

**Paul F. Ramírez**  
pramirez@northwestern.edu

Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences  
Northwestern University  
1881 Sheridan Road  
Evanston, IL 60208

## EDUCATION

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- Ph.D.            **University of California, Berkeley**  
History, December 2010  
  
Examination fields: Colonial and Modern Latin America; Early Modern Europe; Linguistic and Social Anthropology
- M.A.            **University of California, Berkeley**  
History, May 2006
- M.T.S.         **Harvard Divinity School**  
World Religions, June 2004
- A.B.            **Harvard College**  
Comparative Study of Religion, *magna cum laude*, June 2002

## GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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Donald L. Saunders Long-Term Fellow, The John Carter Brown Library, 2020-21  
Distinguished Fellow, Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study, 2016-17  
Consortium for American Indian Studies Faculty Fellow, Newberry Library, 2016-17  
External Fellow, Stanford Humanities Center, 2016-17 [declined]  
Alice E. Adams Fellowship, John Carter Brown Library, 2016-17 [3 months, declined]  
Dana and David Dornsife Fellow, Huntington Library, 2012-13  
Course Development Grant, IAS Program, Washington University in St. Louis, spring 2012  
Provost's Early Career Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2010-12 [declined]  
Mabelle McLeod Lewis Dissertation Completion Fellowship, 2009-10 [\$23,000]  
Townsend Center for the Humanities Fellow, UC Berkeley, 2009-10 [declined, \$18,000]  
Chancellor's Fellow, University of California, Berkeley, 2004-09  
Dissertation Research Grant, University of California Institute for Mexico and the U.S., 2007-09  
Center for the Study of World Religions Summer Research Fellow, Harvard University, 2003  
David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies Research Grant, Harvard University, 2001

## EMPLOYMENT

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**Northwestern University**  
Department of History  
Associate Professor, 2018 to present

(courtesy appt. Religious Studies)  
Assistant Professor, 2012 to 2018  
(Faculty Affiliate, Science in Human Culture Program, fall 2013 to present)  
(Faculty Affiliate, Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program, fall 2013 to present)  
(Faculty Associate, Buffett Center for International and Comparative Studies, 2014-15)

**Washington University in St. Louis**

Department of History (courtesy appt. in Religious Studies)  
Assistant Professor, 2010 to 2012

**University of California, Berkeley**

Department of History  
Graduate Student Instructor, 2005-2006, fall 2008  
Reader, Spring 2005

**PUBLICATIONS**

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- “Cowpox and Contagion: Commentary on a Nineteenth-Century Mexican Vaccination Guide,” special issue of *Harvard Library Bulletin* (under review)
- Enlightened Immunity: Mexico’s Experiments with Disease Prevention in the Age of Reason* (Stanford University Press, 2018)
- “A Scabrous State: Promoting Immunization in Mexico, 1779-1804” (article manuscript)
- “Double Vision: Dichotomies in the Study of Latin America,” in *Imagining Histories of Colonial Latin America: Synoptic Methods and Practices*, eds. Karen Melvin and Sylvia Sellers-García (Albuquerque: The University of New Mexico Press, 2017), 29-45  
\*Awarded D. Scott Palmer Best Edited Volume Prize, New England Council of Latin American Studies
- “Mendacious Texts: The Art of Confessional Dissimulation,” in *ibid.*, 217-224
- Translator (with Karen Melvin and Sylvia Sellers-García), “Advice and Warnings for New Confessors by a Discalced Carmelite and Priest,” in *ibid.*, 225-255
- “Enlightened Publics for Public Health: Assessing Disease in Colonial Mexico,” *Endeavour* 37:1 (March 2013): 3-12 [Special issue: “Continuity and Change in the History of Mexican Public Health”]
- “Out of Tlatelolco’s Ruins: Patronage, Devotion, and Natural Disaster at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Angels, 1745-1781,” *Hispanic American Historical Review* 93:1 (February 2013): 33-65 (co-authored with William B. Taylor)
- “‘Like Herod’s Massacre’: Quarantines, Bourbon Reform, and Popular Protest in Oaxaca’s Smallpox Epidemic, 1796-1797,” *The Americas* 69:2 (October 2012): 203-235  
\*Awarded Tibesar Prize, Conference on Latin American History
- “Introduction” to *Zapata and Mexican Land Reform* (Berkeley, CA: The Bancroft Library Press, 2010)

**BOOK REVIEWS**

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Donald Fithian Stevens, *Mexico in the Time of Cholera*, in *Journal of Family History* (forthcoming)

- Cameron T. Jones, *In Service of Two Masters: The Missionaries of Ocopa, Indigenous Resistance, and Spanish Governance in Bourbon Peru*, in *The Americas* (forthcoming)
- Mark Lentz, *Murder in Mérida, 1792: Violence, Factions, and the Law*, in *The Historian* 81:4 (winter 2019)
- David Rex Galindo, *To Sin No More: Franciscans and Conversion in the Hispanic World, 1683-1830*, in *Hispanic American Historical Review*
- Luz María Hernández Sáenz, *Carving a Niche: The Medical Profession in Mexico, 1800-1870*, in *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*
- Pablo F. Gómez, *The Experiential Caribbean: Creating Knowledge and Healing in the Early Modern Atlantic*, in *Social History of Medicine* 31:3 (August 2018): 648-49
- José Jouve Martín, *The Black Doctors of Colonial Lima: Science, Race and Writing in Colonial and Early Republican Peru*, in *Revista Hispánica Moderna* 69:2 (December 2016): 219-22
- “The University of Virginia Claude Moore Health Science Library Online Collections,” *Medical History* 57:2 (April 2013): 312-315

### **CONFERENCES, PANELS, PRESENTATIONS**

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- December 2020 “History in the Time of Pandemic: A Conversation.” Sponsored by the Department of History, Washington University in St. Louis.
- December 2020 “History in the Time of Pandemic: Some Lessons from Latin America.” Lecture sponsored by the O’Connell Initiative, Fordham University.
- October 2020 “History in a Time of Epidemic: Some Lessons from Latin America.” Lecture presented at the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Faculty Colloquium, Northwestern U.
- January 2020 Commentator, “Sacramental Logics in the Catholic Atlantic World.” American Society of Church History Meeting, New York, New York.
- May 2019 “The Ghostly Presence of Saints in Mexican Salt.” Presented at the Ghost Writers Conference, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Mass.
- June 2018 Commentator, “Persons, Powers, and Plants.” Panel convened for *Osiris* issue, “Global Medical Cultures, Properties and Laws.” Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.
- October 2017 “Rumors, Speech Acts, and Medical Facts: An Oral History of Mexico’s First Immunization Campaigns.” Lecture sponsored by the History of Science Department, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
- October 2017 “Salt, Saints, and the Hidden Lives of Commodities in Mexico.” Paper presented at the Religion in the Americas Workshop, Department of Religion, Princeton University.
- April 2017 “Salt of the Santos: Toward a Religious History of Commodities.” Lecture sponsored by the Newberry Colloquium, The Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois.
- March 2017 “The Last Saltmakers of Mexico: Some Reflections on Work and Value.” Presented at the Race and Religion in the Americas and the Atlantic World Conference, Princeton University.
- October 2016 “Smallpox, Scabs, and the Enlightened State: Promoting Immunization in Mexico, 1779-1804.” Paper presented at the Latin American History Working Group, University of Notre Dame.

- October 2016 “Pestilential Devotions: Urban Ceremony and Disease Control in Enlightenment Mexico.” Presented at the Urban History Association Conference, Chicago, Illinois.
- April 2016 “Salt of the Santos: Toward a Religious History of Commodities.” Presented at the Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies Meeting, Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- January 2016 “How to Immunize a Colony.” Lecture sponsored by Klopsteg Lecture Series, Science in Human Culture Program, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.
- June 2015 Chair, “Medicine and Culture in the Early Modern Atlantic World.” Omohundro Institute of Early American History Conference, Chicago, Illinois.
- May 2015 Respondent, “Slavers for a White God,” presented by Juliana Barr at the Borderlands and Latino/a Studies Symposium, Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois.
- April 2014 “How the Bourbons Vaccinated Mexico.” Presented at the Katz Center for Mexico Studies, The University of Chicago.
- April 2014 Chair, “Embodying Law: The Legal Construction of the Individual.” Conference on Law in Action, Chabreja Center for Historical Studies, Northwestern University.
- Nov. 2013 Chair, “Rights and Race in Nineteenth-Century Mexico.” Panel convened for the Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting, St. Louis, Missouri.
- June 2013 “The Enlightenment Battle against Epidemic Disease in Mexico.” Presented at the Huntington Library, San Marino, California.
- April 2013 Keynote Lecturer, *Epidemics and History Symposium*, sponsored by the Department of History, Latin American Studies, and the Mellon Interdisciplinary Workshop in the Humanities, University of California, Riverside.
- January 2013 “The Public’s Health: Mexico’s Early Campaigns against Smallpox.” Presented at the 2013 Conference on Latin American History and AHA Meeting, New Orleans.
- January 2013 Chair and panel organizer, “Revolutions in the History of Medicine: Smallpox Eradication in Latin America and the Circum-Caribbean.” Convened for the 2013 Conference on Latin American History and AHA Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- May 2012 “Confession by Deceit: Pastors at the Sick Bed in Late Colonial Mexico.” Presented at the 2012 Latin American Studies Association Conference, San Francisco, California.
- February 2012 Commentator, “Atlantic Cartographies.” Panel convened for *Empire’s End: Transnational Connections in the Hispanic World, 1808-1898*, Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.
- February 2012 Faculty speaker, 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium on Latino Contributions, by invitation of Association for Latin American Students and the Annika Rodriguez Scholars Program, Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.
- October 2011 Panel participant, “What U.S. American Culture Studies Can Learn from Latin American Studies and Vice Versa.” American Culture Studies Harvey Fellows Dinner, Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.
- April 2011 “State Ethnographies, Science, and Smallpox Scabs: Promoting Preventive Medicine in New Spain, 1779-1804.” Paper presented at the Globalizing the History of Colonial Medicine and Public Health Workshop, Yale School of Medicine, New Haven.
- October 2009 “Dissecting Rumors: Branding, Bewitching, and Other Realities of Mexico’s Early Immunization Efforts.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society for Ethnohistory, New Orleans, Louisiana.

- Sept. 2009 "A Family Affair: Boundaries, Bonds, and the Body Politic in Oaxaca's 1796-1797 Smallpox Epidemic." Presented to the Latin American Studies Working Group, Doreen B. Townsend Center for the Humanities, University of California, Berkeley.
- August 2009 "'They Wielded Shotguns, Knives, and Machetes': Farmers, Mothers, and Border Violence in a Mexican Epidemic." Presented at the 102<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- April 2009 "Branded by the King: Rumor, Illusion, and the Politics of Healing in Mexico's Early Immunization Campaigns, 1797-1820." Presented at the History Graduate Student Conference, Loyola University, Chicago.
- 2005 "Isolating Disease: Cayetano Cabrera y Quintero's *Escudo de armas de México* and the *Matlazahuatl* Epidemic of Mexico City, 1736-1737." Unpublished paper, University of California, Berkeley (awarded Leo Lowenthal Memorial Prize)

## SERVICE

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- Article Referee, *Berichte zur Wissenschaftsgeschichte / History of Science and Humanities* (2020)
- Committee Member, The Vanderwood Prize, Conference on Latin American History (2020)
- Book Referee, Penn State University Press (2020)
- Grant Reviewer, The Newberry Library (Short-Term Fellowships) (2020)
- Evaluator, National Endowment for the Humanities (2019)
- Article Referee, *Colonial Latin America Review* (2019)
- Book Referee, Penn State University Press (2018)
- Article Referee, *História, Ciências, Saúde Manguinhos* (2012)

### Northwestern University

- Advisory Committee Member, Science in Human Culture Program (2013-2016, 2017-2020)
- Director of Graduate Studies, Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program (2018-2020)
- Search Committee Member, History (2013-2014), Spanish and Portuguese (2019-2020)
- Senior Thesis Advisor, History (2013-14: Helen Gómez, Tracy Navichoque; 2015-16: William Edwards; 2017-2018: Bryan Wood)
- Faculty Mentor, Posner Fellowship Program (Chayda Harding, 2019; Amarachi Ibe, 2018; Lena Thompson, 2015), Summer Research Opportunity Program (Verónica Otero, 2015)
- Weinberg College Freshman Advisor (fall 2013)

### Washington University in St. Louis

- Chair's Advisory Committee, History Department (2011-2012, nominated)
- Colloquium Committee, History Department (2010-2011, appointed)
- Senior Thesis Advisor, History (2011-2012: Naomi Campbell)

## AWARDS AND HONORS

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- Excellence in Mentoring Undergraduate Research, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Northwestern University (2019-2020)
- D. Scott Palmer Best Edited Volume Prize, New England Council of Latin American Studies (for *Imagining Histories of Colonial Latin America*, 2018)

Tibesar Prize, Conference on Latin American History, American Historical Association (most distinguished article published in *The Americas*, 2013)

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor, University of California, Berkeley (2008)

Leo Lowenthal Memorial Prize, University of California, Berkeley Division of Social Sciences (2007, for best essay or dissertation chapter in the social sciences)

John Harvard Scholar, Harvard College (1999-2002)

#### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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*American Academy of Religion*

*American Historical Association*

*American Society for Ethnohistory*

*Conference on Latin American History*

*Latin American Studies Association*

#### **RESEARCH LANGUAGES**

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Spanish, German, Portuguese, French (reading), Latin (reading)