

# Sarah Bey West (she/they; *ella*)

Northeastern Illinois University

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## EDUCATION

2010-2017 Doctor of Philosophy, *Spanish*  
Graduate Certificate, Criticism and Interpretive Theory  
**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

Dissertation: "Haunted Narratives: Shadows of the Southeastern Caste Wars in Mexican Literature, 1840-1958." Ericka Beckman (Advisor and Chair), Dara Goldman, and Eduardo Ledesma, *University of Illinois, Urbana*; Ben Fallaw, *Colby College, Waterville, Maine*

2005-2007 Master of Arts, *Spanish*  
**Ohio University**

2002-2005 Bachelor of Arts, *Spanish [Cum Laude]*  
**Ohio University**

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2018- Assistant Professor, Spanish, Northeastern Illinois University, **Chicago, IL**  
Core Faculty, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies  
Affiliate Faculty, Latina/o and Latin American Studies

2017-2018 Visiting Instructor, University of Puget Sound, **Tacoma, Washington**

2010-2017 Graduate Teaching Assistant and Research Assistant, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, **Urbana, Illinois**

2009-2010 Adjunct Professor, Ohio University, **Athens, Ohio**

2007-2009 Instructor, Universidad Tecnológica Metropolitana,  
Colegio de Negocios Internacionales  
Study Abroad Instructor, Ohio University, **Mérida, Mexico**

2005-2007 Teaching Assistant, Ohio University, **Athens, Ohio**  
Director's Assistant Study Abroad Program **Mérida, Mexico**

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer-Reviewed Articles

"*Lo otherwise en Ixcanul de San Vicente Pacaya.*" Under review.

“(Im)migration’s Transness: Literary Perspectives in/from Chicago’s Spanish-Language (Im)migration Literature.” Under Review.

“Yucateco Pirate Novels and the Discourses of the Mayan Rebel in the Nineteenth-Century Creole Imaginary.” *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos*. Washington University, St. Louis. 2019.

### **Book Review**

Review of *Unforgetting* (Roberto Lovato, 2020). *Diálogo*, Volume 24, Number 1. University of Texas Press, 2021. Invited Reviewer.

### **Book Chapters**

"A Neoliberal Love Spell: Race, Tourism and the Yucatan Peninsula and an Analysis of Televisa’s *Sortilegio*." In *Mobilized Identities: Mediated Subjectivity and Cultural Crisis in the Neoliberal Era*. Ed. Cameron McCarthy. Champaign, IL: Common Grounds Publishing, 2014

### **Co-Authored Works**

West, Sarah and Brackett, LaToya. “But Some of Us are BRAVE: An Annual Lecture Series in Honor of Women/ Womxn of Color Scholars Debuts at Puget Sound.” *Center for Intercultural and Civic Engagement Magazine*. No 4. March/April 2018

### **Manuscripts in Progress**

*Caste War Textualities: Otherwise Readings of Myth and Maya*. Book manuscript.

### **INVITED LECTURES**

“La literatura en español de Chicago: imaginarios de resistencia y resiliencia.” La cuarta feria del libro de Chicago, Virtual. Oct 16 2021.

Marín, Pedro Pablo, host. “El barroco latinoamericano y la imagen-como-presencia.” *Xochipilli Magazine*, Season 1, Ep 1. Sept 21 2021.

“A Hemispheric Perspective of US Policing Practices: Borders, (Im)migration and Criminalization.” December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020. *FUND Students, Defund Police*. Pedroso Center, Northeastern Illinois University, Virtual (COVID-19).

“Literatura de inmigración: Exploring the Midwest’s Spanish-Language Literary Production.” 20 Feb 2019. Western Carolina University: The Josefina Niggli Latinx Speaker Series. Invited Speaker.

Hyland, Steven, host. “Mayan Studies Today with Sarah West and Sarah Williams.” *Historias*, 11 Aug. 2019. Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies [SECOLAS], 2019.

“Inmigración y Literatura.” UNAM-Chicago. 28 February 2019. Invited Moderator.

“The Caste War Narratives of Yucatán and Chiapas, 1841-1958.” 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Faculty Research and Creative Activities Symposium, 2018

“History and Uprising in the Yucatán Peninsula.” The Royal Ontario Museum: ROM Summer Club. Skype. 13 July 2015. Invited Speaker.

“A Neoliberal Love Spell: Race, Tourism and the Yucatan Peninsula. An Analysis of Televisa’s *Sortilegio*.” University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Illini Union, Urbana, IL. 16 May 2013. Invited Research Presentation.

### **CONFERENCE PAPERS DELIVERED**

Yucatán Caste Wars in “Contemporary” Maaya T’aan Bilingual Literature: *En busca de María Uicab* (Rosado Rosado and Chablé Mendoza) and *Cecilio Chi’* (Gomez Navarrete). Latin American Studies Association Conference. San Francisco. May 5-8, 2022 (Pending Acceptance).

“In Chan Kaajalo’ob: Orality, Identity, and the Cultural Production of Mayan Latinxs.” Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies. Virtual (COVID-19). March 27-30, 2021.

“The Transness of Immigration I: Perspectives in/from Chicago’s Spanish-Language Immigration Literature.” Modern Languages Symposium. Hybrid (Glasgow). 17–19 June 2021.

“Aproximaciones académicas a la literatura en español de Chicago”. Latino Studies Association. Pending (postponed due to COVID-19).

“Literary Visions of the Caste War in Eligio Ancona’s *La Mestiza* (1861).” Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies. Oaxaca, Mexico. March 27-30, 2019.

“The Voices of Yucatán’s Caste War Rebels: a Literary Perspective.” Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies. Oaxaca, Mexico. March 27-30, 2019.

“Mayanism, Caste War and the Mexican Revolution: The Shifting Discourses of Race in the Literatures of Early Twentieth-Century Yucatán.” Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies. Nashville, Tennessee. March 8-11, 2018.

“Toward a Literary History of Mexico’s Henequen Culture.” Latin American Studies Association Conference. Lima, Perú. April 29<sup>th</sup>-May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

“Of ‘Savages’ and ‘Royalty’: The Rhetoric of Mayanness in Yucatán’s Nineteenth-Century Literary Register.” Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies. Chapel Hill, North Carolina. March 23-26, 2017.

“Conspiracy or Lamentation? Literary Representations of the Nineteenth-Century Race Wars in Post-Revolutionary Mexico.” Latin American Studies Association Conference. San Juan, Puerto Rico. May 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

“Yucatán, piratas y la Guerra de Castas: Narraciones del siglo XIX.” 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Caribbean Studies Association. Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico. May 26-30, 2014.

“Shifting Landscapes: The Yucatecan Pirate Novel and the Guerra de Castas.” Latin American Studies Association Conference. Chicago, IL. May 21-24, 2014.

### **ORGANIZED AND/OR CHAIRED PANELS AND CONFERENCES**

Organizer and Discussant, “Consideraciones literarias desde las ‘trincheras de ideas’: migrantes, mojados, y mujeres chicagüenses que confrontan el olvido”. Latino Studies Association. Pending (postponed due to COVID-19).

Co-Founder and Organizer, “But Some of Us Are Brave: Narratives of Scholarship, Resistance and Activism by Womxn of Color.” Annual Lecture Series at the University of Puget Sound, Tacoma.

### **COURSES TAUGHT (IN SPANISH, UNLESS OTHERWISE LISTED)**

#### **Northeastern Illinois University**

##### **Graduate Courses:**

SPAN 414 Latina/o Literature & Culture: *La identidad, la migración y la literatura en español del medio oeste norteamericano*

SPAN XXX: Latina/x Feminisms and Social Media (English)

SPAN 400 Visión de América I: *Ficciones fundamentales decimonónicas de América Latina*

SPAN 401 Introduction to Latin American Literary & Cultural Studies

SPAN 407 Latin American Baroque: Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz

SPAN 410 History of the Spanish Language

SPAN 416 Latin American Avant Gardes: *La vanguardia, la geopolítica y la modernidad en Latinoamérica*

SPAN 431 Latin American Romanticism

SPAN xXX Literatura(s) trans\*

SPAN XXX Feminismos decoloniales desde Abya Yala

##### **Undergraduate Courses:**

SPAN 382 Literature, *Indios*, and the Yucatec Maya

SPAN 381 Contemporary Latin American Literature: *Literatura maya contemporánea*

SPAN 380 Literary Criticism

SPAN 373 Spanish American Short Story

WGS/LLAS 340: Latina/x Feminisms and Social Media (English)

SPAN 322 Advanced Spanish Grammar for Translation

SPAN 253 Composition II, Academic Writing in Spanish

SPAN 252 Literary Genres  
SPAN 252 Introduction to Literary and Cultural Studies  
SPAN 225 Composition I, Practical Writing in Spanish

### **University of Puget Sound**

SPAN 410 Narco-Narratives: Histories of Drug Trafficking in Latin America  
SPAN 100, 200 series. Beginning and Intermediate Spanish (*Imagina, Portales*)

### **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

#### *Primary Instructor:*

SPAN 326 Narco-Narratives: Histories of Drug Trafficking in Latin America  
SPAN 250 Introduction to Literary Analysis  
SPAN 326 Histories and Representation in Mexican National Culture. Latin American Cultures from 1820-Present”  
SPAN 320 Ecocriticism and Nature Writing in Colonial Spanish America, Latin American Literature and Culture to 1880  
SPAN 254 Introduction to Cultural Analysis  
SPAN 208 Practical Review of Spanish

### **TEACHING AWARDS**

2017 Recipient of LAS Humanities Council Teaching Excellence Award  
2010-2017 “List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent.” *Complete list available [here](#).*

### **MENTORING**

#### **Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committees**

Jennifer Wilson. *Publicly Fat: The Weight of Fatphobia. Fatphobia as Gendered and Racialized Oppression*. 2021.

#### **Masters Thesis Committees**

##### **Director/Chair**

Vianny Anaya Amado. *Literatura de inmigración de Chicago*. 2020

#### **Doctoral Thesis Committees**

Sarah A. Williams. *Re/producing Legitimacy: Midwifery and Indigeneity in the Yucatán Peninsula*. University of Toronto, 2020. Reader.

### **SERVICE**

#### **To the Profession**

Manuscript Reviewer. *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*.  
Manuscript Reviewer. *Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies*

#### **Academic Service**

##### ***Institutional***

Search-and-Screen Committee Member for Executive Director of Marketing and Communications 2021  
J Njogu Karuru and Eben C. Morgan Scholarship Committee 2020, 2021

Divest from the NEIU Police Faculty Committee 2020  
Search-and-Screen Committee Member for Provost 2019

***College of Liberal Arts and Sciences***

College of Arts and Sciences Academic Affairs Committee [CASAAC] 2018-  
CASAAC Subcommittee on Curricular Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion 2019-

***Department of World Languages and Cultures***

Ad Hoc Committee for Final Exam Redesign, 2021-  
*Charged with redesigning final examination materials in Latin American Literatures & Cultures MA*

Ad Hoc Committee for Curricular Reviews, 2018-  
*Committee in charge of revising curriculum and recommending changes to the existent Spanish BA and Spanish Minor.*

***Other***

Consulting, Curriculum design for Centre-In-The-Yucatán Study Abroad Program,  
Marista University, Mérida Mexico, 2018

**GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

- 2021-2022      **“Graduate Dean’s Research and Creative Activities (RCA) Assistantships for Graduate Students at Northeastern Illinois University”**  
for graduate student Cristina Zhunio.
- 2020-2021      **“Graduate Dean’s Research and Creative Activities (RCA) Assistantships for Graduate Students at Northeastern Illinois University”**  
for graduate student Cristina Zhunio.
- 2019-2020      **“Graduate Dean’s Research and Creative Activities (RCA) Assistantships for Graduate Students at Northeastern Illinois University”**  
for graduate student Vianny Anaya Amado.
- 2018              **Chism Lecture Grant in Humanities and Arts (\$3,000)**
- 2015-2016      **Graduate College Dissertation Completion Fellowship (\$25,000)**  
Graduate College, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign [UIUC]
- 2015              **Foreign Language and Area Studies [FLAS] Summer Fellowship (\$7,000)**  
Yucatec Maya Institute, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC
- 2014              **Best Graduate Student Research**  
*Awarded for publication, "A Neoliberal Love Spell: Race, Tourism and the Yucatan Peninsula. An Analysis of Televisa’s Sortilegio."*  
Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities, UIUC

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

- 2017- Latinx Studies Association
- 2016- Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies
- 2014- Modern Languages Association
- 2013- Caribbean Studies Association
- 2012- Latin American Studies Association

**LANGUAGES**

English (native); Spanish (near-native); Yucatec Maya (Beginner); Portuguese (reading knowledge); French (reading knowledge)