

FERNANDO ESQUIVEL-SUAREZ

Curriculum Vitae

March 2025

Department of English
Spelman College
350 Spelman Lane S.W. Atlanta, GA
Room 310 – Cosby Academic Center
Email: fesquive@spelman.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Hispanic Studies, Emory University, 2015.

Dissertation: “Españoles trasplantados”: raza hispana y migración en las misiones culturales españolas enviadas al centenario de la independencia argentina (1898-1910)

M.A. Latin American Studies, Emory University, 2011.

B.A. Philosophy, Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá-Colombia, 2004.

Thesis: La religión de la humanidad en la obra de J. S. Stuart Mill: un intento por conciliar libertad y solidaridad

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2020 - Present Assistant Professor of Ethnic Studies, Department of English.

2014 - 2020 Senior Lecturer, Spelman College, Department of World Languages and Literature.

2007 – 2014 Teacher Assistant, Emory University, Department of Spanish and Portuguese.

2006 - 2007 Lecturer, Universidad del Rosario, Bogotá – Colombia, Department of Humanities, and Department of Political Science.

2005 - 2006 Research Assistant, Social and Cultural Studies Institute PENSAR. Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá – Colombia.

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

Published Articles

Esquivel-Suarez, Fernando. “The Wiz Khalifa Controversy and Hip Hop’s Pablo Escobar Archives: Neoliberal Necroempowerment and Solidarity Against the War on Drugs.” *Cultural Politics*. Volume 19, Issue 2, 2023. DOI: 10.1215/17432197-10434405.

<https://read.dukeupress.edu/cultural-politics/article-abstract/19/2/241/382420/The-Wiz-Khalifa-Controversy-and-Hip-Hop-s-Pablo?redirectedFrom=fulltext>

Esquivel-Suarez, Fernando. "The Global War on Drugs." *Global South Studies: A Collective Publication with The Global South*. August 23, 2018.

<https://globalsouthstudies.as.virginia.edu/key-issues/global-war-drugs>

Esquivel-Suarez, Fernando and Jackeline Micolta. "The People Don't Give Up! Afrodiasporic Social Movements in Buenaventura-Colombia and the 2017 *Paro Cívico*" *Journal of Global Postcolonial Studies*. Volume 11, No. 1, 2024. DOI: 10.5744/jgps.2023.1105 Published by University of Florida Press.

Articles Under Review

Esquivel-Suarez, Fernando. "Birth of Pablo: The Rise of the Narco as an Icon in 1990s Hip Hop." Under review for inclusion in *Return of the '90s*, edited by Madeline Lane-McKinley, Pluto Press.

Esquivel-Suarez, Fernando and Rebecca Kumar. "Post-9/11 Comedy and the Ethical Potential of Brown Interontology." Essay currently under review by *Comedy Studies* for a special issue on "The State of Political Comedy."

Articles In Progress

Esquivel-Suarez, Fernando. "From White to Colorful: Colombia as a Cultural Commodity in Netflix *Narcos* and Disney's *Encanto*."

Esquivel-Suárez, Fernando. "Drug Mule or Trojan Horse?: Shame and Animalization of Latinx Women's Bodies in the War on Drugs."

Data Science Research

Esquivel-Suarez, Fernando. *Data Visualization Platform War on Drugs*.

This project's main goal is to develop a digital humanities platform that visualizes and compares data on narcotics-related arrests and convictions from 2011 to 2021, from comparable cities in the Western Hemisphere: Atlanta, GA in the United States, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and the city of Cali in Colombia.

Reviews

Esquivel-Suarez, Fernando. "Afrodescendant Resistance to Deracination in Colombia. Massacre at Buenavista-Bojayá-Chocó by Aurora Vergara-Figueroa." *Revista de Estudios Colombianos (REC)*. No. 55 (enero - junio de 2020), 90.

<https://colombianistas.org/ojs/index.php/rec/article/download/95/86/>

Book Chapters in Spanish

Esquivel-Suarez, Fernando. “Altares para la nación: procesos de monumentalización en la celebración del centenario de la independencia de Colombia”. *Entre el olvido y el recuerdo. Íconos, lugares de memoria y cánones de la historia y la literatura en Colombia*. Ed. Sarah de Mojica. Bogotá: Editorial Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, 2010. 255-282.

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt15hvwzm>

Esquivel-Suarez, Fernando. “El nacionalismo en átomos volando. Las funciones políticas del Himno Nacional de Colombia.” *La tras escena del museo. Nación y objetos en el Museo Nacional de Colombia*. Ed. Gabriel Eljaiek. Bogotá: Editorial Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, 2006. 75-100.

<https://tinyurl.com/mry7fkjh>

Chronicles

Esquivel-Suarez, Fernando. “Walking Back Home.” *Institutional Commitment to Global Engagement. Cross-Cultural Reflections of Faculty, Students, Staff, and Alumnae at Spelman College*. Ed.

<https://www.ojed.org/index.php/gsm/issue/view/219>

Interviews

T.V. Show “La Hora del Cambio.” Telemar. October 20, 2022.

<https://www.facebook.com/telemarbuenaventura/videos/519742359602935>

Podcast Episode “Chapter 007: 100 Years of Solitude feat. Dr. Fernando Esquivel-Suarez.” *It Was Written*. February 2020.

<https://spotify.link/siXkm0OA2Cb>

“A Legacy of Education for Liberation.” *Diversity & Democracy. Examining the Past, Transforming the Future*. Vol. 21, No. 3. Summer 2018.

https://dgm81phvh63.cloudfront.net/content/user-photos/Publications/Archives/Diversity-Democracy/DD_21-3_SU18.pdf

Blog Entries

Esquivel-Suarez, Fernando. “Afro-Colombia City Burns in Protest As Citizens Fight for Basic Human Rights.” *Atlanta Black Star*. Media Outlet. June 1, 2017.

<https://atlantablackstar.com/2017/06/01/afro-colombia-city-burns-protest/>

Esquivel-Suarez, Fernando and Kara Moskowitz. “Security Killings: American Police Violence, from Ferguson to Nairobi.” *Africa is a Country*. Media Outlet. January 26, 2015.

<https://africasacountry.com/2015/01/security-killings-american-police-violence-from-ferguson-to-nairobi/>

SELECTED SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 “Addictive Capitalism: Representation and Productivity of Substance Abuse.”
Panel: “Neoliberalism, Ambivalence, and the Limits of Representation: Roundtable.”
Organized by Stephen Knadler (Spelman College).
Conference: Undiscovered Country: Inhabiting the Edge of Catastrophe and Possibility. Southeastern ASA, Atlanta – September 29, 2023
- 2023 “Birth of Pablo: The Rise of the Narco as an Icon 1990s Hip Hop.”
Panel: “Periodizing the '90s.”
Organized by Madeline Lane-McKinley (UC Santa Cruz) and Sean O’Brien (Birkbeck, University of London).
Conference: American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), Chicago – Illinois, 16 – 19 March.
- 2021 “‘You look exactly like Hector!’: Brown Comedy and Affective Solidarity.”
Panel: “Still Feeling Brown, Still Feeling Down: Critical Solidarities and Brown Archives.”
Organized by Dr. Moon Charania (Spelman College). Chaired by Dr. Kadji Amin (Emory University).
Conference: American Studies Association (ASA), Virtual Conference, 7 - 9 October.
- 2021 “Data Visualization Platform War on Drugs.”
Conference: WEB DuBois Symposium, February 25.
- 2017 “Wiz Khalifa and the Pablo Escobar Controversy.”
Panel: “Music and Racial Identities between Latin America and the United States.”
Organized by Sonja Watson (The University of Texas at Arlington).
Conference: South Atlantic Modern Language Association (SAMLA). Atlanta - Georgia, 2 - 5
- 2017 “‘Sinvergüenza’: estereotipos y narcoestética entre Colombia y Estados Unidos.”
Conference: Coloquio Internacional. De Game of Thrones a CSI: diálogos sobre política y sociedad en la cultura popular estadounidense. Universidad Autónoma de México (UNAM), Centro de Investigaciones Sobre América del Norte (CISAN). Mexico City, 16 - 17 August.

ORGANIZED PANELS

- 2022 “Cultural Narratives of the War on Drugs.”
Conference: American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), Chicago – Illinois, 16 – 19 March.

INVITED TALKS

- 2025 “Drug Policy in the United States: Academic Debates.” Universidad Sergio Arboleda, January 06.
- 2024 Workshop “Prohibitionism, Addiction, and the Future of Drug Policy.” Universidad del Pacífico, October 28-30.
- 2023 “Data Visualization Platform War on Drugs (Initial Data Collection from the City of Atlanta).” Gordon-Zeto Center – Spelman College. February 22.
- 2021 “Drug Mule or Trojan Horse? Shame and Animalization of Latinx Women’s Bodies in the War on Drugs.” Hollis University. October 6.
- 2021 “Data Visualization Data Visualization and the War on Drugs.” Faculty Research and Collaboration Seminar. Data Science Initiative – Atlanta University Center. March 31.
- 2019 “Enseñanzas de los movimientos políticos afroamericanos en el contexto colombiano.” Universidad del Valle, sede Pacífico. Buenaventura – Colombia. July 19.
- 2019 “Vergüenza, poder y muerte: imaginarios del narcotráfico en la cultura popular estadounidense.” Conversatorio “Ciudad y Region.” Facultad de Sociología. Universidad del Pacífico. Buenaventura – Colombia. July 17.
- 2017 “Drug Traffic and National Identity.” International School 2017. Facultad de Derecho y Ciencias Políticas. Universidad Nacional de Colombia. Bogotá - Colombia. 28 July.
- 2015 “National Branding and Literature: Gabriel García Marquez’s Yellow Butterflies.” International School 2015. Facultad de Derecho y Ciencias Políticas. Universidad Nacional de Colombia. Bogotá - Colombia. 13 – 25 July.
- 2013 “Teaching Sport in the Classroom.” Rethinking Sport in the Americas. A Workshop. Emory University. Atlanta - Georgia. 3 - 4 October.

PARTICIPATION IN PANELS

- 2023 “Writers without Borders: A Human Rights Writing Project for Atlanta’s Migrant Youth.” Atlanta Global Studies Symposium (AGREC). Georgia State University. April 14.
- 2022 “Violence, Social Movements and Human Rights in Colombia’s National Strike.” Emory University. May 5.
- 2018 “Social Justice Education in the Trump Era.” Democratizing Knowledge Summer Institute 2018. Spelman College. Atlanta - Georgia. June 20.

2017 “Hustlers, Mules, and Terrorists: Racial Profiling, Detention, and Solidarity in the Age of Trump.”
Morehouse College Interdisciplinary Symposium on Social Justice, Social Movements, and Activism.
Morehouse College. Atlanta - Georgia, 25 April.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses Taught - Department of English, Spelman College

2022 – Present Representations of Addiction in U.S. Media
2021 – Present Cultural Narratives of the War on Drugs; Latinx Studies Seminar
2021 – Present Literary and Critical Studies
2021 – Present Writing and Composition

Courses Taught - Department of World Languages and Cultures, Spelman College

2015 – 2019 Spanish 308: Introduction to Literary Text and Cultural Studies.
2015 – 2018 African Diaspora and the World (ADW) 111 and 112.
2017 – 2018 Online Intermediate Spanish II.
2013 – 2019 Elementary Spanish I; Elementary Spanish II.
Intermediate Spanish I; Intermediate Spanish II.

Courses Taught - Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Emory University

2012 – 2013 Foreign Players: Soccer, Masculinities, and Immigration in the U.S.
Spring 2012 Senior Seminar: “The Empire Strikes Back?: Transatlantic Exchanges Between Argentina and Spain in the Dawn of Modernity.
Spring 2011 Upper-level class: Early Hispanic Literature and Culture.
Spring 2010 Upper-level class: Reading in Spanish: Texts and Contexts.

Courses Taught - Department of Political Science, Universidad del Rosario. Bogotá-Colombia

2005 – 2007 Ethics.
2006 – 2007 Political Argumentation.

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2024 UNCF/Mellon Faculty Residency Program
- 2024 Global at Home Research Grant, Gordon-Zeto Center for Global Education
- 2023 UNCF/Mellon Programs Faculty Development Grant
- 2022 Mini-Grant, Atlanta University Center Data Science Initiative
- 2022 Global at Home Research Grant, Gordon-Zeto Center for Global Education
- 2021 Mini-Grant, Atlanta University Center Data Science Initiative
- 2021 AGREC “Connecting globally while grounded at home” Award
- 2021 Digital Humanities Research Institute Fellowship, CUNY.
- 2020 National Humanities Center Fellowship
- 2019 UNCF/Mellon Faculty Development Award
- 2017 PHI BETA DELTA. Honor Society for International Scholars, Beta Omega Chapter Spelman College.
- 2013 Emory University/Howard Hughes Medical Institute Teacher Scholar Award.
- 2012 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Graduate Teaching Fellowship.
- 2012 On Recent Discoveries by Emory Researchers (ORDER).
- 2012 Laney Graduate School Competitive Fellowship, Emory University.
- 2010 Comprehensive Doctoral Exams: High Honors.
- 2009 Laney Graduate School Fellowship, Emory University.
- 2009 Excellence in Language Studies Award, Emory University.
- 2007 Arts and Science Fellowship, Emory University.

INSTITUTIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Service to Spelman College

Committees

2023 – 2024 Junior Faculty Council (nominated)

2023 – 2024 Research Day Quad Chair

Organized Workshops, Panels, and Talks at Spelman College

2023 Panel: “Abolition and Radical Imagination.” Speakers: Eva Dickerson, Edget Betru, Edget Betru, Ph.D. April 1.

2022 Digital Humanities for Social Justice Workshop. Instructor: Professor Allen Hillery October 29.

2019 Panel: “Mestizaje is/against White Supremacy.” Speakers: Gabriel Eljaiek, Ph.D., Anthony Desk, Ph.D., Mónica García-Blizzard, Ph.D. October 24.

2018 “Visual Stories of the Wound: Frida Kahlo, Andres Serrano, and Roberto Bolaño” Invited Speaker: Angel Diaz. October 18.

2018 Panel: “The Open Ballot of Latin America. A Discussion on the Upcoming Elections in Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Brazil.” Speakers: Fernando Esquivel-Suárez, Ph.D., Jaime Chávez, ABD., Jacqueline Alvarez, Ph.D., Inés Cordeiro, Ph.D. April 12.

2017 Panel: “Colombia’s Peace Process and the Rise of Global Conservatism.” Speakers: Fernando Esquivel-Suárez, Ph.D., Sergio Salazar, M.A., Janike Ruginis, Ph.D. Spelman College. Atlanta - Georgia. November 10.

2014 “A Cultural Understanding of the Development Practice in Colombia.” Talk by Paula Moreno Zapata, Colombia’s former Minister of Culture and director of the NGO Manos Visibles (or Visible Hands). Spelman College. April 14.

Participation in Panels, Workshops, and Talks at Spelman College

2023 Moderator Faculty Breakout Session “How is generative AI advancing innovations in research?” Panelist: Ellie Pavlick, Ph.D., Manning Assistant Professor of Computer Science, Brown University. Faculty Institute. August 15.

2022 Discussion Moderator for Disney’s Encanto. Department of English, Film Club. February 27.

2019 Panel “Still Feeling Brown, Still Feeling Down: Affect, Performance, Race.” The Intercampus Seminar on the Practice of Democracy. Robert W. Woodruff Library. Atlanta - Georgia. March 18.

2017 Panel “Immigration in the Era of Trump.” Spelman College. Atlanta - Georgia. 7 November.

Mentoring and Advising

2024 – 2025	Olivia Renea Thompson, UNCF/Mellon Undergraduate Fellowship.
2024	Spelman College - Research Day Award - Olivia Renea Thompson
2023 – 2024	Simone Jacques, UNCF/Mellon Undergraduate Fellowship.
2022 – Present	Prestigious Fellowships & Scholarships.
2022 – Present	J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship
2019 – Present	Mentor for Social Justice Fellows Program.
2019	Spelman College - Research Day Award - Sydney Boone
2017 – 2019	Capstone Advising World Languages and Cultures Senior Students
2016	Spelman College - Research Day Award - Dominique Coleman

Study Abroad Programs

2024	Co-director CEACAPA - Barcelona Study Abroad Program.
2023	Director. Spelman College, Santo Domingo Study Abroad Program.
2016 – 2020	Co-director Spelman College, Santo Domingo Study Abroad Program.
2019	Co-director Spelman College, Rio de Janeiro Study Abroad Program.

Service for the Department of English

2023 - 2024	Lit Week Planning Committee
2022	Departmental Job Search Committee to hire Senior Lecturer.
2022	Departmental Job Search Committee to hire Instructor.

Service for the Department of World Languages and Cultures

2019 – 2020	Website and Communication Committee.
-------------	--------------------------------------

2017 Administrative Assistant Hiring Committee

2016 – 2019 Curriculum Revision Committee.

2015 – 2017 “Research Day” Committee.

Service to the Profession

2019 – Present J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship National Screening Committee Colombia.

Community Outreach

2024 – Present Georgia Harm Reduction Coalition, Board of Advisors

2023 Organizer of Teach-Ins on the movement Stop Cop City

2020 – Present Freedom University, Board of Advisors

2017 – 2019 Teacher-organizer at Freedom University

2014 Panel Moderator. Conexión Pacífico, Regional Workshop. NGO *Manos Visibles* (or Visible Hands). Pontificia Universidad Javeriana. Cali - Colombia. 16 -18 July.

TRAINING AND RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022 “Using Data to Drive Reform Through Prosecutorial Performance.” AUC Data Science Initiative. June 9.

2022 “Africana Digital Humanities.” The Center for Africana Digital Humanities. April 5 - 14.

2021 “Digital Humanities Workshop.” AUC Data Science Initiative. July 12 - 13.

2021 “Digital Humanities Research Institute.” July 6 - 9.

2021 “Podcast for the Humanities: Creating Digital Stories for the Public,” National Humanities Center. June 14 - 18.

2020 Spelman College Digital Humanities Workshop by Roopika Risam

2017 Metacognitive Pedagogy Training Workshop, Spelman College.

2017 Online Course Development Program, Spelman College. January - May.

2015 Digital Humanities Workshop. Technology, Pedagogy, Curriculum + Research, Emory University. January - March.

2012 Archival Methods and Digital Humanities Workshop. Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book (MARBL) Library, Emory University. February - April.

2012 Intensive Grant Writing Workshop, Emory University. February 23 - 26.

2008 Paleography Workshop, Biblioteca Antigua, Universidad de Salamanca. May - July.

Affiliations

Drug Policy Alliance (DPA)

Modern Language Association (MLA).

South Atlantic Modern Language Association (SAMLMA).

Latin American Studies Association (LASA).

Association of Asian American Studies (AAAS).

American Studies Association (ASA)

National Women's Studies Association (NWSA)