SARAH ANDREA BLUE

Department of Geography
Evans Liberal Arts, 332
Texas State University
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of California, Los Angeles
Geography, June 2004. Chair: William A.V. Clark
Doctoral Dissertation: *Socio-Economic Costs of Global Integration: Remittances, the Informal Economy, and Rising Inequality in Contemporary Cuba*

M.A. University of Minnesota
Geography, April 1996. Chair: Connie Weil
M.A. Thesis: *Place and the Gendered Political Mobilization of Guatemalan Refugee Women*

B.A. University of Denver
Geography and Philosophy, June 1992.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2025 – Full Professor, Texas State University, Department of Geography

2024-2027 Jones Professor of Southwest Studies, Texas State University

2015-2025 Associate Professor, Texas State University, Department of Geography

2011-2015 Assistant Professor, Texas State University, Department of Geography

2005-2011 Assistant Professor, Northern Illinois University, Department of Geography

1999-2005 Lecturer

- University of Southern California, School of Policy, Planning, and Development
- University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Geography
- Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, Department of Urban Studies
- California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, Department of Geography
- California State University at Long Beach, Department of Geography

SCHOLARSHIP

Publications in Peer-Reviewed Journals

Devine, Jennifer, Sarah A. Blue, Luisa Amato Caye, Nirvana HeidarianBaei, Diane Nuñez, Tay Villaseñor, In review. "Complex Borders, Complex (Im)mobilities: Migration to the Rio Grande Valley, submitted to *Journal of Borderland Studies*, November 2025.

Blue, Sarah A., Marie Price, Elizabeth Chacko, Jennifer Devine, Caroline Miles, In review. "The Human Cost of Anti-Trafficking Immigration Enforcement: Failures of the US' 'Humane Border Enforcement' Experiment," submitted to *Geopolitics*, November 2025.

Maya O'Brien, Marie Price, Elizabeth Chacko, Sarah A. Blue, Jennifer Devine, Caroline Miles. In review. "Migrant Journeys to the US Southern Border: Mapping Aspirations, Capabilities and Risks of Asylum Seekers," submitted to *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, August 2025.

Hartsell, Alisa and Sarah A. Blue. 2025. "Justice by Geography": Legal Violence and Asylum in the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals, *Geoforum*, vol. 164 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoforum.2025.104339.

Arima, Eugenio and Sarah A. Blue. 2024. "Evaluating the Use of Humanitarian Parole as a Border Management Strategy in the United States," *Migration and Diversity*, *3*(4), 319-334. https://doi.org/10.33182/md.v3i4.3438.

Jokisch, Brad and Sarah A. Blue. 2024. Increased Family and Child Migration to the United States from Latin America and the Caribbean: the Paradox of Protecting Children's Rights, *Journal of Latin American Geography*, 23(1), 100–129. https://doi.org/10.1353/lag.2024.a929689.

Blue, Sarah A. and Alisa Hartsell. 2024. Producing 'Illegality': The Racialization of Mexican and Central American Asylum Seekers in the United States, *Geographic Review*, 115(3), 307–328. https://doi.org/10.1080/00167428.2023.2226174.

Hartsell, Alisa and Sarah A. Blue. 2023. Legal Bordering of Asylum through Liminality, *Political Geography*, 106. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.polgeo.2023.102958.

Torres, Rebecca, Kate Swanson, Caroline Faria, Tamara Segura, Sarah A. Blue. 2022. Bordering through care and control: Policing and sheltering Central American migrant youth in Mexico, *Political Geography*, 98 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.polgeo.2022.102719.

Torres, Rebecca, Sarah A. Blue, Caroline Faria, Tamara Segura, Kate Swanson. 2022. "Asylum is not for Mexicans": Unaccompanied Youth and Racio-Governance at the US Border, *Geopolitics*, 1-30. https://doi.org/10.1080/14650045.2022.2086459.

Blue, Sarah A., Amy Trauger, Hilda Kurtz, Jason Dittmer. 2021. Food Sovereignty and Property in Cuba and the United States, *Journal of Peasant Studies*, https://doi.org/10.1080/03066150.2021.1912026.

Blue, Sarah A.; Devine, Jennifer A.; Ruiz, Matthew P.; McDaniel, Kathryn; Hartsell, Alisa R.; Pierce, Christopher J.; Johnson, Makayla; Tinglov, Allison K.; Yang, Mei; Wu, Xiu; Moya, Sara; Cross, Elle; Starnes, Carol A. 2021. Im/Mobility at the US–Mexico Border during the COVID-19 Pandemic, *Social Sciences*, 10(2): 47. https://doi.org/10.3390/socsci10020047

Blue Sarah A. 2021. Gendered constraints on a strategy of regional mobility: Latino/a migration to post Katrina New Orleans. *Area*, 53(1): 175–182. https://doi.org/10.1111/area.12687

Hilda Kurtz, Jason Dittmer, Amy Trauger, Sarah A. Blue. 2021. Organic Certification as Assemblage: The Case of Cuban Honey, *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 46(2): 299-313. https://doi.org/10.1111/tran.12419

Blue, Sarah A., Alisa Hartsell, Rebecca M. Torres, Paul Flynn. 2020. The Uneven Geography of Asylum and Humanitarian Relief: Place-Based Precarity for Central American Migrant Youth in the United States Judicial System, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 47(20), 4631–4650. https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2020.1732588

Thompson, Amy, Rebecca Torres, Kate Swanson, Sarah A. Blue, Óscar Misael Hernández Hernández. 2019. Re-Conceptualising Agency in Migrant Children from Central America and Mexico, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 45(2): 235-252, DOI: 10.1080/1369183X.2017.1404258

Blue, Sarah A. and Monica Zappa. 2016. Twenty Years after the Storm: Hurricane Vulnerability in Bluefields, Nicaragua, *The Southwestern Geographer*, 19: 28-40.

Holmes, Melissa and Sarah A. Blue. 2013. Chinatown, Ethnoburb, or Invisiburb?: Changing Settlement Patterns of Chinese Migrants to Texas, *Papers in Applied Geography*, 36: 467-477.

Blue, Sarah A. 2013. Internationalism's Remittances: The Impact of Temporary Migration on Cuban Society, *The International Journal of Cuban Studies*, 5(1): 41-60.

Blue, Sarah A. and Anita I. Drever. 2011. Subcontracting Work via Social Networks: Migrant Latino Labor and the Re-Building of New Orleans, *Population, Space & Place*, 17(5): 489-504.

Drever, Anita I. and Sarah A. Blue. 2011. Surviving *Sin Papeles* in Post-Katrina New Orleans: An Exploration of The Challenges Facing Undocumented Immigrants in New and Re-Emerging Latino Destinations, *Population, Space & Place*, 17(1): 89-102.

Blue, Sarah A. 2010. Cuban Medical Internationalism: Domestic and International Impacts, *Journal of Latin American Geography*, 9(1): 31-49.

Blue, Sarah A. 2007. The Erosion of Racial Equality in the Context of Cuba's Dual Economy, *Latin*

American Politics and Society, 49(3): 35-68.

Blue, Sarah A. 2005. Including Women in Development: Guatemalan Refugees and Local NGOs. *Latin American Perspectives*, 32(5): 101-117.

Blue, Sarah A. 2004. State Policy, Economic Crisis, Gender, and Family Ties: Determinants of Family Remittances to Cuba. *Economic Geography*, 80(1): 63-82.

Clark, William A.V. and Sarah A. Blue. 2004. Race, Class and Segregation Patterns in U.S. Immigrant Gateway Cities. *Urban Affairs Review*, 39(6): 667-688.

Book Chapters

Blue, Sarah A., Elizabeth Chacko, Marie Price, Jennifer Devine, Caroline Miles, and Carla Angulo-Pasel. Forthcoming 2026. Contradictions of 'humane border enforcement' policies in the United States, 2022-2024, in Klosterkamp, Sarah and Alex Jeffrey (editors) *Research Handbook on Legal Geography*, Edward Elgar Publishing.

Blue, Sarah A., Cecilia Colunga-Rodriguez, Julio César Vázquez-Colunga, y Mario Angel-González. Forthcoming 2026. Geopolítica de la Migración Afligida y Su Estudio Socialmente Comprometido. Un Enfoque de Geografía y Derechos Humanos, in Palenque-Gálvez, Jaime and Esperanza Arnés *Ciencia Comprometida en la Era de las Transformaciones Socioambientales Aceleradas.* CIGA, UNAM Morelia, México.

Chacko, Elizabeth, Marie Price, Sarah Blue, Jennifer Devine, Carla Angulo-Pasel, and Caroline Miles. Forthcoming. "'Elastic borders: Securitization, Deterrence, and Asylum Seeking in the Rio Grande Valley," submitted to *(edited book)*, May 2025.

Miles, Caroline, Elizabeth Chacko, Marie Price, Sarah Blue, and Jennifer Devine. 2025. Performing Protection: A Confrontation between National Narrative and Migrant Bodies at the US-Mexico Border.

Swanson, Kate, Rebecca Maria Torres, and Sarah A. Blue. 2025. 'Child Guides and Migration on the US-Mexico Border,' ch. 22 (pp. 391-406) in *The Oxford Handbook of Migrant Children and the Child-Centered Approach*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Blue, Sarah A. and Mary Stycos. 2022. Local Newspaper Coverage of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Two Major Texas Cities: A Visual Comparison of Houston and El Paso, chapter 31 in Brunn, Stanley D. and Donna Gilbreath, eds. *COVID-19 and an Emerging World of Ad Hoc Geographies*, New York, NY: Springer.

Blue, Sarah A. 2015. Using Immigrant Interviews in Teaching Latin American Geography, in Estaville, Lawrence, Edris Montalvo and Fenda Akiwumi, eds. *Teaching Ethnic Geography in the 21st Century*. National Council on Geographic Education.

Blue, Sarah A. 2005. From Exiles to Transnationals?: Changing State Policy and the Emergence of

Cuban Transnationalism, in Fernández, D. ed. *Cuban Transnationalism*, Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida.

Non-Referred Articles

Swanson, Kate, Rebecca M. Torres, Amy Thompson, Sarah A. Blue and Oscar Misael Hernández Hernández. 2015. A Year After Obama Declared a "Humanitarian Situation" at the Border, Child Migration Continues. *NACLA Report on the Americas*, 8/27/2015.

Huish, Robert and Sarah A. Blue, guest editors. 2013. Understanding the Place of Cuban Internationalism, *The International Journal of Cuban Studies*, 5(1): 6-9.

Blue, Sarah A. 2007. The Decline of Racial Equality in Post-Soviet Cuba, *Encuentros Newsletter*, 1-3.

Blue, Sarah A. 2004. The Social Cost of Remittances: Race and Income Equality in Contemporary Cuba. *Paper distributed at the Latin American Studies Association*, October 2004.

Book Reviews

Blue, Sarah A. 2017. Review of Hispanic and Latino New Orleans: Immigration and Identity since the Eighteenth Century, by Sluyter, Andrew, Case Watkins, James P. Chaney, and Annie M. Gibson for *The AAG Review of Books* 5(1): 1-3.

Blue, Sarah A. 2014. Review of Marketing without Advertising: Brand Preference and Consumer Choice in Cuba, by Emilio Morales and Joseph L. Scarpaci for *The AAG Review of Books*, 2(3): 102-104.

Blue, Sarah A. 2014. Review of Mapping Latin America: A Cartographic Reader, by Jordana Dym and Karl Offen for the *Journal of Historical Geography*, 44: 144-145.

Blue, Sarah A. 2011. Review of Inside *El Barrio*: A Bottom-Up View of Neighborhood Life in Castro's Cuba, by Henry Louis Taylor, Jr. Sterling, VA: Kumarian Press for the *Journal of Latin American Geography*, 10(2): 234-235.

Blue, Sarah A. 2010. Review of Political Disaffection in Cuba's Revolution and Exodus, by Silvia Pedraza for the *American Journal of Sociology*, 115(5): 1641-1643.

Blue, Sarah A. 2007. Review of Becoming a Citizen: *Incorporating* Immigrants and Refugees in the United States and Canada, by Irene Bloemaraad for *The Social Sciences Journal*, 44(2): 391-393.

Blue, Sarah A. 2007. Review of Latinos in the New South, edited by Heather Smith and Owen Furuseth for *Population, Space, and Place*, 13(6): 485-486.

Guest Edited Journals

Huish, Robert and Sarah A. Blue, guest editors. *The International Journal of Cuban Studies,* Special Issue: Cuban Internationalism, Volume 5(1), Spring 2013

Professional Conference Presentations

"*Immobility, Insecurity, and Asylum-Seeking:Evaluating Biden's 'Humane Border Enforcement' Policies,"* Conference of Latin American Geographers, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, January 6-9, 2026.

"*Unintended Consequences of the US' 'Humane Border Enforcement' Policies, 2022-2024,"* Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference, Albuquerque, NM, November 5-7, 2025.

"*Unintended Consequences of the US' Short-Lived 'Humane Border Enforcement' Policies,"* Southwestern AAG Conference, Las Cruces, NM, October 29-31, 2025.

"*Immobility, Insecurity, and Asylum-Seeking: Post-COVID-19 Border Management and Externalization of Enforcement at the US-Mexico Border,"* Borders and Walls Conference, Montreal, Canada, May 8-9, 2025.

"*The Uneven Implementation of US Immigration Policy and Migrant Vulnerability at the US-Mexico Border,"* Southwestern AAG Conference, San Marcos, TX, October 6-8, 2024.

"*Zero Tolerance to Prolonged Liminality: Asylum Seekers at the US-Mexico Border,"* CLAG Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico, May 22-24, 2024.

"*Explaining Increased Family and Youth Migration to the US-Mexico Border,"* Southwestern AAG Conference, Laredo, TX, November 1-3, 2023.

"*Producing 'Illegality' for Mexican and Central American Asylum Seekers,"* Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference, Washington DC, October 10-12, 2023.

"*Intimate (Im)mobility: Transnational Family Care Work and Central American and Mexican Youth Migration to the United States,"* Association of American Geographers Conference, Denver, CO, March 23-27, 2023.

"*Asylum Seeking: Immobility and Legal Access at the US-Mexico Border,"* CLAG Conference, Tucson, AZ, January 3-7, 2023.

"*Expelled: The Politics of Exclusion and Spaces of Exception at the US-Mexico Border,"* with Jennifer Devine, Association of American Geographers Conference, online, February 27-March 2, 2022.

"*Racialized Asylum and Unequal Justice for Central American and Asian Asylum Seekers,"* with Alisa Hartsell, Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference, Baltimore, MD, October 20-23, 2021.

"*Assemblages of Violence, Environment, and Agency in the Matamoros Asylum Seeker Camp,"* with Jennifer Devine, Latin American Studies Association Conference, virtual, May 28, 2021.

"*Shifts in US Asylum Policy: Between Detention and Expulsion,"*with Jennifer Devine, Emerging Border and Immigration Enforcement Strategies Conference, virtual, April 30, 2021.

"*Im/mobility at the US-Mexico border during a Global Pandemic,"* Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference, virtual, October 21-23, 2020.

"*Landscapes of Exclusion: Asylum Seekers at the US-Mexico Border,"* Conference of Latin American Geographers, Antigua, Guatemala, January 2-4, 2020.

"*Yemenis in Korea and Congolese in Mexico: Understanding Migration to Non-Traditional Destinations,"* Southwest Regional Association of American Geographers Conference, Fort Worth, TX, October 10-12, 2019.

"*Towards Greater Food Sovereignty and Security in Cuba: Land Access and Innovation under a Regulatory State,"* Association of American Geographers Conference, Washington, DC, April 3-7, 2019.

"*The Uneven Geography of Asylum or other Migration Relief for Central American Migrant Youth in the United States," with Alisa Hartsell.* Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference, Austin, TX, October 23-25, 2018.

"*Explaining the Uneven Geography of Asylum and other Migration Relief for Central American Migrant Youth in the United States," with Alisa Hartsell.* Conference of Latin American Geographers Conference, San Jose, Costa Rica, May 20-22, 2018.

"*Mapping the Uneven Geography of Asylum or other Migration Relief for Central American Migrant Youth in the United States," with Alisa Hartsell.* Association of American Geographers Conference, New Orleans, LA, April 10-14, 2018.

"*The Uneven Geography of Asylum or other Migration Relief for Central American Migrant Youth in the United States," with Alisa Hartsell.* Association of American Geographers Conference, Boston, MA, April 5-9, 2017.

"*Transnational Family Reunification: Using the Life Course Perspective to Understand Central American and Mexican Youth Migration to the United States*," Conference of Latin American Geographers, New Orleans, LA. January 3-5, 2017.

"*Transnational Family Reunification: Central American and Mexican Youth Migration to the United States."* Race, Place, Ethnicity Conference, Kent, OH September 21-23, 2016.

"*Shifting Geographies of Immigration Enforcement of Asylum Seeking Central American Children,"* with Rebecca Torres and Kate Swanson. Latin American Studies Association Conference, New York City, NY May 26-31, 2016.

"*Shifting Geographies of Immigration Enforcement: Unaccompanied Migrant Children from Central America & Mexico,"* Southwest Regional Association of American Geographers Conference, San Antonio, TX, November 4-6, 2015.

"*Violence as a Vantage Point: Unaccompanied Migrant Children in the Americas,"* with Rebecca Torres, Kate Swanson and Stuart Aitken. Conference of Latin American Geographers, Fortaleza, Brazil. May 26-30, 2015.

"*Unaccompanied Minors in the US: An Overview"* 4th International Conference on Geographies of Children, San Diego, CA. January 12-15, 2015.

"*Using Service Learning in a Latin American Geography Course,"*Race, Ethnicity, Place Conference, Ft. Worth, October 22-24, 2014.

"*Immigrant Vulnerability to Flooding: Flood Loss and Recovery in Austin, Texas,"* presented with Sherri Gore, Race, Ethnicity, Place Conference, Ft. Worth, October 22-24, 2014.

"*The 'Natural Disaster Recovery Effect': Gendered Labor Market Experiences of Latino Immigrants in Post-Katrina New Orleans,"* Association of American Geographers Conference, Tampa, FL, April 8-12, 2014.

"*Cuban Internationalism and South-South Collaboration,"* Association of American Geographers Conference, Los Angeles, CA, April 9-13, 2013.

"*'Professional Export Services' as a New Avenue for Afro-Cuban Advancement,"* Race, Ethnicity, Place Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico, October 24-26, 2012.

"*Capitalizing on Cuba's Human Capital: The Effects of International Collaboration Migration on Cuban Society,"* Presenter and Session Co-Chair. Latin American Studies Association Conference, San Francisco, CA, May 23-26, 2012.

"Inside Cuban Medical Missions: Internationalism's Effects on Cuban Society," Presenter and Session Chair. Conference of Latin American Geographers, Merida, Mexico. January 11-13, 2012.

"*Inside Cuban Medical Internationalism: A View of Cuban Missions from the Island,"* Southwest Regional Association of American Geographers Conference, Austin, TX, November 10-11, 2011.

"*Gendered Labor and Gendered Labor Recruitment: Latino Migrant Experiences in New Orleans,"* Association of American Geographers Conference, Seattle, WA, April 12-16, 2011.

"*Transnational Echoes: Domestic Effects of International Missions on Cuban Society,"* Cuba Futures: Past and Present Conference, Bildner Center, New York City, NY, March 31-April 2, 2011.

"*Place Matters!: Immigrant Recruitment to Post-Katrina New Orleans,"* Association of American Geographers Conference, Washington DC, April 14-17, 2010.

"Subcontracted Labor and the Re-Building of New Orleans" Chair & panel organizer. Latin American Studies Association Conference, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, June 11, 2009.

"International Solidarity as a Household Survival Mechanism? International Missions, Remittances and Socio-Economic Equality," The Measure of a Revolution: Cuba, 1959-2009 Conference, Queen's University, Kingston, Canada, May 7-9, 2009. Invited conference.

"Immigration Research in Geography: Theory and Practice" Co-chair and panel organizer. Conference of Latin American Geographers, Grenada, Nicaragua. January 7, 2009.

"*Systems of Subcontracting and Latino Labor Recruitment Evidence from New Orleans,"* Conference of Latin American Geographers, Grenada, Nicaragua. January 7, 2009.

"*The Subcontracting of Immigrant Labor and the Re-Building of New Orleans"* Race, Ethnicity and Place Conference, Miami, FL, November 6, 2008.

"La Nueva Orleans: A New Destination for Latino Labor Migration," Session Chair. Latin American Studies Association Conference, Montreal, Canada, September 11, 2007.

"*Latino Migration to Illinois: Labor Recruitment to New Destinations?"* with Matt Cousineau, undergraduate student, at the joint meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society and North Central Sociological Association, Chicago, IL, April 17, 2007.

"Latino Migration and its Implications for New Orleans," Planners Network Conference, New Orleans, LA, June 3, 2007.

"*'Placing' Latino Migration to New Orleans,"* Race, Ethnicity, Place Conference, San Marcos, TX, January 12, 2007.

"Latino Migration to New Orleans: A Window on Patterns of Latino Migration to the South," Association of American Geographers Conference, Chicago, IL, April 6, 2006.

"The Social Impact of Remittances in Latin America," Latin American Studies Association Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico, March 14, 2006.

"The Erosion of Racial Equality in Post-Soviet Cuba," Cuba: In Transition? Conference, Bildner Center, New York City, NY, March 28, 2006.

"The Social Cost of Remittances: Race and Income Equality in Contemporary Cuba," Latin American Studies Association Conference, Las Vegas, NV, September 10, 2004.

"Dollarization and Racial Equality: The Demise of Structural Equality in Cuba's Dual Economy," Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy Conference, Miami, FL, August 8, 2004.

"State Policy, Economic Crisis, Gender, and Family Ties: Determinants of Family Remittances to Cuba" Association of American Geographers Conference, Philadelphia, PA, April 3, 2004.

"*Heightening Inequality? Local Impacts of Remittances in Contemporary Cuba,"* Association of American Geographers Conference, New Orleans, LA, April 2003.

"*Remittances and Economic Behavior in Post-Soviet Cuba,"* Association of American Geographers Conference, Los Angeles, CA, April 2002.

"*The Impact of Remittances in Cuba: Evidence from Havana,"* Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy Conference, Miami, FL. August 2002.

"*Remittances and Small-Scale Entrepreneurship in Cuba: A Case Study,"* Association of American Geographers Conference, New York City, NY, March 2001.

"Regional Equality?: Cuba's Challenge to Distribute Economic Growth in the 1990s," Latin American Studies Association Conference, Miami, FL, April 2000.

"*Repression or Social Justice? Acknowledging Theoretical Assumptions and Bias in Analysis of the Cuban Economy,"* Association of American Geographers Conference, Honolulu, HI, April 1999.

"Place and the Political Organization of Guatemalan Refugee Women," Western Geography Graduate Student Conference, Tucson, Arizona, March 1997.

"The Political Participation of Guatemalan Refugee and Returned Refugee Women," Midwest Regional Association of American Geographers, Mankato, MN, October 1995.

Invited Talks, Lectures, and Presentations

2025. Invited Talk. "Asylum Seeking and Immigration to the US-Mexico Border," Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada, July 8, 2025.

2025. Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) Radio Interview. June 20, 2025 "What is a sanctuary city and what role does it play in anti-ICE protests in the U.S.?" Mainstreet NS with Jeff Douglas. https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-37-mainstreet-ns/clip/16154331-what-sanctuary-city-policy-role-play-anti-ice-protests

2025. Panel Discussant, "Peace and Security: A Perspective on Youth Engagement and African Solutions," Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada, May 15, 2025.

2025. Keynote Panel, "El potencial de la geografía ambiental para hacer ciencia con y para la gente, en la era de las transformaciones socioambientales aceleradas", IX Conferencia Internacional de Geografía Ambiental, Morelia, Mexico, April 7-9, 2025.

2025. Panel Discussant, "The Complexities of Migrant Journeys to the US-Mexico Border and Beyond," 7th Annual International Conference on Border Studies, Edinburg, Texas, February 20-21, 2025.

2024. Colloquium Speaker, "Migration at the USA-Mexico Border," Austin Community College (ACC) Friday Seminar, Austin, TX, November 22, 2024.

2024. Panel Discussant, "Lines in the Sand: Immigration & The Southern Border," Memorial Student Center Wiley Lecture Series, Texas A & M - College Station, TX, November 20, 2024.

2024. Panel Discussant and Session Co-Organizer, "Geographies of Cuba: Honoring the Work and Influences of Joseph Scarpaci," Conference of Latin American Geographers, San Juan, Puerto Rico, May 22, 2024.

2023. Conversation with a Geographer, Grand Rapid Community College (virtual), September 28, 2023.

2023. Panel Discussant "Contemporary Cuba," Conference of Latin American Geographers, Tucson, AZ, January 3-7, 2023.

2022. National Council for Geographic Education (NCGE) Webinar: Asylum Seeking at the US-Mexico Border September 28, 2022.

2022. Panelist for the Special Networking Session for Geographers at MSIs, AAG Conference, online, February 25, 2022.

2021. Association of American Geographers (AAG) Webinar: How to be a Good Colleague (Part II), September 9, 2021.

2018. Panel Discussant "Supporting Women in Geography," Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference, Austin, TX, October 23-25, 2018.

2017. Panel Discussant, "Cuba Educational Travel," Association of American Geographers Conference, Boston, MA, April 5-9, 2017.

2015. Panel Discussant, "Succeeding as a Woman in Academia," Texas State University, Department of Geography Supporting Women in Geography Meeting.

2015. Panel Discussant, "Hispanic and Latino New Orleans," Conference of Latin American Geographers, Fortaleza, Brazil. May 26-30, 2015.

2014. Invited Panelist, "Geographies of/from Cuba: Navigating Change & Resilience," Association of American Geographers Conference, Tampa, FL, April 8-12, 2014.

2013. Panel Discussant, "Publishing Academic Research," Texas State University, Department of Geography Brown Bag Lunch Series.

2012. Invited Lecture, “Gendered Labor and Gendered Labor Recruitment: Latino Migrant Experiences in New Orleans,” University of Texas, Austin, Colloquium Series. December 7.

2012. Invited Panelist. “Faculty ethics and logistics of self-designed verses third party provider study abroad programs,” Southeastern Regional Association of American Geographers Conference, Asheville, NC, November 18-20.

2011. Invited Lecture, **“**Gendered Labor and Gendered Labor Recruitment: Latina Migrant Experiences in New Orleans,” Women’s History Month Lecture Series, NIU, March 23

2010. Invited Lecture and Panel Discussant, “The Future of United States-Cuban Relations,” Center for Latino and Latin American Studies, NIU, February 26.

2009. Invited Lecture and Roundtable Discussant, “The Cuban Element, Then and Now,” Freedom Project, The Cold War Symposium, Teaching American History Grant, Rockford Public Schools, NIU Rockford Center, Rockford, IL, April 4.

2009. Invited Lecture, "Undocumented Immigration to the United States: A Focus on the Employer" Dell Webb's Sun City Lecture Series, Huntley, IL, January 20.

2008. Invited Lecture, “Cuba: Socio-Economic Change since the Early 1990s,” Dell Webb's Sun City Lecture Series, Huntley, IL, May 20.

2007. Invited Lecture, "Contemporary Cuba," Lifelong Learning Institute’s NIU Notables series, February 7.

2007. Invited Lecture and Roundtable Discussant, “Race and Inequality in Cuba,” Afro-Cuban Conference sponsored by the Canadian Foundation for the Americas (FOCAL), Montreal, Canada, September 9.

2005. Invited Lecture, “Remittances and Racial Inequality in Contemporary Cuba,” University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Colloquium Series. December 4.

TEACHING

Teaching Honors and Awards

Outstanding Professor Award, Geography Graduate Student Forum (2021)
Alpha Chi Favorite Professor, Undergraduate Student (2014)
Alpha Chi Favorite Professor, Graduate Student (2013, 2015)
Service-Learning Initiative Faculty Fellow Award (2012-2013)
Teaching Award of Honor (Spring 2020)

Courses

Texas State University

- Political Geography
- World Geography
- Geography of Latin America
- Population Geography
- World Population
- Field Studies: Cuba Study Abroad
- Geographic Analysis
- Advanced Geographic Research Design
- Qualitative Research Methods
- International Migration Seminar
- Population Geography Seminar
- Gender and Development Seminar

Northern Illinois University
- International Migration
- Gender and Migration
- World Regional Geography
- Population Geography
- Political Geography
- Geography of Latin America
- Urbanization in the Developing World
- Geography of the United States and Canada

Elsewhere (as Adjunct Lecturer)
- Globalization: Regional Development and the World Economy
- Third World Cities
- Urban Geography
- Environmental Planning
- Population Geography
- Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean
- Cultural (Introductory Human) Geography
- World Regional Geography
- Geography of Latin America

Direction of PhD Theses

Texas State University

Committee Chair

Alisa Hartsell, "The Legal Violence of Liminal Status: Navigating US Immigration Courts and Asylum Seeking" completed Summer 2024. Awarded Outstanding Doctoral Student, College of Liberal Arts.

Christopher Pierce, "Deportable Adoptees: Citizenship, Statelessness, and Adoption in the United States," completed Spring 2025.

Luisa Caye, Geography, 2nd year student

Taylor Villaseñor, Geography, 2nd year student

Committee Member

Marie White, Geography
Hilary Ansah, Geography
Dustin Sanchez, Geography
Keenon Lindsey, Geography
Najmeh Heidarian Baei, Geography
Diane Nuñez, Geography
Brandi LeRoy, Geography Education
Mandy Truman, Geography, completed Spring 2025
Samantha Serrano, Geography Education, completed Spring 2025
Mei Yang, Geography, completed Fall 2023
Courtney Siegert, Anthropology, completed Summer 2023
Yasmin Diallo Turk, Geography, completed Spring 2022
Connie Buscha, Geography, completed Summer 2020
Upendra Bahadur Bom, Geography, completed Summer 2019
Elyse Zavar, Geography, completed Spring 2014

Direction of Master's Theses

Texas State University

Committee Chair

Sherelle Nolan (MS International Studies)
Mollie Price (MAG Geography), completed Fall 2022
Proy Chalitruangkul (MAG Geography), completed Spring 2022
Elise Arellano-Thompson (MS Geography), completed Summer 2022
Angela Kimmel (MAG Geography), completed Fall 2017
Michelle Sotolongo (MS International Studies), completed Summer 2016
Emily McBroom (MAG Geography), completed Spring 2016
Renee Ness (MS International Studies), completed Summer 2015
Brad Jackson (MAG Geography), completed Spring 2015
Sherri Gore (MAG Geography), completed Fall 2014
Elizabeth McDaniel (MS Geography), completed Fall 2013
Melissa Holmes (MS Geography), completed Spring 2013

Committee Member

Ethan Reed (MS Geography)
Lily Sellers (MS Geography)
Avijit Ayon (MS Sustainability)
Adam Demshar (History)
Marissa Stallworth (MA Geography Education), completed Fall 2025
Easton Moore (MS Geography), completed Summer 2025
Eric Fotey (MAG Geography), completed Spring 2024
Josie Soehnge Cohen (MS Geography), completed Spring 2024
Najmeh Heidarian Baei (MS Geography), completed Summer 2023
Callie High (MAG Geography), completed Spring 2023
Keenon Lindsey (MS Geography), completed Spring 2023
Carlos Soto (MS Geography), completed Spring 2023
Kathryn McDaniel (MS Geography), completed Summer 2022

Elena Shabalina (MS Geography), completed Fall 2021
Sara Moya (MS Geography), completed Spring 2021
Cody Silveira (MS Geography), completed Summer 2020
James Cregg (MA Geography GIS), completed Summer 2018
Amelia DeVivo (MS Geography), completed Spring 2018
Mael Le Noc (MS Geography), completed Spring 2016
Dylan Harmon-Donovan (MS International Studies), completed Spring 2015
Nicholas Quincy (MS International Studies), completed Spring 2013
Jessica Butterworth (MS International Studies), completed Fall 2012

Direction of Undergraduate Honor's Theses

Supervisor

Karina Rodriguez (BA Finance), Spring 2024
Daisy Jaimez (BA International Studies), Fall 2017
Zoe Zell (BA Geography), Spring 2014

Reader

Ana Mendizabal (Public Relations), Spring 2024

Northern Illinois University

Committee Chair

Chutima Supoon, completed Fall 2011
Jessica Hayes, completed Spring 2010
Monica Zappa, completed Spring 2009
Anna Burman, completed Summer 2008

Committee Member

Jacob Pearse, completed Summer 2011
Keith Darby, completed Summer 2011
Cynthia Vogel, completed Summer 2009
Jean Johannes, completed June 2007
Yvette Feliberty, completed September 2007
Erin DeMunyck, completed Summer 2006

EXTERNAL GRANTS AND AWARDS

Academic Honors and Awards

Jones Professor of Southwestern Studies (2024-2027), Texas State University
Excellence in Research Funding and Sponsored Programs (2025), Texas State University
Wrigley-Fairchild Award for the best paper published in the Geographical Review in 2025

Submitted External Grants

2025 National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant, "Liminal Legality and the Incorporation of New Immigrants in US Cities" with Marie Price (GWU), Elizabeth Chacko (GWU), Edelina Burciaga (U of Colorado-Denver) and Gashawbeza Bekele (Tennessee State University)

Submitted Internal Grants

2025 Research Enhancement Program Grant "Liminal Legality and Urban Citizenship for New Immigrant Arrivals in U.S. Cities" ($12,000)

Funded External Grants

2024 Fulbright-Carlos Rico Award for North American Studies, "Assessing North American Immigration Policy" ($25,000)
2023 NSF Grant, "Conference: Mapping and Empowerment: The Role of Geography in promoting diversity in an increasingly divided society" with Elizabeth Chacko ($49,811)
2022 NSF Grant "Build and Broaden: Geographies of Migration and (In)Security" ($500,155)
2021 ACLS Engaged Humanities Research Accelerator ($157,000)
2020 NSF Grant "Conference: Build and Broaden: Positioning Geography at Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority-Serving Institutions" ($76,323)
2018 NSF Grant "Race, Ethnicity, and Place (REP) 2018 Conference: Broadening Participation, Building Bridges & Supporting Diversity" ($39,500)
2017 AAG Research Grant "The U.S.-Cuban Rapprochement and its Implications for the Cuban Food System" ($500)
2007 NSF Geography and Regional Science Program Grant #0723398 *($38,486)*
"Latino Labor Migration and the Transformation of Post-Katrina New Orleans"
2001 NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (*$9,990*)
"Remittances and the Informal Economy in Post-Soviet Socialist Cuba"

Funded Internal Grants

2026 College of Liberal Arts Seed Grant Program, "Liminal Legality and the Incorporation of New Immigrants in US Cities" ($3,000)
2024 Verena and Kenneth J. Wilson Latin American Research Award, "US-Mexico Immigration Policy: Effects and Effectiveness" ($500)
2020 Verena and Kenneth J. Wilson Latin American Research Award, "Lives in Limbo at the US-Mexico Border" ($1,000)
2015 Research Enhancement Program Grant "Immigration Policy and Children's Rights: Impacts of Repatriation of Unaccompanied Migrant Children from Mexico & Central America" ($7,409)
2010 NIU Faculty Research Grant, Center for Latino and Latin American Studies (*$2,500*)
"Transnational Echoes: Effects of International Migration and Remittances on Cuban Society"
2007 NIU Research and Artistry Grant *($6,495*)
"Subcontracted Labor and Undocumented Latino Migration in Post-Katrina New Orleans"
2007 NIU Faculty Research Grant, Center for Latino and Latin American Studies *($3,000*)
"Unequal Access to Cuba's New Economy: Neighborhood and Gender Effects"
2001 International Studies Overseas Program (ISOP) Fieldwork Grant (*$4,616*)
1997 International Studies Overseas Program (ISOP) Exploratory Research Grant (*$3,000*)
1994 Summer Research Grant, Department of Geography, University of Minnesota (*$2,000*)

Funded Teaching/Research Development Grants

2022 Study in America (SIA) Development Grant ($2,979)
2012-13 Faculty Fellow Award for Service Learning ($2,000)
2010 Committee for the Improvement of Undergraduate Education Grant (*$310*)
2008 Committee for the Improvement of Undergraduate Education Grant (*$328*)
2002 Summer Research Grant, Department of Geography, UCLA (*$1,325*)
2000 Tinker Summer Research Travel Grant (*$2,000*)
1999 UCLA Summer Mentorship Research Grant (*$2,000*)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2025 What's NEXT: Charting Your Path Program (Spring 2025), Texas State University
2012 Technology Integration Workshop, *Texas State University-San Marcos,* July 30-August 10
2012 Preparing Students for Socially Responsible Global Citizenship Workshop, *Texas State University-San Marcos*, May 14-15
2011 How to Develop a Faculty-led Study Abroad Program, *Texas State University-San Marcos*
2009 Teaching Strategies to Help First-Year Students Do Their Best, *NIU*
2008 Summer Workshop on Teaching about Terrorism, *Oklahoma City, OK*
2007 Integrating News into the Classroom, *NIU*
2007 Designing a Writing-Enhanced Course, *NIU*
2007 Teaching with PowerPoint – Beyond the Basics, *NIU*
2006 Publish and Flourish: Becoming a Prolific Scholar Workshop, *NIU*
2006 Multicultural Curriculum Transformation Institute, *NIU*
2006 Engaging our Students in International Studies Workshop, *NIU*
2005 Time Management Strategies to Maximize Your Teaching Potential, *NIU*
2003 Geography Faculty Development Alliance Institute, *Boulder, CO*

SERVICE

Referee Activity

NSF Proposal Reviews
2012 (2), 2013 (1), 2022 (1), 2023 (1)

Award Committees
- CLAG – Honors Committee (2011-present)
- AAG- Selection Committee for the Graduate Student Affinity Group Student Paper Competition (2012)
- AAG - Selection Committee for the LASG student field travel award (2012)
- AAG - Selection Committee for the LASG student paper award (2010, 2011)
- Geography Department Scholarships - Elizabeth J. Schwantes and Richard E. Dahlberg Memorial Scholarship, Geography Deans Award
- Robert C. Marcelin Award, NIU Center for Latino and Latin American Studies
- DREAM Act Undergraduate Scholarship, NIU

University Service

Texas State University – San Marcos
University Fulbright Liaison (2025-present)
Texas State University Humanities Excellence Research Award-Committee Member (2025-present)
Verena & Kenneth J. Wilson Research Grant Committee, Center for International Studies (2025-26)
Texas State Outstanding Senior Award-Committee Member (2022-2024)
Texas State University Outstanding Senior Woman Award Committee Member (2021-2022)
University Faculty Senate Liaison (2015-2018)
Member, International Programming Committee (2013-2014)

Northern Illinois University
Coordinator, NIU International Studies Minor (2006-2011)
Faculty Associate, Latin American Studies (2005-2011)
Faculty Associate, Women's Studies (2007-2011)
Advisory Board, Center for Latino and Latin American Studies (2007-2010)
Executive Committee, Women's Studies (2010-2011)
Member, Global Studies Working Group (2008-2011)
Member of the Provost's Multicultural Curriculum Transformation Institute Task Force (2006-2007)
Member, Faculty Senate (2007)
Co-Coordinator, "Global NIU: Engaging our Students in International Studies" Workshop (2007)

Departmental Service
Texas State University – San Marcos
Chair, Scholarship and Awards Committee (2019-present)
Advisor, Supporting Women in Geography (SWIG), (2011-present)
Chair, Texas Geography Students Research Symposium (TXGSRS) Committee (2015-16, 2016-17)
Member, Search Committee for Physical Geography Position (2019-20)
Member, Evaluation Committee (2013-14. 2017-2018, 2020-21)
Member, Search Committee for Climatology Geography Position (2017-18)
Member, Diversity Committee (2016-2017)
Member, Search Committee for Urban Geography Position (2015-16)
Member, Search Committee for Urban Geography Position (2013-14)
Member, Colloquium Committee (2012-13)
Member, Graduate Committee (2012-13)
Member, Search Committee for Water Resources Position (2011-12)
Member, Scholarship/Award Committee (Fall 2011-Spring 2012)
Member, Undergraduate Committee (Fall 2011-Spring 2012)

Northern Illinois University
Member, Graduate Committee (Fall 2007-Spring 2010)
Member, Scholarship Committee (Fall 2007-Spring 2010)
Member, Search Committees (2006, 2007, 2008)
Member, Executive Committee (2006, 2010-2011)
Alternate, Executive Committee (2008-2009)
Member, Geography Awareness Week and Career Day Committee (2006)
Chair, Geography Awareness Week and Career Day Committee (2009, 2010)
Member, Curriculum Committee (2008)
Chair, Curriculum Committee (2010-2011)

Professional Service

Leadership in Professional Organizations
- Race, Place, Ethnicity Conference, Director (2017-2023), Vice-Chair (2024-present)
- Association of American Geographers

    - Chair, Nominating Committee (elected position) (2022-2023)
    - Specialty Groups: Latin America, Cuba, Population Geography, Political Geography, Ethnic Geography, Feminist Geography
- Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers
    - Chair (2024-2026)
    - Vice Chair (2022-2024)
    - Board Member (2011-present)
    - Chair, Award/Honors Committee (2016-2017, 2022-24), Finance Committee (2019-2020), Publication Committee (2020-2021), Chair, Membership Committee (2021-2022)

Participation in Geography Standardized Test Exam Development and Scoring

- College Board Advanced Placement Human Geography Exam, *Cincinnati, OH*
    - Scorer (2010-2014, 2016-2018, 2022)
    - Table leader (2019, 2021)
- College Board's College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) Social Sciences and History Test Development Committee
    - Advisory Board **(**2023-present)

Referee Activity

National Science Foundation Reviews

- Career Grant
- Geography and Spatial Sciences Program Proposals (3)
- National Science Foundation Review Panel for Build and Broaden 2.0 (2021)

University of Central Oklahoma Faculty Grant
British Academy Small Grant

Journals: Manuscript Reviews

- Canadian Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Contexto Internacional, Economic Geography, Environment and Planning C: Politics and Space, Ethnic and Racial Studies, Geographic Review, Global Public Health, Health and Human Rights, Humanities and Social Sciences Communications, International Journal of Cuban Studies, Journal of International Migration and Integration, Journal of Latin American Geography, Latin American & Caribbean Ethnic Studies, Latin American Politics and Society, Latin American Research Review, Latino Studies, Law & Policy, New West Indian Guide, Papers in Applied Geography, Political Geography, Professional Geographer, Population Research and Policy Review, Population, Space & Place, Public Health Ethics, Revista de Estudios Norteamericanos, Southeastern Geographer, Sociological Perspectives, Southwestern Geographer, The Geography Teacher, Urban Affairs Review, Urban Studies

Award Committees

- SWAAG – Graduate Student Paper Competition (2025)
- REP – Student Paper Competition (2020)

- CLAG – Chair of Award/Honors Committee (2016-2017, 2022-24)
- SWAAG – Student Paper Competition (2015)
- AAG- Selection Committee for the Graduate Student Affinity Group Student Paper Competition
- AAG - Selection Committee for the LASG student field travel award
- AAG - Selection Committee for the LASG student paper award
- Robert C. Marcelin Award, NIU Center for Latino and Latin American Studies
- DREAM Act Undergraduate Scholarship, NIU