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World Cultures and Literatures Program
Jewish Studies Program
Department of Modern & Classical Languages
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Curriculum Vita

Education:

Ph.D. Cultural Anthropology, Rice University, May 2001.

M.S.W. Masters in Social Work, Our Lady of the Lake University, August 1974.

B.A. Bachelors of Arts, Sam Houston State University, August 1973.

Research interests: historiography, religious studies, Jewish Studies, ethnography, narrative, literary criticism, visual studies, Latin American Studies, Latino Studies, Gender Studies, theories of globalization.

Academic Positions:

University of Houston –

Professor, World Cultures and Literatures, Department of Modern and Classical Languages, University of Houston. Fall 2012-present.

Associate Professor, World Cultures and Literatures, Department of Modern and Classical Languages, University of Houston. Spring 2007-present.

Director, Jewish Studies. Fall 2011-present.

Director of Undergraduate Studies, World Cultures and Literatures, January 2010-present.

Associate Professor, Hispanic Studies, Department of Modern and Classical Languages. Fall 2005-Spring 2007.

University of California-Santa Cruz

Resident Scholar, Center for Cultural Studies, 2004-2005.

Research Associate, Center for Cultural Studies, University of California-Santa Cruz, February 2004-August 2004.

University of Houston

Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Social Work, with courtesy appointment

in the Department of Anthropology, University of Houston, Fall 2001 to May 2004.

Visiting Scholar, Center for Mexican American Studies, University of Houston, 2000-2001.

Lecturer - University of Houston, Department of Anthropology/Center for Mexican American Studies. 1995 to 1999.

Publications:

Books:

The Virgin of Guadalupe and the Conversos: Hidden Influences from Spain to Mexico. Rutgers University Press, July 2014.

Cemeteries of Ambivalent Desire: Unearthing Narrative from the Deep South in a Texas Graveyard. Texas A&M University Press, 2008.

Delirio: The Fantastic, The Demonic, and The Réel: The Buried History of Nuevo León, University of Texas Press, 2002.

Articles:

“Madre Sion and the Virgin of Guadalupe: Appropriating Beyond What Can Be Thought,” *The Journal of Spanish, Portuguese, and Italian Crypto Jews.* Fall 2011.

“The Paris Banlieue Riots of 2005 and the Shaping of U.S. Immigration Policy: A Transnational Study,” in *Atlantic Studies.* Winter, 2010.

Review of *The Mayas of Morgantown*, by León Fink in *The Americas.* January 2006.

"Racial Differences in Attitudes Regarding Cardiovascular Disease Prevention and Treatment: A Qualitative Study" by LeChauncy Woodard and Marie Theresa Hernandez. *Patient Education and Counseling* Volume 57, Issue 2, May 2005.

“The Demise of the Public Intellectual,” by Howard Karger and Marie Theresa Hernandez. *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare.* September 2004.

“Reconditioning History: Adapting Knowledge from the Past with the Realities of the Present,” in *Experiments in Re-Thinking History*, edited by Robert Rosenstone and Alan Munslow. Routledge Press. 2003.

"Television, Technology and Myth in Northern Mexico," in *Para-Sites: A Casebook*

Against Cynical Reason, Late Editions VII, edited by George Marcus. University of Chicago Press, 2000.

"Reconditioning History: Adapting Knowledge from the Past with Realities from the Present, a Mexican American Graveyard," *Re-Thinking History: a Journal of Theory and Practice*, Fall 1999.

"Llorando y Volando: Crying and Flying," in *ñ Journal of Latino Literary Criticism*_Fall 1998.

Lectures:

Society for Crypto-Judaic Studies. Dallas, TX. "Conflicted Identities: Claiming Judaism Centuries After Conversion to Catholicism" July 2014.

International Congress on Medieval Studies. Kalamazoo, MI.
"Divine Splendor: The Relationship between the Virgin Mary and the Jewish Shekhinah" as part of panel "Mary: A Woman for Medieval Times." May 2014

Mary College, University of London. London, UK. Medieval Studies Department.
Invited Lecture. "The Virgin Mary and the Shekhina: The Interface of Two Religions in the Early Modern Period." January 2013.

American Anthropological Association. Montreal. "Scripting What Cannot be Seen: Magic, Imaginary, and the Reel" as part of panel "Science, Medicine, and the Paranormal." November 2011.

Rice University, Department of Anthropology. Invited Lecture: "The Politics of the Archive: Guadalupe and the Jews," April 2011.

University of Toronto, Center for Latin American Studies. Invited Lecture: "Fabulas of Devotion: Guadalupe, México, and the Jews." March 2011.

University of California, San Francisco - Mission Park. Invited lecture: "Popular Culture and Identity formation: How movies affect the way we see the world." October 2011.

(Keynote): National Conference, Society of Crypto-Judaic Studies. "The Virgin of Guadalupe and the Secret Jews in the Mexican Church," San Antonio, August 2010.

Group for Early Modern Cultural Studies, Sixteenth Annual Conference, "Guadalupe as Menorah," Dallas, October 2009.

National Academies, Ford Fellows Conference, "Publishing," and "Activism Through Technology." Irvine, CA. October 2009

Rice University, Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Summer Institute. "Immigration Policy in the U.S." July 2009.

Hebrew University, Mandel Institute of Jewish Studies, Hispania Judaica Center. Invited lecture. Conference on "Expulsion and Forcible Conversion: Aftermath in the Life of Sephardi Refugees and Their Children." Title of Paper: "Generations Later: Conversos, the Messiah, the Virgin, and the Descendants of the Anusím in New Spain," Jerusalem, January 2009.

Rice University, Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Summer Institute Invited Lecture: "DREAMers, Undocumented College Students." June 2008.

Latin American Studies Association. "The Transatlantic Voyage of the Virgin of Guadalupe." Montreal, Canada. September 2007.

Association of Jewish Studies Conference. "The Virgin of Guadalupe as Anusim." San Diego, CA. December 2006.

Afro-Latin American Research Association Conference. "Inverted Identities: Black, White, and Mexican Narratives and the Yellow Rose of Texas." Vera Cruz, México. August 2006.

University of Houston - 21st Century Motherhood Conference. Women's Studies. "Mothers of the Small House, Concubinage in 21st Century México." 2005.

Harvard University, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures. "Literature, Identity, and History." February 2005.

University of Houston, Department of Modern and Classical Languages. "The Impossibility of Forgetting the Alamo." January 2005.

University of California-Santa Cruz, Center for Cultural Studies. "Cemeteries of Ambivalent Desire: The Deep South in South East Texas." January 2005.

American Anthropological Association. Chicago. "Ethnography and/or Experience: The Poetics of Border Crossing." November 2003.

National Academy of Sciences, Ford Fellows Conference, San Juan, PR. "Ethics and Ethnography." October 2003

Baylor College of Medicine Ethics Department/Methodist Hospital Houston, TX, Grand Rounds. "Issues in Latino Health." April 2003.

American Historical Association, Pacific Coast Branch, Tucson, AZ, "Voices of the Dead: The Story of San Isidro Cemetery. August 2002.

University of Houston, Department of Anthropology, "Faith Healers, the New Age, and Anthropology," invited lecture. October 2001.

International Narrative Conference, Houston, TX, "The Entombed History of Nuevo Leon," March 2001.

New York University, Department of History, "Stories of Entombed Women in Nuevo Leon," invited lecture, Fall 1999.

National Academy of Sciences, Ford Fellows Conference, Washington, D.C., "Researching the History of Nuevo Leon," Fall, 1999.

University of Chicago, Department of History. Biennial Social History Conference. "Reconditioning History: Adapting Knowledge from the Past into Realities of the Present, A Mexican-American Cemetery."

Awards and Fellowships:

University of Houston

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Grant in Aid to Support Faculty Research, 2012

Provost Travel Award, 2011

Presidential Fellow, 2010

Society of Fellows of the Honors College, 2010

Visiting Scholar – Center for Mexican American Studies, 2000-2001

Ford Diversity Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, 1998-2000

Rice University Tapia Fellowship, 1996-1998

Research Projects:

- Narratives of Jewish Conversos and their descendants in Spain and México
- Documentary film project of Latina artists and writers who claim Jewish ancestry. In collaboration with Dalia Kandiyoti.

Courses Taught

WCL 4351 Frames of Modernity I – History of Ideas from the French Revolution to WWII

WCL 3376 Visual Stories: Local and the Global – Students conducting a visual and written ethnography of Houston's Diasporic communities

WCL 3373 Gender and Film

WCL 3355 Women East West: Global Representations of Female Divinities

WCL 4398 Latino Sexuality

WCL 2351 World Cultures Through Literature and Art

SPAN 4397/7394 European Theory and Latino Studies

SPAN 6397 Guadalupe, Malinche, and México

Dissertation & Thesis Committees:

- University of Houston
Comparing Expressive Verbal Features Between a Preschool Child with High Functioning Autism and One with Typical Development by Simmone Windsheimer, Undergraduate Honors Thesis, 2013.
- University of Houston
Peer-Assisted Learning Strategies for English Language Learners by Melissa Hamilton, Undergraduate Honors Thesis, 2012.
Sexual activity in Mexican telenovelas by Mariella de Alba Ortiz, Masters Thesis, 2010.
Identity in Mexican American Literature by Doreen Lee, Undergraduate Honors Thesis – awarded best thesis of 2008 academic year. Chair of Thesis Committee
- Tecnológico de Monterrey, *La construcción social del espacio mediático transnacional, en televidentes originarios de Nuevo León, y residentes en Houston, Texas: El caso Multimedios Televisión* by Hugo Alvarez Garcia, PhD Dissertation, 2009.
- Hebrew University, *Descendants of the Anusim (Crypto-Jews) in Contemporary México* by Schulamith Halevy. PhD Dissertation, 2009.

University and Departmental Committees

- Search Committee for Assistant Professor of World Cultures and Literatures Department of Modern and Classical Languages, 2012-2013.
- Chair, Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Arabic Studies. Department of Modern and Classical Languages, 2010-2011.
- Search Committee for UH Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management, 2009.
- UH Faculty Senate 2008-2009
- Chair, Faculty Evaluation Committee. Department of Modern and Classical Languages 2007-2008.

Photography Exhibits

Houston Museum of Fine Arts, Group Exhibition, Nine photos in “A Photographic Journey: Three Houston Neighborhoods, by Nine Houston Photographers,” Summer 1998.

Houston Fotofest - O’Kane Gallery, University of Houston- Downtown Houston “The Fragile Thread: Immigrant children in Houston.” 1995.

Houston Fotofest – “Women in Relationship,” 1994.