

Norah L. A. Gharala

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EMPLOYMENT

2019- University of Houston Department of History
Assistant Professor of Colonial Mexican History
2016-19 Georgian Court University Department of History and Politics
Assistant Professor of World History
2014-16 Northern Arizona University Department of History
Visiting Assistant Professor in Latin American History

EDUCATION

2014 Johns Hopkins University. Ph.D. in History
2010 Johns Hopkins University. M.A. in History
2007 Wesleyan University. B.A. with High Honors in Latin American Studies

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Taxing Blackness: Free Afromexican Tribute in Bourbon New Spain. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2019.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

“From Mozambique in the Indies of Portugal’: Locating East Africans in New Spain.” *Journal of Global Slavery*, forthcoming.

“This woman’s resistance to her son’s paying tribute’: Afrodescendant Women, Family, and Royal Tribute in New Spain.” *Mexican Studies/Estudios Mexicanos* 38, no. 1 (Feb. 2022): 10–34. <https://doi.org/10.1525/msem.2022.38.1.10>.

“Black Tribute in the Spanish Americas.” In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Latin American History*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2014-. Published online December 22, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780199366439.013.1051>.

“Not Even Blood Mixture Could Make Them Unworthy’: Political Loyalty and Tribute in Bourbon New Spain.” *Journal of Iberian and Latin American Studies* 24, no. 2 (Aug. 2018): 195-204. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14701847.2018.1492326>.

“*Calidad, Genealogy, and Disputed Free-Colored Tributary Status in New Spain.*” *The Americas* 73, no. 2 (Apr. 2016): 139-170. <https://doi.org/10.1017/tam.2016.35>.

Digital and Public Humanities

Gharala, Norah L. A.; De Los Reyes Heredia, Jose Guillermo; Mendoza, Celso Armando; Georgeson, Tara; Urdiales, Jaden. “Slavery in Early Mexico: A Dataset Identifying the Enslaved Persons on the Estates of Hernando Cortés.” Texas Data Repository, V1, April 2022. <https://doi.org/10.18738/T8/IX2GEO>

Contributor to [From the Page](#) and [Unlocking the Colonial Archive](#).

Reviews

Review of *Beyond Babel: Translations of Blackness in Colonial Peru and New Granada* by Larissa Brewer-García for *American Historical Review* (forthcoming).

Review of *From the Galleons to the Highlands: Slave Trade Routes in the Spanish Americas*, edited by Alex Borucki, David Eltis, and David Wheat. *Bulletin for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies* 45, no. 1 (Dec. 2020).

Review of *The Enlightenment on Trial: Ordinary Litigants and Colonialism in the Spanish Empire*, by Bianca Premo. H-Law, H-Net Reviews. Jul. 2018.

Review of “Urban Slavery in Colonial Puebla de los Ángeles, 1536-1708,” by Pablo Sierra. Dissertation Reviews. Oct. 2014.

(Co-author). “Pain Coping in Latino Populations.” *Journal of Pain* 10, no. 10 (Oct. 2009): 1012-1019. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpain.2009.03.004>.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2022	NEH-AHRC Spanish Paleography and Digital Humanities Institute. LLILAS Benson Latin American Studies and Collections at University of Texas at Austin
2020-22	Co-Principal Investigator with Guillermo de los Reyes. Grant to Enhance Research on Racism at University of Houston
2021	Guest Researcher. Max Planck Institute for European Legal History [declined due to COVID]
2021	Affiliated Fellow. International Institute for Asian Studies at Leiden University
2020	National Endowment for the Humanities/John Carter Brown Library Associates Fellow. The John Carter Brown Library at Brown University
2019	Summer Stipend. National Endowment for the Humanities
2019	Franklin Research Grant. American Philosophical Society
2019	James and Sylvia Thayer Short-Term Research Fellowship. UCLA Library Special Collections [declined]
2018	Jacob M. Price Visiting Research Fellowship. William M. Clements Library at the University of Michigan

- 2017 Faculty/Student Summer Research Grant. Georgian Court University
 2014 Dean's Teaching Fellowship. Johns Hopkins University Krieger School of Arts & Sciences
 2010-11 Mellon Dissertation Fellowship in the Humanities in Original Sources. Council on Library and Information Resources
 2008-12 George and Sylvia Kagan Graduate Fellowship. Johns Hopkins University Department of History
 2009 Ferguson Stipend. Johns Hopkins University Center for Africana Studies
 2009 Student Travel Grant. American Society for Ethnohistory

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Panel Organization

- 2022 With Juan José Ponce Vázquez. Conference on Latin American History, Atlantic Studies Section, "Resisting Empire—Opposition to Colonial Expansion," Feb. 21-25.
- 2021 With Erin Stone. Conference on Latin American History, Atlantic Studies Section, "Recent Scholarship Connecting Atlantic and Pacific Histories," Jan. 7-10.
- 2019 With Rafael Castañeda García (National Autonomous University of Mexico). Congreso Iberoamericano de Historia Urbana, "Las ciudades de la América española como escenarios económicos y sociales de los descendientes de africanos, esclavos y libres. Siglos XVII-XIX," Nov. 25-29.
- 2019 Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies, "Latin American Governance in Comparative Perspectives," Mar. 8-9.
- 2019 American Historical Association Annual Meeting, "Black Auto/Biography and History's Biographical Turn," Jan. 3-6.
- 2018 Conference on Latin American History, "Kinship, Ethnicity, and the Law in the Iberian World," Jan. 4-7.
- 2014 Conference on Latin American History, "Black Spaces and Port Cities in Spanish America," Jan. 2-5.
- 2011 American Society for Ethnohistory Annual Meeting, "Race and Family in Colonial Spanish America," Oct. 19-22.

Papers

- 2022 Latin American Studies Association, "'Only Capable of Living as Vagabonds?': The Trope of Afromexican Mobility in the Tribute Regime," May 5-8.

- 2022 AHAOnline, “Free from This Tribute: Taxation, Blackness, and Family in New Spain,” Feb. 21-25.
- 2021 Conference on Latin American History, “Connecting the Lives of East Africans in Iberian Worlds,” Jan. 7-10.
- 2019 Congreso Iberoamericano de Historia Urbana, “Redes urbanas de africanos y asiáticos esclavizados: casos preliminares de la Ciudad de México,” Nov. 25-29.
- 2019 African Studies Association Annual Meeting, “Enslaved *Mozambiques* and their Networks in Seventeenth-Century Mexico City,” Nov. 21-23.
- 2019 Maria Sibylla Merian Centre Conviviality-Inequality in Latin America, “Negociando categorías legales en contextos desiguales. Latinoamérica, S. XVI-XIX,” Jun. 11.
- 2019 Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies, “Taxable Subjects and Family in Early North America,” Mar. 8-9.
- 2019 American Historical Association, “Promised Freedom: A Global Biography in a Seventeenth-Century Lawsuit,” Jan. 3-6.
- 2018 Conference on Latin American History, “Privilege without Purity?: Family Ties Across Time, Region, and Race in the Global Spanish Empire,” Jan. 4-7.
- 2016 American Historical Association, “Orphans and Foundlings in the Data Regime of Late-Colonial New Spain,” Jan. 7-10.
- 2014 Southwest Seminar on Latin America, “Adoption and Gender in the Construction of the Tributary Subject in New Spain,” Oct. 2-4.
- 2014 Conference on Latin American History, “Royal Tribute as a Bureaucratic Black Space in Late-colonial Mexico,” Jan. 2-5.
- 2013 VII Jornadas de Historia y Cultura de América, Universidad de Montevideo, “La familia afromexicana y la caída de tres instituciones coloniales,” Jul. 25-26.
- 2013 TePaske Seminar in Colonial Latin American History, “‘All Children of the Preceding’: Afromexican Families on Bourbon Tribute Registers,” Mar. 22-23.
- 2011 American Society for Ethnohistory, “Lineage, Honor, and Blackness in Two Seventeenth-century Families,” Oct. 19-22.
- 2011 American Historical Association, “Gender, Genealogy, and Tribute Exemption in Bourbon New Spain,” Jan. 7-10.

2009 American Society for Ethnohistory, “‘I Could Not Determine the Truth’: Afromexican and Indian Disputes in Bourbon Tribute Courts,” Sep. 30- Oct. 3.

Roundtable Discussions

2019 Colegio de México, Conversatorio, “Los archivos de personas africanas y sus descendientes en Hispanoamérica Colonial,” Mar. 1.

2019 American Historical Association, “Beyond *Presencia*: Afromexican History and the Biographical Turn,” Jan. 3-6.

Chair and Comment

2022 Conference on Latin American History Online, “Mobility and Mobilization in the Early Modern Americas: Emerging Studies of Environment, Labor, and Migration,” Feb. 21-25.

2021 Institute for Historical Studies, University of Texas at Austin, “Singing in the Coat of the Rebels: Pardo Republics, Gender Politics, and the Making of Mexican Citizenship,” Sep. 27.

2021 Max Planck Institute for Legal History and Legal Theory, “The Early Modern Encounter between European Slavery and Asian Bondage,” June 13-14.

Conference Organization

2014 The Humanities and Technology Camp, Johns Hopkins University, Apr. 12.

2014 “Mobility and Exchange in Latin America,” Johns Hopkins University Program in Latin American Studies, Apr. 11.

2013 “Beyond the Lungs of the World: Ecological Thought in Latin America,” Johns Hopkins University Program in Latin American Studies, Apr. 19.

2009 “Slaves, Soldiers, Rebels,” Johns Hopkins University Center for Africana Studies National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute. Graduate Intern

INVITED TALKS

2021 “Accounts of Slavery: Money and Mobility among Enslaved People in Seventeenth-Century New Spain,” Princeton University, Sep. 21.

2021 “Enslaved people from Asia in Mexican merchant networks,” International Institute for Asian Studies, Apr. 21.

2020 “A Black Man from India: Between Slavery and freedom in the Early Modern Iberian World,” Brown University, Jun. 3.

- 2019 “Africans and Afro-descendants in New Spain’s Atlantic and Pacific,” University of Texas, Nov. 12.
- 2019 “Global microhistory in a seventeenth-century demanda de libertad from Mexico City,” Universidad de Pablo Olavide, Jun. 6.
- 2019 “Free People of Color in Colonial Mexico,” Ocean County College, Apr. 18.

CAMPUS TALKS

- 2019 “The Conquest of Mexico: A Panel Remembering 1519,” Georgian Court University, Feb. 27.
- 2014 “Counting Caste: Making Numbers and Race in the Spanish Atlantic,” Northern Arizona University, Oct. 14.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Houston, 2019-

Undergraduate courses

“Latin America, 1492-1820” (Fall 2019; Fall 2020; Spring 2022); “Colonial Mexico” (Fall 2019; Fall 2020; Spring 2022).

Graduate course

“World History Theory & Teaching” (Fall 2021).

Georgian Court University, 2016-19

Undergraduate courses

“African History” (Spring 2019); “Historian’s Craft” (Spring 2019); “Comparative Empires” (Fall 2018); “Mediterranean Encounters, 1100-1700” (Spring 2018); “Atlantic World, 1400-1850” (Fall 2017); “Colonial Latin America” (Fall 2016); “History of Mexico” (Spring 2017); “Modern Latin America” (Spring 2017); “World History Survey I” (regularly); “World History Survey II” (regularly).

Northern Arizona University, 2014-2016

Undergraduate courses

“Colonial Latin America” (Fall 2014, Fall 2015); “Resistance, Rebellion, and Revolution in Latin America and the Caribbean” (Fall 2014, Spring 2016); “Mexico Yesterday and Today” (Fall 2014, Spring 2016); “Latin America from Independence to the Present” (Spring 2015, Spring 2016); “Capstone: Religion in Iberian Worlds” (Spring 2015); “Comparative Atlantic Slavery” (Fall 2015); “Music and Race in Latin America” (Spring 2015).

Graduate course

“Readings in Ibero-American History, 1500-1850” (Fall 2015).

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Peer Reviewer. *The Americas; Ethnohistory; Hispanic American Historical Review; Memorias: Revista Digital de Historia y Arqueología desde el Caribe; Middle Atlantic Review of Latin American Studies; Mexican Studies/Estudios Mexicanos*
- 2022 Member. María Elena Martínez Prize, Conference on Latin American History
- 2021-22 Chair. Atlantic World Studies Committee, Conference on Latin American History
- 2020-21 Secretary. Atlantic World Studies Committee, Conference on Latin American History
- 2019 Teaching Editor. H-Slavery Network
- 2017-18 Communications and Outreach Committee, Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2021- Library Committee, University of Houston
- 2021- Executive Committee, Department of History, University of Houston
- 2020- Advisor. History Honors Senior Thesis, University of Houston
- 2020- Mentor. Mellon Research Scholars Program, University of Houston
- 2020 Mentor. Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship, University of Houston
- 2020 Library and Technology Committee, University of Houston
- 2018-19 Faculty Development Committee, Georgian Court University
- 2017-19 Phi Alpha Theta Faculty Moderator. Georgian Court University
- 2017-19 Department Representative. Curriculum Committee, Georgian Court University
- 2017-19 Advisor. Honors Program and History Major, Georgian Court University
- 2016-19 Departmental Liaison for Program Assessment. Georgian Court University
- 2015-16 Latin American Studies Committee. Northern Arizona University
- 2015-16 Honors Advisor. History Department, Northern Arizona University
- 2014-16 Undergraduate Committee. History Department, Northern Arizona University
- 2014-15 Dean's Public Humanities Initiative. Northern Arizona University

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 2021-22 Volunteer judge. National History Day National Contest
- 2021 Volunteer judge. National History Day in Rhode Island
- 2020- Transcriber. Smithsonian Digital Volunteers
- 2017-19 Volunteer judge. National History Day in New Jersey
- 2015-16 Member. No More Deaths/No Más Muertes, Northern Arizona University
- 2015-16 Volunteer judge. National History Day in Arizona

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Historical Association
American Society for Ethnohistory
Berkshire Conference of Women Historians
Conference on Latin American History