

Robert Franco
Department of History
Kenyon College
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EDUCATION

2020 Duke University, Ph.D., Latin American History
Certificates in Feminist Studies and Latin American and Caribbean Studies

2017 Duke University, M.A., History

2014 University of Pennsylvania, B.A., History

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Present Assistant Professor, Department of History, Kenyon College

2021 Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies,
Washington University in St. Louis

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

2021 “Seropedagogy: Teaching the Global History of HIV/AIDS.” *Radical History Review* 140 (May 2021): 9-20.

2020 “Transgressing Che: Irina Layevska Echeverría Gaitán, Disability Politics, and Transgendering the New Man in Mexico, 1964-2001.” *Radical History Review* 136 (January 2020): 75-97.

- RMCLAS Article Award, Rocky Mountain Council on Latin American Studies
- Sturgis Leavitt Award, Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies

2019 “Todos/as Somos 41: The Dance of the Forty-One from Homosexual Reappropriation to Transgender Representation in Mexico, 1945-2001.” *Journal of the History of Sexuality* 28:1 (January 2019): 66-95.

- Honorable Mention, Audre Lorde Prize, Committee on LGBT History
- Paul Vanderwood Prize, The Conference on Latin American History

HONORS & AWARDS

2021 Honorable Mention, Elsa Chaney Award, Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Gender & Feminist Studies Section

2020 Top 5% Undergraduate Instructors in Social Sciences, Duke University

2019 American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education (AAHHE) Fellow

2016 Edward H. Moseley Paper Award, Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies (SECOLAS)

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

External

2020 Ford Foundation Dissertation Completion Fellowship, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

2020 MMUF Dissertation Grant, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation (*Declined*)

2020 Silas Palmer Research Fellowship, Hoover Institution Library & Archives, Stanford University

2019 Provost Predoctoral Fellowship for Excellence through Diversity, University of Pennsylvania

2019 Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies Dissertation Fellowship, UC San Diego School of Global Policy & Strategy (*Declined*)

- 2018 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship (DDRA), U.S. Dept. of Education
- 2017 Mellon Fellowship for Dissertation Research in Original Sources, Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR)
- 2017 CLAGS Fellowship Award, CLAGS: The Center for LGBTQ Studies, CUNY Graduate Center
- 2017 Travel and Research Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation
- 2016 Tamiment Library Travel Grant, Center for the United States and the Cold War, New York University
- 2016 Richard E. Greenleaf Visiting Library Scholar, Latin American and Iberian Institute (LAI), University of New Mexico
- 2016 Graduate Studies Enhancement Grant, SSRC-Mellon Mays

Internal

- 2020 Bass Instructional Fellowship, Duke University
- 2019 Dissertation Research Travel Award, Duke University
- 2019 Brown-Nagin Graduate Fellowship, Duke University
- 2017 James B. Duke International Research Fellowship, Duke University
- 2017 Human Rights Research Grant, Duke University Human Rights Center
- 2017 Mellon Foundation Field Research Grant, Duke University Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS)
- 2016 Tinker Field Research Grant, Duke CLACS
- 2015 Anne Firor Scott Research Award, Duke University
- 2015 Tuition Fellowship, School of Criticism and Theory, Cornell University
- 2014 Dean's Graduate Fellowship, Duke University

CONFERENCES & PANELS ORGANIZED

- 2019 Panel Organizer, "Scandalous Soundbites: Journalism and Media Archives in Twentieth-Century Latin America." Annual Meeting of the Conference on Latin American History (CLAH)
- 2016 Executive Organizing Committee, "Where I fare well, there is my home': Migration, Past and Present." Graduate History Conference, Duke University
- 2015 Panel Co-Organizer, "Fantasies of the Flesh: Histories of Gender, Race, and Sexuality." 50th Annual Conference of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2021 "A Timely Revelation: Trans Temporality, Crip Time, and the Testimony of Irina Layevska Echeverría Gaitán." 68th Annual Conference of the Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies
- 2021 "Revolutionary Rumors: Obscenity, Censorship, and the Bisexual Erasure of Emiliano Zapata." Pandemonio 2021: Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies Conference.
- 2020 "Transgressing Che: Irina Layevska Echeverría Gaitán, Disability Politics, and Transgendering the New Man in Mexico." European Association for American Studies Conference (Cancelled due to 2020 Covid-19 Pandemic).
- 2019 "Preserving Prejudice: Archives and Sexual Politics in Mexico." The Labor and Working-Class History Association (LAWCHA) Conference.
- 2019 "We Must End Tolerance Here: Miguel Aroche Parra, Scandalous Media Homophobia, and Archiving Intolerance in the 1980s Mexican Left." American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education (AAHHE) National Conference.

- 2018 “La oveja rosada de la familia socialista: Homosexualidad y las divisiones entre la izquierda mexicana durante los años 1980.” XV Reunión Internacional de Historiadores de México.
- 2018 “The Carrier of the Syndrome of Death: Homosexuality, HIV/AIDS, and Leftist Sexual Politics in Mexico.” 38th Annual Conference of the Institute of Latin American Studies Student Association (ILASSA).
- 2017 “Las Sombras de los Cuarenta y Uno.” REDMUGEN: Coloquio Internacional de Historia de las Mujeres y de Género en México.
- 2017 “Cold War Conduct and Bad Behavior in the Mexican Communist Party, 1954-1958.” 64th Annual Conference of the Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies (SECOLAS).
- 2016 “The Afterlives of the Famous 41.” 50th Annual Conference of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA).
- 2016 “Boys Gone Wilde: Homophobia and the Scandal of the Famous 41.” 63rd Annual Conference of the Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies (SECOLAS).
- 2015 “Take a Seat: Cross-Disciplinary Dialogue on Latin American Gender Quotas.” UNC- Duke Consortium in Latin American and Caribbean Studies Conference.
- 2015 “El Paraíso de las Mujeres: Women’s Suffrage in Ecuador, 1895-1929.” Tulane University Latin American Graduate Organization (LAGO) Conference.

INVITED TALKS, WORKSHOPS & LECTURES

- 2021 “Expulsión y esperanza: Mario Rivas, el Partido Comunista Mexicano y la homosexualidad en la izquierda mexicana.” Seminario Permanente de Historiografía y Teoría de los Estudios de Género, FES Acatlán – UNAM.
- 2021 “Open Veins: HIV in Cuba, Brazil, and Mexico since the 1980s.” Latin American & Latino Studies External Speaker Series, University of Pennsylvania.
- 2020 “Tolerating the Lavender Menace: Sexual Politics in the Mexican Left, 1978-1983.” MMUF Invited Lecture Series, Bryn Mawr College.
- 2020 “Revolutionary Transitions: Armed Struggle, Trans Life, and Disabled Resolutions in the Life of Irina Layevska Echeverría Gaitán.” Humanistic Studies Lecture, Maryland Institute College of Art.
- 2020 “How to Get Away With Expulsion: Tolerance and Sexual Politics in Mexico’s Left.” Mexico Lecture Series, Dartmouth College.
- 2020 “Expelling Contagion: Sexual Diversity and Gender Dissidence in Mexico’s Revolutionary Left.” Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies, University of Toronto.
- 2020 “A Timely Revelation: Trans Temporality, Crip Time, and the Testimony of Irina Layevska Echeverría Gaitán.” Alice Paul Center for Research on Gender, Sexuality & Women, University of Pennsylvania.
- 2019 “A Tale of Two Expulsions: Mario Rivas, Irina Layevska Echeverría Gaitán, and Subversive Sexualities in the Mexican Left.” Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame.
- 2018 “Cincuenta Sombras de Rojo: Diversidad Sexual y los Límites de la Tolerancia en la Izquierda Mexicana.” Seminario Permanente de Historia Contemporánea y del Tiempo Presente en México, Instituto de Investigaciones Dr. José María Luis Mora-CIESAS.
- 2017 “Imagining Socialismo Sin Sexismo: Visualizing Gender, Erasing Sexuality, and Constructing Militancy in the Mexican Communist Party.” University of New Mexico Latin American and Iberian Institute. Listen here:

<https://soundcloud.com/unmlai/robert-franco-imagining-socialismo-sin-sexismo-constructing-militancy-in-mexican-communist-party>

TEACHING

Kenyon College

The Global History of HIV/AIDS
Early Latin America

Washington University in St. Louis

The Global History of HIV/AIDS

Duke University

The Global History of HIV/AIDS
Introduction to LGBTQ Studies

SERVICE

2018 International Observer, Mexican Federal Elections, National Electoral Institute of Mexico (INE)
2018 Steering Committee, History Department Graduate Student Mentoring Initiative
2017 Site Coordinator, Duke Engage in San Francisco: Supporting Homeless LGBTQ Youth, Larkin Street Youth Services and At The Crossroads
2015 – 2017 Graduate Resident, Housing and Residence Life (HRL), Duke University
2015 – 2017 Student Coordinator, Latin American Intersectionalities Working Group, Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
2014 – 2019 Volunteer Judge, National History Day, N.C. Office of Archives and History
2014 – 2021 Alumni Interviewer, Office of Admissions, University of Pennsylvania
2014 – 2015 Graduate-Faculty Liaison, Department of History, Duke University
2014 – 2015 Graduate Coordinator, Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, Duke University

LANGUAGES

Spanish – Fluent (Reading, Writing, and Speaking)
Portuguese – Proficient (Reading, Writing); Basic (Speaking)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education (AAHHE)	Latin American and Caribbean Section of the Southern Historical Association (LACS)
American Historical Association (AHA)	Latin American Studies Association (LASA)
Conference on Latin American History (CLAH)	Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies (RMCLAS)
Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender History (CLGBTH)	Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies (SECOLAS)