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ANNA TORRES-CACOULLOS

Curriculum Vitae

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

19th-21st -century Spanish Peninsular literature and culture, film and media studies, media theory and history, visual and print culture, modernism and the avant-garde, philosophy, and digital humanities scholarship.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Spanish Literature and Culture, The Pennsylvania State University, 2020
M.A. Spanish Literature and Culture, The Pennsylvania State University, 2016
B.A. Spanish, The Pennsylvania State University, 2013
B.A. Comparative Literature, The Pennsylvania State University, 2013

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2022-present Assistant Professor of Spanish, Dept. of Spanish & Portuguese, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
2020-2022 Postdoctoral Research Associate in Humanities-Based Data Studies and Digital/Social Transformation, Dept. of Spanish & Portuguese, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
2018-2019 Center for Humanities & Information Predoctoral Fellow, The Pennsylvania State University.
2014-2020 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Dept. of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese, The Pennsylvania State University.

SCHOLARSHIP

Books in Preparation

Modernist Cine-grafíes: Writing with Motion Pictures, Reading with Moving Images in Spain (1918-1930).

Articles Published in Refereed Journals

“When Fiction is Stranger than Truth: Metaliterary Preoccupation and Philosophical Burlesque in *Locos: A Comedy Gestures* (1936),” *Modern Language Notes*. Forthcoming.

- “Unmasking the Metropolis: An Interrogation of Modernity in *Orfeu Negro/Black Orpheus* (1959),” *Bulletin of Spanish Visual Studies*. Forthcoming.
- “On Being (Social), Selfhood, and the Creative Experience in the Digital Age in Clara Janés’ *Vilanos (E-mails)* (2004),” *Bulletin of Spanish Studies*, Vol. 99, No. 8 (2022): 1293-1319. DOI: [10.1080/14753820.2022.2139495](https://doi.org/10.1080/14753820.2022.2139495).
- “Cinema as Method: Re-vision in Ramón Gómez de la Serna’s Film Script *Cifras* (1930),” *Modernism/modernity*, Vol. 29, No. 4 (2023): 717-740. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1353/mod.2022.0036>.
- “Writing for New Literacies: Pío Baroja’s *Novela Film* (1929),” *Revista Hispánica Moderna*. Forthcoming (June 2023, Vol. 76, No. 1).
- “The Possibility of Becoming in Pedro Almodóvar’s *Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios* (1988) and *Los abrazos rotos* (2009),” *Bulletin of Hispanic Studies*, 96.2 (2019): 181-199. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3828/bhs.2019.11>.
- “‘Salve, risueña mentira’: Cosmic Hyperbole, Confession, and Historical Consciousness in Ramón del Valle-Inclán’s *Sonata de invierno* (1905),” *Bulletin of Spanish Studies* (2019): 1-17. DOI: [10.1080/14753820.2019.1613743](https://doi.org/10.1080/14753820.2019.1613743).

Book Reviews

- The Modernist Screenplay: Experimental Writing for Silent Film*, by Alexandra Ksenofontova (Palgrave Macmillan, 2020), *Modernist Cultures*, 17.2 (2022): 290-295. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3366/mod.2022.0372>.
- Spanish Cinema in the Global Context: Film on Film*, by Samuel Amago (Routledge, 2013), *Arizona Journal of Hispanic Cultural Studies*, 19 (2015): 306-309. DOI: [10.1353/hcs.2016.0023](https://doi.org/10.1353/hcs.2016.0023).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations

- “Metaliterary Preoccupation and Philosophical Burlesque in *Locos: A Comedy of Gestures* (1936).” American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), Chicago, IL, March 16-19, 2023.
- “Digital Excavations: Popular Film Magazines, Fan Mail, Star-Search Contests, and the Early Spanish Male Movie Fan.” Rethinking Film and Cinema History Through Global and Digital Approaches, Barcelona, Spain, October 4-7, 2022.
- “Unmasking the Metropolis: Modernity and Racial Divide in *Black Orpheus* (1959).” Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS), virtual conference, March 21-April 3, 2022.

- “Excavating Uncharted Territory: Visualizing the Male Spanish Early Movie Fan.” Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA), Baltimore, March 10-13, 2022.
- “Cinema as Method: Re-vision in Ramón Gómez de la Serna’s Film Script *Cifras* (1930).” American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), virtual conference, April 8-11, 2021.
- “Pío Baroja’s ‘Novela-film’ and the Decay of Cultural Values.” Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA), Washington D.C., March 21-24, 2019.
- “Borderland and the Politics of Space: The colonized, heterosexual male body in Rosario Ferré’s ‘Cuando las mujeres quieren a los hombres’ (1975).” Race in the Americas (RITA) Graduate Student Conference, University Park, Penn State, April 25-26, 2016.
- “‘Hail to thee bright lie’: Confession, Cosmic Hyperbole, and Historical Consciousness in Ramón del Valle-Inclán’s *Sonata de invierno/Winter Sonata* (1905).” 69th Kentucky Foreign Language Conference (KFLC), University of Kentucky, Lexington, April 15-16, 2016.
- “‘Estoy harta de ser buena’: Sartrean *homogeneity* and *undifferentiation* in Pedro Almodóvar’s *Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios/Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown* (1988).” 22nd Annual Carolina Conference for Romance Studies (“Taste & Text(ture)”) (CCRS), University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, March 31-April 2, 2016.

PANELS ORGANIZED

- “Modernist Prolegomena.” Seminar co-organizer, American Comparative Literature Association, Chicago, March 16-19, 2023.
- “Cinmodernism: Modernist Writing with Cinema.” Seminar organizer and moderator, American Comparative Literature Association, virtual conference, April 8-11, 2021.

GRANTS and RESEARCH FUNDING

- 2023-2024 *Humanities Research Institute (HRI) Campus Fellowship*, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Awarded one semester of release time and research funds to develop book project.
- 2019 *Digital Humanities Training Grant*, The Pennsylvania State University. Awarded \$3,000 by the Center for Humanities and Information to attend the Oxford Digital Humanities Summer School (DHOXSS) in Oxford, UK, July 22-26, 2019.
- 2018-2019 *CHI Predoctoral Fellowship*, The Pennsylvania State University. The Center for Humanities and Information supports postgraduate student research in the

humanities, providing up to six postgraduate students a yearlong assistantship (\$23,000) and a \$1,000 research fund.

- 2014-2017 *Bunton-Waller Fellow*, The Pennsylvania State University. The Mildred S. Bunton and Calvin H. Waller fellowship offers funding to outstanding scholars who are underrepresented in the University's student body.
- 2016 *Superior Teaching and Research (STAR) Award in the College of the Liberal Arts*, The Pennsylvania State University. Awarded \$1,500 for archival work at the University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain.
- 2016 *LeClaire (Lee) B. Watts Endowed Graduate Scholarship in Romance Languages*, The Pennsylvania State University. Awarded \$1,500 for archival work at the University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

STUDENT ADVISING

Ph.D. Dissertation Co-Director

Lucía Sánchez, Spanish & Portuguese, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, "*Alienation and Crisis in Argentina and Spain (2003-2018): Between the Malaise of Meaninglessness and the Impulse to Resilience*" (in progress).

Ph.D. Dissertation Committee Member

Dulcinea Muñoz Gómez, Spanish & Portuguese, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, "Cuerpos rotos, mentes devastadas: trabajo y precariedad en la literatura española (1988-2015)" (Oct. 2022).

Ph.D. Comprehensive Examination Committee Member

Lázaro García Angulo, Spanish & Portuguese, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (in progress).

M.A. Exam Committee Member

Thomas Juneau, Spanish & Portuguese, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (in progress).

McNair Scholars Program Faculty Mentor

Monserrat González-Gutiérrez, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Sp. 2023); research project: "The Representation of Mathematics in Clara Janés's Mystical Poetry."

Big Ten Academic Alliance (BTAA) Graduate College Summer Research Opportunities Program (SROP) Faculty Mentor

Monserrat González-Gutiérrez, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Su. 2023).

Undergraduate Honors Theses

Lydia Flemming, James Scholar Project for SPAN/LLS 246, “Societal Views on Latina Hypersexuality & Latino Homosexuality” (Sp. 2021).

Amilee Dorantes, James Scholar Project for SPAN/LLS 246, “Identity and Sexuality in Mexican-American Culture,” (Sp. 2021).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Span 490: Advanced Readings in Spanish (Spring 2023)

Independent Study: Latin American Boom/Magical Realism.

Span 590: Topics in Hispanic Studies (Spring 2023)

Special topic: “Transatlantic Metafictions, Experimental Forms.” With a focus on texts from Spain and Latin America (20th-21st C), this course examines the dismantling possibilities of the playful, ironic, and anxious modes of metafiction at the same time that it fashions a set of methods for thinking more broadly about experimentalism in literature.

Span 312: Modern Spanish Literatures and Cultures (Fall 2022; Spring 2023)

Special topic: “Writing Otherness: Specters, Misfits, and Selves.” This course approaches texts from the thematic frame of ‘otherness’ to consider the ways in which different writers of different historical moments, with different individual identities, have portrayed their experiences with the unfamiliar and distinct through six key topics: interpersonal relations, societies in contact, the construction of gender, the duality of the self, the experience of time and space, and literary creation. Fundamentally, the texts we will read will raise questions about human identity through encounters with ‘others’ as they appear in various forms (e.g. robots, immigrants, and even our own selves).

Span 528: Seminar 20th C Spanish Lit (Spring 2022)

Special topic: “X-Ray Visions & Palpitating Rhythms: The Spanish-Avant-Garde in the Age of Cinema.” This graduate course examines experimental intervention in theater, poetry, and the novel in the first decades of the twentieth century as it relates to early cinema. Centering on Spanish modernist and avant-garde literature, this course spotlights literary-cinematographic texts that test the parameters and limits of the literary as a set of ideological and material as well as sensory and conceptual conventions. Primary texts read in tandem with early film theory and alongside some film screenings.

Span/LLS 246: Gender & Sexuality in Latina/o Literature (Spring 2021)

Special topic, “Bodies out of Place: Destabilizing Geographies of Identity in Latina/o Literature and Visual Culture.” This course considers how gendered and sexed bodies have been imagined in contemporary Latina/o literature and visual culture (painting, photography, film, music video), and how they challenge collective, personal, and cultural images of femininity/marianismo, masculinity/machismo, LGTBQ persons,

sexual behavior, desire, sex work, family, and violence. This course was taught online (Zoom, due to COVID-19 campus closures).

The Pennsylvania State University

CMPLIT 005: Introduction to the Literatures of the Americas (Fall 2019)

Taught in the Department of Comparative Literature, this course interrogates what the literary and cultural notion of “America” includes and what it means to be “American.” This course introduces students to a variety of literatures of the Americas, including from the Caribbean, South America, and North America, by considering the ways in which “American” literature has shaped, reflected, and challenged collective, personal, cultural, and literary images of the entire hemisphere and its people. Readings include historical documents and speeches in addition to fictional texts, and range chronologically from the 16th-century to the present. All content including syllabus design, reading selection, course assignments and assessments were created and graded by the instructor.

SPAN 253W: Introduction to Hispanic Literature (Fall 2017)

Introduction to Spanish-language literature from both Spain and Latin America; students are introduced to generic distinctions, critical methods, and theoretical approaches to Hispanic literature. At the same time, literary movements and sociopolitical forces that affected the development of Hispanic literature are examined. As a writing-intensive (W) course, students learn how to write critical and analytical essays in Spanish. All content, including syllabus design, reading selection, writing assignments and course assessments were created and graded by the instructor.

The Spanish Basic Language Program (SBLP)

SPAN 002: Intermediate Spanish (Fall 2015)

SPAN 003: Advanced Spanish (Spring 2017/Fall 2016/Spring 2016/Spring 2015)

Ronda, Spain (The Pennsylvania State University Summer Study Abroad Faculty-Led Program)

SPAN 253W: Introduction to Hispanic Literature (Summer 2017)

Intensive 6-week course co-taught with another instructor. All content, including syllabus design, reading selection, and writing assignments were created and graded by the instructors.

COORDINATION and ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

2016-2017 *Spanish 3 Content Supervisor for the Spanish Basic Language Program, Dept. of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese, The Pennsylvania State University.*

STUDY ABROAD DIRECTION

Su. 2017 *Assistant Director, The Pennsylvania State University Summer Study Abroad Faculty-Led Program in Ronda, Spain.*

HONORS and AWARDS

- 2022 University List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent By Their Students (for SPAN 312, for two sections), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- 2022 University List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent By Their Students (for SPAN 528), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- 2021 University List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent By Their Students (for SPAN/LLS 246), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- 2017 Departmental Teaching Excellence Award, Dept. of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese, The Pennsylvania State University.
- 2016 Departmental Teaching Excellence Award, Dept. of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese, The Pennsylvania State University.

COMMITTEES and SERVICE

- Committee member*, Capricious Grading Committee, Spanish & Portuguese (2023-2024)
- Committee member*, Academic Integrity Violations Appeals Committee, Spanish & Portuguese (2023-2024)
- Committee member*, Education Abroad Committee, Spanish & Portuguese (2023-2024)
- Committee member*, Lectures & Arrangements Committee, Spanish & Portuguese (2023-2024)
- Presenter/organizer*, Spanish & Portuguese Graduate Organization (SPGO) Workshop “Navigating Conferences,” UIUC (December 3, 2020)
- Presenter/organizer*, Academic Job Market Workshop Series, Spanish & Portuguese, UIUC (Fall 2021).
- “Learn About Different Stages” (August 27, 2020)
- “Teaching and Diversity Statement” (September 24, 2020)
- “Interviews” (October 1, 2020)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Modern Language Association (MLA)
- Modernist Studies Association (MSA)
- Society For Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS)
- Domitor, The International Society for the Study of Early Cinema
- European Society for Periodical Research (ESPRit)
- American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)