory Conference. John Jay College of Criminal Justice: New York, New York. March 7-9, 2013.

“Un merengue ‘queer’: Dominicanidad y performance en el merengue del Rey Tulile”. 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial Puerto Rican Studies Association for Research Advocacy and Education Conference. State University of New York: Albany, New York. October 24-28, 2012.

“Dancing With the Dead: Mambo violento, sujetos fronterizos y conciencia negra en el ‘Diálogo cantado’ de Juan A. Alix.” Negritud International Conference. Center for Advanced Studies for Puerto Rico and the Caribbean: San Juan, Puerto Rico. March 22-24, 2012.

“Mambo violento: Sujetos fronterizos en el ‘Diálogo cantado’ de Juan A. Alix.” Department of Spanish and Portuguese Graduate Student Colloquium. University of Texas: Austin, Texas. March 2-3, 2012.

### **Invited Lectures**

“Cardi B, Josefina Báez, and La Bella Chanel: Performing (Trance)formations of AfroLatina Feminist Knowledge in Literature and Social Media” Fall Lecture. Africana Studies Program: Lehigh University, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

“Alright Ladies Now Let’s Get In (Trance)Formation: The Performativity & Production of AfroLatina Feminist Knowledge in Josefina Baez’s *Levente No. Yolayorkdominicanyork*, La Bella Chanel and Cardi B.” Symposium on Afro-Latinidades in the United States. Latina and Latino Studies Program: Williams College, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

“(Trance)forming AfroLatina Embodied Narratives.” Third Biennial Consultation of African & African Diasporan Women in Religion & Theology: Spelman College, July 10-15, 2016.

“(Trance)formations of an AfroLatina: Transnational Dominican Women’s Narratives of Blackness and Womanhood.” Department of Africana and Puerto Rican/Latino Studies: Hunter College, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016.

“(Trance)formations of AfroLatina Embodied Archives in Transnational Dominican Women’s Literature.” Department of English: Lehigh University. December 2, 2015.

“Where are We?: Translocating Afro-Latina Feminist Epistemologies in Dominican Cultural Production.” Department of Women and Gender Studies: University of Texas-Austin, November 8, 2013.

### **Performances & Workshops**

Performance. Second Annual Afro-Latino Encuentro. City College of New York. New York, NY. March 2016.

Performance. “Y mi cuerpo sigue haciendo memorias: A Spoken Word Epistemology of an Afro-Latina”. *Negra: A Night of Afro-Latina Performance*. University of Texas-Austin: Austin, TX. February 2014.

Performance. Latino Poetry Jam. Loyola University Chicago: Chicago, IL. September 2009 and September 2010.

Performance. Noche de poesía. Café Teatro Batey Urbano. Chicago, IL. July 2009.

Performance and workshop. Peace Through the Arts. Mikva Challenge Martin Luther King Conference. Chicago, IL. January 2009

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

### **University of Kansas Department of Spanish & Portuguese**

Assistant Professor

Lawrence, Kansas  
August 2017 – Present

- Provide academic service and support to the department and its students through advising, mentorship, and participation
- Teach four courses per academic year where students have the opportunity to develop their textual analysis skills and theoretical frameworks
- Introduce students to literature and culture of the Spanish-speaking African Diaspora and Latinx studies in the United States
- Mentor undergraduate and graduate students in their own research and professional goals
- Continue my research and writing on black transnational Latin American and Latino Studies

### **Lehigh University Africana Studies Program**

Visiting Assistant Professor

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania  
August 2016 – May 2017

- Provide administrative and scholarly support to the Africana Studies Program
- Teach two courses in the Spring 2017 semester that focus on African Diaspora literature and Afro-Caribbean poetry and other cultural production
- Mentor undergraduate and graduate students in their own research and professional goals
- Continue my research and writing on transnational Afro-Dominican writers and performers

### **Brooklyn College Department of Puerto Rican & Latino Studies**

Adjunct Lecturer

Brooklyn, New York  
August 2015 – May 2016

- Teach undergraduate students Introduction to Puerto Rican and Latino Studies
- Provide students with a critical approach and perspective to the subject through an interdisciplinary lens that engages with history, politics, and literature.
- Facilitate the development of students’ writing and critical thinking skills through workshops and close readings
- Mentor and assist students during office hours and via Blackboard

**Brooklyn College Department of Africana Studies**

Adjunct Lecturer

Brooklyn, New York

August 2015 – December 2015

- Teach undergraduate students a survey course on the literature of the African Diaspora
- Provide students with a critical approach and perspective to African Diaspora literature through an interdisciplinary lens that engages with theory and literary analysis
- Facilitate the development of students skills of literary analysis and using theory as a framework for their analysis of various pieces of Afro-Diasporic literature
- Mentor and assist students during office hours and via Blackboard

**Portfolio Resident Services**

Resident Services Coordinator

Austin, Texas

August 2014 – April 2015

- Carry out the Good Neighbor Program at a low-income housing complex
- Provided a variety of activities/classes which included but not limited to afterschool programs, recreational activities, health and nutrition resources, adult education, social events and financial literacy classes in order to promote personal and community development
- Maintained and provided resources for families and children relating to financial need and hunger

**University of Texas-Austin Department of Spanish and Portuguese**

Teaching Assistant

Austin, Texas

August 2014 – December 2014

- Co-taught upper-level undergraduate course titled, “Mediascapes: Spectacle and Performance in Caribbean” with Dr. Jossianna Arroyo
- Led and facilitated discussions of assigned texts
- Assisted Dr. Arroyo with mentoring students and grading
- Collaborated with Dr. Arroyo in the design and curriculum of the course syllabus

**University of Texas-Austin Department of Spanish and Portuguese**

Assistant Instructor

Austin, Texas

August 2013 – August 2014

- Taught first-level of Spanish to undergraduate students
- Assisted students during office hours
- Created activities and lesson plans to facilitate student-centered language learning

**Columbia College Chicago Upward Bound Program**

Teaching Assistant and Tutor

Chicago, Illinois

June 2010 – August 2011

- Co-taught and tutored high school students in writing and literature
- Mentor and assist high school seniors students with college applications
- Chaperoned weekly field trips

**University of Chicago Department of English**

Research Assistant Supervisor

Chicago, Illinois

June 2010 – July 2011

- Executed archival research for Dr. Raúl Coronado’s book project
- Provided translation services for primary documents and archives
- Provided research methods training for other research assistants

- Organized and provided course materials for students

### **University of Chicago**

**Office of Multicultural Student Affairs & LGBTQ Student Life** Chicago, Illinois  
Programming Intern January 2009 – October 2010

- Managed and supported OMSA & LGBTQ staff with project-based initiatives
- Implemented proper procedures for the building's facilities and event management
- Provided reception and monitoring usage of the building

### **Pritzker College Prep**

College Scholarship Coordinator Chicago, Illinois  
June 2009 – September 2009

- Developed a college funding database of approximately 500 scholarships for rising high school seniors
- Coordinated and chaperoned summer college visits
- Provided Spanish/English translations for Fall Orientation and Parent meetings

### **University of Chicago Urban Education Institute**

Student Intern Chicago, Illinois  
January 2008 – September 2008

- Organized logistics for staff meetings and workshops
- Carried out the admissions process and administration for the network's Summer Accelerated Math Camp
- Conducted evaluations of curriculum workshops

## **SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION**

Inaugural Director & Coordinator for the William R. Scott Rites of Passage Youth Program, NEH Community-Engaged Initiative  
Lehigh University Africana Studies Program Spring 2017

Master's Report Committee Member Spring 2017  
Brenda Martinez, English Department, Lehigh University

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Co-Chair Spring 2017  
Karen Valerio, Africana Studies Program, Lehigh University

Ad Hoc Reviewer for *Label Me Latina/o* Volume VII Special Issue, Black and Latin@: Afro-Latina/o Literature and Performance Fall 2016

## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Dominican Students Association at City College of New York  
*Afro-Latino Encuentro Co-organizer* January 2015 – March 2016

“Bridging the Gap: The Latino, African American, and Afro-Latino Breach” at Columbia University of New York

<i>Co-organizer</i>	October 2015 – February 2016
AfroLatin@ Studies Workgroup, University of Texas-Austin <i>Founding Member</i>	September 2014 – May 2016
Graduate Student Organization, Department of Spanish and Portuguese University of Texas-Austin <i>Secretary</i>	May 2012 – May 2013
Black Studies in the Age of New Media Steering Committee African & African Diaspora Studies Department, University of Texas-Austin <i>Member</i>	September 2011 – January 2012
Instituto Cultural Steve Biko-Salvador da Bahia, Brazil <i>Volunteer</i>	May 2012—July 2012
Quilombola: Austin Black and Brown Alliance <i>Steering Committee Member and Outreach</i>	February 2012 – August 2012
BUILD Inc., Associate Board <i>Member</i>	January 2011 – January 2012

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora

Latin American Studies Association

Modern Language Association

American Studies Association

Caribbean Philosophical Association

Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc.

## **LANGUAGES**

- Spanish native fluency
- English native fluency
- Portuguese fluent speaking, reading, and writing
- Catalan beginner speaking, reading, and writing