

# Diana Leon-Boys

University of South Florida • Department of Communication  
4202 E. Fowler Ave. Tampa, FL. 33620-7800  
dleonboys@usf.edu • www.dleonboys.com

---

## EDUCATION

2020  
(2015-2020) **Ph.D., Communications & Media**  
Institute of Communications Research, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Certificate: Latina/o Studies Graduate Minor

2013  
(2011-2013) **M.A., Communication**  
University of New Mexico

2010  
(2006-2010) **B.A., Communication Studies**  
Southwestern University

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2020-Present Assistant Professor, Department of Communication, University of South Florida, Tampa

Affiliate Assistant Professor, Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of South Florida, Tampa

Affiliate Assistant Professor, Institute for the Study of Latin America and the Caribbean, University of South Florida, Tampa

## LANGUAGES

English and Spanish (Native Fluency)

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

- Communication Studies
- Media and Cinema Studies
- Latina/o Communication Studies
- Latina/o Studies
- Girlhood Studies
- Gender and Sexuality Studies
- Feminist Media Studies
- Global Media
- TV and New Media
- Digital Media
- Industry Studies
- Disney Studies
- Cultural Studies
- Popular Culture

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

Leon-Boys, D. (2023) *Princesa of the Periphery: Disney's Flexible Latina Girl*. Rutgers University Press.

\*2023 Bonnie Ritter Award for Outstanding Feminist Book, National Communication Association

\*2024 Book of the Year Award, Latina/Latino Communication Studies Division and La Raza Caucus, National Communication Association

\*2024 Book of the Year Award, Critical and Cultural Communication Studies Division (CCSD), National Communication Association

### Reviews:

Henson, B. (2023). [Review of book *Elena, Princesa of the Periphery: Disney's Flexible Latina Girl*] by Diana Leon-Boys. *Feminist Pedagogy*. 3(5), Article 8.

### Edited Books

Báez, J., **Leon-Boys, D.**, and Valdivia, A.N. (Eds.). (Fall 2025) *Quinceañeras: Latinidades & Girlhood in Popular Culture*. University of Illinois Press.

### Journal Articles (Peer Reviewed)

Galarza, L. & **Leon-Boys, D.** (2023). Young Jane as citizen-in-transition: Analyzing Girlhood and Citizenship in *Jane the Virgin*. *Communication and Race*. 1(1), 1-19.

Leon-Boys, D. & Bucciferro, C. (2023). The Teenage Latina Genius on Television: Netflix's *Ashley Garcia*. *Women's Studies in Communication*, 46(1), 87-107.

Leon-Boys, D. (2021). Disney's Specific and Ambiguous Princess: A Discursive Analysis of *Elena of Avalor*. *Girlhood Studies*, 14(2), 29-45.

Leon-Boys, D. (2021). No Spanish in Cinderella's Kingdom: A Situated Ethnography of Disney World's Engagement with *Elena of Avalor*. *Departures in Critical Qualitative Research* 10(2), 50-58.

Leon-Boys, D. & Chávez, C. (2021). Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge as Postcolonial Fantasy: Disney, Labor, and the Renegotiation of Border Discourses. *International Journal of Communication*. 15(0). 2378-2396.

Leon-Boys, D. & Valdivia, A.N. (2021). The Location of US Latinidad: *Stuck in the Middle*, Disney and the in-between Ethnicity. *Journal of Children and Media*, 15(2). 218-232.

Book Chapters

- Leon-Boys, D. (Forthcoming). The Quinceañera for All Ages: A New Mediated Quinceañera and the Limits of Mainstream Representation. In Báez, J., Leon-Boys, D., and Valdivia, A.N. (Eds.). *Quinceañeras: Latinidades & Girlhood in Popular Culture*. Edited collection under contract with the University of Illinois Press.
- Leon-Boys, D. (2024). Looking Forward: The Future of Girls' Studies. In S. Mazzarella (Ed.) *Routledge Companion to Girls' Studies (RCGS)* (pp. 104- 114). U.K.: Routledge.
- Leon-Boys, D. Rivera, M., & Valdivia, A.N. (2022) Media and Minority Children. In D. Lemish (Ed.) *Routledge International Handbook of Children, Adolescents, and Media* (pp. 355-362). U.K.: Routledge.
- Leon-Boys, D. (2019). A Latina Captain: Decentering Latinidad through Audience Constructions in *Dexter*. In Hernandez, L., Bowen, D., De Los Santos- Upton, S, & Martinez, A. (Eds.). *Latina/o/x Communication Studies: Theories, Methods, and Practice* (pp. 137-159). Maryland: Lexington Books.
- Leon-Boys, D., & Kristensen, M. (2018). Race, Cyborgs, and the Pitfalls of Biopolitical Discourse in *Black Mirror's* "Men Against Fire." In A. Cirucci & B. Vackery (Eds.) *Black Mirror and Critical Media Theory* (pp. 3-14). Maryland: Lexington Books.
- Johnson, J. R., Gonzalez, M., Ray, C., Hager, J., **Leon, D.**, Spalding, S., & Brigham, T. (2011). Daring Pedagogy: Dialoguing about Intersectionality and Social Justice. In S.M. Pliner & C.A. Banks (Eds.) *Teaching, Learning, and Intersecting Identities in Higher Education* (pp. 179-200). New York, NY: Peter Lang Publishers.

Book Reviews

- Leon-Boys, D. (2021). Book Review of *Quinceañera Style: Social Belonging and Latinx Consumer Identities*, by Rachel V. González, *Women's Studies in Communication (WSIC)*, 44(3).
- Leon-Boys, D. (2020). America's Favorite Doll?: Conflicting Discourses of Commodity Activism. Book Review of *Playing With America's Doll: A Cultural Analysis of the American Girl Collection*, by Emilie Zaslow. *Girlhood Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 13(1). 138-142.
- Leon-Boys, D. (2019). Book Review of *In Search of Belonging: Latinas, Media, and Citizenship*, by Jillian M. Báez. *Feministas Unidas, INC.*, 39(2).

Works in Progress

- Leon-Boys, D. *More Than a Telenovela: TelevisaUnivision and Spanish-language Through the Global Media Landscape*. Book Manuscript in early stages of preparation.
- Leon-Boys, D. Rethinking Production Studies in the New Millennium: Communication, Race, and Audiences. Manuscript being prepared for *Communication, Culture & Critique*.

Regutti, K. & Leon-Boys, D. “Woke Disney” Walking on a Tight Rope: A Cultural Studies Analysis of Disney’s Corporate Communication. Manuscript being prepared for *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies*.

Henson, B. & Leon-Boys, D. Spectacle Ethnography. Manuscript being prepared for *Journal of Communication*.

Leon-Boys, D., Maldonado, J.A., and Márquez, A. *Democratic Violence in Latin America: Contradictions and Parallels to U.S. Democracy*. Edited Collection in early stages of preparation.

### Public Scholarship

Chávez, C. & Leon-Boys, D. (2022). Star Wars and the Ongoing Problem of Race. The Latinx Project NYU. *Intervenxions*. <https://www.latinxproject.nyu.edu/intervenxions/star-wars-and-the-ongoing-problem-of-race>

### Podcasts

Leon-Boys, D. (2024). “Elena, Princesa of the Periphery: Disney’s Flexible Latina Girl. A Conversation with Diana Leon-Boys.” New Books Network.

Leon-Boys, D. (2024). “Diana Leon-Boys on *Elena of Avalor*, Disney, Transformational Flexibility, Spanish, and Theme Parks.” Cultural Studies Podcast by Toby Miller.

Leon-Boys, D. (2021). Episode #30 “Diana Leon-Boys and managing academic transitions during COVID.” El Café Latinx Podcast, Northwestern University Latinx Digital Media.

Leon-Boys, D. (2021). Episode #42 “Dr. Diana is back again!” *The Forefront Podcast*.

Leon-Boys, D. (2020). Episode #30 “Dr. Diana Leon-Boys.” *The Forefront Podcast*.

## **TEACHING, RESEARCH, AND ACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### University of South Florida

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 2024      | Analyzing Culture & Media (COM 3051), Assistant Professor, Fall 2024, Department of Communication, Tampa, FL  |
| 2023-2024 | Disney and the Politics of Popular Culture (COM 4054), Original course development approved for inclusion in Department of Communication curriculum, Spring 2023, Spring 2024, Department of Communication, Tampa, FL |
| 2022-2025 | Latinxs and Popular Culture (COM 7933), PhD Seminar, Assistant Professor, Spring 2022, Spring 2024, Spring 2025, Department of Communication, Tampa, FL   |

- 2021-2023 Latina/o/x Media Studies (COM 4931), Assistant Professor, Spring 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2023, Department of Communication, Tampa, FL
- 2021-2022 Girls' Media and Cultural Studies (COM 4931), Assistant Professor, Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Department of Communication, Tampa, FL
- 2020-2021 Disney and the Politics of Popular Culture (COM 4931), Assistant Professor, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Department of Communication, Tampa, FL

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- 2020 Introduction to Latina/Latino Studies (LLS 100) Instructor of Record, Summer 2020, Department of Latina/Latino Studies, Urbana-Champaign, IL
- 2019 Race, Gender, and Power (GWS 201) Instructor of Record, Fall 2019, Department of Gender and Women's Studies, Urbana-Champaign, IL
- Introduction to Latina/Latino Studies (LLS 100) Instructor of Record, Summer 2019, Department of Latina of Latina/Latino Studies, Urbana-Champaign, IL
- Introduction to Media Studies (MACS 101) Instructor of Record, Spring 2019, Media and Cinema Studies, Urbana-Champaign, IL
- 2016-2019 Research Assistant, Prof. Angharad N. Valdivia  
Project: *The Gender of Latinidad* book, Urbana-Champaign, IL
- 2018 Race, Gender, and the Body (LLS 387) Instructor of Record, Fall 2018, Department of Latina/Latino Studies, Urbana-Champaign, IL
- 2016- 2018 Graduate Mentor, Office of Minority Student Affairs, Urbana-Champaign, IL
- 2015- 2017 Graduate Academic Coach, Irwin Academics Center, Urbana-Champaign, IL

Gonzaga University

- 2018-2020 International and Intercultural Communication Online Course (COML 598) Instructor of Record, Master's in Communication and Leadership Studies, Spokane, WA

University of New Mexico

- 2013 Nonverbal Communication (C&J 323) Instructor of Record, Spring 2013, Department of Communication and Journalism, Albuquerque, NM
- 2012-2013 Public Speaking (C&J 130) Instructor of Record: Invitational Rhetoric, Department of Communication and Journalism, Albuquerque, NM

2011-2012 Public Speaking (C&J 130) Instructor of Record: Aristotelian Approach,  
Department of Communication and Journalism, Albuquerque, NM

### **GRADUATE STUDENT COMMITTEES**

Camille Ruiz Mangual, Master's Student, Department of Communication, University of South Florida, "Analyzing Latina/x Identity in *One Day at a Time*." Thesis Defended Spring 2021.

Spencer Margulies, Master's Student, Department of Communication, University of South Florida, "Identity Formation Within Liminal Spaces." Thesis Defended Spring 2021.

Deana Marshall, Master's Student, Department of Communication, University of South Florida, "Latinx High School Students and Smart Phone Use." Comprehensive Exams Defended Fall 2022.

Zane Willard, Master's Student, Department of Communication, University of South Florida, "Queen of the Mother-Tucking (Western) World": Authenticity and Nationality on Drag Race." Thesis Defended Spring 2023.

Camille Ruiz Mangual, Doctoral Student, Advisee, Department of Communication, University of South Florida, Topic: Latinx Citizenship Negotiations through Audience Studies and Textual Analysis. Dissertation Proposal Defended Summer 2024.

Kailin Regutti, Doctoral Student, Department of Communication, University of South Florida, Topic: Disney and Mental Health Discourses. Dissertation Proposal Defended Spring 2024.

Sandra Roa, Doctoral Student, Department of Communication, University of South Florida, Topic: Personal Narrative of First Generation Latinx Immigrants through Ethnography and Art-based Research. Dissertation Proposal Defended Fall 2024.

Noemi Nuñez, Doctoral Student, Texts and Technology Department, University of Central Florida, Topic: Exploring Latina Perspectives on Identity and Representation in Disney's Encanto. Dissertation Proposal Defended Fall 2024.

Zane Willard, Doctoral Student, Department of Communication, University of South Florida, Topic: Analyzing Homonationalism in popular culture texts within a context of surveillance.

Aya Diab, Doctoral Student, Department of Communication, University of South Florida, Topic: Political communication and media in Middle Eastern contexts.

### **GRANTS, AWARDS, HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS**

2024 2024 Book of the Year Award, Critical and Cultural Communication Studies Division (CCSD), National Communication Association, *Elena, Princesa of the Periphery: Disney's Flexible Latina Girl*

2024 Book of the Year Award, Latina/Latino Communication Studies Division and La Raza Caucus, National Communication Association, *Elena, Princesa of the Periphery: Disney's Flexible Latina Girl*

- Humanities Institute Faculty Fellowship (2024-2025). Co-PI. Project Title:  
*Democratic Violence in Latin America*
- 2023 Bonnie Ritter Award for Outstanding Feminist Book, National Communication Association, *Elena, Princesa of the Periphery: Disney's Flexible Latina Girl*
- Top Paper Award, National Communication Association, Latina/o Communication Studies Division, "Jane the Girl-Citizen-in-Transition: Girlhood and Familial Citizenship in *Jane the Virgin*"
- 2022 2021/2022 Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award, University of South Florida
- 2021 Humanities Institute Faculty Fellowship (2021-2022). Co-PI. Project Title:  
*Humanities Interventions in Contemporary Violence*. Not funded
- Humanities Institute Summer Grant, Funding for the book project: *Elena, Princesa of the Periphery: Disney's Flexible Latina Girl*, University of South Florida (\$5,000)
- 2020 Outstanding Dissertation Award, Critical Cultural Studies Division, National Communication Association
- Latinx Congratulatory Graduate Student Leadership Award, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- 2019-2020 Teacher Ranked as Excellent by their Students for Fall 2019, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- University of Illinois Institute of Communications Research Block Grant Fellowship (highly competitive one-year full fellowship awarded to outstanding doctoral students, approx. \$20,000) University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL
- 2019 Teacher Ranked as Excellent by their Students for Summer 2019, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL
- Teacher Ranked as Excellent by their Students for Spring 2019, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL
- 2018 Teacher Ranked as Excellent by their Students (**with outstanding instructor ratings**) for Fall 2018, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL
- ICR Fall 2018 Conference Travel Award, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL (\$400)
- ICR Student Summer Research Award, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL (\$1,000)
- 2015-2018 University of Illinois Distinguished Fellowship (highly competitive three-year full fellowship, \$25,000/year), University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL

- 2017 Lynne Blanton Student Travel Fund Award, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL (\$500)
- 2016 ICR Spring 2016 Conference Travel Award, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL (\$450)
- 2013 Outstanding Master's Student Award, Department of Communication and Journalism, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
- 2006-2008 Sarofim Scholarship in Theatre, Southwestern University, Georgetown, TX

### PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 *The Plasticity of a Cultural Celebration: The Quinceañera for all Ages and the Limits of Mainstream Representation.* National Communication Association. National Harbor. November
- Jane the Girl-Citizen-in-Transition: Girlhood and Familial Citizenship in Jane the Virgin.* Top Paper Panel for the Latino/Latina Communication Studies Division. National Communication Association. National Harbor. November
- Latinidad Without a Home: Future Directions for an Ethnographic Analysis of Magic Kingdom's Inclusion of Latinidad.* Southern States Communication Association. St. Petersburg. April
- 2022 "Woke Disney" *Walking on a Tight Rope: A Cultural Studies Analysis of Disney's Corporate Communication.* National Communication Association. New Orleans. November
- Interrogating the Place of Latina Girls in the Media.* National Communication Association. New Orleans. November
- Young Jane as Citizen-in-Transition: Analyzing Girlhood and Citizenship in Jane the Virgin.* Console-ing Passions. Orlando. June
- 2021 *A Party for All: Analyzing the New Mediated Quinceañera, Gendered Nostalgia, and the (In)Visibility of Latinidad.* Cultural Studies Association. Chicago/virtual. June
- 2020 *Crossroads, Opportunities, and Challenges in Latinx Media.* National Communication Association. Indianapolis/virtual. November
- Disney's Galaxy's Edge: Race, Capital, and the Renegotiation of the Western Frontier Narrative.* Top Paper Panel for the Latino/Latina Communication Studies Division. National Communication Association. Indianapolis/virtual. November
- Teaching Communication Through Accessible Media, Reflection, and Dialogue.* National Communication Association. Indianapolis/virtual. November
- Brilliant Latinas Go to Mars: Latina Girl Visibility Through Post-Feminist Ambiguity.* National Communication Association. Indianapolis/virtual. November



- 2019 *Popular Culture and Communication for Survival in Latinx Contexts*. National Communication Association. Baltimore, MD. November
- Disney's Contemporary Latinx Animation: Latin America or U.S. Latinidad?* National Communication Association. Baltimore, MD. November
- Disney Girls: Disney Channel's U.S. Latina and Disney Junior's Latinoamericana*. 2019 Ethnicity, Race, and Indigenous Peoples Conference. Spokane, WA. September
- Elena of Avalor: Girl Power or Domesticity?* Kentucky Gender and Women's Studies 2019 Conference. Lexington, KY. September
- Disney's Digital Toy Marketing Addresses Latinxs*. International Communication Association. Washington, D.C. May
- From Flexible Latin American-ness to Specific Mexicanidad: Disney's Use of Strategic Ambiguity*. International Girls Studies Association. Notre Dame, IN. February
- 2018 *A Latina Princess Ready to Rule: The (Ethnic) Production of Elena of Avalor*. National Communication Association. Salt Lake City, UT. November
- Mamá PhD: Panel discussion*. National Communication Association. Salt Lake City, UT. November
- María Jesús Alvarado Rivera, Intersectional Feminism, and Trump's Abortion Ban For Girls in Immigration Custody*. National Communication Association. Salt Lake City, UT. November
- Vamos a Jugar: Mentorship and Social Bonding for the Latina/o/x Studies Division and La Raza Caucus: Panel discussion*. National Communication Association. Salt Lake City, UT. November
- Latinx Representation in Hollywood: Disney, Latinidad, and Representation*. Flow Conference at the University of Texas. Austin, TX. September
- Popular Culture Resistance through Language: Jane the Virgin Complicates Latinidad*. Union for Democratic Communication. Chicago, IL. May
- 2017 *Elena of Avalor: A Latina Princess & the Celebrity Praise for Disney's Diversification*. The National Women's Studies Association. Baltimore, MD. November
- "You Knew All of This. All Along": Race and Biopower in Black Mirror*. Midwest Popular Culture Association. St. Louis, MO. October
- Disney Invests in Youth of Color: Elena of Avalor in the Digital Age*. Interdisciplinary Encounters: Exploring Knowledge-Making Across Boundaries: UIUC Graduate Science and Technology Studies Workshop. Urbana-Champaign, IL. March
- 2016 *The Spanglish of the Narco State: Language Resistance in a Neoliberal Post-Racial Era*. International Association of Inter-American Studies. Santa Barbara, CA. October

*Mistaken Motherhood: Language as Identity Marker.* Latina/o Studies Association. Pasadena, CA. July

2011 *Positive Latina Portrayals?: Complexities in LaGuerta's Portrayal on Showtime's Dexter.* Eighth International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry. Urbana-Champaign, IL. May

2010 *Latina Bodies: Hollywood Fairytale? Latinidad and Hybridity in Lingerie and Swimwear Ads.* National Communication Association. San Francisco, CA. November

*Broken Bridges: Activism and the Academy: Panel discussion.* National Communication Association. San Francisco, CA. November

### INVITED LECTURES, TALKS, SEMINARS, AND INSTITUTES

2024 *Critical Perspectives: Digital Ethnographies and Theme Parks.* Invited Lecture to Theories and Histories of Communication graduate seminar (COM 6001). University of South Florida. November

A Conversation with Diana Leon-Boys: Disney, Childhood, Latinidad, and the Princessa of the Periphery. Invited Lecture to Communication and Identity graduate seminar. University of South Florida. April

*Latinidad on the Periphery: The Location of the Eternal Foreigners Through a Popular Culture Analysis.* Keynote Speaker for the Borderlands Symposium. Southwestern University. March

2023 *Re-vamping Industry Studies, Centering Audiences, and Analyzing Backlashes.* Invited Lecture to Latina/o/x Media and Cultural Studies graduate seminar. University of Pittsburgh. April

*Latinxs in the Media Through the Circuit: Production, Texts, and Audiences.* Invited Lecture to Media, Diversity, and Society. University of Tennessee. February

*Latinxs on the Periphery: Disney, Girlhood, and Ethnicity.* Invited Lecture to Latinxs on the Bronze Screen. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. February

*The Future of Girls' Studies: The Importance of Centering LGBTQIA+ Girls.* Invited Conversation to GirlForward, Chicago. February

2022 *Disney Industry Studies.* Invited Lecture to Media and Consumer Culture. University of Pittsburgh. October

*Themes Parks, Television, and Political Economy.* Invited Lecture to Latina/os on the Bronze Screen. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. April

2021 *Flexible Latinidad at Disney Theme Parks: A Bi-coastal Situated Ethnography of Elena of Avalor.* Invited Seminar to The Center for Latinx Digital Media, Northwestern University. June

- A Party for All: Analyzing the New Mediated Quinceañera, Gendered Nostalgia, and the (In)Visibility of Latinidad.* Invited Lecture to Women's and Gender Studies Brown Bag. University of South Florida. April
- Stuck in the Middle of Mainstream Media Discourses in Global Media.* Invited Lecture to Media and Culture Theory. West Chester University of Pennsylvania. April
- 2020 *Latinidad in the Digital Age: Disney's Engagements with a Flexible Latinidad.* Invited Lecture to The University of Iowa's School of Journalism and Mass Communication's Visiting Scholars Program. October
- "We Are Not Invisible": Recognizing Latinx/ Latin Americans' Accomplishments and Challenges in Higher Education.* Invited Speaker to the Institute for the Study of Latin American and the Caribbean (ISLAC)'s Hispanic Heritage Month Conversation. University of South Florida. October
- Rethinking 20<sup>th</sup> Century Media Ethnography.* Invited Lecture to Institute of Communications Research Proseminar II. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. April
- Critical Discursive Analysis on Digital Platforms.* Invited Lecture to Introduction to Media Studies. University of Illinois at Urbana, Champaign. February
- Navigating Intersectionality as a Scholar-Teacher.* Invited Lecture to Feminist Theory. California State University, San Marcos. February
- 2019 *Digital Audiences, Political Economy, and Media Studies.* Invited Lecture to Introduction to Media Studies. University of Illinois, Urbana, Champaign. November
- Girls on T.V.: The Intersections of Race, Age, and Gender in Children's Television.* Invited Lecture to the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign's Girl Up Chapter. October
- Disney Tames Girl Power and Hybridity through Elena of Avalor.* Dish it Up Lunch On Us Series, Women's Resource Center. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. September
- Combining Discursive, Digital, and Ethnographic Techniques in Qualitative Research: My Circuit of Culture Approach.* Invited Lecture to the Department of Education for Visualizing the Global Context. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. September
- What is Diversity?* **Keynote Speaker** for the Diversity and Inclusion Networking Exchange. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. April
- "La Primera Princesa Mexicana:" Disney's Use of Mexicanidad at California's Magic Kingdom Park.* Panelist for the Latina/Latino Studies Department Graduate Student Symposium. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. February
- Postfeminism and Disney.* Invited Lecture to Sex and Gender in Popular Media. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. February

2018 *Theme Parks as Sites of Audience Research*. Invited Lecture to Introduction to Media Studies. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. October

*Coco and Día de los Muertos through the Eyes of Disney*. Invited Lecture to Disney's Global Media. University of Illinois at Urbana, Champaign. September

*Disney and Social Media*. Invited Lecture to Contemporary Rhetoric. University of Texas at El Paso. March

*Global Disney/Global Media*. Invited Lecture to Interpersonal Communication. University of Texas at El Paso. March

*Exploring Graduate School*. Panelist for Careers in Economics. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. February

2017 *Disney's Latina Pre-Tween Audience: A Critical Discursive Analysis of Disney's First Latina Princess*. Dish it Up Lunch On Us Series, Women's Resource Center. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. December

2016 *Complicating Latina Portrayals: (Un)Veiling Invisible Racism in Dexter*. USC Annenberg's Summer Doctoral Institute for Diversity in Media and Culture. Los Angeles, CA. June

*Latinidad, Gender, and Popular Culture*. Community of Scholars Research Symposium Presenter. University of Illinois at Urbana- Champaign. October

2015 *Success in LAS for International Students*. Presenter for Transfer Advantage, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. September

## SERVICE

### Professional Service, Journal and Conference Manuscript Reviews (ad hoc):

2024 *Latina/o Communication Studies Division and La Raza Caucus of the National Communication Association*, Vice-Chair Elect

*Women's Studies in Communication*, Manuscript Reviewer

*International Journal of Communication*, Manuscript Reviewer

Associate Editor, Commentary and Criticism, *Feminist Media Studies*

Editorial Board Member, *International Journal of Disney Studies*

2022 *Kids in Cages: The History, Politics, and Lived Experiences of Child Migrant Detention* (NYU Press), Chapter Reviewer

*Critical Studies in Media Communication*, Manuscript Reviewer

- 2021 Outstanding Dissertation Award Committee Member, Critical Cultural Studies Division, National Communication Association
- 2020 Outstanding Book Award Committee Member, Critical Cultural Studies Division, National Communication Association  
*International Journal of Communication*, Manuscript Reviewer
- 2020 *Journal of Children and Media*, Manuscript Reviewer
- 2020 *Comunicación y Medios*, Manuscript Reviewer
- 2019-Present *International Girlhood Studies Association*, Postgraduate Research Representative
- 2019-2021 *Latina/o Communication Studies Division and La Raza Caucus of the National Communication Association*, Secretary
- 2018-Present *Latina/o Communication Studies Division and La Raza Caucus of the National Communication Association*, Submission Reviewer, Panel Proposals
- 2017-2020 *Feminist Media Studies*, Manuscript Reviewer
- 2018-Present *Latina/o Communication Studies Division and La Raza Caucus of the National Communication Association*, Member
- 2018-2021 *Latina/o Communication Studies Division and La Raza Caucus of the National Communication Association*, Chair, Conference Panels
- 2017-2018 *Women's Studies Quarterly*, Manuscript Reviewer

University of South Florida

- 2024 Holistic Mentor/Mentee Program Faculty Mentor, College of Arts and Sciences  
Undergraduate Committee, Department of Communication  
Committee Member, Assistant Professor Search, Health Communication Campaigns and Disparities with Computational Methods, Department of Communication
- 2020-Present Critical Thinking Assessment Report Committee for annual assessment of Department student learning outcomes, Department of Communication
- 2022-Present Executive Committee, Department of Communication, Faculty Representative  
Faculty Advisory Board, Institute for the Study of Latin America and the Caribbean (ISLAC)

2022-2023 Graduate Committee Faculty Representative

2020- 2021 Faculty Senate Member

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2019-2020 Graduate Student Representative for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Strategic Planning Committee (Promoting Diversity and Inclusion Task Force),  
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL

2017-2020 Graduate Student Representative for College of Media's Diversity Committee,  
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL

2017 Community of Scholars Table Talk Facilitator, University of Illinois,  
Urbana-Champaign, IL

2016 Community of Scholars Tour Guide, University of Illinois,  
Urbana-Champaign, IL

2015 Community of Scholars Research Presenter, University of Illinois,  
Urbana-Champaign, IL

University of New Mexico

2012 Graduate Student Search Committee Member for Lecturer II position in  
Multimedia Journalism, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque

2012 Graduate Student Representative for Graduate Admissions Committee,  
University of New Mexico, Albuquerque

2011 Graduate Student Representative for the Department of Communication and  
Journalism at the Graduate Professional Student Association, University of New  
Mexico, Albuquerque

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- National Communication Association
- International Communication Association
- Southern States Communication Association
- Latina/o Studies Association
- National Women's Studies Association
- NWSA Girls and Girls Studies Caucus
- International Girls Studies Association
- International Journal of Disney Studies

**MEDIA**

Interviewed and quoted by Cristina Escobar for Refinery29's "Latine Teen Shows Keep Getting Canceled & It's Hurting Young People" May 11, 2023.

Interviewed and quoted by Cristina Escobar for POPSUGAR's "Why it Matters that Latina Goths are Getting their Moment in 'Wednesday'" November 23, 2022.

Interviewed by Gisselle Lopez for a segment on Telemundo Tampa (49) on Women's History Month in the Latinx Community. February 23, 2022.

Interviewed and quoted by Jennifer G. Sullivan for *Allure*'s "Are All These Diverse Dolls Actually Making a Difference in Kids' Self-Esteem?" December 31, 2021.

Interviewed for segment on Arizona PBS's Break it Down, "Latinx Disney Princesses" October 18, 2021.

**OTHER RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2013-2015 Academic Program Specialist, A Legacy of Giving, Austin, TX

2010-2011 Teaching Artist, Creative Action, Austin, TX

2009-2010 Sportscaster/News Intern, Univision Communications, Austin, TX

2007-2010 Promotions Assistant/ Community Affairs Assistant, Univision Communications, Austin, TX