

# Jessica Carey-Webb, PhD

Assistant Professor  
University of New Mexico  
Department of Spanish and Portuguese  
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## EDUCATION

### University of Texas at Austin

Ph.D. Literature and Cultures in Spanish and Portuguese, Defended May 2018

Dissertation: *Rubber Boom Narratives and the Development of the Amazon*

Committee: Lorraine Leu (chair), Kelly McDonough, Seth Garfield, Gabriela Polit

M.A. Literature and Cultures in Spanish and Portuguese, May 2015

Qualifying Thesis: “Gendered Politics of Empire: The Female *Explorateur* and Natural Histories of the Amazon”

### University of Michigan, Residential College

B.A. with Distinction, Diploma May 2011

Majors: Comparative Literature & Spanish, Magna cum laude

Minor: Latin American Studies

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

*Eyes on Amazonia*, under contract with Vanderbilt University Press, expected publication 2023

### Peer Reviewed Publications

#### *Literary*

“Gendered Politics of Empire: The Female *Explorateur* and Natural Histories of the Amazon Basin 1899-1901” in *Gender, Place, and Culture*, 24:4, April 2017.

“Mapping Masculinity on the Rio Roosevelt” in the *Spanish and Portuguese Review*. March 2016.

In Review at the *Journal of Contemporary Spanish Literature and Film* Special Issue on Ecopedagogies and Hispanic Studies: Knowledge and Skills for the Anthropocene: “Interrogating Extractivism: Ecopedagogy and Brazilian Cultural Studies.”

In Review at the *Journal of Iberian and Latin American Studies*: “Wandering Wildernesses: Race and Nation Building in the Amazon”

#### *Policy*

“Hydro-Highway Robbery: Reguemos Chile would Benefit Agribusiness at the Expense of the Environment, Small Farmers and Indigenous Peoples,” *Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)*,

Issue Brief, October 2020, <https://www.nrdc.org/resources/hydro-highway-robbery-reguemos-chile-would-benefit-agribusinesses-expense-environment>.

“La gran estafa hídrica: Reguemos Chile es una respuesta delirante y equivocada a la megasecuía en Chile,” *Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)*, Issue Brief, October 2020, <https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/hydro-highway-robbery-reguemos-chile-ib-sp.pdf>

“Corporate Irresponsibility: JBS’ Inaction and Disregard for Worker Safety have Increased the Spread of COVID-19 in the United States and Brazil,” Issue Brief, *Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)*, May 25, 2021, <https://www.nrdc.org/resources/corporate-irresponsibility-jbss-inaction-and-disregard-worker-safety-have-increased-spread>

“JBS Meatpacking Company Investor Risk Assessment,” *Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)*, October 2021.

### **Reviews**

*The Native and National in Brazil* by Tracy Devine-Guzmán in *Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA) Journal*, May 2015.

*American Experience: Into the Amazon* film review in *Amazonia Latitude* online, October 2016.

### **Other Publications**

“JBS’ Workers Paid the Ultimate Price, While Profits Surged,” NRDC expert blog, May 25, 2021, <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/jessica-carey-webb/jbs-profits-rose-while-workers-communities-paid-price>

“Latin America at the Leaders Summit on Climate,” NRDC expert blog, April 23, 2021, <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/carolina-herrera/latin-america-leaders-summit-climate>

“Brazil’s Bolsonaro Shows Little Progress at Climate Summit,” NRDC expert blog, April 23, 2021, <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/jessica-carey-webb/brazils-bolsonaro-shows-little-progress-leaders-climate>

“Brazil LNG Expansion Undermines Decarbonization,” NRDC expert blog, April 16, 2021, <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/jessica-carey-webb/brazil-lng-expansion-undermines-decarbonization>

“Protecting the Wintering Home of Migratory Birds,” NRDC expert blog, February 4, 2021, <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/jessica-carey-webb/protecting-wintering-home-migratory-birds>

“Legal Strategies to Address Grassland Water Security,” NRDC expert blog, February 4, 2021, <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/jessica-carey-webb/water-security-chihuahuan-desert-lies-its-laws>

“Latin America’s 2020 Climate Leaders and Laggards,” NRDC expert blog, December 21, 2020, <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/amanda-maxwell/latin-americas-2020-climate-leaders-and-laggards>

“Hydro-Highway Robbery,” NRDC expert blog, December 4, 2020, <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/jessica-carey-webb/hydro-highway-robbery>

“A New Agenda for Climate Giants of the Western Hemisphere,” NRDC expert blog, December 2, 2020, <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/jessica-carey-webb/new-agenda-climate-giants-western-hemisphere>

“What Does Climate Adaptation Look like In Latin America?” NRDC expert blog, July 1, 2020, <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/jessica-carey-webb/what-does-climate-adaptation-look-latin-america>

“Latin America’s Biodiversity is Critical for Global Goals,” NRDC expert blog, May 22, 2020, <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/jessica-carey-webb/lets-protect-latin-americas-biodiversity>

“Life in the Chihuahuan Desert Grasslands,” NRDC expert blog, May 8, 2020, <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/jessica-carey-webb/life-chihuahuan-desert-grasslands>

“The Fight for Our Future Depends on Our Forests,” NRDC expert blog, March 19, 2020, <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/jessica-carey-webb/fight-our-future-depends-forests>

“Women’s Safety Means Earth’s Safety,” NRDC expert blog, March 8, 2020, <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/jessica-carey-webb/womens-safety-means-earths-safety>

“The Amazon is Still on Fire,” NRDC expert blog, Feb. 25, 2020, <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/jessica-carey-webb/amazon-still-fire>

“A Nature-Based Solution: The Chihuahuan Desert Grasslands,” NRDC expert blog, Jan. 24, 2020, <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/jessica-carey-webb/nature-based-weapon-against-climate-change-chihuahua>

“Water is a Right: The Parallel Conference of the Parties in Chile,” NRDC expert blog, Dec. 23, 2019, <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/jessica-carey-webb/water-right-parallel-cop-santiago>

“The Complicated Patchwork of Amazonia,” NRDC expert blog, Sept. 27, 2019, <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/jessica-carey-webb/complicated-patchwork-amazonia>

“We Can’t Solve the Climate Crisis without Forest Protection,” NRDC expert blog, Sept. 23, 2019, <https://www.nrdc.org/experts/jennifer-skene/we-cant-solve-climate-crisis-without-forest-protection>

“Pedagogical Strategies in the Teaching of Rhetoric,” series of 6 white papers published for University of Texas OnRamps dual-enrollment initiative

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **University of New Mexico, Department of Spanish and Portuguese Assistant Professor, August 2021-present**

Portuguese Program Coordinator  
Supervision of TAs, course development for Portuguese language

### **American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS)/Mellon Public Fellow Natural Resources Defense Council, Campaign Advocate, Latin America, September 2019-September 2021**

Close work with coalition partners in Chile, Mexico, and Brazil on both local and international environmental issues

**Amazonian deforestation** through stateside regulations: coordination on city, state, and national bills to cut deforestation from supply chains, campaign against major deforesters

**Grassland preservation in the Chihuahuan Desert:** coordinating social media campaign with various stakeholders in Mexico and US

**River protection in Chile:** development of factsheet about major water infrastructure projects

**Internal NRDC** Led internal working groups on Indigenous Partnerships, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in International work

### **Dev Global Group, Inclusive Development Advisor and Consultant, April 2019-June 2021**

Strategy for locally inclusive development in post-colonial countries  
Latin American regional support and expertise  
Researcher, policy-writer and academic liaison  
Qualitative M&E support

### **Ancestry.com**

#### **Latin American Migrations UX Researcher, August 2018-January 2021**

Use of DNA and mapping technologies to trace migration patterns from 1750s-1950s throughout Latin America  
Customer facing publications for international website

### **Florida State University, Department of Modern Languages and Linguistics Dean's Postdoctoral Scholar and Gannon Fellow, August 2018-August 2019**

Managed and developed Portuguese program  
Conducted language placement exams for native and non-native speakers  
Increased enrollment in Portuguese language and culture courses  
Organized university-wide Amazon week

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **University of New Mexico**

Encounters I: Brazilian Literature, Port. 547, Fall 2022  
Online course development: Portuguese 1110  
New Course Development: Portuguese 325: Topics in Brazilian Culture  
Brazilian Literature & Film, Port. 414/514, Spring 2022  
Between Projects: Environment & Culture in Brazil, Port. 414/514, Fall 2021

### **Florida State University**

Instructor of Record, POR3190, Brazilian Film in Translation, Spring 2019  
Instructor of Record, POR4930, The Transnational Amazon, 1/2018-12/2018  
Instructor of Record, POR3140 & 3141, Portuguese for Spanish Speakers I & II, 1/2018-12/2018

### **University of Texas at Austin**

Instructor of Record, PRC 320, Imagining the Amazon, 1/2017-5/2017  
Founder's Fellow, Rhetoric, OnRamps Dual-Enrollment Initiative, 9/2017-7/2018  
Instructor of Record, Intermediate-Advanced Spanish (611D), 6/2016-8/2017  
Instructor of Record, Intermediate and Intermediate-Advanced Portuguese (610D and 611D), 8/2015-5/2016  
Teaching Assistant, Intermediate Portuguese, and Portuguese for Spanish Speakers (611S), 8/2014-5/2015

### **Fulbright Fellow, Bragança, Pará, Brazil, 3/2012-12/2012**

English Teaching Assistant at Federal University  
Team taught classes such as Anglophone Literature, Phonetics, and Pedagogy  
Founded English Language Literature and Conversation Clubs  
Started website as lasting resource and archive for English program  
Taught Writing Workshop, created blog to publish student written work

## **DEPARTMENTAL APPOINTMENTS**

Affiliated faculty, Latin American and Iberian Studies, University of New Mexico

Affiliated faculty, Sustainability Studies, University of New Mexico

Advisory Committee, Language Learning Center, University of New Mexico

Graduate Student Committee, Spanish and Portuguese, University of New Mexico, 2021-present

Research Assistant, Anthropology, University of Texas at Austin, 1/2015-6/2017

## **GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS**

**WeR1 FaST Research Support, University of New Mexico, Fall 2022**

Course release for research

**Course Development Award, LAII, University of New Mexico, Spring 2022**

\$2500 for original course development, Brazilian Literature and Film

**Event Honorarium, LAII, *Beyond Fordlandia* film screening, Fall 2021**

\$500 honorarium for director Marcos Colón

**ACLS/Mellon Public Fellows Award, Natural Resources Defense Council 2019-2021**

Over \$140,000 to support humanities research and environmental advocacy in Latin America

**Post-Doctoral Intramural Travel Award, Florida State University, February 2019**

\$500 to support travel to LASA 2019 conference

**Founders Fellowship, Rhetoric, University of Texas at Austin, 2017-18**

Fellowship to support English Language Arts dual-enrollment program, over \$15,000

**Fath Fellowship, Spanish and Portuguese, University of Texas at Austin, 2014-15 & 2017-18**

Two fully funded years of graduate study, over \$75,000

**Tinker Field Research Grant, Latin American Studies, University of Texas at Austin, Summer 2016**

\$3,600 to support travel to Manaus, Brazil for field and archival research

**Professional Development Award, University of Texas Department of Spanish and Portuguese, 2014-2017**

\$2500 to support attendance at various conferences

**LASA Scholarship, Latin American Studies Congress, May 2015**

\$500 to support conference attendance

**Hayek Fund for Scholars, George Mason University, Summer 2014**

Supplemental funds to support BRASA conference attendance

**Black Diaspora and Community Engagement Award, College of Liberal Arts, University of Texas at Austin, Summer 2014**

\$1,250 for community engagement in Rio de Janeiro

**Brazil Center Grant, University of Texas, Austin, Summer 2014**

\$330 for BRASA conference attendance

**Fulbright Fellowship, Fulbright Commission, 3/2012-12/2012**

9 months salary and benefits to teach English at Federal University in Brazilian Amazon

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

### **Invited Speaker, Emory College Language Center, Atlanta, GA, October 2022**

Teaching Environmental Issues in Language classrooms

### **Invited Speaker, *El abrazo de la serpiente* at The Guild, Albuquerque, NM, March 2022**

Respondent for Sustainability Studies screening of *El abrazo de la serpiente*

### **Just-in-time Session Organizer, Modern Language Association, Washington, DC, January 2022**

“Environmental Cultural Studies and Understanding Activism”

### **Invited Speaker, State University of New York, Oswego, March 2021**

“Rethinking Waste: Movements for Environmental Justice in Latin America,” presented in University-wide virtual event

### **Amazonia Now: Perspectives on a Region in Crisis, November 2020**

Co-organizer of conference, moderator of panel: “The Complicated Fabric of Amazonia”

### **Invited Speaker, Sustainable Development Goals Goalmaker Roundtable: Life on Land and Climate Action, November 2020**

International roundtable on nature-based climate solutions.

### **Language, Image, Power, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, October 2019**

“Transnational Cultures of (Eco)nomical Crises: Social Mapping and Community Empowerment”

### **Latin American Studies Association (LASA) 2019, Boston, MA, May 2019**

“The Geopolitics of Plants: Posthumanism and *El abrazo de la serpiente*”

### **Invited Guest Lecture, St. Edward’s University, Austin, TX, October 2018**

“Artevismo en la Amazonia” for upper division Spanish students

### **Cinehassee: Tallahassee Film Festival, Florida State University, Fall 2018**

Invited discussant for panels on *También la lluvia* and *Que horas ela volta*

### **Professional Learning Institute, Summer 2018, University of Texas at Austin**

“Archival Research Strategies and Workshop,” Lyndon B. Johnson Archive, part of professionalization training for high school teachers of Rhetoric

### **American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), Los Angeles, CA, May 2018**

“A Novice Traveler in a Land Without History: Race, the Environment and Building the Brazilian Amazon”

**Professional Learning Institute, University of Texas at Austin, Spring 2017**

“A’ For Attributions: Using Citations Rhetorically,” part of professionalization training for high school teachers of Rhetoric

**American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), Boston, MA, May 2016**

“Gendered Politics of Empire: The Female *Explorateur* and Natural Histories of the Amazon Basin”

**Latin American Studies Association (LASA), San Juan, Puerto Rico, May 2015**

“Rubber Boom Narratives and the Development of the Amazon”

**Brazilian Studies Association (BRASA), London, UK, August 2014**

“Wandering Wildernesses: Race and Nation Building on the Rio Roosevelt”

**Graduate Comparative Literature Association (GRACLS), Austin, TX, October 2014**

“Mapping Masculinity” at Graduate Comparative Literature Association conference

**ACADEMIC SERVICE**

**Grand Challenge Team Member, University of New Mexico**

“Promoting Long-Term Cultural and Community Resilience to Climate and Pandemic Disaster among First Nation Peoples of the Four Corners Region”

**Grants Reviewer, UCLA Library Modern Endangered Archives Program**

The Modern Endangered Archives Program (MEAP) supports documentation and digital preservation of at-risk cultural heritage materials from the 20th and 21st centuries through Planning and Project Grants. MEAP also ensures that all digitized content is visible and discoverable online in our open access digital repository.

**Portuguese Program Coordinator, University of New Mexico**

Online and hybrid course development (Port. 1110 AOP, Port. 1120 Online, 300 level culture course)

Management of lower-division Portuguese courses and TAs

**Editorial Board, Podcaster and Content Contributor, *Amazonia Latitude*, [amazonialatitude.com](http://amazonialatitude.com)**

Peer review of multiple articles in Spanish, English, and Portuguese

Weekly podcast about environmental and human rights issues in the Amazon region

**Portuguese Program Coordinator, Florida State University**

Developed and conducted Portuguese placement exams

Recruited students to build Portuguese language and culture program

**Founder, Amazon Week, Florida State University**

Organized week-long series of discussions and events

Lobbied for funds from Winthrop-King Institute to bring director for screening/discussion of



*Beyond Fordlandia*

**Associate Editor, *Spanish and Portuguese Review***

Peer review of multiple articles in Spanish, English, and Portuguese for journal

**Rapoport Center for Humans Rights and Justice Affiliate, University of Texas, Austin, 2015-2018**

Peer review and discussion of graduate student work

**Contributing Blogger, *Pterodáctilo*, Graduate Student Publication, 2014-2018**

Published over seven articles on academic debates, travel, literature, and representation

**PRAGDA Film Festival Planning Committee, University of Texas, Austin, 2016**

Development of film series centered on issues of migration and the environment

Planned and proctored panel discussion of documentary film *Amazonia Eterna*

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) Committee Member, NRDC, 11/2021-1/2022**

Review of project proposals to assess FPIC for gold mining globally

**Official Interpreter/Translator, Austin, TX, 8/2016-2/2017**

Served as Portuguese/English interpreter and document translator for Angolan refugee seeking asylum

**Humanities Action Lab, Austin, TX, 8/2015-2/2016**

Visits to immigrant detention centers in Texas

Cognitive mapping exercises with formerly detained immigrants

Curated national exhibit about detention in Texas

**RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Writing Tutor, PrepNow, Austin, TX, 6/2015-8/2019**

Individually tutor and mentor high school, college, and graduate level students

Editing and teaching of the writing process

**Innovation Fellow, University of Texas OnRamps, 5/2018-8/2018**

Contribution of project content and online instructional curriculum design

Completion of project management training and implementation strategies

Drafting and revising of system report content

**Spanish and Portuguese Teacher, Freestyle Language, Austin, TX, 12/2016-8/2017**

Teacher for beginning level Spanish classes at language institute for adults

Developed Book Clubs and mini-courses centered on popular Brazilian fiction and cuisine for adults learning Portuguese

**Freelance ESL Teacher, Santiago, Chile, 3/2013-8/2013**

Developed personalized English classes for wide variety of English levels and age ranges  
Individually tutored students

**ESL Teacher, St. Lawrence School, Santiago, Chile, 3/2013-8/2013**

Developed supplemental curriculum and lesson plans for pre-K through high school level low-income students learning English

**GRADUATE COMMITTEES**

Masters Committee Chair, Miguel Sabol, Latin American and Iberian Studies, University of New Mexico

Masters Committee, Jéssica Bueno, Spanish & Portuguese, University of New Mexico, defended April 2022

Dissertation Committee, Ana de Figueroa, Spanish & Portuguese, University of New Mexico

Dissertation Committee, Marina Todeschini, Spanish & Portuguese, University of New Mexico, defended May 2020

**LANGUAGES**

Native English  
Near native fluency in Spanish  
Near native fluency in Portuguese  
Elementary level French