Gabriela Perez

Areas of Interest

American Catholic history; Mexican-American Catholicism; Chicanxs and Catholicism; religion in American history; 20th century America; decolonizing religion; religion and protest; Latinx religion; Liberation Theology; autobiography, memoir, and memory; material culture; public history; intellectual history; institutional history; oral history; ethnography; archival research.

Education

2018 Harvard University, Divinity School, Master of Theological Studies

2016 University of California, Riverside, Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies, *cum laude*

2014 Palomar College, Associate of Arts, General Studies

Memberships

American Academy of Religion
American Catholic Historical Association
American Historical Association
National Association for Chicana/o Studies

Awards and Grants

Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellowship, UCLA, 2021-2022.

Awarded $500 Travel Grant for American Academy of Religion Conference. Harvard Divinity School. Harvard University, 2018.

Awarded $600 Cushwa Center Research Travel Grant for 2018. Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism. University of Notre Dame.

Dean's Fellowship, Harvard University, 2016-2018.

Awarded 2016 Academic Excellence Award in Religious Studies by Religious Studies Department. University of California, Riverside.

Awarded Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship. The Center for Ideas and Society. University of California, Riverside, 2015.

Presentations

"Patrick Flores: The Intersectionality of a Mexican-American Bishop within the PADRES Movement," Presented at the American Academy of Religion, Denver, CO. (November 20, 2018).

"Manifesting Kindness at the Feast Day of Saint Sebastian in El Monte, California," To be presented at the panel, "Latina, Latino and Latin American Religions," at annual American Academy of Religion—Western Region Conference, Institute of Buddhist Studies, Berkeley, CA (March 2, 2018).

"Reproducing Religious Icons: Our Lady of Guadalupe in Southern California." Presented at the panel, "The Public Practice of Immigrant and Minority Religions in Southern California," at the 2016 Mellon Advancing Intercultural Studies Conference, University of California, Riverside, Riverside, CA (May 7, 2016).

"Reproducing Religious Icons: Our Lady of Guadalupe in Southern California." Presented at the 10th Annual Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Symposium, University of California, Riverside, Riverside, CA (April 20, 2016).

Interviews

Perez, Gabriela. "Patricio Flores and liberation theology: A Conversation with Gabriela Perez." Interview by Peter Cajka. Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism. July 30, 2018.

Languages

Spanish, English, elementary Nahuatl

Related Work Experience

Boston Area Rape Crisis Center, Cambridge, MA
Volunteer Survivor Speaker, 04/2018 to present
Share my story about overcoming years of sexual violence with diverse audiences including college freshmen.

The Petey Greene Program, Boston, MA
Volunteer tutor for incarcerated people, 07/2017 to 09/2017
Provided educational support for incarcerated people who were nearing the end of their sentence and re-entering society.

Chicano/Latino Youth Conference, Riverside, CA
Committee member, 08/2014 to 05/2016
Planned and executed the 26th and 27th Annual Chicano/Latino Youth Conference at the University of California, Riverside. Raised funds to host between 900 and 1,200 Chicano/Latino youth from the InlandEmpire, and surrounding counties, for workshops on identity, culture, and higher education.

Saint Mark's Roman Catholic Church, San Marcos, CA
Catechist, 08/2013 to 06/2014 Made lesson plans and taught Catholic doctrine to fifth graders.

San Dieguito Union High School District, Encinitas, CA
A.V.I.D. Tutor, 08/2011 to 06/2014
Provided one-on-one tutoring in humanities and social sciences to A.V.I.D. and ELL high school students. Facilitated group discussions using the Socratic method. Mentored high school students en route to becoming first-generation college students.