

## MIGUEL ALEJANDRO VALERIO

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### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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#### Washington University in St. Louis

- 2018-present Assistant Professor of Spanish (tenure track)  
**Courtesy affiliations:** Latin American Studies Program; Performing Arts Department; Interdisciplinary Project in the Humanities; Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Equity
- 2017-18 Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in Spanish

### EDUCATION

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- 2017 Ph.D., Spanish & Portuguese, The Ohio State University.  
2010 M.A., Spanish, Certificate of Excellency, St. John's University.  
20058 B.A., Philosophy, *magna cum laude*, St. John's University.

### PUBLICATIONS

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#### Monograph

*Sovereign Joy: Afro-Mexican Kings and Queens, 1539-1640*. Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2022.

#### Edited Volume

*Indigenous and Black Confraternities in Colonial Latin America: Negotiating Status through Religious Practices*. Co-edited with Javiera Jaque Hidalgo. University of Amsterdam Press, forthcoming 2022.

#### Articles

"The Pardos' Triumph: The Use of Festival Material Culture for Socioracial Promotion in Eighteenth-Century Pernambuco." *Journal of Festive Studies*, vol. 3, no. 1, 2021, pp. 47-71.  
<https://doi.org/10.33823/jfs.2021.3.1.79>

"The Spanish Petition System, Hospital/ity, and the Formation of a Mulato Community in Sixteenth-Century Mexico." *The Americas*, vol. 78, no. 3, 2021, pp. 415-437. <https://doi.org/10.1017/tam.2021.45>

"Architects of Their Own Humanity: Race, Devotion, and Artistic Agency in Afro-Brazilian Confraternal Churches in Eighteenth-Century Salvador and Ouro Preto." *Colonial Latin American Review*, vol. 30, no. 2, 2021, pp. 238-271. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10609164.2021.1912483>

"'That there be no black brotherhood': The Failed Suppression of Afro-Mexican Confraternities, 1568-1612." *Slavery & Abolition*, vol. 42, no. 2, 2021, pp. 293-314. Published online April 29, 2020: <https://doi.org/10.1080/0144039X.2020.1755152>

"Black Dancers and Musicians Performing Afro-Christian Identity in Early Modern Spain and Portugal." *Publication of the Afro-Latin/American Research Association*, no. 24, 2020, pp. 47-56.

“Black Confraternity Members Performing Afro-Christian Identity in a Renaissance Festival in Mexico City in 1539.” *Confraternitas*, vol. 29, no. 1, 2018, pp. 31-54.

“The Queen of Sheba’s Manifold Body: Creole Black Women Performing Sexuality, Cultural Identity, and Power in Seventeenth-Century Mexico City.” *Afro-Hispanic Review*, vol. 35, no. 2, 2016, pp. 79-98.

#### FORTHCOMING

#### Invited Essays

“Church of Our Lady of the Rosary of the Blacks, Ouro Preto, Brazil.” *Smarthistory*, March 14, 2021, <https://smarthistory.org/church-our-lady-of-the-rosary-ouro-preto/> (peer reviewed).

“Radical Blackness: Defying the Anti-Black Ontology of Slavocracy.” *Iberian Connections* vol. 7, no. 2, 2020, <https://iberian-connections.yale.edu/articles/radical-blackness/>

“A Mexican *Sangamento*? The First Afro-Christian Performance in the Americas.” In *Afro-Catholic Festivals in the Americas: Performance, Representation, and the Making of Atlantic Tradition*, edited by Cécile Fromont, Pennsylvania State University Press, 2019, pp. 59-72 (peer reviewed).

#### FORTHCOMING

“Black Brotherhoods in the Iberian Atlantic.” In *The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Latin American History*. Ed. Stephen Webre. Oxford University Press (peer reviewed).

“Creolizing Death: Afro-Catholic Deathways in the Early Modern Iberian World.” In *Slave Subjectivities in the Iberian World (15th-20th Centuries)*, edited volume under contract with Brill (peer reviewed).

“*Christianos nigros*: Afro-Iberian Confraternities’ Social and Cultural Functions.” In *Trajectories of Empire: Transhispanic Reflections on the African Diaspora*, edited volume under contract with Vanderbilt University Press (peer reviewed).

“Water, Only Water on All Parts?: Re/imagining the Middle Passage in Teresa Cárdenas’ *Mãe Sereia*.” In *Hydro-Colonialism and the New World*, edited volume under contract with Palgrave MacMillan (peer reviewed).

#### Academic Book Reviews

Review of Rowe, Erin. *Black Saints in Early Modern Global Catholicism*. Forthcoming in *Church History*, vol. 90, 2022.

Review of Dierksmeier, Laura. *Charity for and by the Poor: Franciscan-Indigenous Confraternities in Mexico, 1527–1700*. *Colonial Latin American Review*, vol. 30, no. 1, 2021, pp. 162-64.

Review of Sierra Silva, Pablo Miguel. *Urban Slavery in Colonial Mexico: Puebla de los Ángeles, 1531-1706*. *H-Latam*, 2019, <https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showpdf.php?id=53411>

Review of Walker, Tamara J. *Exquisite Slaves: Race, Clothing and Status in Colonial Lima*. *Bulletin of the Comediantes*, vol. 70, no. 1, 2018, pp. 83-85.

Review of Thomas Bosshard, Marco. *La reterritorialización de lo humano: una teoría de las vanguardias americanas*. *Revista de Crítica Literaria Latinoamericana*, vol. 40, no. 80, 2015, pp. 461-464.

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### **Awards**

- 2020 Finalist, Maureen Ahern Doctoral Dissertation Award in Colonial Latin American Studies, Colonial Section, Latin American Studies Association.
- 2014 Barbara A. Hanawalt Award for Outstanding Graduate Essay, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, The Ohio State University, 2014.

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### **RESEARCH**

#### **Research Interests**

Africans and Afro-descendants in colonial Latin American literature and culture  
Africans and Afro-descendants in the Mediterranean  
Africans and Afro-descendants in Renaissance and Baroque literature and culture  
Black confraternities in the Iberian Empires  
Renaissance and Baroque festival culture  
Funeral rituals among black confraternities  
Afro-Latin American literature and culture  
The history of race and racism  
Identity formation

#### **Ongoing Project**

Member, Organizing Committee, WashU & Slavery, Center the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Equity, Washington University in St. Louis, 2020-present.

#### **Fellowships and Grants**

##### NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

- 2021 Postdoctoral Fellowship, Ford Foundation (deferred to academic year 2022-23).
- 2021 Career Enhancement Fellowship, Institute for Citizens and Scholars.
- 2021 Short-Term Research Fellowship, Renaissance Society of America.
- 2021 Finalist, OI-NEH Postdoctoral Fellowship, Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, College of William and Mary.
- 2016 W. M. Keck Foundation Fellowship, The Huntington Library, for dissertation research.
- 2015 Research Fellowship, National Research Council of Italy, to attend conference, \$2000.
- 2015 Field Research Grant, Tinker Foundation, for dissertation research, \$2,000.
- 2014 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, US Department of Education, to study Aymara.

##### WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

- 2021 Small Grant, Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Equity.
- 2021 Faculty Fellowship, Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Equity (declined).
- 2021 First Book Faculty Fellowship, Center for the Humanities (declined).
- 2020 Summer Faculty Research Grant, Center for the Humanities, for archival research in Lima, Peru. (Postponed due to Covid-19 pandemic)

2019 Teaching Innovation Grant, College of Arts and Science, for heritage language course design.

### Invited Lectures and Talks

#### NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL

2021 “Afro-Mexican Kings and Queens: Black Joy, Sovereignty, and Being in Colonial Mexico.” Latin American History Seminar, University of London.

“Thinking Black Joy, Sovereignty, and Being from Colonial Latin America.” Dept. of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, University of Arkansas.

“‘It Looked Like a Picture of Heaven’: Afro-Catholic Festivals in Mexico City.” *Colonial Cities in the Early Modern Iberian Atlantic*, Dept. of the History of Art, Yale University (invited).

“Soberanía negra en Latinoamérica colonial.” *Early Spanish-American Culture and Literature*, Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

“Ruling While Black: African Kings and Queens in Colonial Latin America.” Black History Month Speaker Series, Black Studies Program, Washington College.

2020\* “BLM before BLM: Black Resistance in Colonial Latin America.” *The Cabildo Speaker Series*, School of History, Philosophy, and Religion, Oregon State University.

“Radical Blackness.” Iberian Connections, Yale University.

“Primary Sources on Afro-Colonial Festivals.” *Studies in Indigenous and Colonial Latin American Literatures and Cultures*, Dept. of Spanish & Portuguese, The Ohio State University.

“Afro-Latin America: A Conversation about Culture and Race.” Latinx Community Resource Center, California State University, Fullerton.

“Afro-Mexican Confraternities.” *African Diaspora in Latin America, 1500-2000*, Department of History, University of Rochester.

“Kinship and Pageantry among Colonial Afro-Latin Americans.” Center for Diversity and Community, University of South Dakota.

“Racism in the Spanish-Speaking World and Hispanic Studies.” Convocation, Illinois College.

“The Black Kings and Queens of Colonial Mexico City: Identity, Performance, and Power, 1539-1640.” Dept. of Spanish & Portuguese, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

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\* Invitation to speak in the Dept. of Romance Languages and Literatures at the University of Pennsylvania was canceled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

- 2018 “Soberanía y raza: ‘reyes negros’ y poder soberano en la América colonial.” Dept. of Spanish & Portuguese, Colorado College.
- 2015 “Dominican Culture.” International Week Keynote Address, Marietta College, Marietta, Ohio.

#### WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

- 2021 “Architects of their Own Humanity: The Afro-Baroque Architecture of Colonial Brazil.” *Modern Architecture, Race, and Ethnicity*, College of Architecture, Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts.

#### **Invited Conference Papers**

- 2022 “Saints, Princes, and Pirates: Black Hagiography on the Spanish Stage.” *Black Performance in Early Modern Iberia*, New York University. (invited)
- 2021 “Fear and Loathing in New Spain: Antiblackness in Colonial Mexico.” *Region and Enmity: A RaceB4Race Symposium*, Rutgers University.
- 2019 “The Black-Native Encounter and the Promise for Cultural Intimacies.” *Rethinking Colonialism in Mexico and the Americas: Past, Present, and Future*. Annual Symposium of the Helmerich Center for American Research, Gilcrease Museum, University of Tulsa.
- 2019 “*Christianos nigros*: Afro-Iberian Confraternities’ Social and Cultural Roles.” *Empire and Its Aftermath: Transhispanic Dialogues on Diaspora*, University of Pittsburgh.
- 2018 “Black Festival Performances: Global Practices in Colonial Context.” Religion and Politics in Early America, St. Louis.
- 2015 “Staging Afro-Christian Identity in a Renaissance Festival in Mexico City in 1539.” Symposium on Afro-Christian Festivals in the Americas, Institute of Sacred Music, Yale University.

#### **Conference Papers**

##### 2022

“‘For They Have No Hospital’: Afro-Mexicans’ Thwarted Effort to Establish Their Own Health Care Institutions and the Racilization of Medical Care in the Sixteenth Century.” Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, online.

##### 2021<sup>†</sup>

“Black Pageantry and the Politics of Festivals in the Early Modern Iberian Atlantic.” Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America (virtual).

“Architecture of Devotions: The Churches Afro-Brazilian Religious Brotherhoods Built in the Eighteenth Century.” Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (virtual).

##### 2020<sup>‡</sup>

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<sup>†</sup> The following conferences were canceled due to the Covid-19 pandemic:

1. American Historical Association, Seattle, Washington.

<sup>‡</sup> The following conferences were canceled due to the Covid-19 pandemic:

1. American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, St. Louis, Missouri.

“Black Sanctity.” *Materializing Race: An “Unconference” on Objects and Identity in #VastEarlyAmerica*.  
<https://www.materializingrace.com/unconferenceaugust?fbclid=IwAR0n0fjZoSnk2EUu7qcfRsPI TapEYRE-ApgYz4Ps0PNVky3NweHC27fWU4>.

“The Black Kings and Queens of Colonial Latin America: Re/Constructing Sovereignty.” *América ladina: vinculando mundos y saberes, tejiendo esperanzas*, 38<sup>th</sup> International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association.

### **2019**

“Afro-Mexican Confraternities and Self-Governance.” The ALARI First Continental Conference on Afro-Latin American Studies, Harvard University.

“Brazil and Black Festival Performances in Colonial Spanish America.” Annual Convention of the Modern Language Association, Chicago.

### **2018**

“*So color de una cofradía*: Afro-Mexican Confraternities in the Sixteenth Century.” Annual Conference of the Sixteenth Century Society, Albuquerque.

“The Brothers and Sisters of St. Gonzalo Garcia: Performing Pardo Identity in 18th-Century Recife.” 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the American Portuguese Studies Association, University of Michigan.

“Black Brotherhoods and Religious Subjectivities in the Early Modern Iberian World.” *Slave Subjectivities in the Iberian Worlds, 15<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> Centuries*, University of Lisbon.

“Afro-Confraternities in the Early Modern Iberian Atlantic.” 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, New Orleans.

### **2017**

“Black Confraternities and Resistance in Viceregal Mexico City.” *New Cartographies in Iberian and Latin American Studies*. Mid-America Conference on Hispanic Literatures, St. Louis.

“Colonial Afro-Latin Americans, the Archive, and the Politics of Ambivalence.” *Dialogues of Knowledge*. 35<sup>th</sup> International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru, Lima.

“Native American Visions of ‘Black Conquistadors’ in Mesoamerican Codices.” *Legacies of Conquest: Transnational Perspectives on the Conquest and Colonization of Latin America*, University of Cambridge.

“*Festín hecho por las morenas criollas*: Afro-Mexican Women Performing Sexuality, Cultural Identity, and Power in Colonial Mexico.” *Hemispheric Transformations*. 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Middle-Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies, University of Virginia.

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2. Renaissance Society of America, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
  3. *1<sup>er</sup> Coloquio sobre cofradías y organizaciones cívico-religiosas en México: periodo novohispano y siglo XIX*, Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (INAH), Mexico City.

**2016**

“In Strange New Lands: Blacks and Indians in Renaissance Festivals.” 34<sup>th</sup> International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, New York.

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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Summer 2016 - Archival research for dissertation in the US, Mexico and Brazil

Summer 2015 - Archival research for dissertation in the US, Spain and Portugal

Summer 2014 - Archival research on race and Haitian relations in the Dominican Republic

**COURSES**

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**Washington University in St. Louis**

**GRADUATE**

**Spanish**

Race and Ethnicity (Spring 2021)

Beyond Survival: Black Agency in Colonial Latin America (Spring 2019)

**UNDERGRADUATE**

**Spanish**

The Contemporary Afro-Latin American Novel (senior seminar; Spring 2020)

Afro-Latin American Culture and Literature: Bodies and Voices (Spring 2019)

Latin American Literatures and Cultures (Fall 2020)

Literary and Cultural Studies in Spanish (Fall 2018, Springs 2019, 2020)

Advanced Reading and Composition (Fall 2017)

**Portuguese**

Portuguese for Spanish Speakers (Fall 2017)

**Latin American Studies Program**

Survey of Brazilian Culture (Spring 2018)

**Interdisciplinary Project in the Humanities**

The Intellectual History of Race and Ethnicity (cross-listed with Philosophy, American Studies, and Comparative Literature; co-taught with Trevor Sangrey in Spring 2019; Spring 2021)

**University College**

Afro-Latin America: History and Culture (Summer 2020)

Introduction to Brazilian Culture (Summers 2018, 2019)

Elementary Portuguese (Summers 2019, 2020)

**The Ohio State University**

Modern Latin American Literature in Translation: Fictions and Realities

Introduction to the Study of Literature and Culture in Spanish: Reading Texts

Intermediate Spanish Composition

Spanish Language Level 2

Intensive Review of Spanish

**St. John's University**

Spanish Language Level II

Spanish Language Level I

**SERVICE**

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**To the Profession**

Reader, Critical Latin America book series, Brill, 2020-present.

Reader, *Fronteras de la Historia*, 2020-present.

Reader, *Quimbandas*, 2019-present.

Reader, *Afro-Hispanic Review*, 2019-present.

Member, Editorial Board, *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos*, 2018-present.

Production Editor, *alter/nativas: latin american cultural studies journal*, 2014-16.

**Washington University in St. Louis**

**DEPARTMENT**

Member, Target of Opportunity Committee, 2020-present.

Member, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, 2020-present.

University College Coordinator, 2018-Present.

Member, Heritage Language Committee, 2018-2019.

**LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM**

Member, Target of Opportunity Committee, 2020-present.

**ADVISING**

2021-22 – 8 majors, 21 minors

2020-21 – 3 majors, 18 minors

2019-20 – 3 majors, 21 minors

2018-19 – 22 minors

**UNIVERSITY**

Member, Advisory Group, Race and Ethnicity Cluster Hire, 2020-present.

Member, Future of Day of Discovery, Dialogue, and Action Subcommittee, 2019-20.

Hispanic/Latinx and International Faculty Liaison, 2019-20.

Member, Interdisciplinary Project in the Humanities Committee, 2018-Present.

**The Ohio State University**

Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee, 2016-217.

**Community**

Latino and Latin American High School Mentoring Program, 2016-17.

**PHD EXAMS**

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2020 Juan Manuel Ramírez Velázquez

2021 Kaché Claytor



### **PHD THESIS COMMITTEES**

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Director, Kaché Claytor, in progress.

Second Reader, Juan Manuel Ramírez Velázquez, “Women’s Transgressive Power: Gender, Migration, and Exile in the Early Modern Ibero-Atlantic World,” in progress.

Third Reader, Silvia Juliana Rocha Dallos, “Milagros y portentos: evento, corporalidad y etnicidad en la Nueva España,” July 2019.

### **LANGUAGES**

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Spanish (*native*). English (*near-native*). Portuguese (*highly proficient*). Italian (*highly proficient*). Ecclesiastical Latin (*read*). French (*read*). Medieval Catalan/Valencian (*read*).

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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Afro-Latin American Research Association (ALARA)

American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ASECS)

Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD)

Brazilian Studies Association (BRASA)

Latin American Studies Association (LASA)

Modern Language Association (MLA)

Renaissance Society of America (RSA)

Society for Confraternity Studies (SCS)

American Portuguese Studies Association (APSA)