

PhD in Spanish literature and culture

Graduate faculty

Updated: January 2024

PhD in Spanish literature and culture

Core faculty

- **Ligia Bezerra**, Assistant professor of Portuguese
- **Juan Gil-Osle**, Professor of Spanish
- **Christopher Johnson**, Associate professor of Spanish, German and comparative literature
- **Cynthia Tompkins**, Professor of Spanish
- **Carlos Garcia-Fernandez**, Professor of Spanish
- **Emil Volek**, Associate professor of Spanish
- **Anita Huizar-Hernandez**, Associate professor of Spanish
- **Jesus Rosales**, Associate professor of Spanish
- **Miguel Garcia**, Assistant professor of Mexican studies
- **Azucena Hernandez Ramirez**, Assistant professor of Spanish
- **Glen Goodman**, Clinical assistant professor of Brazilian studies

PhD students are also welcome to study with our research faculty not listed above.
A full list of faculty may be found at: <https://silc.asu.edu/about/people>.

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Core faculty: Spanish and Portuguese



Carlos Garcia-Fernandez

PhD in Hispanic literatures
Professor of Spanish

Born and educated in Spain, obtained his doctorate from the University of California, Davis, under the supervision of Ricardo Gullon. His books include *Metanovela: Luis Goytisolo, Azorin y Unamuno*, *La invención del grupo leones*, *Contrasentidos*, *Tres días que conmovieron España: tres periodicos y el 11-M*, *Estudios en honor de Ricardo Gullon* (co-author Cristina Martínez-Carazo), *El espíritu del Paramo* by Luis Mateo Diez (edition). He has published articles in journals like *España Contemporanea*, *ALEC*, *Letras Peninsulares*, *Romanic Review*, *Revista Hispanica Moderna*, *Archiletras*. *Revista de investigacion de lengua y letras*, *TonosDigital*, *Anthropos* and *Hispanic Review*.

His primary area of research is modern and contemporary Spain. His last main publication is a critical edition of a contemporary classic: *Antagonia* by Luis Goytisolo. Edition, Introduction and Notes Carlos Javier García. Epilogue Gonzalo Sobejano.

Research interests:

Modern and contemporary Spanish literature; film studies

Areas of graduate mentoring:

Hispanic literature, literature, society and culture in modern and contemporary Spain, studies in Spanish film.

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Juan Gil-Osle

PhD in Spanish

Professor of Spanish

Juan Gil-Osle specializes in early modern Spanish and Hispanic literature and visual culture. His recent publications focus on globality, border studies, Basque studies, friendship and networking theories, the relationship between word and image, and gender studies. He is the point person to the Spanish in China Initiative, editor of *Laberinto* journal and president of the Early Modern Image and Text Society.

Research interests:

Early modern Spanish and Hispanic literature and visual culture, globalism in the early modern period, cultural exchange between China and Europe, history of emotions, gender studies and digital humanities.

Areas of graduate mentoring:

Early modern Spanish and Hispanic literature and visual culture.

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Cynthia Tompkins

PhD in comparative literature
Professor of Spanish

Cynthia Tompkins specializes in Latin American cultural production: Women's writing, literary theory and aesthetics, and Latin American film. In addition to articles published in refereed journals, book chapters, translated and co-translated books and five co-edited monographs, she has authored *Latin American Postmodernisms: Women Writers and Experimentation*, *Experimental Latin American Cinema: History and Aesthetics* and *Affective Erasure: Representation of Indigenous Peoples in Argentine Cinema*. For the last seven years she has directed *Imagofagia*, the online journal of Argentine Association of Film and Media Studies.

Research interests:

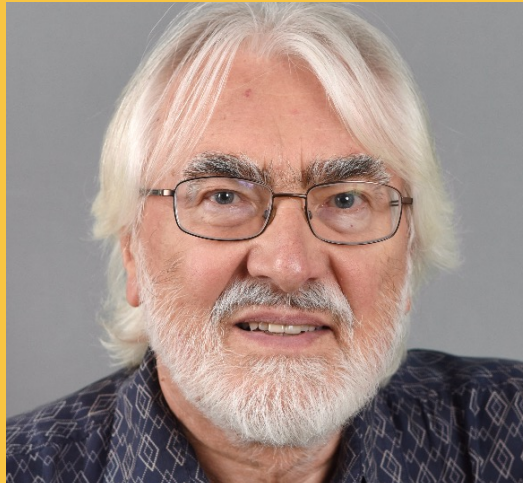
Latin American film, Latin American women writers, Latin American cultural production and contemporary critical discourse.

Areas of graduate mentoring:

Tompkins graduate teaching and mentoring interests include translation studies; women's writing across the Americas; feminism across the Americas; Latin American film (comparative); literary theory and aesthetics; ecocriticism; and disability studies.

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Emil Volek

PhD History of romance literatures
Associate professor of Spanish

Emil Volek the author of *Cuatro claves para la modernidad: Analisis semiotico de textos hispanicos: Aleixandre, Borges, Carpentier, Cabrera Infante; Metaestructuralismo: Poetica moderna, semiotica narrativa y filosofia de las ciencias sociales; Literatura hispanoamericana entre la modernidad y la postmodernidad; Sign, Function, and Value. Aesthetics and Semiotics of the Arts of Jan Mukarovsky within the Contemporary Critical Currents. Notes From the Postmodern Underground; La mujer que quiso ser amada por Dios: Sor Juana Inés en la cruz de la crítica; and Obra selecta: Literatura cubana e hispanoamericana.*

He is the editor of *Antologia del Formalismo ruso y el grupo de Bajtin, I-II; Signo, funcion y valor: Estetica y semiotica del arte de Jan Mukarovsky; Latin America Writes Back: Postmodernity in the Periphery (An Interdisciplinary Cultural Perspective); Gertrudis Gomez de Avellaneda: Tu amante ultrajada no puede ser tu amiga. Cartas de amor/novela epistolar; Teoria teatral de la Escuela de Praga: De la fenomenologia a la semiotica performativa; Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz, El sueño; and Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz, Poesia.*

Research interests:

Contemporary theories of literature and culture, Latin American narrative, modern poetry and theater, Aztec classic poetry (nahuatl), Caribbean, Mexico and Southern Cone, Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz.

Areas of graduate mentoring:

Spanish and Latin American studies

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Carmen de Urioste

PhD in Spanish literature

Professor of Spanish, Emeritus

Carmen de Urioste's primary research focus is on contemporary Spanish literature and culture. She is the author of *Novela y sociedad en la España contemporánea* (1994–2009) and *Novela andaluza (1900–1936): Erotismo, feminismo y regionalismo*. Both books investigate the relations between urban citizens and society. Because women have long been considered marginal citizens, her current research interest is centered on the recovery of work authored by forgotten Spanish women writers, hoping to contribute to their recognition as important contributors to the literary canon. Within this framework, she edited *La casa de enfrente* by Ernestina de Champourcin, *De Madrid a New York: Artículos, conferencias, cartas* by Victoria Kent and *Preciadas cartas (1932–1979): Correspondencia entre Gabriela Mistral, Victoria Ocampo y Victoria Kent*, coedited with Elizabeth Horan and Cynthia Tompkins. In addition, she edited *Cuentos judíos contemporáneos*, by Rafael Cansinos Assens. From this same author, Cansinos Assens, she is researching his epistolary production.

Research interests:

Contemporary theories of literature and culture, Latin American narrative, modern poetry and theater, Aztec classic poetry (nahuatl), Caribbean, Mexico and Southern Cone, Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz.

Areas of graduate mentoring:

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Ligia Bezerra

PhD in Portuguese

Associate professor of Portuguese

Ligia Bezerra's research interests include Latin American and Lusophone literature and culture, consumption, discourse and everyday life. She has published articles on Brazilian, Angolan, and Argentine literature and culture. Her forthcoming book, *A Consuming World: Imagining Everyday Life in Twenty-First Century Brazilian Fiction*, presents an in-depth study of the representation of consumer culture in current Brazilian literature. Her next project focuses on twenty-first century songs of protest in Brazilian popular music and investigates how Brazilian popular music is articulating resistance to anti-democratic forces in the current social and political climate.

Research interests:

Contemporary Latin American fiction, Lusophone literature and culture, consumer culture everyday life.

Areas of graduate mentoring:

Bezerra's teaching and mentoring interests include consumption, everyday life, democracy, identity and globalization, with a focus on Latin America (particularly Brazil and Argentina) and the Lusophone world (particularly Portuguese-speaking Africa and Brazil). She teaches interdisciplinary courses that address these issues and geographical areas as depicted in literature, film, music, series, ads and other media.

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Anita Huizar-Hernandez

PhD in Literature

Associate professor of Spanish

Associate director of the Hispanic
Research Center

Born and raised in Arizona, Anita Huizar-Hernandez's teaching and research focus on the ways literature, film and other forms of expressive culture have consolidated or challenged myths about Arizona, the West and the U.S.-Mexico borderlands. Her first book, *Forging Arizona*, examines these themes through a bizarre nineteenth-century land grant scheme in which a con artist named James Addison Reavis falsified archives around the world to present his wife as the heiress to a spurious Spanish land grant with the intention of claiming ownership of a substantial portion of the newly-acquired Southwestern territories. Drawing from a wide variety of sources including court records, newspapers, fiction and film, *Forging Arizona* argues that the creation, collapse and eventual forgetting of Reavis's scam reveal the mechanisms by which narratives, real and imaginary, forge borders.

Huizar-Hernández's current book project examines writing produced by the Cristero diaspora in the United States, a group of Catholic Mexican exiles who fled across the border as a result of the Mexican Revolution's secularization project.

Research interests:

American and ethnic studies, Chicano/a literature, Latin American studies, borderlands, Latina/o studies

Graduate teaching:

Borderlands studies, American and ethnic studies, Chicano/a literature and culture studies.

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Christopher D. Johnson

PhD in comparative literature

Associate professor of Spanish,
German and comparative literature

Christopher Johnson's research focuses on the literatures and cultures of early modern Spain, Germany, England and the Americas. Central to his scholarship and teaching are the theories and practices of comparative literature, including translation studies and comparative arts. He is the author of *Memory, Metaphor, and Aby Warburg's Atlas of Images and Hyperboles: The Rhetoric of Excess in Baroque Literature and Thought*. He also translated and edited *Selected Poetry of Francisco de Quevedo*. Currently, Johnson is working on a book for Princeton University Press, whose working title is *Baroque Expression: On Seventeenth-Century Literature, Art, and Thought*.

Research interests:

Early Modern Spanish literature, cross-cultural exchange between Europe and the Americas, critical theory, poetics, word and image, intellectual history and translation studies.

Areas of graduate mentoring:

Johnson's graduate courses include SLC 551 Global Approaches to Translation and SLC 602 Comparative Cultural Theory.

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Jesus Rosales

PhD in Spanish

Associate professor of Spanish

Professor Rosales' research focuses on Chicano literature and culture with an emphasis on Chicano literary history and Chicano narrative written in Spanish. He also studies the impact that Mexican popular culture has on Chicano literature and Mexico on the Chicano imaginary; these themes will be the focus of future book projects. One project in the works delves into how Chicano literature and culture is seen outside of the United States. With the aid of former and current ASU Ph.D. students, he is currently collecting essays from international critics that they plan to publish in four volumes: Spanish Perspectives on Chicano Literature, European Perspectives on Chicano literature, Latin American Perspectives on Chicano literature and Mexican Perspectives on Chicano literature.

Research interests:

American literature, chicano/a literature, Spanish

Areas of graduate mentoring:

Chicano/a literature and culture, writing Mexico, Indohispanomexicano civilization, chicano/a film

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Miguel Garcia

PhD in Latin American literatures and cultures

Assistant professor of Mexican studies

Graduate advisor of Spanish literature and culture

Miguel Garcia is an assistant professor of Mexican studies in the School of International Letters and Cultures. His teaching and research focus on 20th- and 21st-century Mexican literature and film with an emphasis in the cultural representation of science and technology. He is currently working on his first book monograph, entitled *Redes modernizantes: ciencia y tecnología en la literatura y el cine mexicanos (1917–1968)*.

Research interests:

20th and 21st century Mexican literature and film, with an emphasis in the cultural representation of science and technology

Areas of graduate mentoring:

20th and 21st century Mexican literature and film.

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**Azucena Hernandez
Ramirez**

PhD in Hispanic languages and
literatures

Assistant professor of Spanish

Azucena Hernández-Ramírez is an assistant professor in the School of International Letters and Cultures. Her research interests focus on Latin American literary archive and interdisciplinary approaches to sound and aural studies, with a particular focus on 19th-century Mexican literature, colonial literature, modern Latin American poetry and critical theory. She is from Ciudad Juárez, México.

Research interests:

Latin American literary archive and interdisciplinary approaches to sound and aural studies with focus on 19th-century Mexican literature, colonial literature, modern Latin American poetry and critical theory

Areas of graduate mentoring:

Latin American studies, sound studies, Mexican literature, colonialism, critical theory.

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Cornesha Tweede

PhD in Romance languages
Assistant professor of Spanish

Cornesha Tweede's research focuses on early modern Spanish and Portuguese literary and cultural studies. Her interests are Blackness, race, gender and the place of Africa in early modern cultural studies. She is the co-author of the encyclopedia entry "Black Women in Early Modern Iberia" with Nicholas R. Jones and is co-editor of the forthcoming volume, *Iberia negra: Textos para otra historia de la diáspora africana (siglos XVI y XVII)* with Diana Berruezo-Sánchez and Manuel Olmedo Gobante. She has forthcoming articles with Routledge and Vanderbilt University Press. Tweede is currently at work on her first monograph that examines literary depictions of black African women in early modern Spain and Portugal.

Research interests:

Africana studies, Black studies, critical race studies, Iberian studies, Lusophone African literature, African Baroque, African diasporic studies, gender studies, early modern literary and cultural studies, material and visual studies, Black feminisms

Areas of graduate mentoring:

Brazilian culture and literature, global development, Latin American history

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Glen Goodman

PhD in History

Clinical assistant professor of
Brazilian studies

Glen Goodman is senior director for Latin America with ASU's International Development Initiative and a clinical assistant professor of Brazilian studies in ASU's School of International Letters and Cultures. Goodman and the Latin America team work to harness ASU's considerable expertise and capabilities to pursue funded projects in the region across development sectors. In the School of International Letters and Cultures, Goodman teaches a variety of courses on Brazilian and Latin American culture and history. He also helps to coordinate research funding opportunities for faculty.

Goodman's research focuses on German migration and ethnicity in Brazil and has been published in journals such as German History, The Americas and Global Food History. Prior to joining ASU, he was assistant professor of Brazilian studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Fulbright Visiting Professor of History at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul in Brazil. He has secured research support from top funding sources including the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Fulbright and Fulbright-Hays.

Research interests:

Brazilian culture, global development, Latin American history, migration, race, ethnicity and culture, Portuguese

Areas of graduate mentoring:

Brazilian culture and literature, global development, Latin American history