

MICHELLE ALEJANDRA MIRELES

Department of Feminist Studies | University of California Santa Barbara

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EDUCATION

- Exp. 2026 Ph.D. Feminist Studies, University of California Santa Barbara

Dissertation: *Paisa Imaginaries: Creative Labor, Colonial Legacies, and the Queering of Mexican Popular Culture in Fashion and Media*
- 2022 M.A. Feminist Studies, University of California Santa Barbara

Thesis: *Paisa Aesthetics: Streetwear Fashion and Latinx Aesthetic Labor*
- 2017 B.S.B.A. Business Administration, *Cum Laude*, Simmons College

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Latinx Visual and Popular Cultures; Cultural Studies; Media Studies; Women of Color Feminisms and Black Feminist Theory; Queer of Color Critiques of Capitalism and Labors

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed

Eileen Boris, Sara M. Butler, and **Alex Mireles**, “Engendering Carcerality: An Introduction,” *Gender & History* 36, no. 3 (October 2024): 807–23, <https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-0424.12822>.

Public Scholarship

Hinojos, Sarah and **Alex Mireles**, “Sonic Homes: The Sonic/Racial Intimacy of Black and Brown Banda Music in Southern California,” *Sounding Out!* (blog), October 7, 2024, <https://soundstudiesblog.com/2024/10/07/26336/>.

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

- 2024-25 Graduate Division Central Fellowship. Division of Social Sciences and Humanities. University of California Santa Barbara.
- 2023-24 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Crossing Latinidades Pre-Doctoral Research Fellowship, Research Working Group on Latinx Sound Culture Studies.

- 2022 Western Association of Graduate Schools/ProQuest Distinguished Master's Thesis Competition. Division of Social Sciences and Humanities at University of California Santa Barbara nominee.
- 2022 Charlotte Stough Memorial Prize. Department of Feminist Studies. University of California Santa Barbara.
- 2021-22 Graduate Division Central Fellowship. Division of Social Sciences and Humanities. University of California Santa Barbara.
- 2021 Distinguished Graduate Teaching Award. Department of Feminist Studies. University of California Santa Barbara.
- 2020-21 Racial Justice Initiative Grant. Dean of the Division of Social Sciences and Humanities. University of California Santa Barbara.
- 2018-19 Graduate Division Central Fellowship. Division of Social Sciences and Humanities. University of California Santa Barbara.
- 2017 Carol Waller Pope Leadership Award. Simmons College.
- 2017 Joyce J. Kolligian Distinguished Leadership Prize. Simmons College.
- 2014 Alpha Gamma Sigma Honors Society. Dean's List Honors. Pasadena City College.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Fall 2024 Roundtable: "Thumbing: Un/organized Curatorial Labor and Queer Chicana Paisa Aesthetics as Digital Artifacts." *National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference*. Pending.
- Spring 2024 Panel: "Queering Paisa Sounds: Mexicanidad and Queer Affect in a New Generation of Corridos and Rancheras." *Latina/o Studies Association Conference*.
- Winter 2024 Roundtable: "Performing Race, Performing Space: Opening Roundtable '24." Interdisciplinary Humanities Center at University of California Santa Barbara.
- Spring 2023 Panel: "Vaquero Softness: Paisa Aesthetics in Digital Space and Queering the Algorithm as Utopian Praxis." *National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies Annual Conference*.
- Fall 2022 Panel: "In, Around, Beyond Boundaries: Queering the Body in Digital, Ecological, Political Space." *National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference*. Moderator.

- Fall 2022 Panel. "Reimagining Care and Work." *Feminist Futures Initiative UCSB*.
- Fall 2021 Roundtable. "We're Still Teaching to Transgress and with Tenderness." *National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference*.
- Fall 2021 Panel. "Paisa Aesthetics: Latinx Aesthetic Practices in Streetwear Fashion." *National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference*.
- Spring 2019 Research Paper. "Radical Archives: Archival Methods and Black Feminist Politics of Care." *To Freedom! Imagining Black Feminist Futures Colloquium UCSB*.
- Spring 2017 Workshop. "Socially Minded Training: A Student Perspective on Leadership Activities Crucial for Success." *Massachusetts Campus Compact Student Leadership Conference*.

INVITED TALKS AND LECTURES

- Winter 2024 Guest Lecture. "Queer Paisa Sounds: Mexicanidad and Queer Affect in a New Generation of Corridos and Rancheras." *Latinx Sound Cultures Seminar*, University of Illinois Chicago.
- Spring 2023 Guest Lecture. "Aesthetics, Culture, and Theories of Excess." *Global Feminisms and Social Justice*, University of California Santa Barbara
- Summer 2022 Guest Lecture. "Queer of Color Critique: Aesthetics, Culture, and Theories of Excess." *Introduction to LGBTQ Studies*, University of California Santa Barbara
- Fall 2020 Guest Lecture. "Latinx Aesthetics and Creative Labors." *Women's Labors*, University of California Santa Barbara.
- Fall 2017 Keynote, *Organizacion Latinoamericana Annual Latin Night of The Arts Simmons College*.

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

- 2023-2024 Performing Race, Performing Space Research Focus Group. Interdisciplinary Humanities Center. University of California Santa Barbara.
- 2023 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Crossing Latinidades Summer Institute on Latino Humanities Studies Methodologies and Theories, University of Illinois at Chicago.
- 2022 "Paisa Aesthetics: Streetwear Fashion and Latinx Aesthetic Labor": Master's thesis exploring culture and aesthetics in Latinx and Chicax working-class communities.

- 2017 Boston Immersion: Building Community, Simmons College: Capstone project that culminated in an accepted proposal for the university to integrate alternative spring break service-learning opportunities.
- 2016 (SHE) Sustainability, Healthcare, and Entrepreneurship in Cuba: Field research in post-Fidel Cuba focused on changing economic policy, women-owned small businesses, healthcare, and sustainable agriculture practices.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2023 Teaching Associate, Department of Feminist Studies, University of California Santa Barbara, *Introduction to Gender and Power*.
- 2018-2023 Teaching Assistant, Department of Feminist Studies, University of California Santa Barbara, *Global Feminisms and Social Justice* (Spring 2023), *Women, Representation, and Cultural Production* (Fall 2022), *Introduction to LGBTQ Studies* (Summer 2022, Winter 2021), *Women of Color Feminisms* (Summer 2024, Summer 2022, Fall 2019), *Sex, Love, and Romance* (Summer 2022, Summer 2020, Spring 2020), *Introduction to Gender and Power* (Summer 2021, Winter 2020, Summer 2019), *Women's Labors* (Fall 2020).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2023-2024 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Crossing Latinidades Mellon Mentorship Program with Dr. Deborah R. Vargas Associate Professor of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Ethnicity, Race, and Migration at Yale University.
- 2023-2024 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Crossing Latinidades Mellon Professionalization Program.
- 2020-2021 "Feminist ACTION Lab: Antiracist Critical Theorizing-in-Action" co-developed course for Feminist Studies major requirements.
- 2019-2025 Certificate in College and University Teaching, Instructional Development UCSB.
- 2020 Training. Lead Teaching Assistant Institute, Instructional Development UCSB.
- 2019 Training. Lead Teaching Assistant Institute, Instructional Development UCSB.
- 2019 Training. Assessing Student Learning: Effective Questioning and Classroom Assessment Techniques, Instructional Development UCSB.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION AND COMMUNITY

2023-2024	Editorial Assistant, <i>Gender & History</i> : Vol. 36, No. 3, Special Issue: Engendering Carcerality. Organized contributor symposium and writing workshops, and review process to completion.
2022-present	Co-founder, Queer Arts Collective, UCSB.
2021-2022	Graduate Student Representative, Department of Feminist Studies, UCSB.
2020-2021	Committee Member, Feminist Anti-Racist Research Committee, Department of Feminist Studies, UCSB.
2020-2021	Lead Teaching Assistant, Department of Feminist Studies, UCSB.
2019-2020	Lead Teaching Assistant, Department of Feminist Studies, UCSB.
2019	Committee Member, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Department of Feminist Studies, UCSB.
2018-2019	UAW Local 2865 Teaching Assistants Department Union Rep, UCSB.
2016-2017	President, Organización Latinoamericana, Simmons College.
2015-2017	Founding Member, Student of Color Inclusion Council, Simmons College.
2014-2015	Inter-Club Council Representative, Feminist Club, Pasadena City College.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

National Women's Studies Association, Latino/a Studies Association, National Association of Chicana and Chicano Studies