

Nicolas Barnum

nsbarnum@gmail.com | (205)-937-2002

3927 Annunciation St.

New Orleans, Louisiana 70115

Education

- M.A. in Latin American Studies, *summa cum laude*- Tulane University- May 2021
Thesis: “Challenging Conceptions of Maya Wellness and Illness: The Kaqchikel and COVID-19”
Thesis Director and Committee: Dr. Judith Maxwell, Dr. Marc Zender, Dr. Andrew McDowell
- B.A. in Spanish (honors thesis) and Latin American Studies, *magna cum laude*- Rhodes College- May 2019

Study Abroad and Advanced Courses

- Completed Beginner/Intermediate Yucatec Maya- University of Kansas- Fall 2021
- Completed course on Kaqchikel Poetry- University of Kansas- Fall 2020
- Institute of Mayan Languages, Advanced Kaqchikel Course- Summer 2020
- Study Abroad in Mexico, 5 months- Universidad Iberoamericana Puebla- January-May 2018
- Study Abroad in Ecuador, 1 month- Estudio Sampere, Cuenca- June 2016
- Specialties: linguistics, cultural anthropology, history
- Interests: Mesoamerican culture, Pre-Columbian period, colonial period, indigenous literature, historical linguistics, Mesoamerican traditional indigenous medicine
- Relevant Courses: Historical Linguistics- Tulane 2020, Introduction to Kaqchikel- Tulane 2019, Kaqchikel Independent Study- Tulane 2020-2021, Introduction to Maya Hieroglyphs- Tulane 2020, Yucatec Maya- Tulane 2020, Language Death- Tulane 2020, Classical Nahuatl- Tulane 2021, Beginner/Intermediate Yucatec Maya- University of Kansas 2021

Professional Experience

- Guest Lecturer (virtual)- Presentation entitled “The Maya and the Mexica”- The Altamont School, Birmingham, AL- September 2021
- Assistant, Beginning Kaqchikel Language (ANSO 6840) with Dr. Judith Maxwell, Tulane University- August-December 2020
- Presented paper titled *The Mundane and the Sacred: Social Hierarchy in Bilingual and Multilingual New Spain*, SECOLAS, Austin, Texas- March 2020
- Presented paper titled *The Mundane and the Sacred: Social Hierarchy in Bilingual and Multilingual New Spain*, Graduate Portuguese and Hispanic Symposium, Georgetown University- February 2020
- Presented paper titled *The Mundane and the Sacred: Social Hierarchy in Bilingual and Multilingual New Spain*, TUSCLA, Tulane University- November 2019
- Kaqchikel Translation and Transcription Services for Chapman Law Firm- March 2021
- Kaqchikel Translation and Transcription Services for Federal Defenders of New York- November 2021
- Spanish Teacher at Vamonos NOLA- October 2021-February 2022

- Kaqchikel and Spanish Translation and Transcription Services for the U.S. Department of Justice- February-March 2022
- Presented paper titled *Challenging Maya Conceptions of Illness and Wellness: The Kaqchikel Maya and COVID-19*, SECOLAS, Antigua, Guatemala- March 2023

Languages and Awards

- Kaqchikel Maya speaker (intermediate/advanced)
- K'iche' Maya speaker (intermediate)
- Portuguese speaker (intermediate/advanced)
- Quechua speaker (Bolivian, beginner/intermediate)
- Spanish speaker (advanced)
- Yucatec Maya speaker (intermediate)
- Reading Knowledge of Classical Nahuatl
- Reading Knowledge of Maya Glyphs
- Recipient of Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship- 2019-2021
- Recipient of Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship- Summer 2020
- Portuguese Proficiency Exam, AAPPL (Portuguese): A-1- April 2020
- Spanish Proficiency Exam, Avant (Spanish): Advanced- April 2021