

# *Christina L. Sisk*

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## **EDUCATION**

**Ph.D. in Spanish**, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA • 2004

Dissertation: "Border Crossings in Mexico: The Cultural Location of Emigration."

Co-Directors: Ana López and Robert McKee Irwin.

**M.A. in Spanish**, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA • 1999

**B.A. in Spanish and Latin American Studies**, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA • 1996

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Associate Professor** – University of Houston, Department of Hispanic Studies.

Houston, TX.

2012 to the present

**Assistant Professor** – University of Houston, Department of Hispanic Studies (formerly part of Modern and Classical Languages). Houston, TX.

2005-2012

**Lecturer of Spanish Cultural Studies** – University of Pennsylvania, Department of Romance

Languages. Philadelphia, PA.

2004-2005

**Teaching Assistant** (1998-2002) and **Adjunct Instructor** (2002-2004) – Tulane University, Department of Spanish and Portuguese. New Orleans, LA.

**Part-Time Instructor** – Dillard University, Department of Spanish and Portuguese.

New Orleans, LA.

Summer 1999

## **ACADEMIC AWARDS AND GRANTS**

- Certificate in Effective College Instruction, The Association of College and University Educators (ACUE) and American Council on Education (ACE), December 4, 2022
- Grant-in-Aid – College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, UH, 2012 (research grant for my second book project)
- QEP – University of Houston, 2011 (to make video library for class instruction)
- Small Grant – University of Houston, 2010 (to cover book subvention)
- Small Grant – University of Houston, 2009 (For travel to Guadalajara and Mexico City for research on Mexican cinema)

- Faculty Development Initiative Program (grant to develop video-casts for Mexican cinema class), Educational Technology and University Outreach, University of Houston, 2007-2008.
- Summer Research Grant, Center for Mexican American Studies, University of Houston, 2006.
- New Faculty Grant, University of Houston, 2006.
- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Consortium for a Strong Minority Presence, Mount Holyoke College, 2005-2006 (declined).
- Gary Lawton Fretwell Award for student leadership, Tulane University, 2002.
- Tinker Travel Grant (to Guadalajara, Jal., Mexico), Roger Thayer Stone Center for Latin American Studies, Tulane University. Summer 1998.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Book:

*Mexico, Nation in Transit: Contemporary Representations of Mexican Migration to the United States.* In this study, I argue for a deterritorialized notion of Mexican national, regional, and local identities by analyzing the representations of migration within Mexican and Mexican American literature, film, and music from the last fifteen to twenty years. (University of Arizona Press, Hardcover Fall 2011 and paperback 2013)

### Manuscripts:

*Crimmigration, Policing, and Migrant Masculinity: Policy, Media, and Migrant Protest.* This book project analyzes the how the cultural representations of unauthorized immigration expose the inequalities and the segregation created by the anti-immigrant legislation and drug policies.

*Memoirs of (Un)Documentation.* I have begun to write about the memoirs of people who were formerly undocumented or who are in the process of being legally documented. All of the writers that I analyze in this study grew up in the United States without having the legal authorization to live in the United States. I use the representation of paperwork and documentation as a point of entry.

### Journal Articles

“Migración y muerte como castigo en la frontera México-Estados Unidos.” *Revista Iberoamericana*. Special Issue edited by Gerardo Gómez Michel and Jungwon Park. Vol. LXXXIV, Num. 265, Octubre-Diciembre 2018.

“The Castle of National Purity: Closed Markets and Closed Homes.” *A contracorriente*. 16.1 (2018).  
<https://acontracorriente.chass.ncsu.edu/index.php/acontracorriente/article/view/1612/316>

“Disembodied and Deportable Labor at the U.S. Mexico-Border: Representations of the Mexican Body in Film.” *Transmodernity: Journal of Peripheral Cultural Production of the Luso-Hispanic World*, 3(2). <http://escholarship.org/uc/item/57f2w8nw>

“Entre el Cha Cha Chá y el estado: El cine nacional mexicano y sus arquetipos.” A *Contracorriente* 8.3 (2011) 163-182.

“Toward a Transnational Reading of Ramón ‘Tianguis’ Pérez’s *Diario de un mojado*.” *Aztlán* 34.1 (2009): 13-34.

“*Revista Generación: Regionalism and Migration in Tijuana and Chicago*.” *Latino Studies* 5 (2007) 439–454.

### Chapters in Books:

“La migración indocumentada en *My (Underground) American Dream* y *Someone Like Me*, de Julissa Arce.” *Diásporas, éxodos y representaciones en el arte y la literatura hispanoamericanos* Edited by Eburne Beltrán de Heredia Carmona y Luis Mora-Ballesteros. Editorial Argus-a Artes y Humanidades, 2023.

“*El castillo de la pureza* (1972): A Closed Market Represented by a Closed Home.” *The Films of Arturo Ripstein: The Sinister Gaze of the World*. Edited by Manuel Gutiérrez and Luis Duno-Gotberg. Palgrave Macmillan, 2019.

Co-authored with Teresa Soufas, et. al. "Playing with Saint Isabel: Drama from the Pen of an Unknown Adolescent." *Recovering Spain's Feminist Tradition*, Ed. Lisa Vollendorf, Modern Language Association, 2001.

### Encyclopedia Entries

“Luis Alberto Urrea” and “Ramón ‘Tianguis’ Pérez.” *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Latino Literature* Volume 2. Ed. Nicolás Kanellos. Westport: Greenwood Press.

### INVITED LECTURES

“El cine mexicano en la encrucijada con Hollywood.” Keynote speaker at the VII Jornada Internacional de Fronteras/Borderlands. Monterrey, N.L., México. October 5-6, 2017.

“Footprints of Immigrant Detention in Houston.” Guest speaker at University of Houston, Downtown. October 4, 2016.

“The Cultural Representations of Transnational Mexico.” *Borders in the Americas*. Metropolitan University Prague, Prokopova. Prague, Czech Republic. November 21, 2014.

- “Visible Documents/Documentos visibles” session at the Crossing Mexico: Migration and Human Rights in the Age of Criminal Politics. Guest speaker for the Hemispheric Institute for Performance and Politics. New York, New York. March 12, 2015.
- "Migration and Death as a Penalty at the U.S.-Mexico Border" Invited Speaker, Glasscock Center for Humanities Research, Texas A&M. College Station, TX. February 25, 2015
- “The Unwanted Migrant Body: The Representation of Migrant Labor in *The Three Burials of Melquiades Estrada*.” UH Faculty Senate Assistant Professor Series. Houston, TX. February 13, 2012.
- “The Production of Contemporary Mexican Cinema: The Aesthetic Qualities of State Funding.” Latin American Studies, University of Houston. April 20, 2010.
- “Toward a Trans(national) Reading of Ramón ‘Tianguis’ Pérez’s *Diario de un mojado*.” University of New Mexico. Albuquerque, NM. February 11, 2008.
- “Inside or Outside of Mexico? María Novaro’s *El jardín del Edén*.” University of California, Los Angeles. February 8, 2008.
- “Imagining the Border and Migration from Mexico City: The Intersection of Romance and National Identity.” Global Hispanism Workshop. Rice University. September 15, 2006.
- “Toward a Postnational Reading of Migrant Narratives: The Case of Ramón “Tianguis” Pérez.” University of Houston. Houston, TX. March 30, 2005. Arizona State University. Phoenix, AZ. April 7, 2005.
- “Repositioning Migration within Mexican Literature: Luis Humberto Crosthwaite.” University of Arizona, Department of Spanish and Portuguese. Tucson, AZ. February 13, 2004.
- “Mexican Rock as a Youth Expression.” Trinity University, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures. San Antonio, TX. January 15, 2004.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Migrating as an Unaccompanied Minor: Javier Zamora’s *Solito*.” Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies. Antigua, Guatemala. March 22-26, 2023.
- “Weathering the Human and the Natural Barriers: *The Real Death Valley*.” Centering Blackness, Challenging Latinidad. Latina/o Studies Association conference hosted by Notre Dame University. South Bend, IN. July 11-14, 2022.
- “El Tlatoani and Other Tacubos.” Society for Cinema and Media Studies. Online Conference. March 31-April 2, 2022.

- Central American Migrants, Narcotraffickers and Maras: Filtered and Mediated Representations from Hollywood and Mexico.” *Latinx Studies Now* by the Latino/a Studies Association. Washington, DC. July 11-14, 2018.
- “Global Central America Roundtable: Peace, Trade, Drugs.” Modern Language Association. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. January 2017.
- “The Bandit Hero Goes Global: Rethinking the Limits of Cultural Nationalism.” 10th International Conference on Chicano Literature and Latino Studies, Madrid, Spain. May 30, 2016.
- “Denouncing Segregation: Robert Rodriguez’s *Machete*.” Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies. New Orleans, LA. March 27-29, 2014.
- “Coming out of the Shadows and into the Internet: Undocumented Immigrant Performances of Protest.” 2014 Encuentro for the Hemispheric Institute for Performance and Politics. Montreal, Canada. June 21-28, 2014.
- “Supporting the Undocumented, Shutting out the Drug Traffickers: Mexican Actors in Hollywood.” American Comparative Literature Association. Toronto, Canada. April 4-7, 2013.
- “‘No es forma de vivir’: Kinto Sol and the Criminal Immigrant.” Second Bi-Annual Conference of the International Association of Inter-American Studies. Guadalajara, Jalisco, MX. September 25 to 27, 2012.
- “From the United States to Hell: Luis Estrada’s *El infierno*.” 2012 Humanities Conference. Montreal, Canada. June 14-16, 2012.
- “The Clandestine Migrant: Recontextualizing the Migrant Struggle.” Immigration and the Immigrant Experience: Houston and Beyond. College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, University of Houston. Houston, TX. April 20, 2012.
- “The Criminal Alien: Amat Escalante’s *Los bastardos*.” Cine-Lit VII. Portland State University and Oregon State University. Portland, OR. February 24-26, 2011.
- “Mexican Americans Traveling South: Sandra Cisneros’s *Caramelo*.” Transnational Americas. International Association of Inter-American Studies. Essen, Germany. November 11-13, 2010.
- “The Future is Now: Labor and Territoriality in Alex Rivera’s *Sleep Dealer*.” Southwest Historical Association and Southwestern Social Science Association. Houston, TX. March 31-April 3, 2010.

- “Contemporary Mexican Cinema: From Hollywood to the Underbelly.” Geographical Imaginaries and Hispanic Film - El imaginario geográfico y el cine hispano. Tulane University. New Orleans, LA. November 3-6, 2009.
- “Carrying Death, Carrying Mexicanness: *The Three Burials of Melquiades Estrada*.” Latin American Studies Association. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. June 11-14, 2009.
- “Globalization and Mexican National Identity in Alejandro González Iñárritu’s *Babel*.” Transnational Cinema in Globalising Societies. University of Nottingham, Ningbo and Universidad Iberoamericana, Puebla. Puebla, Mexico. August 29-31, 2008.
- “Beyond National Identity?: Alfonso Cuarón’s *Children of Men*.” Society for Cinema and Media Studies. Philadelphia, PA. March 6-9, 2008.
- “Between Diary and *Testimonio*: Ramón ‘Tianguis’ Perez’s Migration to the United States.” Latin American Studies Association. Montreal, Canada. September 5-8, 2007.
- “Back and Forth: Migration and the Mexican Imaginary.” Society for Cinema and Media Studies. Chicago, IL. March 8-10, 2007.
- “On the Other Side of the Bridge: Rosario Sanmiguel.” XII Congreso de Literatura Mexicana. University of Texas at El Paso. El Paso, TX. March 1-3, 2007.
- “Impossible Romance at the U.S.-Mexico Border: María Novaro’s *El jardín del Edén*.” Cine-Lit VI. Portland State University and Oregon State University. Portland, OR. February 21-23, 2007.
- Reading Migrant Narratives within a Transnational Framework.” Latin American Studies Association. San Juan, PR. March 15-18, 2006.
- "Cairo Becomes Mexico City: *Midaq Alley* and Prostitution." Latin American Studies Association. Las Vegas. Oct. 7-9, 2004.
- “Romancing the Border: *Santitos*, Prostitution, and Love.” *Cine-Lit V*. Portland State University and Oregon State University. Portland, OR. February 26 – March 1, 2003.
- “Migration and Mexican Regionalism: Representations of Chicago.” Bridging the Gulf: Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Latin American and Border Studies. Southwest Council of Latin American Studies (SCOLAS). New Orleans, LA. March 12-15, 2003.
- “Bordering Rock.” Hispanic Cultural Studies: The State of the Art. *Arizona Journal of Hispanic Cultural Studies* (University of Arizona). Tucson, Arizona. September 18-21, 2003.
- “The Mexican Immigrant and U.S. Ethnic Politics.” LA Conference on Hispanic Languages and Literatures. Louisiana State University. Baton Rouge, LA. February 28 - March 2, 2002.

## OTHER RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Research Assistant**, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA. 2002-2004  
Maintained Latin American film archive for Dr. Ana López. Presented Latin American film screenings.

**Instructional Technology Assistant**, Foreign Language Instructional Technology Environment (FLITE), Tulane University, New Orleans, LA. 2000–2002  
Worked with Marcel O’Gorman (first year) assisting professors and instructors with various computer technologies in their classrooms. Digitized audio and video for use on the web. Created and updated web pages. Built site for Dr. Idelber Avelar’s Literary Theory class (Fall 2000). Scanned images and created PowerPoint presentations for Dr. Kathleen Davis’ Chinese literature class (Spring 2002).

## ACADEMIC EVENTS AND PROJECTS ORGANIZED

**Organizing Committee.** XXVI Congreso Annual. Asociación Internacional de Literatura y Cultura Femenina Hispánica. Reviewed the proposals for Latino studies panels and helped coordinate the keynote speaker, María Aguí Carter. Houston, TX. November 10-12, 2016.

**Organizer and video editor** (with Guillermo de los Reyes). Invited guest speakers to UH: José Manuel Valenzuela Arce, María Socorro Tabuenca, Laura Gutiérrez, and Debra Lattanzi Shutika. Recorded various other academics. Spring 2012.

**Organizing Committee.** Carlos Monsiváis: “Imágenes de la tradición viva en México.” University of Houston. April 5, 2007.

**Organizing Committee.** Border Studies Lectures: Robert McKee Irwin and María Socorro Tabuenca Córdoba. April 2006.

**Organizing Committee.** Guillermo Gómez-Peña: “Ethno-Techno Art.” Tulane University. New Orleans, LA. January 30, 2003.

**Organizing Committee.** Cultural Encounters 2002. Tulane University. New Orleans, LA. April 2002. Invited Speakers: José Manuel Valenzuela Arce and Román de la Campa.

**Organizing Committee, Chair.** “A Reading and Discussion by Rubén Martínez from *Crossing Over*.” Tulane University. New Orleans, LA. March 8, 2002.

**Organizing Committee.** Edmundo Paz Soldán: “Entre dos mundos: La doble condición del escritor latino/latinoamericano.” Tulane University. New Orleans, LA. March 15, 2002.

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

**Executive Committee and Graduate Committee.** Department of Hispanic Studies, University of Houston. 2017-2018.

**Undergraduate Committee.** Center for Mexican American Studies, University of Houston. 2017-2018.

**Executive Committee.** Center for Mexican American Studies, University of Houston. 2016-2017

**Class Scheduler.** Department of Hispanic Studies, University of Houston. 2014-2017.

**University of Houston Representative.** Council for the Hemispheric Institute for Performance and Politics. 2014-2015.

**Committee on Diversity.** College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, University of Houston. 2010-2016. (Chair, Fall 2013 –Spring 2016).

**Library Liaison.** Hispanic Studies (and previously Modern and Classical Languages), University of Houston. 2005-2009.

**Technology Committee.** College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, University of Houston. 2008-2011.

**Technology Committee.** Department of Hispanic Studies, University of Houston. 2008-2009.

**Travel Committee.** Hispanic Studies (and previously Modern and Classical Languages), University of Houston. 2005-2011.

## TEACHING RECORD

University of Houston

### *Graduate Courses:*

- Latinxs in Film (Spring 2023)
- Latin American Migration and Exile (Spring 2020)
- Mexican Americans in Film (Spring 2017)
- Borders and Segregation (Spring 2016)
- Contemporary Mexican Cinema (Spring 2015)
- Latino Cultural Studies (Spring 2010, Spring 2014)
- Mexican Cinema (Spring 2009)
- Mexican and Chicano/a Cultural Studies (Spring 2007, Spring 2012)
- Mexican Transnationalism (Spring 2006, Fall 2007, Spring 2013)

### *Undergraduate Courses:*

- Spanish Oral Communication for Critical Thinking (Fall 2020, Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023)
- Mexican American Literature (in Spanish, Fall 2019)
- Latinas in the United States (in English, Spring 2019)

- U.S. Hispanic Culture and Civilization (in English: Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Fall 2022, Fall 2023)
- The Mexican American Experience through Film (Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Fall 2019)
- Introduction to Mexican American Studies (Spring 2017, Spring 2018)
- Intro to Latino Cultural Studies (Fall 2015, Fall 2016)
- Public Speaking in Spanish (Spring 2015)
- The Mexican American Experience in Film/Latina-o Cultural Studies (cross-listed Fall 2014)
- Latin American and Latino-a Film (Spring 2014)
- Mexican and Chicano/a Cultural Studies (Spring 2012)
- Mexican Cinema (Fall 2006, Spring 2008)
- Survey of Spanish American Literature II (Spring 2006, Spring 2011)
- Contemporary Latin American Migration and Exile (Fall 2005)
- Introduction to Hispanic Literature (Fall 2006, Spring 2007, Spring 2008, Spring 2011)
- U.S. Hispanic Culture and Civilization (in Spanish: Fall 2007, Fall 2009, Fall 2010, Fall 2014, Fall 2016)
- Advanced Spanish for Non-Native Speakers (formerly Written Communication in Spanish: Fall 2011, Fall 2012, Fall 2016)
- Oral Communication in Spanish (Spring 2009, Fall 2009, Spring 2012, Spring 2013)
- Spanish for Heritage Learners I (Fall 2006) and II (Fall 2011)
- Intermediate Spanish II (Spring 2010)

#### University of Pennsylvania

- Post-National Identities and Migration in Latin America (Spring 2005)
- Stereotypes and Representations of the U.S.-Mexican Border (Spring 2005)
- The Latino/a Experience in the United States (Fall 2004)
- Advanced Spanish (Fall 2004)

#### Tulane University

- U.S. Latino/a Studies (Fall 2002)
- Oral Proficiency (Spring 2001, Spring 2002)
- Spanish Conversation (Spring 2000 - Spring 2001)
- Spanish III (Spring 2000 - Fall 2002, Spring 2003, Fall 2003, Spring 2004)
- Intermediate Review of Spanish (Fall 1999)
- Spanish II (Span 102 - Spring 1999, Fall 2001)
- Spanish I (Fall 1998, Summer 2001)

#### Dillard University

- Spanish I & II (Summer 1999)

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Latin American Studies Association (LASA)  
Modern Language Association (MLA)  
Popular Culture Associate (PCA)  
Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS)

## **LANGUAGES:**

**English** - native fluency  
**Spanish** - native fluency  
**Portuguese** - fluent reading, some speaking  
**French** – basic reading knowledge.

**REFERENCES:** Available upon request.