

Abel Arango
Assistant Professor of Spanish

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Spanish. University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, USA, 2019

Focus Area: Contemporary Latin American and U.S. Latinx literature with an emphasis on Central American cultural production

Dissertation Title: *Homelessness, Subjectivity and the Nation-state in U.S. Central American Narratives*

Dissertator Director and Committee: Prof. Rubén Medina (director), Prof. Paola Hernández, Prof. Alberto Vargas and Prof. Steven Hutchinson

Minor: Second Language Acquisition

MA Spanish. University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, USA, 2008

BA Spanish & Psychology. Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, USA, 2005

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Central American Literature and Culture
Latinx Literature and Culture
Spanish for Heritage Speakers

PUBLICATIONS:

Peer-Reviewed Articles

"Gendered Views of War and Home(lessness) in U.S. Central American Narrative: An analysis of Héctor Tobar's *The Tattooed Soldier* and Francisco Goldman's *The Ordinary Seaman*." *Latino Studies*, vol. 21, no. 1, 2023, pp. 84-104.

“Latinidad, Borderlands and Passing in Tanya Maria Barrientos’ *Frontera Street*.” *Arizona Journal of Hispanic Cultural Studies*, forthcoming.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOP ACTIVITY

- 2022 “Virtual Lecture: Belonging and Latinidad in Marcos McPeck Villatoro’s *Home Killings*” *Augustana University Public Lecture*. Augustana University. December 2022. Invited Guest Speaker.
- 2020 “My Story with Spanish: From Refusal to a Ph.D.,”. National Hispanic Honor Society (Sigma Delta Pi) *Annual Initiation Event*. Marquette University. October 2020. Invited Guest Speaker.
- 2019 “Noir and Nationhood in The Romilia Chacón Detective Series,” *Arnold L. Mitchem Public Lecture*. Marquette University. April 2020. Key Presenter.
- 2014 “Cooking with Spatula and Barcode” Exploring Relational Aesthetics and Relational Movement as Dynamic of Social Practice 2014. Sponsored by Art + Scholarship A.W. Mellon Workshop, Center for the Humanities, Department of Art, Department of Geography, UW-Madison, Madison, WI, October 24.
- 2014 “I’ll Follow Your Lead: Experiencing and Mapping our Movement Relationships” Exploring Relational Aesthetics and Relational Movement as Dynamic of Social Practice 2014. Sponsored by Art + Scholarship A.W. Mellon Workshop, Center for the Humanities, Department of Art, Department of Geography, UW-Madison, Madison, WI, October 15.
- 2014 “Exercises for Rebel Artists”: Two-Day Performance Workshops led by La Pocha Nostra Troupe Members Guillermo Gómez-Peña and Saúl García-López 2014. Sponsored by The Center for Visual Cultures, UW-Madison, Madison, WI October 7-8.
- 2014 “From Diasporas to New Subjectivities: Latino Central American Novelists in the U.S.: *The Tattooed Soldier, The Ordinary Seaman, and Home Killings: A Romilia Chacón Mystery*” Kaleidoscope 2014, Graduate Student Conference of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, UW-Madison, Madison, WI, March 6-8.
- 2013 “Dramatic Reading and Writing Workshop with Playwright Emilio Williams” 2013. Sponsored by the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, UW-Madison. Madison, WI October 10-11.
- 2013 “Pero si ya hablo español, why do I need to study it in college?” World Language Day, UW-Madison, Madison, WI, November.
- 2008 “How to succeed in graduate school,” Northeastern Illinois University McNair Scholar Alumni Presentations, Chicago, IL, June.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Department of World Languages and Literatures, Skidmore College

Assistant Professor:

Spanish for Heritage Speakers (Fall 2023)
Alternative Second Semester Spanish (Fall 2023)

Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, Marquette University

Full-time Adjunct Assistant Professor:

Introduction to Latinx Studies (Fall 2022)
Introduction to Business Spanish I (Fall 2021)
Introduction to Spanish for the Health Professions I and II (Fall 2022, Fall 2021)
Literary Analysis for Heritage Speakers (Fall 2020)
Notes on El Norte: Contemporary Central American Narrative (Spring 2020)
Advanced Communication in Spanish (Fall 2022, Fall 2021 Spring 2020)
Intermediate Spanish (Fall 2019)
Homelessness in U.S.-Central American Narrative (Spring 2022, Spring 2019, It is an upper-level undergraduate course that is cross-listed with the departments of English, Political Science and Sociology)

Department of Spanish and Portuguese, UW-Madison

Instructor of Record:

Intermediate Language Practice with Emphasis on Writing 226 (Spring 2015, Spring 2014, Fall 2013, Spring 2013, Fall 2012)
Spanish for Spanish Speakers 206, First Semester (Fall 2014)
Third Year Spanish 204, First Semester (Spring 2012, Fall 2011, Spring 2011, Fall 2010)
Third Year Spanish 203, Second Semester (Spring 2010, Fall 2009)
Second Year Spanish 102, First Semester (Fall 2008, Spring 2009)
Second Year Spanish 102, Second Semester (Fall 2008, Spring 2009)
First Year Spanish 101, First semester (Spring 2007, Fall 2006)

Instructor, Department of Continuing Studies, UW-Madison.
Spanish Conversation (Summer 2010)

DIVERSITY-ORIENTED ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2018-2019 Arnold L. Mitchem Dissertation Fellowship at Marquette University

The **Arnold L. Mitchem Dissertation Fellowship** is intended to assist underrepresented students in the U.S. professoriate during the final stages of the dissertation and whose research focuses on Race, Ethnicity and Indigenous Studies. During their residence, Mitchem fellows complete their dissertation, teach one upper-level undergraduate course based on their current research and give a public lecture.

2015- 2018 ACT Exam Coordinator, PEOPLE Program at UW-Madison

- Encourage underrepresented high school students to challenge harmful perceptions of standardized testing
- Develop programs, devise systems and study methods to maximize points on the ACT exam
- Create and provide students with an individualized ACT report that indicates their areas of improvement
- Provide one-on-one tutoring and small group ACT study sessions
- Hire, supervise and instruct undergraduate tutors on how to teach the material on the ACT exam
- Generate quarterly statistical reports and averages of students' scores

2008-2015 Graduate Student Liaison, PEOPLE

- Liaison with teachers, students, undergraduate tutors and parents during summer programming
- English to Spanish translator and interpreter
- Supervise undergraduate tutors that are responsible for PEOPLE students during summer programming that lasts 3-5 weeks
- Serve as a mentor for early elementary grade PEOPLE students during the academic year
- Coordinate PEOPLE program parent-student orientations, graduations and field trips
- Walk students and parents through the FASFA (Free Application for Student Federal Aid) application process
- Have open discussions with students about how to navigate through predominantly White campuses

PEOPLE (Pre-Collegiate Program for Learning Excellence): This educational program is based on UW-Madison's campus and serves roughly 600 students statewide. PEOPLE prepares Wisconsin's underrepresented and low-income students for college. These groups include African-American, Native-American, Latino/a, Hmong and first-generation college students. From elementary school up to and through college the program works with students, families and teachers to ensure that students graduate from a UW systems university.

AWARDS, GRANTS, & HONORS

- 2022 Gettel Faculty Research Grant. Support for this fellowship comes from Marquette University's Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures.
- 2018 Arnold L. Mitchem Dissertation Fellowship. Support for this fellowship comes from Marquette University's Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion.
- 2014 Tinker Nave Field Research Grant. Latin American, Caribbean and Iberian Studies Program at UW-Madison. Through this program I was able to spend five weeks in Guatemala researching official representations of the armed conflict during the 1970s - 1996.
- 2013 Advanced Opportunity Fellowship. UW-Madison. Support for this fellowship comes from the Graduate School, part of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 2011 Honored Instructor. University Housing, UW-Madison. Through the Honored Instructor Program university housing residents recognize outstanding classroom instructors.
- 2005 Advanced Opportunity Fellowship. UW-Madison. Support for this fellowship comes from the Graduate School, part of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 2004 McNair Summer Research Grant. Northeastern Illinois University. A summer research stipend that allowed me to study the poetics of Nicaraguan poet Rubén Darío at the undergraduate level.

SERVICE

University

- 2022 Participated in the Marquette University's Six-week Summer Workshops on Making Marquette University more inclusive.
- 2014 Volunteer Interpreter/Translator. Neighborhood Law Clinic (NLC). Law School, UW-Madison. The NLC provides free legal services including rental housing, employment and public benefits.
- Offer interpreting and translation services to Madison's (undocumented) Latinx populations in need of legal representation
- 2010 Volunteer Interpreter/Translator. Neighborhood Law Clinic. Law School, UW-Madison.

- Offer interpreting and translation services to Madison's (undocumented) Latinx populations in need of legal representation

Department

2019-2023 Faculty Representative of the Heritage Speaker Program, Marquette University.

2021 Hiring Committee Member for the Heritage Speaker Program, Marquette University.

2014 Graduate Student Representative. T.A. Review Committee, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, UW-Madison.

- Serve as a voice for graduate students as faculty proposes new departmental initiatives and policies

2013-Present Organizing Committee Member. M@dismos Central American Interest Group, UW-Madison.

- M@dismos is a group of graduate students and professors who are dedicated to exploring Central American cultural production. Working in collaboration with Kaleidoscope, the Graduate Student Conference of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, we have brought guest lecturers that include Prof. Rose Marie Galindo, novelist Horacio Castellanos Moya, poet and translator Nelson López and renowned scholar Prof. Jean Franco.

2013 Committee Member. New Textbook Review and Selection Committee for multi-section intermediate-level Spanish course, UW-Madison.

- Review and comment the pros and cons of potentially new textbooks for introductory Spanish classes.

2012-2018 Member and Actor. Graduate Student Theatre Group, El décimo piso, UW-Madison.

- El décimo piso is a graduate student run theatre group. Working in collaboration with Kaleidoscope, the Graduate Student Conference of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, we have presented an annual play to at the end of the three-day conference. These plays include: *Picnic* by Fernando Arrabal, *El retablo de las maravillas* by Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra, *¿Una foto..?* by Eduardo Rovner, *Avispas en febrero* by Gustavo Pernas Cora, *Tararí* by Valentín Andrés Álvarez, *Eran tres y ahora son cuatro* by Myrna Casas.

LANGUAGES

Spanish (native)
English (native)
Portuguese (conversational)
Italian (reading knowledge)
