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Curriculum Vitae
August 2016

APPOINTMENTS

- 2013-Present Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Puerto Rico Río Piedras, San Juan, PR
- 2011-2013 Adjunct Instructor, Department of Anthropology, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Edwardsville, IL

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Anthropology with minor in Jewish Studies. Indiana University, 2012
Dissertation title: "Speaking *Shami*: Syrian Jewish Mexican language practices as strategies of integration and legitimation."
Dissertation co-chairs: Richard Bauman and Daniel Suslak
Committee members: Frances Trix, Matthias Lehmann and Sarah Benor
- M.A. Anthropology. Indiana University, 2008.
- B.A. Anthropology and Spanish (Summa Cum Laude; Phi Beta Kappa). University of Pennsylvania, 2002
- Additional training: Arabic language. Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, 2010-2011
Arabic language. Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico City, Spring 2009
Jewish religion and Hebrew language. Nishmat Center for Advanced Jewish Study for Women, Jerusalem, Summer 2005
School for International Training Semester Abroad, Cochabamba, Bolivia, Spring 2001

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

- 2016 Fondo Institucional para la Investigación (FIPI): "Identity practices and narrative among Puerto Rican converts to Judaism." Decanato de Estudios Graduados e Investigación, Universidad de Puerto Rico, Río Piedras.
- 2016 Berman Foundation Early Career Fellowship (Association for Jewish Studies)
- 2016 Curriculum Development Travel Grant from the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (LACS) at the University of Michigan
- 2015 Maurice Amado Foundation Travel Grants (Association for Jewish Studies)
- 2011 Central States Anthropological Society Beth Wilder Dillingham Award
- 2010 Foundation for Jewish Culture Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship
- 2010 Indiana University Borns Jewish Studies Program Grants in Aid of Research (declined)
- 2008 Fulbright-Hays Grant for Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad
- 2008 Fulbright Institute for International Education (IIE) U.S. Student Grant (declined)
- 2008 Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture International Doctoral Scholarship
- 2007 Tinker Foundation Field Research Grant. Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Indiana University.
- 2007 Skomp Grant for Pre-Dissertation Research. Department of Anthropology, Indiana University.

- 2006 Skomp Grant for Pre-Dissertation Research. Department of Anthropology, Indiana University.
- 2006 CLACS/Mendel Pre-Dissertation Travel Grant. Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Indiana University.
- 2004 Indiana University Chancellor's Minority Fellowship

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

- In progress “‘It was never *relajo*’”: Diasporic chronotope and the social work of Jewish Mexican ethnic joking.” Submitted to *Anthropological Quarterly*, July 2015; returned with instructions to revise and resubmit, January 2016.
- 2014 “Las vidas de mexicanas judías de ascendencia siria como modernidades alternativas” (Syrian Jewish Mexican lives as alternative modernities). *Diversidad Intercultural*, 8(5), pp 28-51.
- 2011 “*Shamis*, *halebis* and *shajatos*: Labels and the dynamics of Syrian Jewishness in Mexico City.” *Language and Communication* 31:2, pp 130-140.

Book Chapters

- Forthcoming “The Spanish of Jewish Latin Americans: Comparative Analysis of Buenos Aires and Mexico City.” Co-author: Susana Skura. *In Languages in Jewish Communities, Past and Present*. Ed. Benjamin Hary and Sarah Benor. Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton.
- 2016 “Jewish Latin American Spanish.” Co-author: Susana Skura. *In Handbook of Jewish Languages*. Ed. Aaron Rubin and Lily Kahn. Leiden, The Netherlands: Brill, pp 489-502.
- 2010 “Mexico,” “Venezuela.” *In Encyclopedia of Jews in the Islamic World*. Ed. Norman Stillman. Leiden, The Netherlands: Brill.

Other publications

- 2014 Evelyn Dean-Olmsted, Sarah Bunin Benor, and Jim Gerstein. *Connected to Give: Virtuous Circles*. Los Angeles: Jumpstart.
- 2012 “Arabic and Hebrew Loanwords in the Spanish of Syrian Jewish Mexicans: A Case for ‘Heritage Words.’” *Texas Linguistics Forum* 55, pp 20-32.
<http://studentorgs.utexas.edu/salsa/proceedings/2012/deanolmsted.pdf>
- 2012 “Syrian Jewish Mexicans and the Everyday Language of Orientalism.” *Society for Linguistic Anthropology Blog*, July 2. (<http://linguisticanthropology.org/blog/2012/07/02/syrian-jewish-mexicans-and-the-language-of-everyday-orientalism/>)
- 2010 “Arabic and Syrian Jewish Identities in Mexico City, A Century after Migration.” *Syrian Studies Association Newsletter*, 15:1.
- 2004 “‘All who are hungry, come and eat.’ The Jews of Sarajevo and *La Benevolencija* at the turn of the 21st century.” *The International Sephardic Journal*, 1:1, pp 19-33.

Book Reviews

- 2016 Review of *The Jews of Latin America*, Third Edition, by Judith Laiken Elkin, 2005. *Latin American Jewish Studies*, No. 34, pp 6-9. <http://www.lajsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/LAJS-34-mayo-2016.pdf>
- 2007 Review of *Pomegranate Seeds: Latin American Jewish Tales* by Nadia Grosser Nagarajan, 2005. *Folklore Forum Online Journal*, 37:1.
- 2006 Review of *Marcel Mauss: a biography* by Marcel Fournier, 2006. *Anthropological Quarterly*, 79:3, pp 557-560.

SCHOLARLY WEBSITES

- 2013-Present Creator and administrator of the collaborative online database *Léxico Judío Latinoamericano* (Jewish Latin American Lexicon) <http://www.jewish-languages.org/lexico-judio-latinoamericano>
- 2010-2013 Co-creator and administrator of the collaborative website of the Association for Jewish Studies Sephardi-Mizrahi Caucus <http://sephardimizrahistudies.org/>.

TEACHING

- 2013-Present Instructor, “Antropología Lingüística;” “Antropología Sociocultural;” “Seminario de Investigación de Antropología Lingüística” (undergraduate); and “Etnografía de la Comunicación” (graduate). Universidad de Puerto Rico, Río Piedras.
- 2012-2013 Co-Instructor, “The Problem of War and Peace,” Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
- 2011-2012 Instructor, “Human Culture and Communication,” Department of Anthropology, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
- 2007-2008 Instructor, “Ethnographic Research Methods;” “Social and Cultural Anthropology.” Department of Anthropology, Indiana University
- 2007 Instructor, “Social and Cultural Anthropology,” Department of Anthropology, Indiana University
- 2005-2007 Assistant Instructor, “Society and Culture” and “Linguistic Anthropology.” Department of Anthropology, Indiana University
- 1999-2002 Public Speaking Advisor, Communication Within the Curriculum (CWIC) Program, University of Pennsylvania

MENTORING

Graduate: University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras

- Current Director, Master’s Thesis in Sociology, Alejandra Colón (“Patrones y conflictos en la comunicación médico-paciente en Puerto Rico”)
- 2016 Director, Master’s Thesis in Sociology, Christian Ávila (“Polifonía interdiscursiva: Análisis discursivo de los/as líderes estudiantiles del segundo ciclo de protesta de la huelga en la Universidad de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Río Piedras, 2010-2011”)
- 2016 Committee member, Master’s Thesis in Communication, Laura Cañuelas (“Black Lives Matter como Movimiento Social en Red”)

Graduate: Other

- 2014-2015 Mentoring and advising, Master’s Thesis, Lily Schaffer (“Phonological Variation in Mexico City Jewish Spanish”) University of Colorado, Boulder

Undergraduate: University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras

- Current Mentor, Jessica Velázquez Rivera. Scholars in Residence Program, Iniciativas de Investigación y Actividad Creativa Subgraduadas (IINAS). Project Title: “Representaciones del “caco” y el “maleante”: Desde Mongui hasta Fico”
- 2016 Mentor, Carla Nieves Rodríguez. Independent Study, Department of Sociology and Anthropology. Article Title: “Cooperation through translanguingual and transmodal practice: A case study of a deaf–hearing family in Puerto Rico”
- 2015 Mentor, Natasha Fernandez Pérez. “*Si me la dejó montar, me jode toa’ la noche*: The incidence of *el relajo* and the use of expletives among university students in Puerto Rico” In *Revista InGenios* 2:1, September 2015.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2016 "From 'Star Wars' to *Sajtén*: Humor and Heritage in Syrian Jewish Mexican Linguistic Practice." Presented at Emory University, January 29, Atlanta, GA.
- 2012 "Syrian Jewish Mexican Language Practices: Beyond Ethnic Identity." Presented at Eastern Illinois University, October 16, Charleston, IL.
- 2010 "Los repertorios lingüísticos judíos en la Ciudad de México: Palabras árabes en el español de jóvenes judíos sirios." Presented at the II Coloquio de cambio y variación lingüística: Argumentos cualitativos y argumentos cuantitativos en sociolingüística. October 5-7, Colegio de México, Mexico City, Mexico.
- 2008 "The role of language in the construction of 'Syrian Jewishness' in Mexico City." Presented at the International Congress on Syrian Jews and their Diaspora in the Americas, September 9-11, Mexico City, Mexico.

RECENT CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

- 2016 "Contemporary Jewish Linguistic Repertoires in Latin America." Sociolinguistics Symposium 21, June 15-18, Murcia, Spain.
- 2015 "Syrian Jewish Religious Modernities in Mexico City," 47th Annual Conference of the American Jewish Studies Association (AJS), December 13-15, Boston, MA.
- 2015 Organizer and presenter of roundtable "Teaching Language and Culture: Approaches from World Anthropologies," 114th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association (AAA), November 18-22, Denver, CO.
- 2015 Organizer and chair of roundtable "Lengua y etnicidad. Marcadores de judeidad en el español y el portugués del siglo XXI," 17th International Research Conference of the Latin American Jewish Studies Association (LAJSA), June 21-23, Miami, FL.
- 2015 Participant in roundtable "Jews and Judaism in the Americas," 17th International Research Conference of the Latin American Jewish Studies Association (LAJSA), June 21-23, Miami, FL.
- 2015 Organizer and presenter of panel "Forms of Belonging, Forms of Exclusion: In/visible Others in Latin America and the Caribbean." Paper title: "Precarious Belonging: The Semiotics of Jewishness in Mexico City," 2015 Conference of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), May 27-30, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 2015 "Darth Vader as Argentine Rabbi: Superdiversity in Jewish Latin American Semiotic Repertoires," Georgetown University Round Table on Languages and Linguistics (GURT), March 13-15, Washington, DC.
- 2013 "Jewish Giving Circles in Comparative Perspective," presented with Sarah Benor, 45th Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies (AJS), December 18-20, Boston, MA.
- 2013 "*Son de las abuelitas; son nuestras*: Temporal heteroglossia in Arabic heritage words among young Syrian Jewish Mexicans," 112th meetings of the American Anthropological Association (AAA), November 20-24, Chicago, IL.
- 2013 "*Jaram!* Arabic Heritage Words in the Jewish Mexican Linguistic Repertoire," 23rd Annual Conference of the Society for Crypto-Judaic Studies, July 28-30, Colorado Springs, CO.
- 2013 Organizer and presenter of the roundtable, "El arte de hablar/el arte de inscribirse: construyendo el fenómeno 'judío' desde Latinoamérica," 16th International Research Conference of the Latin American Jewish Studies Association, June 9-11, Austin, TX.
- 2013 "Syrian Jewish Mexican Lives as Alternative Modernities," 16th International Research Conference of the Latin American Jewish Studies Association, June 9-11, Austin, TX.

- 2012 “Arabic and Hebrew Loanwords in the Spanish of Syrian Jewish Mexicans: A Case for ‘Heritage Words,’” 20th Symposium About Language and Society-Austin (SALSA), April 13-15, Austin, TX.
- 2012 “Jews and the Suburbs: Syrian Jewish Mexican Students in a Catholic University,” LAJSA Second Regional Conference: “Jews and the City: Latin American Jewish Culture in Its Urban Setting.” March 25-26, New York, NY.

OTHER LECTURES/PRESENTATIONS

- 2016 “¿Vas a *shlepear* eso? El lenguaje y la identidad entre judíos hispanohablantes de hoy” (Are you going to *shlep* that? Language and identity among Spanish-speaking Jews today”). Presented at the Jewish Community Center of Puerto Rico/Shaare Zedeck Synagogue, February 24, San Juan, PR.
- 2014 Coordinator and presenter of the forum “Israel y Palestina: Miradas Puertorriqueñas” at the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus (October 30, 2014) and Utuado Campus (November 5, 2014). Co-presenters: Dr. Juan Caraballo Resto and Dr. Bruno Ferrer Higuera. A report of the event was published in the newspaper *El Nuevo Día*, November 3, 2014, p 16.
- 2010 “Sepharad in the Americas.” Presented with other members of IU Jewish Studies at Etz Chaim Sephardic Congregation, Indianapolis, IN, March 21

UNPUBLISHED MANUSCRIPTS

- 2006 “Story consociate entry strategies in the co-narrations of a Mexican couple”
- 2002 “Bolivia in miniature: University elections and implications for national democracy” Undergraduate Honors Thesis in Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania.

FILM

- 2001 Videographer and producer of “*Después de la Tormenta*,” a documentary film on the coping strategies of flood survivors in Colcapirhua, Bolivia.

MEDIA ENGAGEMENTS

- 2015 Interview with Ignacio Olazagasti for the program “Hasta las Piedras Hablan,” Radio Universidad (FM 89.7, San Juan, Puerto Rico), March 10 and 17.
- 2014 “Evelyn Dean-Olmsted y la Antropología Lingüística.” Interview. Enlace Judío: El sitio de la expresión judía en México. June 25, 2014. <http://www.enlacejudio.com/2014/06/25/evelyn-dean-olmsted-antropologa-linguistica/>
- 2014 “The Anthropology of Basketball Fandom.” Radio commentary. WBUR and NPR’s *Only a Game*. April 5, 2014. <http://onlyagame.wbur.org/2014/04/05/anthropology-basketball-indiana-gonzaga>

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Jewish languages. Migration, diasporas and transnationalism. Urban ethnography. Conservative religious movements. Collective memory. Postcolonial studies. Contemporary Sephardic and Middle Eastern Jewish societies and cultures. Immigrant groups in Latin America and the Caribbean. Latinos in the United States. Ethnic philanthropy in the United States. Language, power and identity. Ethnography of communication. Discourse analysis. Oral performance. Narrative. Humor. Stylistic variation. Stance in discourse. Indeterminacy. Language ideologies. Translingual practice. Language contact. Heritage languages. Ethnolinguistic repertoires. Spanish linguistics, esp. the Spanish of Mexico City and Puerto Rico.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2013-2016 Bibliographic research and primary data analysis for chapters on “Jewish Latin American Spanish”, San Juan, PR.

- 2014 Interviews in Mexico City, MX, toward refining digital survey instrument regarding the use of “heritage words” among Jewish Mexicans.
- 2012-2013 Observations and interviews with members of minority giving circles for the National Study of American Religious Giving; Denver; Chicago; St. Louis.
- 2012-2013 Interviews with Latino immigrants and data analysis for the study *Salud de Nuestra Población*, a health needs-assessment study, St. Louis.
- 2008-2009 Ethnographic fieldwork in Jewish community,(dissertation research), Mexico City, Mexico.
- 2006-2008 Ethnographic and survey research for SmartRevenue, a private market research firm; Indianapolis and Bloomington, IN.
- Summer 2007 Ethnographic fieldwork and library research (pre-dissertation research), Mexico City, Mexico
- Spring 2007 Acoustic and auditory analysis of vowels of Mandarin and American English speakers using Wavesurfer and Praat, Bloomington, IN
- Fall 2006 Spanish conversation analysis research on co-narration, Bloomington, IN
- Summer 2006 Ethnographic fieldwork and library research (pre-dissertation research), Mexico City, Mexico
- April 2006 Archival research, American Sephardi Federation, New York, NY
- March 2006 Survey research on the teaching of evolution in anthropology courses, Bloomington, IN
- January 2003 Interviews on wartime aid activities in Jewish community, Sarajevo, Bosnia
- July 2001 Ethnographic fieldwork and library research on university elections, Cochabamba, Bolivia
- May 2001 Ethnographic fieldwork in camp of natural disaster survivors, Colcapirhua, Bolivia

RELATED EMPLOYMENT

- 2012-2013 Researcher, National Study of American Religious Giving
- 2006-2008 Field ethnographer, SmartRevenue. Conducted observational and survey research as part of a market research studies.
- 2003-2004 Spanish language services coordinator, Sheridan Branch, Arapahoe Library District, Sheridan, CO. Responsible for collection development and community outreach to Latino population.

PROFESSIONAL/COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 2015 President of Curriculum Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras.
- 2013-2015 Member of Curriculum Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras.
- 2012 Researcher for *Salud de Nuestra Población*, a Latino health needs-assessment study, Casa de Salud, St. Louis, MO.
- 2012 Contributor, Society for Linguistic Anthropology Blog
(<http://linguisticanthropology.org/blog/>)
- 2008-2012 Co-editor of the Central States Anthropological Society (CSAS) column for *Anthropology News*.
- October 2007 Organizer of lecture at Indiana University by Dr. Ruth Fredman Cernea on “Reconstructing ‘Community’: The Baghdadi Jews of British Burma,” co-sponsored the Horizons of Knowledge lecture fund, Department of Anthropology, Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology, Department of History, Department of Religious Studies, The Robert A. and Sandra A. Borns Jewish Studies Program and the IU Sephardic Studies

Initiative.
2005-2006 Board member, IU Anthropology Graduate Student Association

MANUSCRIPT REVIEW

2016 American Anthropologist
2015 Caribbean Studies

LANGUAGES

Spanish Fluent
Modern Hebrew Intermediate proficiency
Biblical Hebrew Intermediate proficiency
Ladino Beginning proficiency (reading and oral comprehension)
Arabic Beginning proficiency

AFFILIATIONS

American Anthropological Association (AAA)
Society for Linguistic Anthropology (SLA)
Latin American Studies Association (LASA)
Association for Jewish Studies (AJS)
Latin American Jewish Studies Association (LAJSA)