

**Megan Thornton Velázquez**  
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Department of Classical & Modern Languages & Cultures  
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### **Teaching and Research Interests**

Contemporary Latin American Literature and Culture; Mexico and Central America; Cultural Representations of Migration; Women Writers; Popular Culture

### **Education**

- 2010            PhD in Spanish with a Minor in Portuguese, University of Kansas  
Dissertation: "The Power of the Voice: Listening to Mexican and Central American Immigrant Experiences (1997-2010)"
- 2000            MA in Latin American Studies, University of New Mexico  
Concentrations in Latin American Literature and Latin American History
- 1998            BA in Spanish and Latin American Studies, University of Kansas
- 1996-1997     Junior Year Abroad at Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City, Mexico

### **Academic Employment and Professional Experience**

- 2017-present   Associate Professor of Spanish, Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Cultures, John Carroll University.
- 2010-2017     Assistant Professor of Spanish, Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Cultures, John Carroll University.
- 2004-2010     Various Positions, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, University of Kansas.  
Positions Held at KU:  
Lecturer/Program Associate, Spring 2010  
Coordinator for intermediate-level Spanish classes, Fall 2009 and AY 2005-2006  
Graduate Teaching Assistant, 2004-2009 (taught 2 courses each semester)  
Program Assistant, Summer Language Institute, Barcelona, Spain, Summer 2005
- 2000-2002     Foreign Language Fellow, U.S. State Department, U.S. Consulate in Hermosillo, Mexico.
- 1998-2000     Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, University of New Mexico.
- 1999            Intern, U.S. State Department, U.S. Embassy in Mexico City, Mexico (Summer).

1998 Intern, Institute of International Education in Mexico City, Mexico (Summer).

### **Courses Taught**

#### **John Carroll University**

- Beginning Spanish I (SP 101): Fall 2010, Fall 2011, Fall 2012
- Beginning Spanish II (SP 102): Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2015, Fall 2016
- Intermediate Spanish I (SP 201): Spring 2016, Fall 2017
- Spanish in Review (SP 299): Fall 2018, Spring 2019
- Conversation in Spanish (SP 301): Fall 2010, Fall 2013, Spring 2017
- Writing in Spanish (SP 302): Spring 2012, Spring 2014
- Spanish for Business (SP 306): Spring 2011, Spring 2016
- Popular Cultures of Spanish-Speaking Countries (SP 307): Fall 2012
- Perspectives on Nations and Cultures of Latin America (SP 314): Spring 2013, Spring 2017, Fall 2018
- Selected Readings from Latin American Literature (SP 327): Fall 2015
- Hispanic Immigrants in Film, Literature, and Music (SP 330): Spring 2012
- Advanced Spanish Conversation (SP 331): Fall 2016
- Independent Study (SP 398) Hispanic Immigrant Experiences (Alejandro Velez): Spring 2012
- Senior Capstone (SP 410): Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Spring 2019
- Contemporary Mexican Literature and Culture (SP 336): Spring 2014, Spring 2019
- Contemporary Mexican Literature (SP 499): Fall 2011

#### **University of Kansas**

- Elementary Spanish II (SPAN 108): Fall 2004, Spring 2005
- Intermediate Spanish I (SPAN 212): Fall 2006, Spring 2010
- Intermediate Spanish I-Honors (SPAN 213): Spring 2010
- Intermediate Spanish II (SPAN 216): Fall 2005, Spring 2006, Summer 2006, Spring 2007, Summer 2007
- Intermediate Spanish II-Honors (SPAN 217): Spring 2007, Spring 2009, Fall 2009
- Intensive Intermediate Spanish (SPAN 220): Summer 2005 in Barcelona
- Spanish Grammar & Composition (SPAN 324): Fall 2007, Spring 2008, Fall 2008
- Intermediate Conversation I (SPAN 328): Fall 2007, Spring 2008, Fall 2008
- Advanced Composition & Grammar (SPAN 424): Spring 2010
- Latin American Literature (SPAN 463): Spring 2009 (Assistant to Dr. Danny Anderson)

### **Fellowships and Awards**

2018	Summer Research Fellowship, John Carroll University
2015	Grauel Faculty Fellowship, John Carroll University (Spring semester)
2013	Summer Technology Fellowship, John Carroll University
2012	Summer Research Fellowship, John Carroll University

2011	Summer Course Development Fellowship-Diversity, John Carroll University
2011	Kahl Endowment Grant, John Carroll University
2011	Faculty Instructional Grant, John Carroll University
2009	MLA Travel Grant to attend Annual Convention in Philadelphia
2009	LASA Travel Grant to attend Annual Conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
2008	Tinker Research Grant, University of Kansas
2008	Graduate Studies Summer Research Fellowship, University of Kansas
2008	Hall Center Summer Research Grant, University of Kansas
2003-2004	Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS) to study Portuguese, University of Arizona
1997	National Security Education Program Scholarship to study in Mexico

## **Publications**

### **Refereed Journal Articles**

- “Epigraphs, Intertextuality, and Exile: Reading the Poetry of Zoé Valdés.” *Letras Femeninas* 39.2 (2013): 151-65.
- “Negotiating Nicaraguan Identity in Costa Rica: The Performance of Affect in *Desde el barro al sur*.” *Hispanic Journal* 37.1 (2016): 11-27.
- “A Postwar Perversion of Testimonio in Horacio Castellanos Moya’s *El asco*.” *Hispania* 97.2 (2014): 207-19.
- “Reimagining Nicaragua’s *Volcanto* Tradition through the Music of Perrozompopo.” *Studies in Latin American Popular Culture* 35 (2017): 116-37.

### **Book Reviews**

- Rev. of *Poéticas de los (dis)locamientos*, ed. Gisela Heffes. *Hispania* 96.4 (2013): 787-88.

### **Work in Progress**

- “La mulatez y la orfandad en *Maldito amor* de Rosario Ferré.”
- “*Nosotros los Nobles*: Reimagining Mexico in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.”

## **Conference Presentations and Invited Lectures**

- “*El Zarco* Reimagined in *Nosotros los Nobles*: A Foundational Fiction for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” Mid-America Conference on Hispanic Literatures (MACHL), University of Kansas, November 3-5, 2016.

- “Bridges, Borders and Bandits in Rosario Sanmiguel’s ‘Bajo el puente’.” Invited Lecture for a Research Methods Class in the Department of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, Cleveland State University, October 12, 2016.
- “Reimagining Nicaragua’s *Volcanto* Tradition through the Music of Perrozompopo.” Scholarly Lunch Talk to report on Grauel Project, John Carroll University, December 2, 2015.
- “Reimagining the *Volcanto* Tradition through the Music of Perrozompopo.” Latin American Studies Association 2015 Convention, San Juan, Puerto Rico, May 27-30, 2015.
- “Skyping with Mexico.” Technology Talk on getting students involved in the Virtual Dual Immersion Program sponsored by the AJCU-AUSJAL Consortium, John Carroll University, November 12, 2013.
- “(Im)migrant Experiences and Cultural Citizenship in Ramón “Tianguis” Pérez’s *Diario de un mojado*.” 5th Crossing Over Symposium, Cleveland State University, October 11-13, 2013.
- “Expanding Frontiers in Learning and Academia.” I reported on my use of Service Learning in the Spanish language classroom as part of the JCU panel, chaired by Dr. Margaret Finucane, at the Commitment to Justice in Jesuit Higher Education Conference, Creighton University, August 1-4, 2013.
- “Epigraphs, Intertextuality, and Exile: Reading the Poetry of Zoé Valdés.” Scholarly Lunch Talk to report on my Summer Research Fellowship, John Carroll University, April 11, 2013.
- “Lessons from El Salvador.” I reported on the JCU 2011 Immersion Trip to El Salvador for the PEO Women’s Philanthropic Organization-Cleveland Heights Chapter, April 8, 2013.
- “Representations of the Border Region’s Criminal Underworld in Rosario Sanmiguel’s *Bajo el puente*.” The 128<sup>th</sup> Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Boston, January 3-6, 2013.
- “Child’s Play: The Game of Violence in Nellie Campobello’s *Cartucho*.” Presented as part of the panel I organized, “Narrating 100 Years of Mexican Violence (1910-2010): Revolutions, Narco Wars, and Postmodernity.” Latin American Studies Association 2012 Convention, San Francisco, May 23-26, 2012.
- “Orality as Play in Mario Bencastro’s *Odisea del Norte*.” The 53<sup>rd</sup> Midwest Modern Language Association Annual Convention, St. Louis, November 3-6, 2011.

- “Listening to the Aural Borderlands: Musical Representations of Mexican Immigrant Experiences.” 4<sup>th</sup> Crossing Over Symposium, Cleveland State University, October 7-9, 2011.
- “Breaking the Silence: Literary Resistance in Alicia Gaspar de Alba’s *Desert Blood*.” Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, University of Kentucky, April 14-16, 2011.
- “Luis Alberto Urrea.” Introduced Keynote Speaker, A Spotlight on Immigration Symposium, John Carroll University, October 2, 2010.
- “Revolutionary Movements and Migrations: Literary Representations of Salvadoran Immigrant Experiences.” Latin American Studies Association 2009 Convention, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, June 11-14, 2009.
- “Movements and Migrations: Testimonial Representations of Undocumented Mexican (Im)migrants in the United States.” Symposium on Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics, The Ohio State University, April 24-25, 2009.
- “Performing Affect: Filmic Representations of Nicaraguan Immigrants in Costa Rica.” Latin American Studies *Merienda*, University of Kansas, November 20, 2008.
- “The Representations of Immigrant Experiences in *Los perros de Cook Inlet: A Literary ‘Contact Zone’*.” Colloquium on Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literatures and Romance Linguistics, University of Texas at Austin, March 23-24, 2007.

## **Professional Activities/Service**

### **John Carroll University**

#### **University Service**

2015-present	Gender and Diversity Committee
2017-2018	Advisory Board for the JCU Master of Arts in Humanities
2017	Arrupe Scholars Interview Day (February 4)
2013-2014	Faculty Learning Community in Area Studies
2013	CMLC Representative at Blue Streak Preview Days (Fall semester)
2012	FSA leader for the Guatemala Immersion Trip (January trip)
2011-2014	Gender and Diversity Committee
2011-2014	Latin American and Latino Studies Concentration’s Executive Committee
2011-2013	Campion Award Committee
2011	FSA leader for the El Salvador Immersion Trip (May trip)

#### **Departmental Service**

2016-present	Coordinator for Spanish Section
2017, 2016, 2014	Co-Master of Ceremonies for the National Spanish Honor Society

	JCU Chapter Pi Lambda induction ceremony (Spring semester)
2015-2016	Co-coordinator of Assessment for Spanish Section with Dr. Luengo
2015, 2011	Moderator for CMLC's annual Meet Your Major (Fall semester)
2013-2014	Representative from Spanish on CMLC's Curriculum Subcommittee
2013-2014	Co-wrote with Dr. Luengo the new in-house Spanish Placement Exam for Integrative Core Curriculum (piloted in Fall 2014; implemented in Summer 2015)
2013-2014	Co-coordinator of Spanish conversation hour ( <i>La hora del café</i> ) with Michael Khoury
2013, 2012	Organized Spanish Christmas Celebration for students
2013, 2012, 2010	Co-Organizer of Spanish Film Festival with Dr. Gatto (Fall semester)
2010-2014	Basic Language Coordinator for Spanish Section

### **Honors Project Advised**

Ovidiu Breahna (2015-2016), co-advisor with Michael Khoury

### **University of Kansas**

2010	Graduate Student Liaison for Departmental Search Committee (Spring)
2009	Panel Moderator for Mid-America Conference on Hispanic Literatures

### **Professional Memberships**

- Modern Language Association, 2008-present
- Latin American Studies Association, 2008-present
- American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese, 2012-present
- Asociación Internacional de Literatura y Cultura Femenina Hispánica, 2013-2014