

Sylvia Sellers-García  
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- TEACHING APPOINTMENTS 2011 - present: Assistant Professor of History at Boston College  
2009-2011: Assistant Professor of History and Affiliate Assistant Professor of Romance Languages and Literature, University of Cincinnati
- EDUCATION 2009: University of California, Berkeley: Ph.D. in History  
2000: St. Antony's College, Oxford: M.Phil. Latin American Studies  
1998: Brown University: B.A. Comparative Literature, *magna cum laude*
- FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, & AWARDS *Funding:*  
Summer 2013 and Summer 2014: Boston College Undergraduate Research Fellowship (Research Assistantship)  
2011-2012: Taft Annual Fellowship from the Charles Phelps Taft Research Center (declined)  
2010: Taft Summer Fellowship from the Charles Phelps Taft Research Center  
2008-2009: Mabelle McLeod Lewis Dissertation Fellowship  
2008-2009: Mellon ACLS Dissertation Fellowship (declined)  
2006-2007: Dean's Normative Time Fellowship, UC Berkeley  
2004-2008: Graduate Diversity Fellowship at UC Berkeley  
2003-2004: Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship in Humanistic Studies awarded by the Woodrow Wilson Foundation  
1998-2000: Marshall Scholarship awarded by the Marshall Commission  
*Awards and Honors:*  
2008: Julia Ward Howe Book Award for When the Ground Turns in Its Sleep  
2008: Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, UC Berkeley  
2003: Robie Macauley Prize for "A Correspondence"  
1998: Rose Award for outstanding B.A. thesis  
1997: Phi Beta Kappa, Brown University
- PUBLICATIONS *Books:*  
Distance and Documents at the Spanish Empire's Periphery, Stanford University Press, 2014.

When the Ground Turns in Its Sleep, Riverhead Books, 2007.

*Books in Progress:*

The Woman in the Window: A Tale of Mystery in Several Parts - a study of violence, society, and culture in 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>-century Guatemala.

Imagining Histories of Colonial Latin America: Essays on Synoptic Methods and Practices - co-edited with Karen Melvin, under contract with University of New Mexico Press.

*Journal Publications:*

“Descripción del Reyno de Guatemala (1818) - A Presidential Primer” An introductory essay and transcription of Ramón de Anguiano’s description of Guatemala. *Mesoamerica*, Issue 54 (Summer 2012).

“The Mail in Time: Postal Routes and Conceptions of Distance in Colonial Guatemala.” *Colonial Latin America Review*, issue 12.1 (Spring 2012).

“The Criminal Record” - *Virginia Quarterly Review*, January 2009.

“History into Fiction” - *Berkeley Review of Latin American Studies*, 2008.

“A Correspondence” - *Story Quarterly* 39, 2003.

*Journal Publications in Progress:*

“Writing Style and Audience” - for inclusion in Imagining Histories of Colonial Latin America: Essays on Synoptic Methods and Practices.

*Online Writing Projects in Progress:*

An Inquisition Reader - an online teaching resource featuring a collection of transcribed and translated documents from the American inquisitions. In collaboration with Karen Melvin.

“The Biography of a Colonial Document: Creation, Mobility, Preservation, Politics, Research.” Entry for the *Oxford Research Encyclopedia*.

*Book Reviews:*

Laura Matthew, Memories of Conquest: Becoming Mexicano in Colonial Guatemala. Forthcoming in *Colonial Latin America Review*.

Lovell, W. George, Christopher H. Lutz, Wendy Kramer, and William R. Swezey, “Strange Lands and Different Peoples”: Spaniards and Indians in Colonial Guatemala. Forthcoming in the *Bulletin of Latin American Research*.

Robert Patch, Indians and the Political Economy of Colonial Central America, 1670-1810. Forthcoming in *The Americas: A Quarterly Review of Latin American History*.

René Reeves, Ladinos with Ladinos, Indians with Indians in *Journal of Peasant Studies*: January 2007; Volume 34, No. 1.

PAPERS AND  
TALKS  
DELIVERED

- Conference on Latin American History: “A State of Violence: Bourbon Justice in Spanish American Cities” presented at the January 2013 Conference on Latin American History.
- Latin American Studies Association: panel chair; “Dangers of the Confessional” presented at the May, 2012 conference.
- Invited talk at Bates College: “Dangerous Distance: Social Crimes and Moral Failings in the Archbishop’s Guatemala.” March 2012.
- American Historical Association/ Conference on Latin American History: Participation in a roundtable on Central American independence at the 2010 conference.
- American Historical Association: “Correo Clandestino” presented at the January 2009 conference.
- Association of American Geographers: “The Mail in Time” presented at the April 2007 conference.
- American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies: “Uses of Duration” presented at the March 2005 conference.

PRE-DOCTORAL  
RESEARCH  
EXPERIENCE

- Research Assistant to Professor of Anthropology at UC Berkeley, Charles Hirschkind during 2006.
- Fact Checker for the New Yorker: conducting investigative research for all content from July 2001 to July 2003.
- Intern for Harper’s Magazine: researching for the “Index” and “Readings” sections of the magazine from January 2001 to May 2001.

COURSES  
DEVELOPED  
(2009-2014)

- Chocolate and Sugar, Silver and Gold – Latin America and its Commodity Empires: An undergraduate seminar considering the intertwined histories of empires and the commodities that shaped them.
- Archives and Sources: A graduate course focusing on the politics, theory, history, and practice of working in archives.
- Early Maps and Distant Places: Part of Boston College’s “Making History Public” series, this undergraduate course curates a collection of early maps from the Burns Rare Books Library.
- Colonial Latin America: An undergraduate lecture survey focusing on Latin America from the pre-Columbian period to the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- Latin America in the Long 19<sup>th</sup> Century: A lecture survey focusing the “long” 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- The Land of Eternal Spring - Guatemala and the Cold War: A freshman seminar introducing students to the practice of history through the study of primary documents and scholarly work relating to Guatemala during the Cold War.

Travelers in Latin America: An undergraduate lecture/discussion course focusing on travelers in Latin America from the colonial period to the present.

The Inquisition in Spain and the New World: An undergraduate lecture/discussion course focusing on the history of the Inquisition in Spain and the Americas.

Introduction to the Historiography of Colonial Latin America: A graduate seminar designed to introduce masters and doctoral students to the field of colonial Latin American history.

Writing the Conquest of the Americas: A methodology course for undergraduates on how the conquest of Latin America has been written and rewritten over the course of two centuries.

Latin America and the World: A History Core class focusing on Latin America and touching upon the related histories of Europe and Africa.

DEPARTMENT  
AND UNIVERSITY  
SERVICE

Fall 2011 to present: History Department Undergraduate Committee

Fall 2012 to present: History Department Core Curriculum Committee

Fall 2012 to present: History Department Lecture Committee

Spring 2012 to present: Faculty Advisor for the Boston College Brazil Club

Spring 2012 to present: Faculty Advisor for the History Department's Gender in the Academic Workplace group

Spring 2013: History Department Postdoctoral Fellowship Search Committee

2012-2013: Eighteenth-century Europe Search Committee

Fall 2012: Faculty Advisor for Phi Alpha Theta

Fall 2012: Faculty interviewer for the Fulbright Scholarship on behalf of the University Fellowships Committee

OTHER SERVICE

2013: Boston area Marshall Scholarship Committee - Reader

2014: Boston area Marshall Scholarship Committee - Interviewer

ASSOCIATIONS

American Historical Association

Latin American Studies Association

The Conference on Latin American History