

Gema Guevara
FAR CV 2022

Gema R. Guevara
University of Utah
Department of World Languages and Cultures
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Education

Ph.D. University of California, San Diego, Latin American Literature and Theory

Academic Appointments

2007-present:

Associate Professor, Department of Languages and Literature, University of Utah,

2000-2007:

Assistant Professor, Department of Languages and Literature, University of Utah,

1999-2000:

Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Social Sciences, University of California-Irvine,

Research Interests:

Gema Guevara is an Associate Professor of Latin American and Caribbean Literature at the University of Utah. Her publications include articles on nineteenth Cuban nationalism, race and gender formation, Afro-Cuban music, and indigeneity. She is completing her book manuscript, *The Sound and Silence Contesting Cuba's Racial Project from the 1830s -1920s*.

Her first area of research and teaching includes 19th Century Colonial Latin America and Caribbean Studies. She works with a variety of hybrid texts to excise the layering of gendered and racialized discourses that promoted and secured the discourses of *mestizaje*, *mulatez* and *whitening*. Professor Guevara also analyzes the overarching and often contradictory remnants of coloniality and the lingering traces of empire as the Americas entered global markets. Guevara's second area of research includes contemporary popular culture, diaspora and immigration in US Latina / Latino Studies and Afro-Caribbean music.

Grants and Fellowships

Academic Research Sabbatical, College of Humanities, University of Utah (Fall 2019)

Gema Guevara
FAR CV 2022

International Travel Grant, College of Humanities, University of Utah (2022)

International Travel Grant, College of Humanities, University of Utah (2019)

International Travel Grant, College of Humanities, University of Utah (2018)

University Teaching Grant (with Karin Baumgartner), University of Utah (2016-17).

International Travel Grant, College of Humanities, University of Utah (spring 2015)

International Travel Grant, College of Humanities, University of Utah (spring 2014)

Obert C. & Grace A. Tanner Fellowship, (fall 2013)

Dee Grant, "Border Crossings Series," 2009.

College of Humanities Mini Grant, 2005.

Obert C. & Grace A. Tanner Fellowship, 2004.

University of Utah Research Grant, 2003.

College of Humanities Mini Grant, 2003.

Univ of Florida, Center for Latin American Studies NEH Travel Grant, 2001.

Work in Progress:

Book Manuscript: *The Gendered Struggles of Cuba's Post-Emancipation Black Middle Class*

Journal Article: "Scripting Black Cuban Masculinities: The Transnational Writings of Rodolfo Lagardere and Martin Morua Delgado"

Journal Article: "The Politics of Ownership: The Black Female Body in Late Nineteenth Century Cuba"

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles:

"Of Fabric and Fabrication: Lila Downs' Refashioning of Transnational Music," *Latino Studies Journal*, 12:4 (2014): 550-565.

"Geographies of Travel and the Rhetoric of the Countryside: Mid-Nineteenth Century North American and Cuban Travel Writing," *Bulletin of Spanish Studies*, 85:1 (2008): 11-27.

Gema Guevara
FAR CV 2022

“Narratives of Racial Authority in Cuban Popular Music,” *Journal of Popular Music Studies* 17:3 (December 2005): 255-274.

“Inexacting Whiteness: *Blanqueamiento* as a Gender-Specific Trope in the Nineteenth-Century,” *Cuban Studies* 36 (2005): 105-128.

“¿Quién escribe los manuales?: Una lucha por el poder interpretativo,” *Revista de crítica literaria latinoamericana* 52 (Fall 2000): 63-77.

Book Chapters:

“Arsenio and Olga: Situating Blackness in the Cuban/Cuban American Imaginary,” *Una ventana a Cuba y los estudios cubanos*, Amalia Cabezas, Ivette-Hernández-Torres, Sara Johnson, Rodrigo Lazo, eds. (San Juan, Puerto Rico: Ediciones Callejón, 2010), 135-154.

“La Cuba de ayer / La Cuba de hoy: The Politics of Music and Diaspora,” in *Musical Migrations. Transculturalism and Cultural Hybridity in Latin/o America*. Frances R. Aparicio and Cándida Jáquez, eds. (New York: Palgrave Macmillan Press, 2003), 33-46.

Book Review:

“Arsenio Rodríguez and the Transnational Flows of Latin Popular Music,” *Journal of Latino Studies*, 5 (2007): 381-382.

Encyclopedic Entry:

“Arturo Sandoval and Latin Jazz,” *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Latinos and Latinas in the United States*, Suzanne Oboler and Deena J. González, eds. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2005), 69-70.

Invited Talks:

“Recuperating a Black Archive,” *Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials LIX (SALALM)*, Salt Lake City, Utah, May 11, 2014.

“Inverting a Racial Paradigm in Nineteenth Century Cuba,” Tanner Humanities Center, University of Utah, April 1, 2014.

“Visual Representation of the Chinese in Cuba: Racial Subjectivity and Triangulation,” Invited Speaker, As part of a series titled, *Visual Representations of the Chinese in the Diaspora*, Sponsored by the History of Art and Visual Culture Department, University of California, Santa Cruz, November 9-10, 2011.

Invited Panelist:

Gema Guevara
FAR CV 2022

“Revolution of Forms: Cuba’s Forgotten Art,” Sponsored by the School of Architecture at the University of Utah, Muse Project, and Utah Film Center. Salt Lake City Public Library, November 20, 2012.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

“Cuban Hospitality, Travel Writers and the Representation of the Coolie’ Trade,” Modern Language Association (MLA) International Symposium, Glasgow, Scotland, June 2-4, 2022.

“*Epicentro*: Dilemmas of Globalization,” Cuban Research Institute at Florida International University, February 3-4, 2022.

“Writing the Coolie Across the Florida Straits,” C19: The Society of Nineteenth Century Americanists, October 15-18, 2020.

“Dissent and Pride: Afro-Cuban Women Write Blackness,” Latin American Studies Association (LASA), May 13-16, 2020.

“Black Cuban Women’s Voices in the Aftermath of Slavery,” Modern Language Association (MLA) International Symposium, Lisbon, Portugal, July 23-25, 2019.

“The Unintended Consequences of *la Trata Amarilla*: Chinese Indentured Servitude and Cuban Racial Formation in the mid-Nineteenth Century,” The Global Migration Conference at the International Institute for Social History in Amsterdam, Netherlands, June 20-22, 2019. (Upcoming)

“Scripting Black Cuban Masculinities: The Transnational Writings of Rodolfo de Lagardere and Martín Morúa Delgado,” Congreso Internacional de Literatura Hispánica, Granada, Spain, June 27-29, 2018.

“Dissonant Archives,” C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico, March 22-25, 2018. Seminar discussant.

“The End of Cuban Slavery and the New Black Press: “What was Then, and What is Now,” Congreso Internacional de Literatura Hispánica, Buenos Aires, Argentina, March 8-10, 2017.

“Performance as a Transgressive Model for Latina/o Studies,” Latina/o Studies Association, Pasadena, California, July 7-9, 2016.

“Negotiating Blackness: Masculinity and Womanhood in the Post-Independent Period,” Congreso Internacional de Literatura Hispánica, Mérida, Mexico, March 9-11, 2016.

“The Politics of Ownership: The Black Female Body in Late Nineteenth Century Cuba,” Congreso Internacional de Literatura Hispánica, Antigua, Guatemala, March 4-6, 2015.

“Competing Racial Patriarchies: The Politics of Respectability and the Black Female

Gema Guevara
FAR CV 2022

Body in Late Nineteenth-Century Cuba,” Cuban Research Institute Conference on Cuban and Cuban American Studies at Florida International University, Miami, Florida, February 26-28, 2015.

“Nineteenth-Century Trans-Geographical Labor and Racial Triangulation,” Congreso Internacional de Literatura Hispánica, Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, March 12-15, 2014.

“Sightseeing in Havana: Chinese “Coolies”, Cigar Factories and American Travelers in 19th Century America,” American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), Toronto, Canada, April 5-7, 2013.

“Frutos de la violencia: Nación, lenguaje e identidad,” 59TH Annual Conference of the Rocky Mountain Council of Latin American Studies, Park City, Utah, March 30, 2012. (Discussant)

“Black Female Subjectivity in a New Era: *Minerva 1888-1889*,” Conference of Ethnicity and Indigenous People in Latin America and the Caribbean (ERIP), University of California, San Diego, November 3-5, 2011.

“Music and Embodiment: The Sound of Cutting the Huipil,” Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Toronto, Canada, October 6-9, 2010.

“Cultural Mulatez: Colonialism, Nation and Cuban Color in the 19th Century,” *Cuban Research Institute Conference on Cuban and Cuban American Studies: An Island in a Global World*, February 11-13, 2010, Miami, Florida.

“Dialectic Imagin(ation): Lila Downs’s Musical Border Crossings in a Global World,” American Studies Association, Washington D.C., November 5-8, 2009.

“Allegory Strikes Back: Lila Downs’s Musical Border Crossings in a Global World,” National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies, April 8-11, 2009, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

“Of Genuineness and Genre: Negotiating Identity in the Context of Cuban Popular Music,” UCI Cuba Conference, May 1-3, 2008, Irvine, California.

“El ciego maravilloso”: The *son montuno* and Black Masculinity,” Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Sept 5-8, 2007, Montreal, Canada.

“The *Guajira*’s Crossings: From the National to the Transnational Music Scene,” *Latin American Studies Association (LASA)*, March 15-18, 2006, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

“The Inseparability of Music, Race and Gender,” Modern Language Association (MLA), December 27-30, 2005, Washington, D. C.

“The Memory of Music and the Construction of *Latinidad*,” American Studies Association (ASA), November 11-14, 2004, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Gema Guevara
FAR CV 2022

“Cultural Moves: The Politics of Racial Authority in Cuban Popular Music,” University of Utah, Obert C. & Grace A. Tanner Humanities Center, April 14, 2004.

“The Limits of Memory, the Construction of Identity and the Role of Music and Narrative in Latino/a Literature,” Western Humanities Association, October 16-18, 2003, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Three Women, One Genre: Latina Performers and Gendered Musical Memory,” National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies, April 2-6, 2003, Los Angeles, California.

“Permeable Citizenship: Talking Back Across Gender and Race,” Latin American Studies Association (LASA), March 27-29, 2003, Dallas, Texas.

“Dance in the City: Spain and the Americas,” University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, February 13-14, 2003.

“Latinidad and the Dialectics of Cultural Transmission,” University of Utah, Obert C. & Grace A. Tanner Humanities Center January 22, 2003.

“Narratives of Music: Dancing to a Latina/Latino Identity in Urban L.A.,” for the Popular Culture Division, Conference of the Modern Language Association (MLA), December 27-30, 2002, New York City, New York.

“Articulating Cultural Citizenship: Middle Eastern Sufi and Afro-Caribbean Rhythm in a Transnational Context,” for the West Asia Division, Conference of the Modern Language Association (MLA), December 27-30, 2002, New York City, New York.

“In Search of the Right Skin Color: The Construction of the *mulata casi blanca*,” Congreso Interdisciplinario, University of Puerto Rico, November 21-23, 2002, Arecibo, Puerto Rico.

“Performing Diaspora: The Travels of Rhythm,” Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association, February 13-17, 2002, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

“The Discovery of a ‘Non-Imagined World’: Cirilo Villaverde’s Journey Into Cuba,” Conference of the Modern Language Association (MLA), December 27-30, 2001, New Orleans, Louisiana.

“Geographies of Empire and Nation: Mid-Nineteenth-Century American and Cuban Travel Writing,” Alexander von Humboldt Conference, June 18-22, 2001, Humboldt State University, Arcata, California.

“‘Yo soy el punto cubano’: Music, Identity and the Politics of Gender,” The World in American Studies/American Studies in the World Panel, Conference of the American Studies Association, October 12-15, 2000, Detroit, Michigan.

“Performing Diaspora: The Travels of Rhythm,” *Southwest / Texas Popular Culture Association*, February 13-17, 2002, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

“The Discovery of a ‘Non-Imagined World’: Cirilo Villaverde’s Journey Into Cuba,”
Conference of the Modern Language Association, December 27-30, 2001, New Orleans,
Louisiana.

TEACHING INTERESTS, COURSES TAUGHT AND GRADUATE COMMITTEES

Colonial Latin America, indigeneity, Cuban nineteenth century literature, race and gender studies, U.S. Latinx Studies, diaspora, immigration studies, Global South, Afro-Caribbean music and popular culture, transnational studies

Graduate Courses taught at the University of Utah (S=Spanish; E=English)

- Spanish 6700 Colonial Literature: Narratives of Conquest and Resistance (S)
Spanish 6780 Writing the Novel and Scripting the Latin American Nation: From the 1830s to the 1940s (S)
Spanish 6900 Caribbean Slavery and Its Aftermath
Spanish 6900 Immigration, Diaspora and Racial Scripts: The Shaping of U.S. Latina/o Identities (S)
Spanish 6900 Chronicles of Conquest: Fiction, History, and Feminists Reappraisals (S)
Spanish 6900 Cultural Practices: The Construction of Gendered and Racialized Discourses (S)
Spanish 6900 Geographies of Empire: Discourses of Displacement and Rhetoric of Place (S)
Spanish 6900 Postcolonial and Cultural Studies Frameworks: Theories of Transculturation, Subalternity, and Representation (S)
Spanish 6900 19th Century Latin American Literature: The Making of Racialized Gendered National Bodies (S)
CLCS 6600 Introduction to Research and Bibliography (E)
CLCS 6900 Writing Race and Diaspora: Trans-Atlantic Crossings in the 18th and 19th Centuries (E)

Undergraduate Courses taught at the University of Utah (S=Spanish; E=English)

- Spanish 4560 Latin American Culture & Society (S)
Spanish 4630 Introduction to Spanish-American Literature (S)
Spanish 4600 U.S. Latinx Literature (S)
Spanish 4600 The U.S. Latinx Experience: Narratives of Home, Migration and Displacement (S)
Spanish 4900 Coming to America (co-taught) (E)
Spanish 4900 Caribbean Studies: Race, Migration and Transnational Tourism (S)
Spanish 4900 Caribbean Studies: Facets and Expressions of Slavery in the Caribbean (S)
Spanish 4900 Caribbean Studies: Literary and Visual Representations of Slavery (S)
Spanish 4900 Nation, Gender and Identity: Latin American and Caribbean Women Writers (S)
Spanish 4900 Nation, Gender and Identity: Latin American and Caribbean Writers (S)
Spanish 4900 *Latinidades*: Panethnic and Transnational Identities

Gema Guevara
FAR CV 2022

Spanish 4900 Writing the Post-Colonial Nation (S)
CLCS 3670 Travels of Music: Musical Migrations between the Caribbean, Mexico
and the United States (E)

Teacher Training at the University of Utah (graduate courses)

Second Language Teaching & Research Center Spanish Summer Teacher Workshop,
Topic: “Sugar, Spice, and Smokes: Re-Thinking Caribbean, Latin American and Spanish
Identities through Cultural Production,” University of Utah, summer 2015.

Tanner Humanities Gateway to Learning Workshop for High School Teachers. Topic:
“Literature and Education: In Revolution (Cuba and Mexico),” University of Utah,
summer 2012.

Tanner Humanities Gateway to Learning Workshop for High School Teachers. “The
Dialectics of (Un) documented and Documented Travel: Migration, Ethnicity, and
Identity” University of Utah, Summer 2010.

Recent Graduate Committees

Doctoral Committees (2012-present)

Victor Zabala, Spanish, (chair), completed fall 2019
Keri González, Spanish, (chair), no longer chair since summer 2018
Carolina Singer, Spanish, (chair), ceased to chair fall 2017
Sally Abed, CLCS, (member), will complete fall 2016
Brenda Lake, Spanish, (chair), completed spring 2013
Electra Fielding, Spanish, (member), completed spring 2012
Segio Bernal, Music Department, (member), completed fall 2012

Master’s Committees (2012-present)

Keaton Adams, Spanish, (chair), completed spring 2021
Tuscan Thompson, Spanish, (thesis chair), completed 2020
Laura Marone, Spanish, (member), complete spring 2019
Maria Jesus Toledo, Spanish, (chair), completed 2018
Elizabeth Rodriguez, Spanish, (member), completed 2015
Suan Piñeda, Spanish, (thesis chair), completed spring 2013
Robert Powel, CLCS, (thesis chair), completed fall 2012

RECENT SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Committee Work

C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists, member of the Membership
Committee, Development of the Diversity Membership Program (2018-2019).

Editorship for Academic Journals:

Article Reviewer, *The Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology* (JLACA)

Article Reviewer, *Latino Studies Journal*

Article Reviewer, *Latin American Research Review* (LARR)

Article Reviewer, *Arizona Journal of Hispanic Cultural Studies*

Article Reviewer, *Journal of Popular Music Studies*

Article Reviewer, *A Contracorriente*

Convention Panel Organization

Organizer panel “Being Cuban While Being Black: Negotiating Blackness between Cuba and the United States,” Cuban Research Institute Conference on Cuban and Cuban American Studies (CRI), Florida International University, Miami, Florida, February 26-28, 2015.

Co-organizer panel “(Un) Positioning Identity in Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Travel Writing,” American Comparative Literary Association (ACLA) Convention, Toronto, Canada, April 4-6, 2013.

Organizer panel “Musical Border Crossings at the Intersections of Latinidad in a Global Context,” Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Toronto, Canada, 2010.

Organizer panel “Trans-geographical Dilemmas: Nineteenth Century Constructs of Race,” Cuban Research Institute Conference on Cuban and Cuban American Studies: An Island in a Global World, Miami, Florida, 2010.

Organizer panel “Keeping the Geographical Beat to the Son Montuno, the Mambo and Cuban Rap,” Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Montreal, Canada, 2007.

Organizer panel “Performing between Gender and Race: The Politics of Cuban / Cuban American Cultural Production,” Modern Language Association Conference, Washington, D.C., 2005.

Organizer panel “Trans-Caribbean Networks: Challenges to a Global / Local Paradigm,” Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Dallas, Texas, 2003.

Organizer panel “Rhythm, Dance, and Gesture: The “worldings” of Performance and Popular Culture,” Modern Language Association Conference New York City, New York, (2002).

SERVICE TO THE INSTITUTION

University of Utah

Gema Guevara
FAR CV 2022

College of Humanities Faculty Awards Committee, Spring-Fall 2021, Spring-Fall 2022
University Research Committee, fall 2020; spring-fall 2021, spring-fall 2022
Career Development Committee, fall 2021
Student Fee Study Abroad Scholarship Committee, fall 2020; spring-fall 2021
Member Tanner Humanities Faculty Advisory Board, 2014-2021
Member Academic Senate, 2017-2020
Member Annie Clark Tanner Fellowship Committee, spring 2017
Member Tanner Humanities Faculty Advisory Board, 2014-2018
Member Task Force on Teaching and Committee for Teaching and Service, 2011-2012
Member College of Humanities Executive Committee, 2005-2006.
Member Search Committee for the Director of Financial Aid and Scholarships, 2004.
Roundtable participant, "Chicana/o Cultural Expression Panel," Ethnic Studies
Department, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, September 26, 2002.
Mentor, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, 2002-2003 and 2003-2004.
Faculty participant in the National Endowment for the Humanities Latin American
Studies Seminar, 2001-2002.
Roundtable participant, Counterpoint Conference, "Working from the Margins:
Mormon Feminism and Community Diversity," University of Utah, Salt Lake City,
November 2-3, 2001.

The Department

RPT Peer Reviewer (Fall 2021)
Member 2nd Year Informal Tenure Review Committee for Prof. Jacqueline Sheean
Department Retention, Promotion, and Tenure Committee, Chair, 2020
Chair 7th Year Formal Tenure Review Committee for Prof. Alejandro Quin, 2019
Chair 4th Year Informal Tenure Review Committee for Prof. Talía Dajes, 2019
Member Teaching Advisory Committee, 2017-2018
Chair 5th Year Formal Tenure Review Committee for Prof. Alejandro Quin, 2017
Peer Reviewer - Teaching, 2017
Chair Spanish Search Committee, 2015-2016
Chair 3rd Year Formal Tenure Review Committee for Prof. Alejandro Quin, 2015
Spanish Section Representative, Fall 2015
Graduate Advisor for Spanish Section, 2014-2016
Member 3rd Year Formal Tenure Review Committee for Prof. Al Duncan, 2014
Member Post Tenure Ad Hoc Committee for Karin Baumgartner, 2014 Member
Department of Language and Literature Merit Committee, 2014
Member Department of Language and Literature Executive Committee, 2012-2013
Spanish Section Representative, Department of Languages and Literature, 2012-2013
Spanish Section Representative, Department of Languages and Literature, 2011-2012
Spanish Section Representative, Department of Languages and Literature, 2009-2010
Member 5th Year Formal Tenure Review Committee for Prof. Angela Espinosa, 2013
Member 7th Year Formal Tenure Review Committee for Prof. García-Martín, 2012
Member 3rd Year Formal Tenure Review Committee for Prof Angela Espinosa, 2011
Chair Teaching Advisory Committee 2010-2012
Member Teaching Advisory Committee 2009-2010
Executive Committee, Department of Languages and Literature, 2010-2011
Comp Literature/Cultural Studies Committee, 2010-2011, 2011-2012

Gema Guevara
FAR CV 2022

Chair 5th Year Formal Tenure Review Committee for Prof Elena Garcia-Martin, 2010
Chair 5th Year Formal Tenure Review Committee for Professor Gary Atwood, 2010
Spanish Graduate Advisor, 2002-2006
Chair Spanish Search Committee, 2005-2006 Member
Spanish Search Committee, 2004-2005 Member
Spanish Search Committee, 2002-2003 Member
Graduate Committee, 2004-2005, 2005-2006 Member
Executive Committee, 2004-2005
Member Comparative Literature Committee, 2003-
2004 Member World Literature Committee, Fall 2004
Member Merit Committee, 2000-2003
Member Ad Hoc Committee for Travel Abroad, Spring 2002
Member Ad Hoc committee for Language Requirement Examination, fall 2002
Member Comparative Literature Task Force, fall 2002

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Associate Professor Development Workshop, University of Utah, spring 2017

“Workshop Textual Input,” Digital Humanities Summer Institute, University of Victoria, 1 week, June 5-10, 2016.

Director Study Abroad

Oviedo, Spain, 2017 (co-directed), University of Oviedo, 5 weeks
Gijón, Spain, 2010, University of Oviedo, 5 weeks
Valparaiso, Chile, 2009, Pontifical Catholic University, 5 weeks
Valparaiso, Chile, 2008, Pontifical Catholic University, 5 weeks
Valparaiso, Chile, 2007, Pontifical Catholic University, 5 weeks