

# Sarah M West

Assistant Professor, World Languages and Cultures  
Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, IL  
[s-west2@neiu.edu](mailto:s-west2@neiu.edu) / (773) 442-4755

## EDUCATION

- 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*
- 2007      Master of Arts, *Spanish*  
**Ohio University**
- 2005      Bachelor of Arts, *Spanish [Cum Laude]*  
**Ohio University**

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2018-      Assistant Professor, Northeastern Illinois University, **Chicago, Illinois**
- 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 2007**

## TEACHING AWARDS

- 2017      Recipient of LAS Humanities Council Teaching Excellence Award Program, *An award that recognizes educators who are "truly outstanding and aspire to the highest standards of excellence"*
- 2010-2017      "List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent" *Complete list available:*  
[http://cte.illinois.edu/teacheval/ices/exc\\_teach.html](http://cte.illinois.edu/teacheval/ices/exc_teach.html)

## **COURSES TAUGHT (SPANISH)**

### **Northeastern Illinois University**

SPAN 416 Latin American Avant Gardes

SPAN 380 Literary Criticism

SPAN 225 Composition I

### **University of Puget Sound**

SPAN 410: "Narco-Narratives: Histories of Drug Trafficking in Latin America"

SPAN 100, 200: 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 Assistant:*

SPAN 226: "Spanish Composition"

SPAN 210: "Practical Review of Spanish"

SPAN 200: "Intermediate Spanish" (*Más allá de las palabras*)

SPAN 100: "Intensive Elementary Spanish" (*Sol y Viento*)

### **Ohio University**

Elementary (100-) and Intermediate (200-) Spanish

SPAN 200X "Introduction to Spanish American Literature"

## **CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT**

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

## **MENTORING AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

2011-2017 Undergraduate Advisor through University of Illinois' System of Registered Student Organizations (Latin Dance, LGBTQ+ programs)

2013, 2016 UIUC High School Outreach Programs - Spanish Club, Monticello and Farmer City, IL

2013-2017 English as a Second Language Volunteer Instructor, Champaign IL

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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

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

"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

"Nombrar(se) para ser. Aproximaciones al concepto de raza e identidad en *Un hereje y un musulmán* (1867) de José Pascual Almazán." In Progress.

*The Caste War Narratives: Race, Economy, and Literature in Yucatán and Chiapas, 1841-1958*. Manuscript Proposal in Progress.

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

- 2018            **Chism Lecture Grant in Humanities and Arts** (\$3000)
- 2015-2016    **Graduate College Dissertation Completion Fellowship** (\$25,000)  
Graduate College, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign [UIUC]
- 2015            **Love Fellowship** (\$2,000)  
Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, UIUC
- 2015            **Foreign Language and Area Studies [FLAS] Summer Fellowship**  
Yucatec Maya Institute, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC
- 2015-2017    **Funding for Conference Travel**  
Department of Spanish and Portuguese, UIUC
- 2015            **Departmental Dissertation Completion Fellowship**  
Department of Spanish and Portuguese, UIUC
- 2014            **Winner, Prize for 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
- 2014            **University Fellowship for Summer Research**  
School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics, UIUC

### **INVITED LECTURES**

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

"Displacing Rebellion: Land, Pirates, and the Guerra de Castas in Nineteenth-Century Yucatán." University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Foreign Languages Building, Urbana, IL. 22 January 2015.

“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. Research Presentation.

“Cinco de Mayo in Mexico and the US.” Ohio University. Margaret M. Walter Hall, Athens, OH. 4 May 2009. Invited Speaker.

### **CONFERENCE PAPERS DELIVERED**

“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**

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.

### **SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION**

#### *Manuscript Reviews*

The Latin Americanist (Spring, Fall 2018)

Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies (Fall 2017)

Sabio Books (Spring 2017)

#### *Departmental Service*

Spanish and Portuguese Graduate Organization (2010-2017)

General Member, Communications Committee

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

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); Portuguese (reading knowledge); French (reading knowledge); Yucatec Maya (Beginner)

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES AND DIGITAL HUMANITIES**

*Virtual Classrooms:* Blackboard, Illinois Compass, Moodle, Google Suite, Desire2Learn

*Database and Research Organization:* EndNote, Mendeley, Zotero

*Tools for Digital Humanities:* Google Suite, Wix, Digication, WordPress