### Wanda I. Ocasio- Rivera, MLS, PhD

Merrimack College
World Languages and Cultural Studies
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EDUCATION University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign 07/2014

Urbana, Illinois

PhD Spanish Literatures and Cultures

Major: Latin-American Literatures and Cultures- 20th- 21st

Century/ Southern Cone and Mexico Interdisciplinary: Gender and Economics

University of Puerto Rico 08/2005

San Juan, Puerto Rico Master's Degree

Major: Hispanic Studies- Latin American Literatures

University of Puerto Rico 08/1999

**San Juan, Puerto Rico MLS- Master's Degree**Major: Library Science

University of Puerto Rico 08/1993

**San Juan, Puerto Rico BA- Bachelor Degree**Major: Political Science

## **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

2015- Present- Visiting Assistant Professor- World Languages and Cultural Studies Department (Merrimack College)

2015-Present-Non Profit Board of Trustee and Online Education (V. Society)

2015-Present- Support Puerto Rico Teach Online- (NYU and Sagrado Corazon University-Puerto Rico)

2000- Present- Project Manager and Freelance Editor/ Translator- Cambridge BrickHouse

2008- 2014- Teaching Assistant, Department of Spanish and Portuguese (University of Illinois at Urbana- Champaign)

2010- 2012- Adjunct Faculty Member, Spanish Department (Parkland College, Champaign, IL)

2000- 2008- Adjunct Faculty Member, Spanish Department (Central University of Bayamon, Bayamon Puerto Rico)

2000- 2008- Library Director (Central University of Bayamon, Bayamon Puerto Rico)

2000-2008- Accreditation Committee Middle States Association

2000-2008- Accreditation Committee Consejo de Educación Superior de Puerto Rico

1998-2000- Library Director and Spanish Teacher (Caribbean Preparatory School- Puerto Rico)

1995-1998 - AP Spanish Teacher and Department Chair High School (Caribbean Preparatory School- Puerto Rico)

# PUBLICATIONS BOOKS AND ARTICLES

*Metáforas extremas del neoliberalismo en la literatura latinoamericana* approved manuscript to be published Fall 2018 with CBH Books. (BOOK)

"José Donoso o la antesala a la lógica antropófaga del capitalismo tardío." Entrehojas: *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos,* Western Ontario University. September 29, 2016. (ARTICLE)

"El cuerpo sin órganos del capital en *El cuarto mundo* de Diamela Eltit." *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos*, Universidad de Puerto Rico, submitted in August 22, 2017 and approved to be published for Spring 2018. (ARTICLE)

"Obras dramáticas inéditas de Manuela Zeno Gandía" by Migual A. Náter (Collaboration with digitalization and gathering materials) (Book) (ISBN: 09773612-3-3)

#### NON-ACADEMIC ARTICLES

"Obras dramáticas inéditas de Manuel Zeno Gandía" (Short Documentary in Collaboration with Universidad Central de Bayamón)

"Simulacra and Simulations in Fictional Constructions in 'Casa de Campo' by José Donoso" (ARTICLE)

"Text and Image: Visual and Textual Representations of Lope Aguirre in 'Daimon' by Abel Posse and Aguirre: the wrath of God' by Werner Herzog" (ARTICLE)

### **WORK IN PROGRESS**

Extreme Metaphors Under Neoliberal Regimes in Latin American Literature (Book-Translation)

Book abstract

This book traces a set of four metaphors that emerge to address the consequences of the neoliberal development in literary works by José Donoso, Diamela Eltit, Luisa Valenzuela and Roberto Bolaño. Focusing on these specific metaphors - anthropophagi, sold human bodies, torture and mass graves--this book describes extremely violent stages of the neoliberal development since 1970s in Chile, Argentina and Mexico. These literary images provide a stark contrast with the utopian visions of freedom and economic prosperity promised by neoliberalism. The power of these metaphors relies in their ability to grasp the change in the subjectivity and the extreme logic of objectification experienced under neoliberal regimes, through representation of bodies left exposed to be eaten, tortured, sold and finally thrown away as industrial garbage. The extraordinary visual impact of these images of bodily destruction comprehends the unique power of literary texts in conjuring the objectifying and dismembering tendencies of neoliberal capitalism.

La deuda después de la tormenta: La Ley PROMESA y la restructuración económica de Puerto Rico después del Huracán María (ARTICLE) ARTICLE and CONFERENCE LASA 2018 in Barcelona, Spain.

*Puerto Rico: Another Chapter of Disaster Capitalism.* ARTICLE and CONFERENCE INTERDISCIPLINARY SOCIAL SCIENCES CONFERENCE (University of Granada) 2018 in Granada, Spain.

#### ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS

Honorary Member Spanish National Honor Society Sigma Delta Pi- Merrimack College (2017)

Scholar's Travel Fund Merrimack College (2016, 2017)

Scholar's Travel Fund, University of Illinois (2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012).

Ford Foundation Pre-Doctoral Fellowship (Dissertation Writing), University of Illinois (2012).

Chicago Lighthouse Scholarship, Chicago Lighthouse (2009, 2010, 2012, 2013).

Graduate School Fellowship, University of Illinois (2008-2010).

Honors Graduate School Fellowship, University of Puerto Rico (2004-08).

#### **CONFERENCES PRESENTATIONS**

Puerto Rico: Another Chapter of Disaster Capitalism. ARTICLE and CONFERENCE INTERDISCIPLINARY SOCIAL SCIENCES CONFERENCE (University of Granada) 2018 in Granada, Spain. July 25-27.

CABE Conference, California Association for Bilingual Education 2017. Los Angeles, California, March 29- April 1st.

En búsqueda de un momento solidario en la obra de Diamela Eltit. "Literature and Its Publics: Past, Present, and Future." MLA Convention 2016. Austin Texas, January 8, 2016.

"Negotiating Sites of Memory. "MLA Convention 2015. Vancouver, Canada, January 8-11, 2015.

"Vulnerable Times." MLA Convention 2014. Chicago, Illinois, January 9-12, 2014.

"Avenues of Access." MLA Convention 2013. Boston, Massachusetts, January 3-6, 2013.

José *Donoso o la antesala a la lógica antropófaga de un canibalismo tardío.* "Of Monsters and Miracles" Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, Western Ontario University, Canada, March 1, 2012.

Blood, Organs and Other Tissues for Sale: Diamela Eltit's 'Impuesto a la carne' and the Afterwards of the Neoliberal Development in Latin America. "Transits, Transition Revolution" Department of Spanish, Italian & Portuguese, University of Illinois at Chicago, April 13, 2012.

Torture as Terror, Torture as a Commodity in Luisa Valenzuela's 'Novela negra con argentinos.' 2012 Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, Department of Foreign Languages, University of Kentucky at Lexington, April 19, 2012.

*El cuerpo sin órganos del capital en 'El cuarto mundo' de Diamela Eltit.* "Ruptures and Transgressions," Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Brown University, Oct. 29, 2012.

La autoficcionalización del narrador en la 'Vorágine.' Graduate Student Symposium, Department of Hispanic Studies, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, Nov. 11, 2007.

#### OTHER SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

Student Advising- World Languages Department- Merrimack College- North Andover, MA (2017- Present)

DJ and Co-Producer for WMCK Merrimack College online radio, *Aire Latino* Program, Merrimack College, North Andover, MA (2016-Present)

World Film Festival Co-Producer for the World Languages and Cultural Studies Department at Merrimack College, North Andover, MA (2015- Present)

Backboard Workshops Developer for Teachers, World Languages and Cultural Studies Department at Merrimack College, North Andover, MA (2015- Present)

Online Freelance Educator Consultant. Educators Academy. North Andover, MA (2016- Present)

Project Manager and Freelance Translator for Cambridge BrickHouse. Lawrence, MA (2015-Present)

Library Director, Central University of Bayamón, Bayamón Puerto Rico from (2000-2008)

Spanish Online Program, Central University of Bayamón, Bayamón Puerto Rico (2000-2008)

Accreditation Staff Member of the Council of the Department Higher Education of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico (2005-2008)

Accreditation Committee Member, MSA (Middle States Association), San Juan, Puerto Rico (2005- 2008)

Vice President, COBIMET (Consortium of Metropolitan Libraries), San Juan, Puerto Rico (2006-2008)

#### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

ALA- American Library Association	Member
Puerto Rican Library Association	Member
Higher Education Council of Puerto Rico	Member
COBIMET (Metropolitan Library Consortia)	Member
LASA- Latin American Studies Association	Member
MLA-Modern Languages Association	Member

Certified Teacher in Spanish (Department of Education of Puerto Rico) Secondary Certified

Graduate & Scholar Teaching Certificate (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

Graduate Teaching & Scholar Certificate (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

MTELs Scheduled for January 2018 (for Teaching Certification with the State of Massachusetts)

### **COURSES TAUGHT**

## Merrimack College:

## Spanish:

SPANISH 1120 Intro. Spanish II

SPANISH 2010 Intermediate Spanish I and II

SPANISH 3010 Composition and Culture

SPANISH 3020 Latin American Film & Culture

SPANSIH 3610 Race, Literature and Culture

SPANISH 3700 Reading Globalization through Cinema, Literature and Culture in Latin America

SPANISH 3620 Gender, Literature and Culture

SOCJUSTI 1000 Intro. Social Justice

SPANISH 3700 Immigration through Film, Literature and Culture

SPANISH 3700 Afro Caribbean Religions and Culture

SPANISH 3700 Urban Music and the City

GIE 540 Spanish Grammar Online

# **University of Illinois at Urbana- Champaign:**

### Spanish:

SPANISH 122 Intensive Elementary Spanish

SPANISH 103 Intermediate Spanish

SPANISH 200 Readings in Hispanic Literature and Culture

SPANISH 208 Oral Spanish

**SPANISH 228 Spanish Composition** 

SPANISH 250 Intro to Literary Analysis

SPANISH 141 Spanish Grammar

SPANISH 254 Cultural Analysis

SPANISH 316 Introduction to Latin American literature II

SPANSNIH 326 Latin American Cinema

GWS 342 Gender, Race and Device

IFLIP Intermediate Spanish for the Community

# Parkland College:

## Spanish:

SPANISH 103 Intermediate Spanish I SPANISH 101 Beginning Spanish I SPANISH 220 Spanish through Cinema

#### **Humanities:**

HUMA 101 Introduction to Humanities Studies HUMA 106 Latin American Cultures and Civilizations

## Central University of Bayamón, Puerto Rico:

# Spanish:

SPANISH 217 Introduction to Literary Genres SPANISH 221 Peninsular Literature I SPANISH 222 Peninsular Literature II SPANISH 341 Hispano- American Literature I SPANISH 342 Hispano- American Literature II SPANISH 360 Caribbean Literature SPANISH 365 Puerto Rican Literature I SPANISH 366 Puerto Rican Literature II

### TEACHING AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS

Merrimack College Teaching for Excellence, 2015, 2016, 2017.
University of Illinois, List of Teaching for Excellence, Fall 2008.
University of Illinois, List of Teaching for Excellence, spring 2009.
University of Illinois, List of Teaching for Excellence Fall 2009.
University of Illinois, List of Teaching for Excellence, spring 2010.
University of Illinois, List of Teaching for Excellence, Fall 2010.
University of Illinois, List of Teaching for Excellence, spring 2011.
University of Illinois, List of Teaching for Excellence, summer 2011.
University of Illinois, List of Teaching for Excellence, Fall 2011.
University of Illinois, List of Teaching for Excellence, spring 2012. University of Illinois, List of Teaching for Excellence, spring 2013.

### **LANGUAGES**

Spanish (native); English (proficient); Portuguese (oral and reading); French and Italian (reading).