

ELLEN MOODIE, Ph.D.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
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EDUCATION

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Ph.D., Anthropology, 2002

M.A., Anthropology, 1997

Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana

B.A., Journalism, General Sciences and Environmental Studies, 1985

POSITIONS HELD

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, 2011-present

Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, 2005-2011

Appointments in the Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory and the Center for Global Studies, 2006-present

Affiliate, Center for Social and Behavioral Science, 2021-present

Affiliate, Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology, 2020-present

Affiliate, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, 2005-present

Director of Graduate Studies and Associate Head, Department of Anthropology, 2013-2017

Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Humanities and Visiting Assistant Professor, 2003-2005

Bowdoin College, Brunswick Maine

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, 2002-2003

RESEARCH AND AREA INTERESTS

Democracy, liberalism, and social movements; public risk and trust; violence, trauma, and human rights; crime and insecurity; structures of inequality, including generation, gender, sexuality, class, and race; middle classes; youth movements; narrative; Central America and Central American migrants, with a focus on El Salvador.

ACADEMIC GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

Center for Social and Behavioral Sciences Small Grant Program, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, "Essential Work, Expendable Life? Identifying SARS-CoV-2 Critical Control Points in Rantoul and Surrounding Communities" with Korinta Maldonado (Principal Investigator) and Co PIs Jessica Brinkworth and Gilberto Rosas, 2020-2021.

Conrad Humanities Scholar, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, 2016-2021. See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UegjNKEvv6w>

Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities Research Cluster Grant for Interdisciplinary Cuban Studies Workshop, 2016-2017.

Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory Senior Faculty Fellowship, "Changing Epistemologies in Contemporary Cuba: Towards a Collaborative Ethnography," 2016-2018.

Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Faculty Research Award, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, 2016.

Arnold O. Beckman Award, Campus Research Board, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, "Publication Subvention for Spanish Translation of *El Salvador in the Aftermath of Peace*," 2015-2017.

Freie Universität, Berlin, Germany, Collaborative Research Center (SFB) 700 Research Project, Residential Fellowship, Institute for Latin American Studies and DesigALdades, November 2014

Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities, Faculty Fellow, 2014-2015.

Campus Research Board Award, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, "Major Research Reviews of Central America," 2014.

National Science Foundation Cultural Anthropology Program, "From Wartime to Peacetime: Post Insurgent Individuality in Northern Morazán, El Salvador," with co-Principal Investigator Dr. Leigh Binford, College of Staten Island, City University of New York, 2010-2013.

Humanities Released Time, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, "Middle-Class Political Subjectivities in El Salvador's Unequal Democracy," 2013.

Campus Research Board Award, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, "Damascus Encounters? Transnational Affect and Global Transformation through Short-term Christian Mission Trips," 2010.

Wenner-Gren Foundation grant for international conference, "After the Handshakes: Rethinking Democracy and Living Transition in Central America," with Dr. Jennifer Burrell, University at Albany (SUNY), 2008.

Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities, Faculty Fellow, 2007-2008

Campus Research Board Award, University of Illinois, " 'It's Worse than the War': Crime, Talk and Transition to Democracy in El Salvador's Postwar Era," 2006.

Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Humanities, University of Illinois, 2003-2005.

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Articles and Book Chapters

"Del no saber al saber (y viceversa): Inseguridad e intimidación en El Salvador de la posguerra" with Grazzia Grimaldi). *Alteridades*. Forthcoming 2022.

"Expert Witnessing in the Asylum Economy." *Annals of Anthropological Practice*. Forthcoming 2022.

"La línea, los Indignados, and the Post-Postwar Generation in El Salvador" (with Clara Guardado Torrez). *Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology* 25 (4) (December 2020).

"Introduction: Generations and Change in Central America" (with Jennifer L. Burrell). *Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology* 25 (4) (December 2020).

"Conclusion: Generation and Change in Central America" (with Gabriela Torres and Jennifer L. Burrell) *Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology* 25 (4) (December 2020).

"Visceral Non-Presence: Ethnography in the Age of COVID" (with Jessica Brinkworth, Korinta Maldonado, and Gilberto Rosas). *Journal of Legal Anthropology* (editor-reviewed) 4 (1) (Summer) 2020: 92-100.

"El Salvador: History." Encyclopedia entry on post-civil war political history, in *South America, Central America, and the Caribbean*, part of Europa's Regional Surveys of the World series (Abingdon, UK: Routledge), Fall 2019, updated Fall 2020 and Fall 2021.

"Selling Affect, Seeking Blood: The Economy of Pain at El Mozote, El Salvador" (with Leigh Binford). In *Detours: The Politics of Return in Latin America and the Caribbean*, edited by M. Bianet Castellanos. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2019.

"From Gringa to Yuma: Slow Arrivals to Cuba." In "World Anthropologies," *American Anthropologist* (editor-reviewed), September 2019.

Introduction to "Behind the Migrant Caravan: Ethnographic Updates from Central America" (with Jennifer L. Burrell). In "Hot Spots," *Cultural Anthropology* (editor-reviewed series), January 15, 2019.

- Co-editor, "Behind the Migrant Caravan: Ethnographic Updates from Central America" (with Jennifer L. Burrell). In "Hot Spots," *Cultural Anthropology* (editor-reviewed series), January 15, 2019.
- Invited commentary on "A Divided Community: The Ethics and Politics of Activist Research" by Christopher A. Loperena in *Current Anthropology* 57 (3) (June 2016): 340-341.
- "Post-Cold War Anthropology in Central America" (with Jennifer L. Burrell). *Annual Review of Anthropology* 44 (2015).
- "En las llamas de la paz: La quema de un microbús y los significados de la violencia" (with Juan Martínez D'Aubuisson). In *Violencia en tiempos de la paz: conflictividad y criminalización en El Salvador*, edited by Óscar Melendez and Adrian Bergmann. San Salvador: Secretaria de Cultura de la Presidencia de El Salvador, Dirección Nacional de Investigaciones en Cultura y Arte, 2015.
- "Unknowing the Other: A Short Essay on Criminalization through Narrative in Postwar El Salvador." In *Post-Conflict Studies: An Interdisciplinary Approach*, edited by Chip Gagnon and Keith Brown. New York: Routledge, 2014.
- "Untellable Stories and the Limits of Solidarity in a Sister Community Relationship." In *International Volunteer Tourism: Critical Reflections on Good Works in Central America*, edited by Abigail Adams and Katherine Borland. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2013.
- "Inequality and Intimacy between Sister Communities in El Salvador and the United States." *Missiology: An International Review* 41 (April 2013): 146-162.
- "Introduction: Ethnographic Visions of Millennial Central America" (with Jennifer L. Burrell). In *Central America in the New Millennium: Living Transition and Reimagining Democracy*, co-edited with Jennifer L. Burrell. New York/Amsterdam: Berghahn/CEDLA, 2013.
- "Democracy, Disenchantment and the Future in El Salvador." In *Central America in the New Millennium: Living Transition and Reimagining Democracy*, co-edited with Jennifer L. Burrell. New York/Amsterdam: Berghahn/CEDLA, 2013.
- "Es peor que la guerra: Historias de crimen en la posguerra y recuerdos de la guerra en El Salvador." In *Las figuras del enemigo: Alteridad y conflictos en Centroamérica*, edited by Gilles Bataillon and Benjamín Moallic. San Salvador: Dirección Nacional de Investigaciones de la Secretaria de la Cultura y Universidad Evangelica, 2012.
- "Wretched Bodies, White Marches and the *Cuatro* Visión Public in El Salvador." *Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology* 14 (2) (Fall 2009), 382-404.
- "Seventeen Years, Seventeen Murders: The Production of Post-Cold War Knowledge in El Salvador." *Social Text* 99 (Summer 2009), 77-103.
- "Dollars and Dolores in Postwar El Salvador." In *Encounters with Money*, edited by Allison Truitt and Stefan Senders. Oxford, U.K.: Berg Publishers, 2007, 43-55.
- "Microbus Crashes and Coca-Cola Cash: The Value of Death in 'Free-Market' El Salvador." *American Ethnologist* 32 (1) (February 2006), 63-80.
- "Como rastrear al delincuente salvadoreño a través del siglo veinte." In *Memoria del Primer Encuentro de Historia de El Salvador*, edited by Margarita Silva and Carlos G. López. San Salvador, El Salvador: CONCULTURA, 2005, 225-234.
- "El Capitán Cinchazo: Blood and Meaning in Postwar San Salvador." In *Landscapes of Struggle: Community, Politics and Society in El Salvador*, edited by Aldo Lauria Santiago and Leigh Binford. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2004, 226-244.

Books

- Las escuelas de la paz: Criminalidad, incertidumbre y transición de la democracia*, trans. Patricia Morales Tijerino. San Salvador: Universidad Centroamericana (UCA) Editores, 2017. Revised with new epilogue (translation of *El Salvador in the Aftermath of Peace*).

Central America in the New Millennium: Living Transition and Reimagining Democracy, co-edited with Jennifer Burrell. New York/Amsterdam: Berghahn/CEDLA, 2013.

El Salvador in the Aftermath of Peace: Crime, Uncertainty and the Transition to Democracy. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2010.

Book Reviews

Review of *Stories of Civil War in El Salvador: A Battle over Memory* by Erik Ching. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2016. In *Hispanic American Historical Review* (August 2018) 98 (3): 547–548.

Review of *Outlawed: Between Security and Rights in a Bolivian City*, by Daniel M. Goldstein, Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 2012. In *American Ethnologist* 42 (1) (February 2015): 183-184.

Review of *Adiós Niño: The Gangs of Guatemala City and the Politics of Death*, by Deborah T Levenson. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2013. In *Hispanic American Historical Review* 94 (4) (November 2014): 727-729.

Review essay on Irina Carlota Silber, *Everyday Revolutionaries: Gender, Violence, and Disillusionment in Postwar El Salvador* (Piscataway: Rutgers University Press, 2011) and Sandy Smith-Nonini, *Healing the Body Politic: El Salvador's Popular Struggle for Health Rights from Civil War to Neoliberal Peace* (Piscataway: Rutgers University Press, 2010), in *Mesoamérica* (June 2013): 269-272.

Review of Elana Zilberg, *Space of Detention: The Making of a Transnational Gang Crisis between Los Angeles and San Salvador* (Duke University Press, 2011), in *Anthropological Quarterly* 86 (1) (February 2013): 325-330.

Review of Diane M. Nelson, *Reckoning: The Ends of War in Guatemala* (Duke University Press, 2009) in *American Ethnologist* 39 (2) (May 2012): 469-470.

Review of Molly Todd, *Beyond Displacement: Campesinos, Refugees, and Collective Action in the Salvadoran Civil War* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2010) in *The Americas* 68 (4) (April 2012): 619-621.

Review of Susan Bibler Coutin, *Nations of Emigrants: Shifting Boundaries of Citizenship between El Salvador and the United States* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2007), in *PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review* 33 (2) (2010): 142-145.

Review of Alisse Waterston, ed. *An Anthropology of War: Views from the Frontline* (New York: Berghahn, 2009). *American Ethnologist* 37 (2) (2010): 402-403.

CONFERENCES AND LECTURES

Presentations (*indicates invited)

*"Counterfactual: Expert for the Opposition?" Part of Executive Session, "Truth, Responsibility, and Accountability in Asylum Engagements: Refugee Epistemology and Fugitive Anthropology." American Anthropological Association, Baltimore, Maryland, November 2021.

*"Labor Mobility and Virus Mobility: COVID choreography across the Americas" (with Jessica Brinkworth), on panel "Pandemic Spaces, Movement, and Securitization," part of conference "A Relevatory Pandemic? Disaster Social Science and COVID 19 in Latin America," University of New Orleans and Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social (CIESAS) Tlalpan, Mexico City, April 20, 2021.

**"The Reluctant Expert: Witnessing Central American Asylum Cases." Featured speaker for "We Are Called to Be People of Welcome: Understanding Asylum Today." St. Peter's College, Jersey City, N.J., April 7, 2021.

- *Speaker, "Border-crossings: Perspectives on Migration, Imagining Mobility and the Making of Anthropology," part of Goldsmiths Autumn Seminar, "Anthropology and Double Consciousness: Moving between Two Worlds." Goldsmiths College, London, November 11, 2020.
- Speaker, "Truth, Violence, and the Public Sphere." Livestream Session for "Raising Our Voice" Virtual Event Series, American Anthropological Association, November 10, 2020.
- *Participant, "History of Asylum Seeking Country Conditions Report" roundtable, University of Florida, November 9, 2020.
- *"An Uncomfortable Anthropologist in the Asylum Economy." DePaul University, October 29, 2020.
- *"The Use of Experts in the Asylum Process." Immigration Law Society Talk, University of Illinois School of Law, October 27, 2020.
- Discussant, "The Violences of Displacement in the Americas." Latin American Studies Association, May 16, 2020 (Zoom conference due to pandemic).
- *"En Pie de Guerra? On the Brink of War? Fiction, Fact, and Democracy in El Salvador." Keynote speech, Eighth Annual Human Rights Undergraduate Research Workshop, Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Illinois. February 13, 2020.
- *"El Salvador, 2019: Surging into the Unknown in a Climate of Danger and Disgust." Part of Executive Session, "The Migrant Caravan and Legacies of Violence: The Changing Climate of Immigration and Asylum at the U.S./Mexico Border and Beyond." American Anthropological Association, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. November 23, 2019.
- "Detours: Reflections on Travel, Collaboration, and Inequality in Latin America." Roundtable discussion, American Anthropological Association, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. November 20, 2019.
- *"Antropología en El Salvador hoy: Como estudiar la realidad." Nehemiah International University, Ilopango, El Salvador. June 17, 2019.
- *"La historia que no se cuenta: El 'pasaje medio' centroamericano por Mexico." Instituto de Investigaciones Sociales, Universidad Nacional de México, Mexico City, Mexico. May 30, 2019.
- "Writing after the Matter of A-B-: How Can We Avoid Tropes of Barbarism and Civilization?" Part of panel, "Latin American Asylum Speakers in the U.S.: Expert Witnessing in the Age of Trump, Part I: Latin American Studies Association, Boston, Mass. May 27, 2019.
- "The Outraged Middle: The Politics of the Post-postwar Generation of El Salvador." Part of symposium "Aspirational Politics: Exploring Repercussions of Emerging Middle Classes in Latin America," Ludwig-Maximilian University, Munich, Germany. May 16, 2019.
- "Electoral Politics and the Post-postwar Generation of El Salvador." Society for Latin American and Caribbean Studies conference, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. April 11, 2019.
- Panelist, "What Everyone Needs to Know about Central America in an Age of Deportation, Part 1: Views from the Northern Triangle," Roundtable, American Historical Association. Chicago, January 5, 2019.
- *"Expert Witnessing for Central American Asylum Cases." Invited talk at Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies, Western Washington University, Bellingham, Washington. November 20, 2018.
- "In Whose Time? Peace and the Post-postwar Generation in El Salvador" in panel "Towards a Radical Peace: The Failure of Liberal Peacemaking." American Anthropological Association, San Jose, Cal. November 16, 2018.
- "The Reluctant Expert: Witnessing Central American Asylum Cases." Anthropology Department Colloquium Series, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. November 8, 2018.
- *"The Perils and Promises of Expert Witnessing," with Gilberto Rosas. Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Lecture Series, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. October 29, 2018.

- *"The Reluctant Expert: Witnessing Central American Asylum Cases." Part of event, "Family, Immigration, Sexuality," Department of Latin American and Latino Studies, and the LGBTQ Program, DePaul University, Chicago. September 19, 2018.
- *"Politics, Violence, and Generational Change in Latin America: A Lecture and Conversation." Institute of Latin American Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London. May 30, 2018.
- Discussant, "Generational Transformations in Central America." Latin American Studies Association, Barcelona, Spain. May 26, 2018.
- *"Ethnographic Notes on Encounters with Social Scientists and Revolutionaries." Faculty Fellows Symposium, Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. March 9, 2018.
- *"Secuelas de la Paz." Book presentation, UCA Editores, Universidad Centroamericana "José Simeon Cañas," San Salvador, El Salvador. February 1, 2018.
- "Cambios generacionales y desigualdad en El Salvador," II Taller *Aspectos Teóricos Y Metodológicos para el Estudio de las Desigualdades Sociales*, Instituto Cubano de Investigación Cultural Juan Marinello, Havana, Cuba. December 12, 2017.
- Roundtable participant, "Anthropologist as Witness: Critical Perspectives on the Production of Cultural and Forensic Expertise in Courts of Law," American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C. December 1, 2017.
- "From *gringa* to *yuma*: Singularity and relationality between El Salvador and Cuba" in panel "Comparison Matters: Insights from and about the Comparative Method." American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C. November 30, 2017.
- *"Escribir el post' centroamericano: Antropología en y sobre el istmo." Keynote speech, Primer Encuentro de Estudiantes de Posgrado Centroamericanistas en México: Actualidad y Perspectivas en y sobre la Región (First Conference of Central Americanist Graduate Students: Perspectives in and on the Region). Colegio de Michoacán, Zamora, Michoacán, Mexico. June 16, 2017.
- *"Las generaciones de guerra, posguerra, y pos-posguerra: El imaginario político cambiante en El Salvador." Seminario Permanente Sobre el Pensamiento Antropológico (Permanent Seminar on Anthropological Thought), Colegio de Michoacán, Zamora, Michoacán, Mexico. June 14, 2017.
- *"Generation and Memory in Post-postwar El Salvador." CUNY Graduate Center, New York, New York. March 24, 2017.
- *"¿No te dio paja?" Knowing and Not-knowing in the Post-Surge Moment." Part of panel, "Seeking Asylum: Perspectives on Central Americans Fleeing Violence." Central American Studies Program Annual Symposium, California State University Northridge, Los Angeles, California. March 15, 2017.
- *"Una pregunta: ¿etnografía y/o ciencia? Reflejos sobre El Salvador en las secuelas de la paz." Facultad de Ciencias y Humanidades, Universidad de Pinar del Rio, Pinar del Rio, Cuba. November 29, 2016.
- "Memoria y pos-memoria entre la familia: El caso de la movilización de los jóvenes en El Salvador." XIII Conferencia Internacional de Antropología 2016, Instituto Cubano de Antropología, Havana, Cuba. November 22, 2016.
- *"Desire and Anxiety: The Self-Other Dialectic among Cuban Social Scientists and a U.S. Anthropologist." Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Lecture Series, University of Illinois. November 2, 2016.
- *Invited discussant, "Encountering Transnational (In)Security and Violence in Guatemala." Collaborative Research Center (SFB) 700, Governance in Areas of Limited Statehood, desigualdades.net, Freie Universität, Berlin, Germany, October 2016.

- *“Displaced Central American Youth: From Violence to Limbo (and Back Again).” Presentation as part of invited workshop, Central America Section, Latin American Studies Association, New York, New York. May 27, 2016.
- “*Están en pie de guerra*: Violent Mobilization and Fear among the Middle Classes in Postwar El Salvador.” Part of panel I organized, “Ethnographies of Violence in Postwar El Salvador,” Latin American Studies Association, New York, New York. May 28, 2016.
- “*Están en pie de guerra*’ (They are the brink of war): After-effects among El Salvador’s post-postwar generation.” Part of panel, “Growing up in Central America: Moral Panics and the Politics of Youth from the Cold War to the Present Day.” Southeast Council of Latin American Studies conference, Cartagena, Colombia. March 12, 2016.
- *“Aproximaciones al estudio de la violencia en El Salvador.” Seminar co-presented with Ainhoa Montoya, University of London, and Georgina Hernández Rivas, Autonomous University of Madrid. Invited guests of project, “Las políticas de la memoria.” Centro de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales, Madrid, Spain. February 4, 2016.
- “Political Consciousness in El Salvador’s Post-postwar Generation.” Part of panel, “Generation and Political Mobilization: Refractions, Interconnectivities, and Possibilities.” American Anthropological Association, Denver, Col. November 22, 2015.
- “Postmemory in the Post-postwar Generation/ *La posmemoria en la generación posterior a la posguerra*.” Invited panel, “*Centro América después de las guerras: historias, memorias y secuelas*”. International Conference of Americanistas, San Salvador, El Salvador, July 14, 2015.
- *“The New Central American Crisis: Unaccompanied Minors at the Border.” Invited panel, Central America Section, Latin American Studies Association, San Juan, Puerto Rico, May 30, 2015.
- “From Not-Knowing to Knowing: Changing Crime Stories in San Salvador, 1994-2014.” Part of panel, “Evolving Conceptions of Violence and Security in Latin America.” Latin American Studies Association, San Juan, Puerto Rico, May 29, 2015.
- Discussant for panel, “Violence, Politics, and the State.” Midwest Workshop on Latin American History, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, April 3, 2015.
- *“*El Zapatazo Limpio*: Liberal Outrage and Radical Order in Postwar El Salvador.” Paper presented at *Crowds and Citizenries in Latin America*. Workshop co-sponsored by the Institute of Latin American Studies, Columbia University, and the Colegio de Michoacán, Columbia University, February 27 and 28, 2015.
- “*El Zapatazo Limpio*: The Post-postwar Generation, Liberal Outrage, and Radical Order in El Salvador.” Presentation at *Nuevas Disidencias: Youth Culture, Transnational Flows, and the Remaking of Politics in the Americas*, 2015 Lozano Long Conference, Teresa Lozano Long Institute for Latin American Studies, University of Texas, Austin, Texas, February 20, 2015.
- *“*Memoria, Desmemoria* and Silence in El Salvador’s Post-postwar Generation.” Part of invited panel, “Silence in/and Ethnography.” American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C., December 5, 2014.
- *“Democracy and the Post-postwar Generation in El Salvador.” Invited presentation for Collaborative Research Center (SFB) 700, “Governance in Areas of Limited Statehood,” Freie Universität, Berlin, November 13, 2014.
- *“The Current Crisis in El Salvador.” Invited participant in roundtable discussion at the International and Area Studies Library Chai Wai, “Migrants, Immigrants and Refugees,” University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, October 14, 2014.
- Discussant and co-organizer for panel, “¿Y La Nueva Generación?: Youth Activism in Central America’s Emergent Democracies,” Latin American Studies Association, Chicago, May 23, 2014.
- *“*En pie de guerra* (On the brink of war): Attunements to violence in El Salvador’s post-postwar democracy.” Invited presentation at Workshop on Violence and Security in Latin America, The

- Latin American Studies Program and the Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, May 5, 2014.
- *“*El Zapatazo Limpio: Liberal Outrage and Radical Order in El Salvador.*” Part of invited panel, “Crowds and Citizenries in Latin America.” American Anthropological Association, Chicago, November 21, 2013.
- Discussant for panel, “A Fragile Republic: Vulnerability and Political Life after Liberalism,” Chicago. November 20, 2013.
- *“*‘El Zapatazo Limpio’: Late Liberal Outrage in Postwar El Salvador.*” Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Lecture Series, University of Illinois. November 7, 2013.
- *“*Memoria, desmemoria, y nostalgia del futuro entre jóvenes de las clases medias de El Salvador de la posguerra.*” Paper presented in the forum *Foro: Las memorias de la guerra: Cambios y continuidades en las sociedades locales a principios del siglo XXI*, Universidad de El Salvador, San Salvador, El Salvador, September 27, 2013.
- *“*La violencia en los tiempos de la paz: Vidas cotidianas y políticas públicas.*” Presentation at the Universidad Don Bosco, Campus Antiguo Cuscatlán, El Salvador, September 25, 2013.
- *“*Participación de jóvenes de la clase media de clase media en la sociedad civil de El Salvador.*” Presentation for FUSADES, Fundación Salvadoreña para el Desarrollo Económico y Social, Antiguo Cuscatlán, El Salvador. July 24, 2013.
- *“*Avance de una investigación sobre nuevos movimientos juveniles y participación juvenil en El Salvador.*” Presentation for UNICEF, Antiguo Cuscatlán, El Salvador. June 24, 2013.
- *“*¿La joven revedia de la sociedad civil? Apuntes sobre la coyuntura sociopolitical de junio de 2011.*” Presentation for Conversatorios en Antropología, Museo Tecleño, Santa Tecla, El Salvador. June 13, 2013.
- “*Revolution as ‘Queer Time’: Reflections on Life Histories in Morazán, El Salvador,*” paper presented as part of the panel, “El Salvador: From Civil War to Civil Peace.” Latin American Studies Association meeting, Washington, D.C. May 31, 2013.
- Discussant for panel, “Renegotiating El Salvador’s Social Contract.” Latin American Studies Association meeting, Washington, D.C., May 31, 2013.
- “*Reflexiones sobre El Salvador en las secuelas de la paz.*” Keynote talk in *Seminario de Investigadores 2013, “Política y Sociedad: Nuevas Perspectivas de Investigación Antropológica en El Salvador.*” Facultad de Antropología, Universidad de El Salvador, San Salvador, El Salvador. April 19, 2013.
- Debate forum organizer and chair, “*Pandillas en América Latina: Casos de Péru y El Salvador,*” V Encuentro Latinoamericano de Historia Oral, San Salvador, El Salvador. March 14, 2013.
- *“*Observaciones sobre algunos cambios entre generaciones de jóvenes en la sociedad civil de El Salvador,*” paper presented as part of the panel, “*Nuevos sujetos sociales y políticos, conocimientos locales, organización y representación política y sociocultural.*” IX Congreso Centroamericano de Antropología, Universidad San Carlos, Guatemala, Guatemala. February 21, 2013.
- Discussant for panel, “Regimes of Invisibility.” American Anthropological Association, San Francisco. November 18, 2012.
- *“*Telling Untellable Tales: A Method of Discomfort.*” Part of invited double panel I co-organized, “*The Ethnographer’s Craft: Works Inspired by Ruth Behar.*” American Anthropological Association, San Francisco. November 16, 2012.
- *“*Queer Time para una ex-guerrillera en El Salvador.*” Invited paper presented as part of the conference “*Futuros pasados en América Latina: Historiografías y memorias de activistas y militantes entre la guerra fría y la globalización,*” centros de estudios Históricos y Antropológicos de El Colegio de Michoacán, Zamora, Michoacán, México. August 24, 2012.
- “*Of Burning Buses and Memories of War.*” Part of panel “*Armed Actors in Central America: Maras, Drug*

- Gangs, and the Formation of Criminal Enclaves.” Latin American Studies Association conference, San Francisco. May 25, 2012.
- *“Untellable Stories and the Limits of Solidarity in a Sister Community Relationship.” Invited paper presented as part of the conference “Good Works in Central America: Interrogating North American Voluntary Service,” Mershon Center for International Security Studies, Ohio State University, Columbus. May 3-4, 2012.
- *“Reflections on El Salvador in the Aftermath of Peace.” Invited paper for event, “Ethnographies of Circulation: Theoretical and Methodological Contributions from New Work on El Salvador and its Relations with the United States,” Center for Iberian and Latin American Studies, University of California at San Diego. March 19, 2012.
- “*Rabia y indignación* (Rage and Indignation) in El Salvador .” Part of panel “Traces of the Safety Net: Political Responses to the Restructuring of Global Capitalism in Europe, Asia, and the Americas.” American Anthropological Association, Montreal. November 19, 2011.
- Discussant for panel “Contradictory Legacies, Contingent Futures: Displacement and Difference in the Making of a New El Salvador.” American Anthropological Association, Montreal. November 19, 2011.
- *“El Salvador en las secuelas de la paz: La delincuencia, la incertidumbre y la transición a la democracia.” Invited talk at the Centro de Estudios Antropológicos e Centro de Estudios Históricos (Centers for Anthropological and Historical Studies), El Colegio de Michoacán, Zamora, Michoacán, México. January 11, 2011.
- “Transnational Intimate Imaginaries between El Salvador and the U.S. Midwest.” Part of panel, “Short Term Missions: Religions Circulations in Two Weeks or Less.” American Anthropological Association, New Orleans. November 17, 2010.
- “Meaning and Intimacy between El Salvador and the United States.” Part of double panel I organized, “North and South, Face to Face: Politics of Mission and Delegation Encounters.” Latin American Studies Association, Toronto. October 7, 2010.
- *“*El Salvador en las secuelas de la paz.*” Invited lecture at the Instituto de Estudios Históricos, Antropológicos y Arqueológicos (Institute for Historical, Anthropological and Archaeological Studies), University of El Salvador, San Salvador. July 13, 2010.
- “Critical Code-Switching in Postwar El Salvador.” Paper delivered at Ninth Inter-Disciplinary.Net Global Conference, “Violence: Probing the Boundaries,” Salzburg, Austria. March 11, 2010.

TEACHING

University of Costa Rica

SP 5651, Seminario Violence (Seminar on Violence): sessions on Security and Insecurity, Narration, and Corruption. Program de Doctorado en Ciencias Sociales sobre América Central (Doctoral Program in Social Sciences of Central America), October 12-November 9, 2021.

University of London, London, U.K.

Master Class Workshop Co-Instructor

“Ethnographic Fieldwork on Politics, Memory, and Insecurity in Latin America.” Institute of Latin American Studies, School of Advanced Study, May 31, 2018.

University of Pinar del Rio, Pinar del Rio, Cuba

Seminar co-organizer and instructor, 2016

“Antropología sociocultural: Metodología, métodos y técnicas contemporáneos” (Sociocultural Anthropology: Methodology, Methods, and Contemporary Techniques), June 1-23, 2016.

University of El Salvador, San Salvador, El Salvador**Workshop co-organizer, 2013**

“Taller: La historia oral: género y sexualidad” (Workshop: Oral History: Gender and Sexuality”), workshop co-organized and presented with Rosario Montoya del Solar. V Encuentro Latinoamericano de Historia Oral, San Salvador, El Salvador. March 12-13, 2013.

Visiting lecturer, 2012

Taller interdisciplinario (Interdisciplinary workshop): Como estudiar la violencia desde la ciencias sociales (Studying violence through the social sciences). September-October, 2012.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**Assistant/Associate Professor of Anthropology, 2005-2021**

Latin American Studies 170, *Introduction to Latin American and Caribbean Studies*

Anthropology/Global Studies 103, *Anthropology in a Changing World*

Anthropology 182, *Latin American Cultures*

Anthropology/Gender and Women’s Studies 258, *Sex in Nature and Culture*

Global Studies 296, *Critical Human Rights in Global Perspective*

Anthropology 399, *Anthropology of Crime*

Anthropology 405, *Contemporary Central America*

Anthropology 411, *Fieldwork in Cultural Anthropology*

Anthropology 414, *Writing Ethnography*

Anthropology 471, *Ethnography through Language*

Anthropology 515EM, *Ethnography of Instability and Insecurity*

Anthropology 515SC1, *Theory and Ethnography*

Anthropology 515EM1, *Anthropology of the City*

Anthropology 515EM, *Ethnography as Mode and Method*

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**Public lectures and seminars**

*“Labor Mobility and Virus Mobility: COVID choreography across the Americas.” University of Illinois Illinois Global Institute Summer 2021 Global Educator Workshop “Education in Uncertain Times: How to Prepare for the New Normal around the World,” July 22, 2021.

*“El Salvador: History Behind Migration.” Education Justice Project, Champaign, Ill., May 12, 2021.

*“Security and Violence in El Salvador: Behind Migration.” Featured speaker in “Central American Migration,” K-14 Series for the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, UIUC, April 3, 2021.

*Speaker, “Updates and Political Opinion Claims from Central America & Venezuela.” Refugee and Immigrant Program, The Advocates for Human Rights, Minneapolis, April 2, 2021.

*“Security, Violence, and Migration in El Salvador.” Central America Regional Overview, National Foreign Affairs Training Center, U.S. Department of State, Arlington, Virginia, March 3, 2021.

*“How Anthropologists Consider Particular Social Groups in Country Condition Reports.” Fall 2019 Asylum Conference, Advocates for Human Rights, University of St. Thomas, Minneapolis, Minn. October 4, 2019.

*“Politics in Post-Civil War El Salvador” and “Civil Society in Contemporary El Salvador.” Part of Summer Teacher Institute, “Society and Politics in Contemporary Central America,” Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Title VI National Resource Center, U.S. Department of Education, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, July 10-12, 2019

*“Expert Witnessing for Central American Asylum Cases.” Invited talk at Grupo Español, a local association of Spanish speakers (mostly retirees) who gather for lectures in Spanish, Urbana, February 26, 2019.

*“Slow Arrivals to Cuba,” at Seventh Annual Cuba Forum, First Presbyterian Church, Champaign, Keynote talk, May 4, 2019.

Other activities

Expert witness (country condition reports and testimony) for Central American respondents in U.S. and U.K. immigration court hearings for asylum, withholding of removal, and Convention against Torture, 2015-present (250+ declarations).

Co-founder, Labor Health Equity Action Project (LHEAP), a multidisciplinary team that pursues a dynamic research agenda on the intersections of the structural, socio-cultural, and immunity factors involved in transmission of SARS COVID 19, as it affects essential laborers in agriculture, pork processing, and related industries, who are often racial minorities. Web site: <https://www.igb.illinois.edu/article/labor-health-equity-action-project-lheap>. Recognized in 2021 in LAS Impact Awards, for “inspiring efforts during COVID-19,” <https://las.illinois.edu/covid19/award#faculty> .

Co-organizer, COVID testing pop-sites for underserved populations in Champaign County, as a member of the Labor Health Equity Action Project (LHEAP). Web site: <https://www.igb.illinois.edu/article/labor-health-equity-action-project-lheap>.

See Forrest, Sharita, “Projects offer COVID-19 Testing, Explore Virus Transmission’s Social Factors,” Illinois News Bureau, December 2, 2020, <https://news.illinois.edu/view/6367/605166319>

See “From Research to Outreach: A Comprehensive Approach to Fighting Covid-19” https://mediaspace.illinois.edu/media/t/1_pejq8qar

Contributor, Education Justice Project Re-entry Guide for formerly incarcerated men and women subject to deportation, Education Justice Project, Champaign, IL , 2020 and 2021.

Mass media interviews and consultations with The New Yorker, Christian Science Monitor, New York Times, local Illinois radio broadcasts (2014-present).

Interview on Political Asylum in the United States, “What’s it take to get asylum? And what’s driving those seeking it?” Illinois News Bureau, December 13, 2018 (see <https://news.illinois.edu/view/6367/728171>).

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Peer reviewer for article manuscripts in the journals *American Anthropologist*, *American Ethnologist*, *Anthropological Theory*, *Bulletin of Latin American Research*, *Canadian Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Studies*, *City and Society*, *Cultural Anthropology*, *Current Anthropology*, *Ethnography*, *Ethnos*, *Ethos*, *Identities*, *Journal of Genocide Studies*, *Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology*, *Journal of Latin American Studies*, *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*, *The Latin Americanist*, *Political and Legal Anthropology Review*, 2005-present.

Peer reviewer for book manuscripts and proposals for Duke University Press, McGraw-Hill Higher Education, New York University Press, Oxford University Press, Palgrave Macmillan, Routledge, Rutgers University Press, Sage Publications, Stanford University Press, University of Alabama Press, University of Arizona Press, University of Illinois Press, University of Texas Press, 2007-present

External reviewer for tenure cases and promotion cases at Emerson College, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, Michigan State University, San Francisco State University, University of California-Santa Cruz, University of California-Merced, Virginia Tech University, Washington University in St. Louis, and West Virginia University

Secretary, Expert Witness Group, Latin American Studies Association, 2020-present

Co-organizer, Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Universidad de Pinar del Rio, Pinar del Rio, Cuba, 2016

Member, *El Faro Académico* Editorial Board (for translating and publishing academic work in a Salvadoran electronic journal), 2013-2016

Member, El Salvador Studies Working Group

Faculty facilitator, International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF) Workshop, Social Science Research Council, Philadelphia, Pa., June 2014

Co-Chair, Central America Section-Latin American Studies Association, 2012-2014

Councillor, Society for Urban, National and Transnational Anthropology, 2012-2015

Secretary, Central American Section-Latin American Studies Association, 2009-2012

Proposal reviewer for the Social Science Research Council International Dissertation Research Fellowship Program for 2010-2013, 2016-2018 awards; National Science Foundation, 2014-2020

Review panelist for proposals for *Bridging Cultures through Film*: International Topics, Development and Production Grants. National Endowment for the Humanities, Public Programs Division. Washington, D.C., March 11, 2011

Conference Co-organizer, Wenner-Gren International Workshop, *After the Handshakes: Rethinking Democracy and Living Transition in Central America*, University at Albany (SUNY). September 11-13, 2008