

MICHELLE ALEJANDRA MIRELES

Department of Feminist Studies

University of California Santa Barbara

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EDUCATION

University of California, Santa Barbara

Exp. 2026 Ph.D. Feminist Studies

June 2022 M.A. Feminist Studies

Simmons College

May 2017 B.S.B.A. Business Administration, *Cum Laude*

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Women of Color Feminisms and Black Feminist Theory; Queer of Color Critiques of Capitalism and Labors; Digital Media Studies; Cultural Studies; Latinx Aesthetics and Identity Formation.

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

April 2024 Panel: “Siempre Gozando: Queering Sounds and Listening to Amplifications.” *Latina/o Studies Association Conference*.

February 2024 Roundtable: “Performing Race, Performing Space: Opening Roundtable ’24.” Interdisciplinary Humanities Center at University of California Santa Barbara.

March 2023 Research Paper: “Vaquero Softness: Paisa Aesthetics in Digital Space and Queering the Algorithm as Utopian Praxis.” *National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies Annual Conference*.

November 2022 Panel: “In, around, beyond boundaries: queering the body in digital, ecological, political space.” *National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference*.

November 2022 Panel. “Reimagining Care and Work.” *Feminist Futures Initiative UCSB*.

- November 2021 Panel. "We're Still Teaching to Transgress and with Tenderness." *National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference.*
- October 2021 Research Paper. "Paisa Aesthetics: Latinx Streetwear and Creative Labor." *National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference.*
- April 2019 Research Paper. "Radical Archives: Archival Methods and Black Feminist Politics of Care." *To Freedom! Imagining Black Feminist Futures Colloquium UCSB.*
- March 2017 Workshop. "Socially Minded Training: A Student Perspective on Leadership Activities Crucial for Success." *Massachusetts Campus Compact Student Leadership Conference.*

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

- 2023-2024 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Crossing Latinidades Pre-Doctoral Research Fellowship, Research Working Group on Latinx Sound Culture Studies.
- Fall 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.
- Spring 2022 Charlotte Stough Memorial Prize. Department of Feminist Studies. University of California Santa Barbara.
- 2022-23 Graduate Division Central Fellowship. Division of Social Sciences and Humanities. University of California Santa Barbara.
- 2021-22 Graduate Division Central Fellowship. Division of Social Sciences and Humanities. University of California Santa Barbara.
- Spring 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.
- May 2017 Carol Waller Pope Leadership Award. Simmons College.
- May 2017 Joyce J. Kolligian Distinguished Leadership Prize. Simmons College.
- 2014 Alpha Gamma Sigma Honors Society. Dean's List Honors. Pasadena City College.

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

- Fall 2023-Spring 2024 Performing Race, Performing Space Research Focus Group. Interdisciplinary Humanities Center. University of California Santa Barbara.
- June 17-25, 2023 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Crossing Latinidades Summer Institute on Latino Humanities Studies Methodologies and Theories, University of Illinois at Chicago.
- Spring 2022 “Paisa Aesthetics: Streetwear Fashion and Latinx Aesthetic Labor”: Master’s thesis exploring culture and aesthetics in Latinx and Chicax working-class communities.
- Spring 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.
- Spring 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.

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.

INVITED TALKS AND LECTURES

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| Winter 2023 | Guest Lecture. “Queer Paisa Sounds: Mexicanidad and Queer Affect in a New Generation of Corridos and Rancheras.” <i>Latinx Sound Cultures Seminar</i> , University of Illinois Chicago. |
| Summer 2022 | Guest Lecture. “Queer of Color Critique: Aesthetics, Culture, and Theories of Excess.” <i>Introduction to LGBTQ Studies</i> , University of California Santa Barbara |
| Fall 2020 | Guest Lecture. “Latinx Aesthetics and Creative Labors.” <i>Women’s Labors</i> , University of California Santa Barbara. |
| October 2017 | Keynote, <i>Organizacion Latinoamericana Annual Latin Night of The Arts Simmons College</i> . |

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Associate, Department of Feminist Studies, University of California Santa Barbara

Introduction to Gender and Power (Summer 2023)

Teaching Assistant, Department of Feminist Studies, University of California Santa Barbara

Women, Representation, and Cultural Production (Fall 2022)

Introduction to LGBTQ Studies (Summer 2022, Winter 2021)

Women of Color Feminisms (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)

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE, COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP, AND ACTIVITIES

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| 2022-present | Co-founder, Queer Arts Collective, UCSB. |
| 2021-2022 | Graduate Student Representative, Feminist Studies Department, UCSB. |
| 2020-2021 | Committee Member, Feminist Anti-Racist Research Committee, 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, 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.