

CLAUDIA CHÁVEZ ARGÜELLES, PH.D.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Assistant Professor

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RESEARCH AREAS OF INTERESTS

Anthropology of law and the state; race and ethnicity; human rights and the politics of humanitarianism; social movements; feminist studies; gender violence and feminicide; (in)security, state violence and impunity; indigenous justice; cultures of (il)legality; transitional justice and the politics of memory; affect; embodiment and performance; indigenous epistemologies; activist research and collaborative methodologies. Latin America; Mexico.

EDUCATION

- 2016 Ph.D., Social Anthropology, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin TX
Doctoral Portfolio in Native American and Indigenous Studies
Dissertation: “Beyond Legal Truths: Impunity, Memory, and Maya Autonomous Justice After the Acteal Massacre.”
- 2008 M.A., Social Anthropology, Center for Research and Advanced Studies in Social Anthropology (CIESAS), Mexico City
Thesis: “The Multicultural Legal Field of Cuetzalan, Puebla: Towards the Recognition of Indigenous Jurisdictions?”
Highest Honors
- 2005 Professional Degree in Law [*Licenciatura en Derecho*], Autonomous Technological Institute of Mexico (ITAM), Mexico City
Thesis: “The Right of Indigenous Peoples’ Self-Determination in Mexico.”
Highest Honors
- 2003 *Diplomado* in Procedural Civil Law, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), Law School, Mexico City

MAJOR EXTERNAL FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2017 Fray Bernardino de Sahagún National Award for the Best Dissertation on Social Anthropology, National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH), Mexico

- 2015-17 Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies Fellowship, University of California, San Diego, CA (Research Fellow-in-Residence, September 2015-May 2017)
- 2012-13 Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Fieldwork Grant
- 2011 Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship, Social Science Research Council (SSRC)
- 2009 Fray Bernardino de Sahagún National Award for the Best Master's Thesis on Social Anthropology, National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH), Mexico
- 2008-12 CONACyT International Fellowship, National Science and Technology Council, Mexico
- 2008-11 Fulbright García-Robles Fellowship, International Institute of Education
- 2005-08 CONACyT National Fellowship, National Science and Technology Council, Mexico

OTHER FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

- 2017 Professional Development Award, Humboldt State University
- 2016 Professional Development Award, Graduate School, UT Austin
- 2015-16 Continuing Fellowship, Department of Anthropology, UT Austin
- 2015 Professional Development Award, Graduate School, UT Austin
- 2015 David Bruton Jr. Graduate School Fellowship, UT Austin
- 2015 Travel Grant, Latin American Studies Association (LASA)
- 2015 Professional Development Award, Graduate School, UT Austin
- 2015 Finalist, AAUW International Fellowship
- 2014 Rhonda L. Andrews Memorial Award, Department of Anthropology, UT Austin
- 2014 Summer Research Award, Department of Anthropology, UT Austin
- 2014 Summer Research Award, Native American and Indigenous Studies, UT Austin
- 2013 Professional Development Award, Department of Anthropology, UT Austin

- 2013 Professional Development Award, Native American and Indigenous Studies, UT Austin
- 2012 Professional Development Award, Social Science Research Council (SSRC)
- 2010 Graduate Dean's Prestigious Fellowship Award, UT Austin
- 2009-16 E.D. Farmer International Fellowship, Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies (LLILAS), UT Austin
- 2008 Highest Honors, M.A. in Social Anthropology, CIESAS, Mexico City
- 2005 Highest Honors, *Licenciatura en Derecho* (Mexican Professional Degree in Law), Autonomous Technological Institute of Mexico (ITAM), Mexico City

PUBLICATIONS

In Preparation. "The Manufacture of *Legal Truths* in the Case of the Acteal Massacre," To be submitted for publication to the *Political and Legal Anthropology Review* (PoLAR).

Forthcoming. "Towards a Fugitive Anthropology: Gender, Race, and Violence in the Field," co-authored, *Cultural Anthropology Journal* 32(4) (November 2017).

2015. "'We May Not Be Able to Write, But We Can Speak': The Oratory of Celia González Pérez as an Epistemological Intervention," co-authored. In *Reproducción social de la marginalidad. Exclusión y participación de las indígenas y campesinas de Chiapas*, edited by Mercedes Olivera, 483-98. Chiapas: Universidad de Ciencias y Artes de Chiapas (UNICACH) and Centro de Estudios Superiores de México y Centroamérica (CESMECA).

2013. "Indigenous Justice Practices under State Recognition. The Case of Puebla from Cuetzalan's Organizational Experience," co-authored. In *Justicias Indígenas y Estado. Violencias Contemporáneas*, edited by María Teresa Sierra, Rosalva Aída Hernández, and Rachel Sieder, 51-87. Mexico City: CIESAS/ FLACSO-Mexico.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

2011. "Seminario de Estudios sobre Violencias." *Ichan Tecolotl*, 22 (255).

2010. "Experiencia en el Congreso de la Latin American Studies Association (LASA) 2010 en Toronto, Canadá." *Ichan Tecolotl*, 21 (244).

1998. "La Guadalupana: Sincretismo del Culto Mariano y la Tonantzin," *Gaceta UNAM-SI*, 4 (18): 14-27.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2017 *Anthropology and Development*, Department of Anthropology, Humboldt State University, Fall
- 2017 *Cultural Anthropology*, Department of Anthropology, Humboldt State University, Fall
- 2017 *Graduate School Prep Seminar*, Department of Anthropology, Humboldt State University, Fall
- 2015 Teaching Certification in First-Year Interdisciplinary Instruction, School of Undergraduate Studies, University of Texas at Austin
- 2015 Teaching Assistant, *Introduction to Cultural Anthropology*, Department of Anthropology, University of Texas at Austin, Spring
- 2014 Teaching Assistant, *Difficult Dialogues: Cultural Identities and Differences*, Humanities Institute, University of Texas at Austin, Fall
- 2007 Instructor of Record, *Specialization Course on Indigenous Law*, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) Law School and National Commission for the Development of Indigenous Peoples (CDI), Mexico City, Fall
- 2000 Academic Advisor for Law students, Junior Faculty. ITAM Law School, Mexico City

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2017 Follow-up field research, San Cristóbal de las Casas, Mexico, Summer.
- 2014 Collaborative field research: “Expert Opinion on the Acteal Massacre’s Psychosocial Effects and Collective Impact,” directed by Carlos Martín Beristain. Acteal, Chenalhó; San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico (5 months). Final study submitted to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights on October 20, 2015.
- 2012-14 Dissertation field research: Acteal, Chenalhó; San Cristóbal de las Casas and Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas, Mexico (21 months). Funded by the Wenner-Gren Foundation.
- 2012 Collaborative research: “Translation and Interpretation of Celia González Pérez’s Oratory” (with Celia González, Vivian Newdick, Hilaria Cruz and Antonia Sántiz – 2 months). Oratory presented at the Permanent Peoples’ Tribunal, Mexican Chapter, *Audience on Gender Violence and Feminicide*, Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, Mexico, May 28.

- 2011 Preliminary dissertation field research: Acteal, Chenalhó and San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico (3 months). Funded by the Social Science Research Council (SSRC).
- 2007-11 Research for the project: “Globalization, Indigenous Rights and Justice from a Gender and Power Perspective: a Comparative Study,” directed by Aída Hernández, María Teresa Sierra, and Rachel Sieder. Funded by the National Science and Technology Council (CONACyT), Mexico (4 years).
- 2007 Master’s Thesis field research: Cuetzalan, Puebla, Mexico (9 months).
- 2000 Research Assistant, ITAM Law School. Project: “Indigenous Rights in Mexico. Panels for the Reform of the Mexican State,” Mexico City (6 months).

LITIGATION EXPERIENCE

- 2000-05 Attorney in Civil Law and Family Law (Head of Litigation from 2002 to 2005) Cándano & Cándano, S.C. Law Firm, Mexico City.
- 1999 Paralegal in Criminal Law
Daza & Asociados, S.C. Law Firm, Mexico City.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

- 2017 Panel Co-organizer: Investigar la ingnomia: Prácticas y discursos sobre las violencias de género y el feminicidio. “Los tres duelos de Acteal: Violencia feminicida en las vidas de las sobrevivientes de la masacre.” Presentation, XXXV International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Lima, Peru, May 30.
- 2017 Invited Talk, “From Legal Truths to *Otras Justicias*: Embodied Testimonies of Violence,” Department of Anthropology, Portland State University, January 26.
- 2016 Invited Talk, “‘Can the *Survivor* Speak?’: The Politics of Indigenous Testimony in a Racist Culture of Impunity,” Center for U.S-Mexican Studies, University of California, San Diego, December 7.
- 2016 “‘Collaboration is Like a Courtship’: Patriarchal Violence and the Paradoxes of *Engaged* Research.” Presentation, 115th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Minneapolis, November 17.
- 2016 Invited Talk, “‘Legal Impunity and Maya Autonomous Justice in the Case of the Acteal Massacre,’” Center for U.S-Mexican Studies, University of California, San Diego, May 11.

- 2016 Panel Co-organizer: Embodying Activist Research: Race, Gender, and Violence in the Field; “The Feminist, Engaged Researcher and Racialized, Gendered Expectations” Presentation, Abriendo Brecha XIII – Annual Activist Scholarship Conference, University of Texas at Austin, March 25.
- 2015 Panel Co-organizer: Collective Memory, Embodiment, and Performance in Social Protests; “Remembering the Massacre, Embodying the *Other Justice*.” Presentation, 114th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Denver, November 19.
- 2015 Panel Co-organizer: Violencia y Memoria Encarnada; “‘Somos Memoria Viva’: Acteal y los Testimonios Encarnados.” Presentation, XXXIII International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, San Juan, Puerto Rico, May 30.
- 2015 Panel Co-organizer: Gender Violence and the Politics of Fieldwork; “Distrust and Collaborative Research in Contexts of Feminicidal Violence.” Presentation, New Directions in Anthropology Conference, University of Texas at Austin, March 27.
- 2014 “Embodying the Violence Continuum After the Acteal Massacre.” Departmental Talk, University of Texas at Austin, November 4.
- 2014 Invited Talk, “Entre la Justicia Oficial y la Otra Justicia: Alternativas políticas a dieciséis años de Impunidad en el Caso Acteal.” Universidad Intercultural de Chiapas, San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas, June 12.
- 2013 “From Official Justice to *La Otra Justicia*: Reshaping the Legal Landscapes of Indigenous Struggles.” Presentation, Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Boston, June 1st.
- 2013 “*Las Abejas* and the Outsiders: Notes from the Field Towards a New Conceptualization of Activist Research.” Presentation, Abriendo Brecha X – Annual Activist Scholarship Conference, University of Texas at Austin, February 15.
- 2011 “Studying-up as an Activist Methodology.” Presentation, Abriendo Brecha VIII - Annual Activist Scholarship Conference, University of Texas at Austin, February 17.
- 2011 Invited Panelist, “Las mujeres en la justicia indígena.” Primer Pre-Congreso de la Red sobre Trata de Personas, San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico, January 18.
- 2010 Invited Panelist, “Nahua Women Blazing Paths for Indigenous Justice.” Presentation, XXIX International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Toronto, Canada, October 7.
- 2010 “La oficialización del derecho indígena en México y los problemas de la legibilidad.” Presentation, 1er Congreso Nacional de Antropología Social y Etnología, Mexico City, September 22.

- 2010 “Indigenous Judges in Times of Neoliberal Multiculturalism.” Presentation, XXX ILASSA Graduate Student Conference, University of Texas at Austin, February 5.

WORKSHOPS

- 2014 Facilitator: “The Acteal Massacre’s Psychosocial Effects and Collective Impact.” Workshop series in conjunction with community authorities and members of the Maya organization *Sociedad Civil Las Abejas*. Acteal, Chenalhó, and San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico, March-June.
- 2012 Co-organizer: “Social Science Research Council’s Global Indigenous Politics Field Building Workshop.” The Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA) 2012 Annual Meeting. Uncasville, CT, June 3-6.
- 2007 Facilitator: “The Coordination Between the Indigenous Judge of Cuetzalan and the Communities’ Judges of the Peace.” Workshop with the Indigenous Court of Cuetzalan, community authorities, and officials of Puebla’s Superior Tribunal of Justice. IV Forum of the Indigenous Court of Cuetzalan, live transmission through the radio station XECTZ – *La Voz de la Sierra Norte*. Cuetzalan, Puebla, Mexico, August 16.
- 2007 Facilitator: “The 2001 Constitutional Reform on Indigenous Issues.” Workshop with the Indigenous Court of Cuetzalan’s Judges and Council. Cuetzalan, Puebla, Mexico, March 20.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2016 Co-organizer, Abriendo Brecha XIII – Annual Activist Scholarship Conference. University of Texas at Austin, March.
- 2011 Co-founder, Violence Studies Seminar. CIESAS-Mexico City, Summer.
- 2011 Volunteer, Abriendo Brecha VIII – Annual Activist Scholarship Conference. University of Texas at Austin, February.
- 2006 Volunteer, V International Congress of the Latin American Network of Legal Anthropology (RELAJU). Oaxtepec, Mexico, October.
- 2000-01 Representative, Law Students’ Association. ITAM Law School, Mexico City.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 2014 Volunteer, Fray Bartolomé de las Casas Human Rights Center. San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico.
- 2013-14 Co-organizer, Popular Campaign Against Violence Towards Women and Feminicide in Chiapas [*Campaña Popular Contra la Violencia Hacia las Mujeres y el Feminicidio en Chiapas*]. San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico.
- 2007 Co-organizer, IV Forum of the Indigenous Court of Cuetzalan. Cuetzalan, Puebla, Mexico, August 16-17.

LANGUAGES

Spanish – Native speaker
English – Fluency reading, writing, and conversational skills
Tzotzil – Conversational skills - beginner
French – Academic reading skills
Portuguese – Academic reading skills

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Anthropological Association (AAA) - Member since 2015
Colegio de Etnólogos y Antropólogos Sociales, A.C. (CEAS) - Member since 2007
Latin American Studies Association (LASA) - Member since 2010
Law and Society Association (LSA) - Member since 2013
Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA) - Member since 2012
Red Latinoamericana de Antropología Jurídica (RELAJU) - Member since 2006