

DE ANN PENDRY

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EDUCATION

Ph.D.	Anthropology	University of Texas, Austin	2003
M.A.	Latin American Studies	University of Texas, Austin	1988
B.S.E.	Secondary Education: Spanish/Sciences	University of Arkansas, Fayetteville	1980
B.A.	Spanish/Latin American Studies	University of Arkansas, Fayetteville	1977

DISSERTATION and MASTER'S THESIS

Control, Compliance, and Common Sense: Power Relations in Diabetes Care for Mexican Americans
Church and Politics in Nicaragua and Costa Rica

AREAS OF INTEREST AND SKILLS

Geographic: Latinx in the U.S.; Latin America, especially Mexico and Central America.

Theoretical: Migration; Power and Social Change; Health and Illness; Ethnicity and Race; Gender.

Applied: Migration Policies; Community Organizing; Health Care Practices; Poverty; Qualitative Methods.

Languages: Fluent in Spanish. Some knowledge of Portuguese, French, and Japanese.

TEACHING EXPERIENCES IN ANTHROPOLOGY

Department of Anthropology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

2025-2026 TEACHING PROFESSOR

2017-2024 DISTINGUISHED LECTURER

2012-2017 SENIOR LECTURER

2004-2012 LECTURER

Courses taught: *Introduction to Cultural Anthropology*, *Cultures of Mexico and Central America*, *Latinos in the United States*, *American Cultures*, *Migration and Transnationalism*, *Dynamics of Health and Illness*, *Principles of Cultural Anthropology*, *Ethnographic Research Methods*

2004, LECTURER, Anthropology, University of Texas at Austin, *Intro to Cultural Anthropology*

2000, INSTRUCTOR, Sociology/Anthropology, Southwestern Univ., Georgetown, TX, *Intro to Anthropology*

FIELD WORK EXPERIENCES

Panama City	Accompanied Melesio Peter Espinoza for fieldwork with Miskitu migrants (June 2019)
Madrid, Spain	Accompanied Melesio Peter Espinoza for fieldwork with Miskitu migrants (May 2018)
Knoxville, TN	Participating with Latinos and allies supporting immigrant rights (Oct 2005 – present)
Nicaragua	Collaborating with Fundación Pro-Moskitia and FADCANIC to conduct workshops with teachers, community leaders, and artists on the Atlantic Coast (May-June 2014)
Monterrey, Mexico	Meetings with researchers developing projects on low-income households and visits with clinicians to work on ideas for future research on diabetes care (June 1995)
San Antonio, TX	Clinic observations and interviews with Mexican Americans diagnosed with diabetes, grant from the National Institute of Health (Feb 1993 – June 1994)
San Antonio, TX	Interviews with single mothers in the African American community, part of a multi-site study funded by the Russell Sage Foundation. Results published in <i>Making Ends Meet</i> by Kathryn Edin and Laura Lein (Sept 1991 – Sept 1992)
Austin, TX	Political participation of Mexican American Catholic church (Sept – Dec 1988)

GRADUATE DISSERTATION AND THESIS COMMITTEE CHAIR (completed)

- 2026 Co-Chair with Aris Clemons, Ph.D. Dissertation, Idil Issak, *Fugitive Marronage* in the Digital Hinterland: The Post-Citizenship Subject and the Ethiopian Female Domestic Worker in the UAE.
- 2021 M.A. Thesis, Mary Ruth Wossum-Fisher, Exploring the Fourth Reality: Cultural Anthropologists' Reflections on Expert Witnessing in Asylum Cases.
- 2018 M.A. Thesis, Nastaran Abdoli, Muslims and Public Places: A Platform for Inclusion or Exclusion?

GRADUATE COMMITTEE MEMBER (completed)

- 2024 M.A. Thesis, Ray Griffin, Family Ghosts: Kinship, Identity, and Memory in the American South.
- 2024 Ph.D. Dissertation, Mac Archer, Someone to Keep Me: Emotions, Labor, Trauma, and Orphanhood in Haiti.
- 2023 M.A. Thesis, Julian McDaniel, Anthropology in a Rural Archive: A Study that Moves Along and Against the Archival Grain.
- 2021 M.A. Thesis, Thomas Tran, Queering Disasters: Embodied Crises in Post-Harvey Houston.
- 2016 Ph.D. Dissertation, Melesio Peter Espinoza, Universidad Iberoamericana, México, D.F., México. *"Wan pliska sirpi kum bakusa, wan Moravian priaska watla wal"* (*Se parece a un pueblo nuestro, con nuestra iglesia morava*): *Migración, religión y comunidad miskita en Puerto Arturo Tejas*, ("It is just like a Miskitu town, with our own Moravian church": Migration, Religion, and Miskitu Community in Port Arthur, Texas.)
- 2014 Ph.D. Dissertation, Tony Van Winkle, Communities of Abundance: Sociality, Sustainability, and the Solidarity Economies of Local Food-Related Business Networks in Knoxville, Tennessee.
- 2013 Ph.D. Dissertation, Josh Schendel, The Post-Human Gamer: Reflections on Fieldwork in World of Warcraft.
- 2010 M.A. Thesis, Karmen Stephenson, Educators' Perspectives and Approaches to Teaching in Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Classrooms.

SENIOR HONORS THESIS SUPERVISION (completed)

- 2026 Perri-Hahn Mahfouz, Clinical Judgement Under Threat: A Qualitative Study of OB/GYNs Navigating Ethics and Law in Post-*Dobbs* Tennessee.
March 2024, Presentation at ASUREs (College of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of Tennessee-Knoxville)
2026-2027, Fulbright, post-undergraduate research to study midwifery in Sweden.
- 2024 Lucas A. Simmons, Uyghur Political and Social Advocacy: Group Leader Perspectives.
April 2024, Presentation at ASUREs, won an award.
April 2024, Poster at EURECa (Exhibition of Undergrad Research and Creative Achievement).
2024-2026, Fulbright to teach English in Taiwan, extended it for one more year.
Fall 2024, applied to graduate schools, not accepted, decided not to apply in 2025.
- 2024 Virginia Wilson-Patton, Obon, Día de los Muertos, and College-Age Adults.
- 2023 Megha Chitturi, Baker's Scholar, The Pink Tax: A Comparative Case Study between Tennessee and Washington State.
May 2023, Baker Research Showcase.
- 2018 Daniel Ford, The Impact of Generational Culture on the Perception of Diversity and People in Beer Advertising on Instagram.
April 2024, Poster at EURECa (Exhibition of Undergrad Research and Creative Achievement).
- 2018 Emma Burklin, Understanding How Racism Physically Feels in the Moment for Young African-American Women.
- 2014 Sean Smith, Investigating Patterns of Domestic Abuse in the Semi-Rural Communities on the Outskirts of Siem Riep, Cambodia.
- 2014 Meagan Castelow, A Study of the Practice of Corporal Punishment in Tennessee Schools.
- 2013 Kari Hancock, Geographic Analysis of Opportunities in Higher Education as a Catalyst for Language Preservation Amongst the Eastern Band Cherokee and Cherokee Nation, Oklahoma.
- 2011 Jodi Brown, Exploring the Educator's Perspective when Approached with a Multicultural Classroom.

SENIOR HONORS THESIS COMMITTEE MEMBER (completed)

- 2023 Konrad Szymanowski, Translating between Cultural Heritages: Language, Liminality, and the Negotiation of Identity in Children of Immigrants in the US.
- 2023 Diba Seddighi, Immigration and Illness: Understanding Healthcare Access Barriers of Refugees in Appalachian Tennessee.
- 2023 Eritrea Negussie, The Status of Global Micronutrient Deficiencies and Iodine Deficiency in Ghana.
- 2022 Ashlyn Anderson, Navigating Hidden Hunger: An Exploratory Analysis of the Lived Experience of Food Insecurity Among College Students.
 2022, with my encouragement, presented at Society for Applied Anthropology Meeting, March 22-26, Salt Lake City, Utah. Also presented results, in ANTH 413, Dynamics of Health and Illness.
 2022-2023, Fulbright to teach English in Mexico.
 2023-2024, Rotary Global Grant Scholarship, for MSc in Global Public Health and Nutrition, University of Westminster, London, England.
 March 2024, virtual talk with my ANTH 313 class on experiences in Puebla, Mexico.
 March 2024 feedback on: *El Susto* through the lens of anthropology vs. public health research: Exploring origins, approaches, and narratives of Type II Diabetes among Mexican Americans.
- 2020 Maya Bian, Care, Culture, Neoliberalism: A Case Study in Private Long-Term Care Facility in Northeastern China.
 May 2024, advice about graduate school.
- 2017 Beatriz Satizábal, Care Connectors in Knox County.
 Sept. 2024, advice about graduate school.
- 2017 Kasey Sumeriski, An Examination of Cultural Competency and Structural Violence in Healthcare Delivery in the Peruvian Andes.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SUPERVISION (ongoing)

- Cyrus Yoshimoto, Post-undergraduate, Experiences of Hospice Home Caregivers During the COVID-19 Pandemic. Article written, submitting to journals, in progress.
 2023-2024, Schwarzman Scholars in Global Affairs at Tsinghua University, Beijing, China.
 2024-present, Medical School, University of Miami, Miami, FL.
 Nov. 2024, Paper presented at the World Anthropological Union Congress, South Africa (virtual).
 Nov. 2024, submitted paper to Social Science and Medicine, rejected. Will revise for another journal.
 May 2026, Online presentation, Navigating PPE: Hospice Workers' Experiences Providing Care during the COVID-19 Pandemic, American Geriatrics Society annual conference.
- Evelynn Sawyer, The American Pregnancy Experience: 2000s-2020s.
 April 2024, Poster at EURECa (Exhibition of Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement).
 Writing article to submit for publication, in progress.

FACULTY SPONSOR

Student Advocates for Medicine in Politics (since formation in 2020 to 2025)

GRANTS

- 2025 Co-PI, Irma Alicia Velásquez Nimatuj, *Indigenous Women's Proposals to Address the Root Causes of Guatemalan Migration: Economic Development, Social Equity, and Regional Stability*, School for Advanced Research, Santa Fe, New Mexico, October 4-10. Grant originally awarded in 2019, seminar scheduled for June 2020, postponed due to COVID-19 and travel visa delays, rescheduled. Grant covered housing, meals and transportation to Santa Fe for ten participants. Anticipated value (in 2020): \$27,320.
- 2024 Helped Melesio Peter Espinoza apply for School for Advanced Research Resident Scholar Program and funding from Seventh Generation Fund for a Miskitu revitalization program in Texas, not granted.
- 2023 Supporting Diverse Voices grant from Princeton University Press, for book preparation coaching with consideration for possible publication, in collaboration with Melesio Peter Espinoza, to revise, update and translate his dissertation research into an English-language book manuscript. Proposal titled: *Miskitus in Exile: Nicaraguan Migrants in Port Arthur, Texas, and Beyond*. Feb., applied. May, not granted.

- 2020 Assisted Melesio Peter Espinoza, the Pro-Moskitia Foundation, and La Fundación Marijn who applied for a grant from the Tinker Foundation to address the educational needs of nine indigenous communities in the Región Autónoma del Atlántico Norte, Nicaragua, during COVID-19. Budget: \$70,293. Not granted.
- 2018 Funding for presentation at the Latin American Studies Association meetings in Barcelona, Spain, from SARIF, College of Arts and Sciences, and Department Anthropology, University of Tennessee, \$2500.
- 2018 Obtained honorarium funding for invited speaker at the 2018 Disasters, Displacement and Human Rights Conference from Phi Beta Kappa and Latin American and Caribbean Studies, \$400.
- 2016 Grant to cover hotel costs for meetings, from the Latin American Studies Association.
- 2006 Ethnographic research equipment for undergraduate education for the Department of Anthropology, Internal grant from the University of Tennessee, \$3630.

HONORS and AWARDS

University of Tennessee-Knoxville:

- 2024 Undergraduate Mentor Advising, College of Arts and Sciences, awarded in March 2025.
- 2022 Outstanding Organization Advisor, Student Engagement Awards.
- 2009, Nov. Office of Information Technology/Innovative Technology Consulting Faculty Spotlight, featured for use of films in classroom teaching.

Community Service Awards:

- 2013 Espíritu Latino Award, Centro Hispano de East Tennessee, Knoxville, TN.
- 2011 Peacemaker Award (for immigrant rights work), Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance.
- 2008, 2007 Leadership Awards, Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition.

PUBLICATIONS: Articles and Encyclopedia Entries

- 2023 Communal Labor and Sharing Systems. In *The Routledge Handbook on Indigenous Development*, eds., Katharina Ruckstuhl, Irma A. Velásquez Nimatuj, John-Andrew McNeish, and Nancy Postero. London: Routledge Press, pp.370-378.
- 2018 Immigrant Rights Struggles and Immigration Enforcement in Tennessee. In *Porous Borders, Invisible Boundaries: Ethnographic Perspectives on the Vicissitudes of Contemporary Migration*, edited by Jayne Howell, Deborah R. Altamirano, Faedah M. Totah, and Fethi Keles. (Committee on Refugees and Immigrants, Society for Urban, National, Transnational and Global Anthropology, American Anthropological Association, October 2018) pp.73-76.
- 2016 Urgent Need to Address Punitive Immigration Policies, part of a series, How Do We Talk About Migration: Voices from the United States and Mexico, edited by Judith Friedenberg and Jorge Durand, *Practicing Anthropology* 38:1 (Winter 2016): 51-53.
- 2014 Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition. In *Undocumented Immigrants in the United States Today: An Encyclopedia of Their Experiences*, Anna Ochoa O'Leary, ed., ABL-CIO Greenwood.
- 2014 Strangers from a Different Shore. In *Undocumented Immigrants in the United States Today: An Encyclopedia of Their Experiences*, Anna Ochoa O'Leary, ed., ABL-CIO Greenwood.
- 2011 Seeking to Understand the Politics of Immigration in Tennessee, *Norteamérica* 6 (special issue): 129-178. Special issue on "Immigration to the Southeastern United States," Elaine Levine and Alan LeBaron, guest editors, journal published by Centro de Investigaciones sobre América del Norte, Universidad Autónoma de México.
- 1998 Crossing Borders with Information and Resources for the Treatment of Diabetes. In *The Survival of Families in Poverty in the United States/Mexico Border Region: Estrategias de sobrevivencia de familias pobres en la región fronteriza de México y Estados Unidos*, Manuel Ribeiro Ferreira and David M. Austin, eds. Monterrey, México: School of Social Work, Univ. of Texas at Austin and Facultad de Trabajo Social, Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León.

PUBLICATIONS: Book and Film Reviews

- 2017 Book Review: *Writing Future Worlds: An Anthropologist Explores Global Scenarios*, by Ulf Hannerz, *American Ethnologist* 44:4 (November):701-702.

- 2016 “Film Review: *East of Salinas: A Story of Immigration, Childhood, and Circumstance*, a documentary film by Laura Pacheco and Jackie Mow,” *Visual Ethnography* 5:2:185-187. www.vejournal.org, DOI: 10.12835/ve2016.2-0072.
- 2016 “Film Review: *The Secret Life of Your Clothes*, Producer and Director, Andy Wells. Presenter, Ade Adepitan. 58 minutes. English, SDH Captions. A Firecrest Films Production for BBC’s “This World,” 2014.” *African Conflict and Peacebuilding Review*, 6:2 (Fall 2016).
- 2014 “Book Review: *Making the Mexican Diabetic: Race, Science, and the Genetics of Inequality* by Michael Montoya.” *American Anthropologist* 116:2 (June 2014):466.

TRANSLATIONS FROM SPANISH TO ENGLISH

- 2023 Peter Espinoza, Melesio. Miskitu Migrants Together Facing the Pandemic in Panama. In *The Routledge Handbook on Indigenous Development*, eds., Katharina Ruckstuhl, Irma A. Velásquez Nimatuj, John-Andrew McNeish, and Nancy Postero. London: Routledge Press, pp.379-386.
- 2018 Peter Espinoza, Melesio. Nicaraguan Miskitus and Changes in U.S. Politics. In *Porous Borders, Invisible Boundaries: Ethnographic Perspectives on the Vicissitudes of Contemporary Migration*, edited by Jayne Howell, Deborah R. Altamirano, Faedah M. Totah, and Fethi Keles. (Committee on Refugees and Immigrants, Society for Urban, National, Transnational and Global Anthropology, American Anthropological Association, October 2018) pp.87-90.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS and INTERVIEWS IN PUBLIC MEDIA

- 2025 History of US policies shows shifts in attitudes toward immigrants: An adjunct UT professor spoke to the Oak Ridge League about the history in early December. By Carolyn Krause, covering my talk. She asked me for edits to ensure accuracy. *The Oak Ridger*, January 23, <https://www.oakridger.com/story/news/local/2025/01/23/history-of-us-policies-shows-shifts-in-attitudes-toward-immigrants/77846075007/>
- 2020 Interview for “How the uncertain future of DACA has the potential to affect college students,” by Alexandra DeMarco, *The Daily Beacon*, April 8, updated April 13, http://www.utdailybeacon.com/campus_news/how-the-uncertain-future-of-daca-has-the-potential-to-affect-college-students/article_bb0fa052-79dc-11ea-8f9f-d7b8f7be40cc.html
- 2017 Interview with Aaron Wright, for Knoxville community learning how they can help immigrants counting on DACA, WBIR-TV, Channel 10, Knoxville, TN, aired Sept 22, <http://www.wbir.com/news/local/knoxville-community-learning-how-they-can-help-immigrants-counting-on-daca/477750799>
- 2017 Interview with Kelly Reinke, for Knoxville high school student worried about deportation, WATE-TV, Channel 6, Knoxville, TN, aired Sept 21, <http://wate.com/2017/09/21/knoxville-high-school-student-worried-about-deportation/>
- 2016 Immigrants and the Electoral College, Letter to the editor, *Knoxville News Sentinel*, October 11. <http://www.knoxnews.com/story/opinion/2016/10/11/letter-immigrants-and-electoral-college/91871384/>
- 2013 Immigration rules changed over years, Letter to the Editor, *Knoxville News Sentinel*, August 25.
- 2013 Interviewed for news story, Knox County sheriff talks to immigration rights advocates about controversial program, WATE-TV, Knoxville, TN, July 2. <http://www.wate.com/story/22749295/knox-co-sheriff-talks-to-immigration-rights-advocates>
- 2013 Immigrants Need Citizenship Pathway, Letter to the Editor, *Knoxville News Sentinel*, June 25.
- 2011 Interviewed with Lourdes Garza, Director of Hispanic Ministry, Roman Catholic Diocese of Knoxville, by Lorena Estrada for her story, Children of illegal immigrants ‘suffer most’ from tight immigration laws WVLT-TV, Knoxville, TN, October 11. http://www.volunteertv.com/home/headlines/Hispanic_leader_says_children_of_illegal_immigrants_suffer_most_131550363.html
- 2011 Interviewed by Sara Shookman for her story, Could Tennessee join other states in stricter immigration laws? WVLT-TV, Knoxville, TN, October 4. http://www.volunteertv.com/home/headlines/Could_Tennessee_join_other_states_in_stricter_immigration_laws_131117288.html

- 2010 Live broadcast as radio talk show guest with Lourdes Garza, Director of Hispanic Ministry, Roman Catholic Diocese of Knoxville, and Miguel Carpizo, organizer for the Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition, with host Dave Folk filling in for the *Hallerin Hill Show, News/Talk 98.7*, FM, Knoxville, to discuss the DREAM Act and the U.S. Senate cloture vote, December 20.
- 2010 Immigration Issue Is Repeating History, Letter to the Editor, *Knoxville News Sentinel*, July 12.
- 2010 Live broadcast as radio talk show guest with Lourdes Garza, Director of Hispanic Ministry, Catholic Diocese of Knoxville, on *State Your Case with George Korda*, FM 98.7, WNOX, to discuss SB 1141/HB 670 in Tennessee that requires county jails to verify status of immigrants, July 4.
- 2010 Live broadcasts with Francisca Felipe, University of Tennessee student, and Lourdes Garza, Director of Hispanic Ministry, Roman Catholic Diocese of Knoxville, hosted by Mercedes C., FM 93.5, WKZX, La Líder, Spanish-language FM radio station in Lenoir City, TN, to promote upcoming immigrant rights march in Washington D.C., March 4 and March 18.
- 2007 DREAM Act deserves support, Letter to the Editor, *Knoxville News Sentinel*, August 12.

PROGRAM PLANNING and COMMUNITY DISCUSSION MATERIALS related to EXHIBITIONS

- 2020-2022. Advisory Committee. The Spirit of Día de los Muertos exhibit, McClung Museum of Natural History and Culture, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Aug. 23-Dec. 11, 2022.
- 2020. Advisory Committee. Mexican Modernity: 20th-Century Paintings from the Zapanta Collection, McClung Museum of Natural History and Culture, U. of Tennessee-Knoxville, cancelled due to COVID-19.
- 2016. Collaborated on developing programming for, *Maya: Lords of Time*, Jan. 23 – May 22, McClung Museum of Natural History and Culture, University of Tennessee-Knoxville.
- 2013. *Bittersweet Harvest: The Bracero Program 1942-1964*, commissioned by Humanities Tennessee to prepare group discussion materials for exhibit of six photographic panels from the Smithsonian Museums. Helped organize community discussions for exhibits at HoLA Hora Latina in Knoxville in April 2014, Kingston Public Library in March 2015, and Rose Center in Morristown in April-May 2015.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2025 Guatemalan Maya Migration to the United States, presented as part of the School for Advanced Research Seminar, *Indigenous Women's Proposals to Address the Root Causes of Guatemalan Migration: Economic Development, Social Equity, and Regional Stability*, Oct. 4-10, Santa Fe, NM.
- 2025 State Responses to Federal Deportation Threats: A Report from Tennessee. 2025 Southeast Immigration Studies Association Annual Meeting. April 11-12, Charleston, SC.
- 2024 With Cyrus Yoshimoto, Caring in Crisis: A qualitative study on the experience of home hospice workers amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. World Anthropological Union Congress, Johannesburg, South Africa (hybrid conference, we participated virtually), November 10-15.
- 2022 Guatemalan Maya Migration and Communal and Other Economic Systems. Southeast Immigration Studies Association, Charleston, SC, April 1-2.
- 2021 Advocating for Immigrant and Refugee Rights at the State Level in Tennessee. Southeast Immigration Studies Association, (online) April 7-10.
- 2020 COVID-19 Responses in Indigenous Communities in Central America, with Irma Alicia Velásquez Nimatuj and Melesio Peter Espinoza. American Anthropological Association, (online) Nov. 5-14.
- 2020 Local Resistance to 287(g) and Immigration Enforcement in Knox County, Tennessee. Southeastern Immigration Studies Association Conference, Charleston, SC, February 20-22.
- 2018 Immigration Enforcement as Structural Violence and Immigrant Rights as Resistance in Tennessee, American Anthropological Association, San Jose, CA, November 14-18.
- 2018 Immigrant Rights and Immigration Enforcement in Tennessee: *Luchas por los derechos de inmigrantes en Tennessee*, Latin American Studies Association, Barcelona, Spain, May 23-26.
- 2017 Poster, 287(g) revisited: The Politics of Immigration Enforcement in Tennessee, American Anthropological Association meeting, Washington, D.C., Nov 28-Dec 3.
- 2017 Presenter on panel discussion, How do we think, work and write about migration, Society for Applied Anthropology, Santa Fe, NM, March 28-April 1.

- 2016 DAPA Delayed and Ongoing Efforts of the Immigrant Rights Movement in Tennessee, 6th Conference on Immigration to the U.S. South, University of South Carolina, Columbia, Oct 13-15.
- 2016 Immigrant Rights in Tennessee: Building on Legacies of Latin American and Civil Rights Movement Activism, Latin American Studies Association, New York, NY, May 27-30.
- 2015 Struggles for Justice by Immigrants and Allies in Tennessee: “*Sí, se puede*. Yes, we can.” (Continuing Legal Education), Disasters, Displacement, and Human Rights Conference, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Sept 25-27.
- 2014 Popular Organizing, Story-Telling, and an Awareness of Inequalities: Are They Leading to Changes in Local, State, and Federal Immigration Policies? American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C., Dec. 4.
- 2014 Tennessee Immigrant Rights Campaigns: Struggles to Stop 287(g) and Deportations and to Obtain Tuition Equality and Immigration Reform, 5th Conference on Immigration to the U.S. South, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, Oct 23-25.
- 2013 Immigrants, Activists and Immigration Reform: The Time is Now, American Anthropological Association, Chicago, Nov 20-24.
- 2012 State and Local Enforcement of Federal Immigration Laws in Tennessee: Analyzing the Effects of 287(g) and “Secure Communities”, 4th Conference on Immigration to the Southeast, Kennesaw State University, GA, Oct 18-20.
- 2012 Advocates Working to Reset the Discourse from “Undeserving Illegals” to “Contributing Members of Society” in a Context of Increasing Criminalization of Immigrants, Society for Applied Anthropology, Baltimore, Mar 27-31.
- 2010 Seeking to Understand the Politics of Immigration in Tennessee. Conference on Immigration in the Southeast: Defining Problems, Finding Solutions, Kennesaw State University, Oct 28-30.
- 2010 Poverty, Race and Type II Diabetes: Untangling Assumptions Embedded in Medical Statistics. Faculty Research Showcase, Health Care and Poverty Mini-Summit, Howard H. Baker Center for Public Policy, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, March 31.
- 2008 Engaging in Immigration Debates at the State and Local Levels: Conundrums for Immigrants and their Allies in Tennessee, American Anthropological Association, San Francisco.
- 2008 Immigrant Rights and Advocacy, Society for Applied Anthropology meeting, Memphis, TN.
- 2007 Welcoming Tennessee: Efforts of Immigrants and their Allies, American Anthropological Association meetings, Washington, D.C.
- 2007 Welcoming Tennessee: Chronicling the Efforts of Immigrants and their Allies to Influence Immigration Policy, Conference on Latino Immigration to New Settlement Areas: Trends and Implications, University of South Carolina, Oct. 11-13.
- 2006 The Diabetes Epidemics: Genetics or the Environment? Using Race Theory and Critical Medical Anthropology to Weigh in on the Debate, American Anthropological Association, San Jose, CA.
- 2006 Examining the Reproduction of Stereotypes about Low-Income Mexican Americans: Learning from the Past to Improve Health Care in the Future, The New Latino Immigration to Tennessee: Opportunities and Challenges Conference, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, March 31-April 1.
- 2006 Working with Low-Income Mexican Americans with Diabetes: Lessons Learned from Provider-Patient Interactions (Continuing education for the Nursing School and local health care providers), The New Latino Immigration, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, March 31-April 1.
- 2005 The Politics of Compliance in Medical Encounters with Low-Income Minority Patients, American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C.
- 2005 Culture, Biology and Race: Using Medical Anthropology to Re-Interpret the Epidemiology of Type II Diabetes Among Mexican Americans, Society for Applied Anthropology meeting, Santa Fe, NM.
- 2002 The Core Metaphor of Control: Questioning the Common Sense of Biomedical Discourse and its Effects on Diabetes Care, Society for Applied Anthropology, Atlanta, GA.
- 2000 Connections between Mexico and the United States in Everyday Health Care Practices, Latin American Studies Association meetings, Miami, FL., March 16-18.
- 1998 Compliance, Control, and Ethnicity: Biomedical Constructions of Adult Onset Diabetes and Mexican Americans as a Population at Risk, American Anthropological Assoc., Philadelphia, PA.

- 1997 Diabetes, Common Sense, and the Education of Consent, Society for Applied Anthropology, Seattle, WA.
- 1996 Control of 'The Creeper': A Mexican American Interpretation of Diabetes and its Treatment, American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, CA.
- 1996 Crossing the Border(s) with Information and Resources for the Treatment of Diabetes, Society for Applied Anthropology meeting, Baltimore, MD.
- 1995 Diabetes, Discipline, and Resistance: Constructions of Compliance in Western Biomedicine and the Treatment Strategies of Mexican Americans, American Anthropological Assoc., Washington, DC.
- 1995 Gender and Family Roles in Treatment Strategies of Mexican-American Diabetes Patients, Society for Applied Anthropology, Albuquerque, NM.
- 1993 With Erica David and Pamela Smith: Researchers, Social Agencies, and Single Mothers, on panel, Families in Poverty: A Collaboration Between Anthropologists and Community Organizations, organized by Laura Lein and Doug Foley. Society for Applied Anthropology, San Antonio, TX.
- 1991 The Misa Campesina: Revolutionary Change *a la nica*, Latin American Studies Association, Washington, D.C.

WORKSHOPS FACILITATED in Spanish in Nicaragua

- 2014 Undocumented immigrant rights in Tennessee, and organizing cultural projects among Miskitus, with *Mujeres Creativas*, FADCANIC, Puerto Cabezas, June 15.
- 2014 Formulating proposals for cultural projects, as part of a class to certify as a cultural promoter, sponsored by FADCANIC, at Casa Cultural, Puerto Cabezas, June 14.
- 2014 Organizing to lobby for the needs of the Miskitu community, with Miskitu religious leaders from several nearby towns, Fundación Pro-Moskitia, Santa Marta and Waspam, May 29 and 31.
- 2014 Incorporating Miskitu culture into school curricula, with *secundaria* teachers and students from several nearby towns, sponsored by Fundación Pro-Moskitia, Santa Marta, May 28.

INVITED TALKS

- 2023 Working with Immigrant and/or DACA Students: Understanding U.S. Immigration Policies. Pellissippi State Community College, Emotional Intelligence Cohort (faculty), February 23.
- 2022 Working with Immigrant and/or DACA Students: Understanding U.S. Immigration Policies. Pellissippi State Community College, Faculty Professional Development Series, March 24.
- 2020 Invited Speaker, Keynote Panel on U.S. Migration and Borders, with Arlene Amarante, Liliana Gonzalez, Christian Halloy, and Tore Olsson, History. Vernacular Symposium, Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, March 28.
- 2020 Invited panelist for workshop, Large Classroom Assessment, with Jeremy Chandler, Biology, and LaTonya Jordan, Accounting, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, February 12.
- 2018 Immigrant Rights and Anti-Immigrant Proposals and Policies in Tennessee, USA. Faculty of Education, Free University of Bozen Bolzano, Bressanone-Brixen, Italy, June 11, 2018.
- 2016 *Diabetes, los mexico-americanos, y la desigualdad and los Estados Unidos de América del Norte*, (Diabetes, Mexican Americans, and Inequality in the United States), Facultad de Salud (Health), Universidad Iberoamericana, México, D.F., April 14.
- 2016 *Luchas por los derechos de inmigrantes mexicanos y centroamericanos en Tennessee, Foro Binacional: El compromiso social de los académicos y la defensa de los derechos de migrantes en Estados Unidos*, (Struggles for the rights of Mexican and Central American immigrants in Tennessee, Binational Forum: Academics, Social Commitment, and Defending Migrant Rights in the United States) with Alan LeBaron, Kennesaw State University, hosted by Elaine Levine, CISAN-UNAM, Centro de Investigaciones Sobre América del Norte, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, México, D.F., April 13.

SELECTED PUBLIC TALKS

- 2024 Immigration and Asylum Policies: Past and Present, invited speaker at the League of Women Voters, Oak Ridge, TN, December 3.

- 2022 Días de los Muertos, Days of the Dead: History and Variations, Mexico and Latin America, part of Workshop for Secondary School Teachers, with Solange Muñoz and Marta Baltazar, coordinated by the McClung Museum of Natural History and Culture, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Aug. 27.
- 2021 Overview of Medical Anthropology, for Student Advocates for Medicine in Politics, Feb. 23.
- 2018 U.S. Immigration Policies: Historical Overview, adult Sunday School class at Concord United Methodist Church, Knoxville, TN, March 18.
- 2017 Immigration policies and 287(g), presentation with a representative from BRIDGE Refugee Services, to the Knox County Democratic Party's Progressive Action Committee, November 18.
- 2017 Losing DACA: The Effects on DREAMers and Immigrant Families in Knoxville, on panel discussion with Claudia Caballero, Mary Ann Reeves, Karen Latus, John Martinez, and Karla Mesa-Cruz, League of Women Voters, Fulton High School Auditorium, Knoxville, TN, September 21.
- 2017 Immigration Policies and Impact on Families, with Alessandra Ceccareli, for the Directors of Religious Education of the Catholic Diocese of Knoxville, September 14.
- 2016 Mayas Today: Life in Guatemala and Migration to the U.S., McClung Museum of Natural History and Culture, University of Tennessee, with exhibit, "Mayas: Lords of Time," February 23.
- 2015 U.S. Immigration Policies: Understanding the Past and Present, Invited talk, Oak Ridge League of Women Voters monthly meeting, Oak Ridge, TN, September 15.
- 2015 Bittersweet Harvest: The Bracero Program 1942-1964 discussion in Spanish, with Rosa Mar and Morristown community members, Rose Center, Morristown, TN, May 3.
- 2015 Invited talk: Immigration Policies: Past, Present, and Future, League of Women Voters of Tennessee, Spring Convention, Murfreesboro, TN, April 26.
- 2015 Bittersweet Harvest: The Bracero Program 1942-1964 discussion in English, with Cristina Barroso and Angel Luna, Rose Center, Morristown, TN, April 19.
- 2015 Bittersweet Harvest: The Bracero Program 1942-1964 discussion, with Rosa Mar and Armando Garza, Kingston Public Library, Kingston, TN, March 12.
- 2014 Invited talk: Deferred Action to Action by those Deferred to Deferred Action, ENLACE, organization of Latino law students, University of Tennessee Law School, November 20.
- 2014 Perspectives on Structural Violence: An Interdisciplinary Panel, with Jon Shefner, Sociology; Joshua Inwood, Geography; and Patrick Grzanka, Psychology. Sociology Student Committee, Club Geography, and Global Studies Club, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Sept. 25.
- 2014 Bittersweet Harvest: The Bracero Program 1942-1964, Special Program to Open Exhibit, with Mayor Madelyn Rogero, and Lourdes Garza, Director of Hispanic Ministries, Knoxville, TN, April 2.
- 2013 Invited to serve on panel discussion after Community Cinema screening of *The State of Arizona*, East Tennessee Public Broadcasting System and Independent Lens, with Darwin Guerrero, moderated by Amy Hubbard, December 5.
- 2013 287(g) and Immigration Reform in Knoxville, with Rosendo Lozano, at Immigration Reform Rally, hosted by the Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition, Centennial Park, Nashville, Oct 5.
- 2013 Public testimony regarding the possible implementation of 287(g) in Knox County at a public forum hosted by County Commissioner Amy Broyles and attended by Sheriff J.J. Jones and his staff, July 2.
- 2013 Immigration Reform: The Basics, Invited talk at Democratic Women's Group, Knoxville, July 1.
- 2013 History of U.S. Immigration Legislation and its Effects on Migration, Fourth District Democratic Club, Knoxville, TN, Feb 26.
- 2012 Presentation on possible implementation in Knox County of 287(g) with Alejandro Guizar, Elizabeth Pierce, and Daniel Snider, Latino Task Force, Highlander Center, New Market, TN, July 3.
- 2012 Presentation on panel on undocumented immigrants with Meghan Conley and Paul DeLeon, community activist, Amnesty International, University of Tennessee-Knoxville Student Chapter, April 5.
- 2012 Ancient Mayas and 2012 and Contemporary Mayas, Seniors for Creative Learning, Knoxville, TN, April 5.
- 2011 Panel discussion following public showing of *Welcome to Shelbyville*, with mayor-elect Madeline Rogero, Sylvia Calzadilla, and others, East Tennessee Civil Rights Working Group, Beck Cultural Center, Knoxville, TN, November 22.

- 2011 History of U.S. immigration policies, William Blount High School, Maryville, TN, November 3.
- 2011 Why People Migrate and U.S. Policy, part of a Hispanic Forum with Meghan Conley, Fran Ansley, and Miguel Carpizo, Oak Ridge Interfaith Dialogue, Roane State Community College, September 20.
- 2011 The Politics of Immigration in Tennessee, Center for the Study of Social Justice Spring Colloquium, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, April 15.
- 2011 Presentation for immigrant and refugee rights panel with Tricia Hepner, Karla McKanders, and a representative from Bridge Refugee Services, Amnesty International, University of Tennessee-Knoxville Student Chapter, April 7.
- 2011 Talk on immigration on local panel for “Fight Back USA! A National Teach-In on Austerity, Debt and Corporate Greed and What You Can Do About It,” Sociology Dept., U of Tennessee, April 5.
- 2011 Welcoming Tennessee in Knoxville, with Nathaly Perez, Lourdes Garza, Angel Ibarra, and Fran Ansley, Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition and Church of the Savior, February 10.
- 2010 Latino immigration in Tennessee, with Javier La Rosa, William Blount High School, November 4.

GUEST LECTURES at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville

- 2025 Health Care in Post-Soviet Republics, ANTH 322 The Soviet Union Aftermaths, Nov. 13, 2025.
- 2025 Migrant Caravans from Central America. Context for the film: *Lo que queda en el camino (What Remains on the Way)*. Hispanic Film Festival, organized by Betsabé Navarro, October 29, 2025.
- 2023 Mobility within and beyond Latin America: Nicaraguan Miskitu Migration, *Current Trends in Anthropology: Mobility*, ANTH 357/450, November 21.
- 2023 Migration within the Global South and Beyond: Miskitus Migrating out of Nicaragua, two sections of *Introduction to Globalization*, GLBS 250, October 24.
- 2023 Context for film about Zapotecs in Mexico, *Xquipi' Guie'Dani, El Ombligo de Guie'Dani, Guie'Dani's Navel*. Hispanic Film Festival, Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures, Oct. 19.
- 2022 Días de los Muertos, Days of the Dead: An Overview of Practices in Mexico and Latin America and the U.S., *Current Trends in Anthropology: Global Treatment of Death*, ANTH 357/450, Sept. 1.
- 2021 Context for films about Guatemala, *Los gigantes no existen* (Giants do not exist) and migration, *The Wall*. Hispanic Film Festival, Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures, March 23-30. (online)
- 2017 Structural Violence and U.S. Immigration Policies Past and Present, *Current Trends in Anthropology: Violence: Perspectives in anthropology and related disciplines*, ANTH 357/450, October 24.
- 2017 Immigration Policies Past and Present. And Future? with Kukuly Uriarte, for *Introduction to Globalization*, Global Studies 250, taught by Rebecca Klenk, April 4.
- 2016 Control, compliance and common sense: Diabetes care and the reproduction of stereotypes about Mexican Americans, *Current Trends in Anthropology: Disease: Variation and Multidisciplinary Perspectives*, ANTH 357/450, organized by Benjamin Auerbach, November 8.
- 2016 Nicaragua: Cultural Diversity and Revolution. Howard Baker Center, Series on Latin America, for Haslam Scholars honors students, September 7.
- 2016 U.S Immigration Policies: Overview to Understand Past and Present and Struggles for Immigrant Justice in Tennessee, *Ethnographies of Latin America*, ANTH 323, Eliza Echeverry, April 19.
- 2015 Struggles for Justice by Immigrants and Allies in Tennessee, Undergraduate Anthropology Association, October 8.
- 2015 Mexican Americans, Diabetes, and Food: Social Inequalities and Structural Changes in Food Production, *Current Trends in Anthropology: Food and Culture*, ANTH 357/450, October 1.
- 2015 On panels to train discussion leaders on Life of the Mind Book, *The Book of Unknown Americans*, by Cristina Henríquez, August 5.
- 2015 Knoxville: Latino Migrants and Organizations, Immigrant Rights, with Alejandro Guizar, *Knoxville, American Studies 410*, taught by Bob Hutton, January 28.
- 2014 Tennessee Immigrant Rights Campaigns, for *Applied Anthropology*, ANTH 416, October 30.
- 2014 Immigration Policies: A brief introduction, for *Culturally Relevant Practice*, Graduate seminar in Social Work taught by Mary Rogge, April 2.
- 2014 Immigration Policies, with Alejandro Guizar, Office of Multicultural Student Life, April 1.

- 2014 Immigration Policies: Past and Present, *Introduction to Globalization*, Global Studies 250, March 13.
- 2013 Immigration Reform and Anthropology, *Method and Theory in Cultural Anthropology*, March 7.
- 2013 Immigration Reform Debates, *Introduction to Globalization*, Global Studies 250, March 7.
- 2013 Immigration and Latino Families, *Diversity in Children and Families*, Child and Family Studies 552, taught by Delores Smith, March 4.
- 2012 “Life of the Mind” Book for 2012 Discussion Leader Seminars on Eric Liu’s *The Accidental Asian*, to discuss race relations in undergraduate classes, Univ. of Tennessee-Knoxville, August 13 and 14.
- 2012 Immigration and immigrant rights, *Introduction to Globalization*, Global Studies/SOC 250, Mar. 27.
- 2012 Facilitate discussions with readers of *Joseño: Another Mayan Voice Speaks from Guatemala*, International Literary Colloquy, organized by the International House, Feb. 29 and March 1.
- 2011 Advocating for Immigrant Rights in Tennessee, *Current Trends: Anthropology in the Public Sphere: (Re)Defining Research and Practice for the 21st Century*, ANTH 357/450, Nov. 22.
- 2011 Discussing Marcus and Fischer’s *Anthropology as Cultural Critique* and Eric Wolf, Antonio Gramsci, Pierre Bourdieu, Michele Foucault and other theorists in *Method and Theory in Cultural Anthropology*, ANTH 510, taught by Tricia Hepner, February 23 and March 9.
- 2010 Anthropologists Well-Suited for Activism, Undergraduate Anthropology Association, Sept. 28.
- 2010 Being Native American or Mexican American and Being “At Risk” For Type 2 Diabetes: Genetics, Environmental Change, and Racial Oppression, *Current Trends in Anthropology: Identity, Ancestry and Heritage: Multidisciplinary Perspectives*, ANTH 357/450, Graciela Cabana, September 14.
- 2009 Activist Anthropology. Undergraduate Anthropology Association, U of Tennessee, November 12.
- 2008 To Welcome or Not to Welcome, That is the Question: Immigrant Rights and Community Organizing in Tennessee, *Current Trends in Anthropology: Communities in Crisis*, ANTH 357/450, Sept. 25.
- 2008 Immigrant rights work, *Anthropology of Human Rights*, ANTH 459/501/601, Tricia Hepner, Mar. 11.
- 2007 Latino Migration to Tennessee and Other New Destinations, *Current Trends in Anthropology: Global Change*, ANTH 357/450, organized by David Anderson, October 18.
- 2007 The New Latino Immigration to Tennessee: Opportunities and Challenges, *Applied Anthropology* taught by Melissa Hargrove, at Miami University, Ohio, September 13.
- 2006 Diabetes research and immigrant rights, Undergraduate Anthropology Association, November 28.
- 2006 Race and Diabetes Statistics, *Current Trends in Anthropology: Race and Ethnicity*, ANTH 357/450, organized by Murray Marks, November 2.
- 2006 Feminist Anthropology, in graduate ANTH 510, *Method and Theory in Cultural Anthropology*, taught by Benita Howell, April 4.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS (present and past)

American Anthropological Association	Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology
Society for Applied Anthropology	Southeast Immigration Studies Association
Society for Medical Anthropology	Latin American Studies Association
Critical Anthropology of Health Caucus	World Anthropological Union
Association of Latina and Latino Anthropologists	American Assoc. of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese
SUNTA Committee on Refugees and Immigrants	American Literary Translators Association
Critical Urban Anthropology Association	

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2023-2024. Anonymous review of article for *Migration & Society*.
2019. Anonymous review of article on migration, *Sociology International Journal*.
2014. Anonymous article review, *North American Dialogue*, Society for the Anthropology of North America.
2013. Anonymous article review, *Anthropologica*, Journal of the Canadian Anthropological Society.
- 2011, 2010, 2009, 2006, 2005. Anonymous reviews of articles for *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*.
2009. Proposal Review for National Science Foundation Cultural Anthropology Program.
2005. Review of *Cultural Anthropology*, 11th ed., by Conrad Kottak, for McGraw-Hill.

DEPARTMENT, COLLEGE, and UNIVERSITY SERVICE (University of Tennessee-Knoxville)

Anthropology Department Head Search Committee, Spring 2025.

Anthropology Curriculum Committee, beginning in Fall 2024.

Teaching Review: Graduate Teaching Associate, Taylor Walkup, ANTH 472, Paleopathology, Spring 2024.

Undergraduate Committee, Department of Anthropology, beginning Spring 2024.

Cultural and Biological Anthropology Faculty Search Committees, Spring 2023.

Disasters, Displacement, and Human Rights, faculty member, 2011 to 2026.

Latin American and Caribbean Studies, faculty member, 2006 to 2026.

Center for the Study of Social Justice, fellow, 2009 to 2026.

Global Studies, Faculty Associate, 2013 to 2026.

Anthropology Coordinator for Connections Packages, 2014 to late Spring 2023.

American Studies Steering Committee, 2011-2017, Curriculum Committee, 2014-2017.

Student Conduct Board, faculty member, Fall 2017-Spring 2026.

Latinx/e Engagement Community of Scholars, beginning in November 2023.

EURECA Judge (university-wide undergraduate research competition, April 15, 2025).

COMMUNITY SERVICE

2005-2026. Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition, Comité Popular de Knoxville, Allies of Knoxville's Immigrant Neighbors (co-founder), and Southeastern Immigrant Rights Network.

2008-2025. Latino Task Force.

2008-2026. Jobs with Justice of East Tennessee.

2008-2010. Knoxville is Talking about Race.