

José A. de la Garza Valenzuela, Ph. D.

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., English, Miami University, 2016
Graduate Certificate in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

M.A., English, Sam Houston State University, 2008

B.B.A., International Business and Economics, Sam Houston State University, 2006
With Honors, Elliot T. Bowers Honors Program

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2020-Present** **University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**
Assistant Professor, Department of Latina/Latino Studies
Affiliate, Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory
Affiliate, Department of Gender and Women's Studies
Affiliate, Department of English
- 2017-2020** **Florida Atlantic University (Boca Raton, FL)**
Assistant Professor, Department of English
Affiliate, Center for Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Affiliate, Peace, Justice, and Human Rights Initiative
- 2016-2017** **University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**
Chancellor's Post-Doctoral Research Associate
Department of Latina/Latino Studies
- 2008-2015** **Miami University (Oxford, OH)**
Teaching Associate, Department of English
- 2006-2008** **Sam Houston State University (Huntsville, TX)**
Graduate Associate, Department of English

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Queer in a Legal Sense: Brown Citizenship and Other Lawful Fictions (under advance contract with University of Texas Press).

Articles

de la Garza Valenzuela, José A. “Chicanx Counterstories: Legal Narrative in Oscar Zeta Acosta’s *The Revolt of the Cockroach People*” (*American Literary History* 35.1, Special Issue on Democracy and the Novel in the U.S., 2023).

de la Garza Valenzuela, José A. “‘Necessarily Hidden Truth(s)’: Documenting Queer Migrant Experience in Rigoberto González’s *Crossing Vines*” (*MELUS* 46.3, 2021).

de la Garza Valenzuela, José A. “Queer in a Legal Sense: Negation and Negotiation of Citizenship in *Boutilier v. Immigration and Naturalization Service* and Arturo Islas’s *The Rain God*” (*Latino Studies* 17.2, 2019).

HONORS AND AWARDS

2023 American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship
Fellowship Period: Jan. 2024-Dec. 2024

2023 Crompton-Noll Award, Best Essay in Queer Studies
Modern Language Association GL/Q Caucus
American Studies Association Queer/Trans Caucus
for “‘Necessarily Hidden Truth(s)’: Documenting Queer Migrant Experience in Rigoberto González’s *Crossing Vines*” (*MELUS* 46.3)

2023 Humanities Release Time
Campus Research Board, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Award Period: Fall 2023

2022 Junior Research Fellowship, Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Fellowship Period: 2022-2024

2020 McKnight Junior Faculty Development Fellowship (Declined)
Florida Education Fund
Award Period: 2020-2021

2020 Peace, Justice, and Human Rights Initiative Professional Development Grant Award
Florida Atlantic University

- 2018 Fellow, Summer Institute on Tenure and Professional Advancement (SITPA)
Duke University
Mentor: Dr. Tanya Saunders
Fellowship Period: 2018-2020
- 2015 Frederick A. Cervantes Premio
National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies
for “Queer in a Legal Sense: The Ambiguous Sexual Citizen in *Boutilier v. Immigration and Naturalization Service* and Arturo Islas’ *The Rain God*.”
- 2013 English Department Academic Challenge Dissertation Fellowship
Miami University
Fellowship Period: Fall 2013
- 2008 College of Arts and Sciences Academic Achievement Award
Miami University
- 2007 Office of Graduate Studies Scholarship
Sam Houston State University
- 2006 Sam Houston Writing Project Summer Institute Fellowship
Sam Houston State University

PRESENTATIONS

Conferences

- Moderator, “Excavating Place: Reflexivity, Laughter, and Knowledge in Chicana Literature.”
U.S. Latinx Theory and Literature Conference, New York City, April 2023.
- “Brief Grief: Gay Chicano Short form and Queer Brown Mourning.” U.S. Latinx Theory and
Literature Conference, New York City, April 2023.
- “Brown Mourning: The Lost Lover in Chicana Short Fiction.” National Association for Chicana
and Chicano Studies, Denver, April 2023.
- “Queer Migrant Refusals: Public Practices of Subordinate Care.” The American Studies
Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, November 2022.
- “Indexing Chicana: Toward A Queer Chicana Literary History.” National Association for
Chicana and Chicano Studies Annual Meeting, Online, April 2022.
- “Unsettled Cases: Chicana Literature’s Unlawful Tradition.” Latinx Forum Round Table on
“Democracy and the Latinx Novel,” Modern Language Association Annual Meeting,
Washington D.C., Online, January 6-9th 2022.

- “Unsettled Cases: Chicana Literature’s Legal Tradition.” MELUS, Online, April 2021.
- “Who’s to Say: Compulsory Disclosure and Legal Refusal in Michael Nava’s *The Death of Friends*.” National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies Annual Meeting, Online, April 2021.
- “Legally Public: Early Prototypes of Queer Citizenship in John Rechy’s *City of Night*.” The American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Honolulu, November 2019.
- “Beyond Archival Citizenship: Legality and Revision in Queer Chicana Literature.” National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, April 2019.
- “Conditional Citizenship: Containment in Latinx Literature.” MELUS, Cincinnati, March 2019.
- “Queer Chicana (Re)Turns: Cultural Translations in Michael Nava’s *The Little Death* and *Lay Your Sleeping Head*.” National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies Annual Meeting, Twin Cities, April 2018.
- “Developing a Guidelines for Best Practice in Chicana/o/x Studies.” With Carlos Guerrero, Louis Mendoza, Aureliano DeSoto, Yvette Saavedra, and Nicholas Centino. National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies Annual Meeting, Twin Cities, April 2018.
- “Out of the Shadows: Outing and the Institutionalized Erasure of Queer Migrant Narratives in Jaime Cortez’s *Sexile*.” MELUS, Cambridge, April 2017.
- “High-Risk Citizenship: ‘Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell,’ Criminal Exposure, and Queer Belonging in Michael Nava’s *The Death of Friends*.” National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies Annual Meeting, Irvine, March 2017.
- “Queer(ing) Migrants: Documenting Queer Border-Crossings in Rigoberto González’s *Crossing Vines*.” Conference of the Association for Jotería Arts, Activism, and Scholarship, Phoenix, October 2015.
- “Queer in a Legal Sense: The Ambiguous Sexual Citizen in *Boutilier v. Immigration and Naturalization Service* and Arturo Islas’ *The Rain God*.” Frederick A. Cervantes Awards Plenary, National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies Annual Meeting, San Francisco, April 2015.
- “Impossibly Here: Arturo Islas and the Legislation of Queer Belonging.” National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, April 2014.
- “Parodic Disruptions of State Recognition: Queer Contestations of Citizenship in Jaime Cortez’s *Sexile*.” MELUS, Boca Raton, April 2011.

“Queer(ed) Migrations: Rigoberto González’s Construction of Queer Border Crossings in *Crossing Vines*.” National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies Annual Meeting, Pasadena, March 2011.

“Too Black for Harlem: Coming of Race in New York City in Wallace Thurman’s *The Blacker the Berry*.” MELUS, Scranton, April 2010.

“Artistic Chicanification: Art(iculations) and Reconsiderations of the Virgin and the Riveter.” Feminisms and Rhetorics Biennial Conference, East Lansing, October 2009.

“Textual Relations: How Zapata, Díaz, Huerta, and Madero Fathered Joaquín.” National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies Annual Meeting, New Brunswick, April 2009.

“Outside Voices: Interdisciplinary Consultants in the Writing Center.” South Central Writing Centers Association Annual Conference, Norman, March 2008.

“Cultural Space: Launching Concepts into the Space of Understanding.” International Writing Centers Association Annual Conference, Houston, April 2007.

“Making Students Feel Comfortable in the Writing Center: Having the ‘Thriller’ Writing Center Experience.” South Central Writing Centers Association Annual Conference, Little Rock, February 2006.

Talks

Invited

Commentator, Newberry Library Borderlands and Latina/o Studies Seminar. “Migrant Futurity and Impossibility: Emerging Research on Undocumented Communities.” Responding to Ruben Zecena and Cristina Pérez. April 2023.

“Queer Migrant Entries: Archiving Contested Legalities in Gay Chicano Narrative.” University of California, Davis, February 2023.

“Queer Migrant Entries: Archiving Contested Legalities in Chicanx Narrative.” Tulane University, New Orleans, January 2023.

“Documenting the Undocumentable: Queer Migrant Labor and Contested Archival Legalities in Rigoberto González’s *Crossing Vines* and Jaime Cortez’s *Sexile/Sexilio*. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, November 2019.

“Queer Migrant Narrative: Citizenship and Sexuality in Gay Chicano Fiction.” Sam Houston State University. Huntsville, October 2019.

“Out of the Shadows: Outing and the Institutionalized Erasure of Queer Migrant Narratives in Jaime Cortez’s *Sexile*.” Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, February 2016.

“Impossibly Here, Impossibly Queer: Citizenship, Sexuality, and Gay Chicano Fiction.” University of Tennessee-Knoxville, February 2016.

“New York State Youth Leadership Council UndocuQueer Program Presents: Queering the Movement.” Moderator, Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, November 2014.

“Breathing at the Margins: Race, Class, Sexuality, and the Making of One’s Self.” Diversity Dialogue Speaker Series, Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, October 2013.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Moderator, “Inhabiting the Borders: Tales of Migration, Border Policing, and Undocumented Lives.” Latina/Latino Studies Major Symposium and Graduation Recognition. May 2021.

Moderator. “More than a Public Health Scholar.” More than a Scholar: A Symposium to Honor Edna Viruell-Fuentes, Urbana, February 2021.

Chair/discussant. “Flickering Pleasures.” Queer Publics Symposium, Urbana, February 2017.

“High-Risk Citizenship: ‘Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell,’ Criminal Exposure, and Queer Belonging in Michael Nava’s *The Death of Friends*.” Fall Colloquium Series, Department of Latina/Latino Studies, Urbana, October 2016.

Florida Atlantic University

Discussant/Conversation with Michelle Trujillo. *Inundada* (Dir. Michelle Trujillo) and *Memories of a Penitent Heart* (Dir. Cecilia Aldarondo), Boca Raton, September 2019.

“Advocating for Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Across the Disciplines: Faculty Learning Community on Advocacy Across the Disciplines. Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters Faculty Showcase, Boca Raton, August 2019.

Discussant. “Queer Perspectives.” Comparative Studies Student Association Conference, Boca Raton, October 2018.

“High-Risk Citizenship: ‘Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell,’ Criminal Exposure, and Queer Belonging in Michael Nava’s *The Death of Friends*.” English Department Works in Progress Brown Bag Series, Boca Raton, March 2018.

Panelist/discussant. “The Fabric of Latinx.” 2018 Diversity Symposium for Faculty and Staff. Boca Raton, January 2018.

Panelist/discussant. “Esmeralda Santiago: Channeling Your Ambition in Order to Overcome Imposed Identities.” Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month, Boca Raton, October 2017.

Miami University

“Private Sex, Public Citizenship: *Bowers v. Hardwick* and the Queer Citizen in John Rechy’s *City of Night*.” Fellowship Symposium, Department of English, Oxford, May 2014.

“Subverting the Canon: Transgressive Pedagogy in Literature Instruction.” Miami English Graduate and Adjunct Association Annual Symposium, Oxford, April 2010.

Chair/discussant. “World Governments in Transition.” Miami English Graduate and Adjunct Association Symposium, Oxford, April 2010.

“Chicana Intersectionality: Sites of Chicana Oppression in ‘El Plan Espiritual de Aztlán’ and Responses in Early Chicana Feminism.” Women’s Studies Bicentennial Symposium, Oxford, November 2009.

“The Discerning Subaltern: Discerning Reconfigured Colonization through Disability in Bapsi Sidhwa’s *Cracking India*.” Graduate Research Forum, Oxford, November 2009.

“Crossing Lines: Reconfiguring Citizenship through Cultural Knowledge in Rigoberto González’s *Crossing Vines*.” Passionate about Latino/a America and the Caribbean Speaker Series, Latin American, Latino/a, and Caribbean Studies Program, Oxford, October 2009.

TEACHING

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Undergraduate

Spring 2023	Latina/Latino Studies 360: Contemporary Latina/o/x Literatures Latina/Latino Studies 490: Senior Research and Writing Seminar
Fall 2022	Latina/Latino Studies 396: Advanced Topics in Latina/Latino Studies Topic: Queer Latinx Literatures Latina/Latino Studies 242: Introduction to Latinx Literature
Spring 2022	Latina/Latino Studies 360: Contemporary Latina/o/x Literatures Latina/Latino Studies 468: Latinas/os/xs and the Law
Fall 2021	Latina/Latino Studies 357: Literatures of the Displaced Latina/Latino Studies 242: Introduction to Latina/o/x Literature

Fall 2020 Latina/Latino Studies 242: Introduction to Latina/o/x Literature (online)
 Latina/Latino Studies 445: Latina Literature (online)

Spring 2016 Latino/Latina Studies 435: Commodifying Difference

Florida Atlantic University

Graduate

Courses:

Spring 2020 American Literature 6938: Queer Literature of Color in the U.S.

Fall 2019 English 6525: Colloquium in English

Fall 2018 American Literature 6938: US Latinx Literatures

Directed Independent Studies

Spring 2019 Legality in Latinx Literature and Performance
 (with Carmen Duarte and Ana-Christina Acosta Gaspar de Alba)

Undergraduate

Summer 2019 English 3822: Introduction to Literary Studies (online)

Spring 2020 Literature 4930: Narrating Citizenship: Ethnographic and Literary
 Representation of the Globe
 Co-taught with Dr. Carter Koppelman (Sociology, FAU)

Fall 2019 American Literature 4242: 20th Century U.S. Literary Movements

Summer 2019 Literature 4523: LGBT+ Literatures

Spring 2018 American Literature 4630: Latinx Literatures
 Literature 4484: Literature and Social Movements
 English 3822: Introduction to Literary Studies

Fall 2018 American Literature 4321: Major 20th Century American Writers

Summer 2018 Literature 2010: Interpretation of Fiction

Spring 2018 American Literature 4630: Latinx Literatures
 Literature 4484: Literature and Social Movements

Fall 2017 American Literature 4630: Latinx Literatures
English 3822: Introduction to Literary Studies

Miami University

Spring 2015 English 112: American Shifts: Writing in Anticipation of Shifting U.S.
Demographics

Fall 2014 English 112: Composing and the Language(s) of Justice

Spring 2014 English 112: Authority and Disclosure in Writing

Spring 2013 English 112: Narrative Authority and Self-Representation in Writing

Fall 2012 English 112: Writing and Being Written: Representations of the Self and
the Other

Spring 2012 English 112: Public and Private Narratives: Rhetorics of Offense

Fall 2011 English 112: Doing Text: Rhetoric, Activism, and Representation

Spring 2011 English 143: American Literature, 1945-Present

Fall 2010 English 112: Doing Text: Rhetoric, Activism, and Representation

English 144: Major American Authors
Co-taught with Dr. Stefanie K. Dunning (Miami U., English)

Spring 2010 English 112: Textually Active: Rhetorics of Activism and Representation

Fall 2009 English 112: Rhetoric, Activism, and Representation

Spring 2009 English 112: Revolution and Activism: On the Border of Social Unrest

Fall 2008 English 111: Rhetoric, Time, and Place

Sam Houston State University

Spring 2008 English 165: Composition II

Summer 2007 English 164: Composition I

Fall 2007 English 164: Composition I

Fall 2006 English 031: Developmental English

Institutes

- June 2019 Lavender Languages Institute, Boca Raton, Florida Atlantic University
Seminar Title: Queer Diaspora: Language, Sexuality, and Migration
Co-taught with Dr. Ashvin Kini and Dr. Michael Horswell
- June 2018 Lavender Languages Institute, Boca Raton, Florida Atlantic University
Seminar title: Language and Postcolonial Queer Critique
Co-taught with Dr. Ashvin Kini and Dr. Michael Horswell
- June 2011 Pusan University Summer Institute, Oxford, Miami University
Seminar Title: US Literature and Culture
Joint language and culture immersion program between Pusan University
(South Korea) and Miami University

Graduate and Undergraduate Mentoring*Doctoral Committees*

- 2023- External Reader, Dissertation Committee, Carlos Vazquez, Ph.D. in
Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Stony Brook University
- 2019-2020 Reader, Exams Committee, Ali Tal-Mason, Ph.D. in Comparative Studies,
Florida Atlantic University
- 2018-2020 Chair, Exams Committee, Ana-Christina Acosta Gaspar de Alba, Ph.D. in
Comparative Studies, Florida Atlantic University
- 2018-2020 Reader, Exams Committee, Priscilla Renta,
Ph.D. in Comparative Studies, Florida Atlantic University

Masters Committees

- 2019-2020 Reader, M.A. Thesis Committee, Quan Goodman, English, Florida
Atlantic University
Title: "Camron Awkward-Rich's Sympathetic Little Monster(s)"
- 2018-2019 Reader, M.A. Thesis Committee, Taylor Eftimov, English, Florida
Atlantic University
Title: "Survival and Resistance: 'Disidentification' in British
Migrant Literature"

Undergraduate Research Projects

- 2023- Faulty Adviser, Senior Honors Thesis, Annisa Degiulio, Department of Latina/Latino Studies, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- 2023 Research Mentor, Undergraduate Research Symposium, Leticia Flores Martínez, Department of English, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Title: "Save or Discard? The Preservation of Memory in Angie Cruz's Novels"
- 2022 Faculty Adviser, Senior Research Project, Julián Martínez, Department of Latina/Latino Studies, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Title: "Labor on Immigrant Latinas: The Transfer of Latine Culture in the United States"

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

National Organizations

- 2025- Executive Committee Member, Chicana Languages, Literatures, and Cultures Forum, Modern Language Association (Elected)
- 2018-2021 East Coast Foco Representative, National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies (Elected)
- 2017-2018 Program Review Committee, National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies

Journals and Presses

- Reviewer, *ES Review: Spanish Journal of English Studies* (2023)
- Reviewer, *MELUS* (2022)
- Reviewer, University of Illinois Press (2022)
- Reviewer, *GLQ* (2020)
- Reviewer, *Chiricú Journal: Latina/o Literatures, Arts, and Cultures* (2018, 2019)
- Reviewer, *Twentieth-Century Literature* (2017, 2019)
- Reviewer, *Journal of Homosexuality* (2014, 2016)

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2023	Member, Search Committee, Academic Advisor and Administrative Coordinator, Department of Latina/Latino Studies
2022	Member, Search Committee, Lecturer, Department of Latina/Latino Studies
2021-2022	Member, Search Committee, Senior Faculty Search, Department of Latina/Latino Studies
2021-2022	Member, Search Committee, Chancellor's Postdoctoral Research Associate in Transgender Studies, Department of Gender and Women's Studies
2021-	Member, Curriculum Committee, Department of Latina/Latino Studies
2021-	Member, Executive Committee, Department of Latina/Latino Studies
2020-2021	Member, Programing Committee, Department of Latina/Latino Studies

Florida Atlantic University

2019-2020	Member, Search Committee, Fantasy/Science Fiction, Department of English
2019-2020	Standing Committee on Bylaws, Tenure Criteria, and Sustained Performance Evaluation, Department of English
2019-2020	Mission Statement Revision Committee, Department of English
Spring 2019	Member, Search Committee, Visiting Fiction Writer, Department of English
2018-2019	Faculty Learning Community: Advocating for Humanities Across the Disciplines
2018-2020	Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) Interest Group
2017-2020	Member, Undergraduate Committee, Department of English
2017-2018	Member, Search Committee, Assistant Professor of Medieval Literature, Department of English

Miami University

- 2012-2013 Co-President, HAVEN: Graduate LGBTQ Alliance, with Jonathan Rylander
- Summer 2012 Reader, First-Year Portfolio Program
- 2011-2012 Events Chair, HAVEN: Graduate LGBT Alliance
- 2010 Editor, *Teacher's Guide* (Vol. 63), Department of English
- 2010 Editor, *College Composition at Miami* (Vol. 63), Department of English
- 2010 Awards Committee, First-Year Composition Awards
- 2009 Assistant Editor, *Teacher's Guide* (Vol. 62), Department of English
- 2009 Assistant Editor, *College Composition at Miami* (Vol. 62), Department of English
- 2009-2010 Graduate Representative, Graduate Committee, Department of English
- 2009 Graduate Assistant, Translating Cultures: Latina/o Writers Festival, Department of English
- 2008-2009 English 111 and 112 Curriculum Design Committee, Western College Program
- 2008-2009 Ph.D. Program Representative, Executive Committee, Miami English Graduate and Adjunct Association

Sam Houston State University

- Fall 2006 Reader, Developmental Writing Program Portfolio Assessment

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Studies Association
Modern Language Association
National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies
The Society for the Study of the Multi-Ethnic Literature of the U.S.
American Literature Society

LANGUAGES

English and Spanish