

UCLA

Commencement 2021

César E. Chávez Department of Chicana/o and Central American Studies



Saturday
June 12, 2021
10:00 am
Virtual Graduation



Commencement 2021

Program

Welcome and Message to Graduates

Leisy Abrego, Professor and Chair

**DOCTORAL GRADUATING
STUDENT ROLL CALL**

**BACHELOR OF ARTS GRADUATING STUDENT
ROLL CALL**





Dear Chicana/o and Central American Studies Graduates,

CONGRATULATIONS! ¡Felicitaciones! We are absolutely honored to witness and celebrate your hard work and the love from your family and friends who helped you get here! Teaching and learning from you is one of the most rewarding aspects of our job as faculty and it is a true pleasure to share this celebration with you. Because of the nature of our areas of study and because of the teaching philosophy that guides many of us, we have been privileged to learn together every time you have enriched discussions by bringing in your experiences and analysis. Thank you for your collaboration as we co-created spaces of learning, belonging, and empowerment in the classrooms, hallways, and zoom rooms of UCLA.

Today you are joining a network of hundreds of UCLA Chicana/o and Central American Studies alums all over this region and the world. Like you, our alums opted to major or minor in our department because they are committed to social justice. We often hear from them about how their background in Chicana/o and Central American Studies enhanced their ability to navigate multiple landscapes, problem-solve, and build coalitions to change the world. As you continue to grow and make your mark, it is our hope that you, too, will keep us informed of what your community is facing and how you are making a difference.

Our faculty and staff are enormously proud of your accomplishment and take great pride in having been a part of your experience and education at UCLA. Thank you for that privilege. Stay in touch with us! Once you've had a chance to reflect on your Bruin journey, send us your feedback and help us continue to fulfill our mission for social justice in the training, new learning initiatives, and opportunities for future students in our department.

For now, enjoy the moment, celebrate your hard work, mark this milestone with your loved ones, and take the time to intentionally name for yourself: what does it mean for you to have graduated from one of the best institutions of higher learning in the world? How will you now honor yourself and your communities? On our end, we are committed to the freedom and empowerment of the same communities as you, and your success is a win for all of us. Today we salute you!

Leisy Abrego
Professor & Department Chair

2021 PhD Graduates

Angélica Becerra



Angélica Becerra is a queer immigrant artist, podcast producer & scholar of political graphics from Jalisco, Mexico. Her research focuses on the digital as a shift in the means of production, exhibition, and networking for contemporary Latinx artist-activists, and the ways artists form networks of care in digital space. She is the co-creator of the podcast “Anzaldúingit” along with Dr. Jack Caraves, where both focus on navigating life as queer Latinx individuals in academia. With over half a million listens, the podcast has been used as a teaching tool for underrepresented students and was featured in the 2019 Google Youth Tech Summit. Her artwork is primarily portraiture, with a focus on Black Indigenous and women of color activists. Her art has been featured in VICE and Latina

Magazine and exhibited at the Los Angeles Design Festival and the Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History. Recently, she was a part of the Adobe Create Forward campaign and a beta tester for the Adobe Illustrator software for the iPad, her latest collaboration is a series of portraits for the Investigation Discovery channel, a part of #IDxPOV, a project to give voice to those who have been impacted by crime or the criminal justice system and whose stories are not typically heard.

Title of Dissertation: Envisioning A Chicana Radical Aesthetic: Digital Artivism In The 21st Century

Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Maylei Blackwell

Chantiri Duran Resendiz



Chantiri Duran Resendiz is an immigrant and first generation student. Chantiri earned her BA in Development Studies from UC Berkeley. At UCLA, Chantiri received various fellowships including the UCOP Dissertation Year Fellowship, Eugene Cota Robles Fellowship and the UC Collaborate to Promote Immigrant Student Equity Fellowship. Her dissertation is at the center of Critical Ethnic Studies, social movement, higher education and immigration scholarships. Chantiri has accepted a full time position as a Senior Research Associate at Bright Research Group, a research, evaluation, and capacity building firm in Oakland, CA, where she will be working as an applied

researcher and evaluator in the areas of criminal justice reform, community health and youth empowerment.

Title of Dissertation: Understanding the institutionalization of undocumented student support in higher education using a neoliberal multiculturalism framework

Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Maylei Blackwell

2021 PhD Graduates

Maxwell E Greenberg



Drawing from his lived experiences growing up in the San Francisco-Bay area, Maxwell Greenberg explores the relationships between whiteness, Jewishness and land in the American West. His dissertation project, "'The Frontier Jew: Entrepreneurship, Colonization, and Memory between the US and Mexico'" considers how Spanish imperial peripheries, the American Frontier and the US-Mexico border created the conditions for Jewish interpolation into settler colonial projects across the Americas, and Palestine. He has developed curriculum and community programming for Jewish museums across the American Southwest and his scholarship has

been published in *Jewish Currents* and *Protocols*, with a forthcoming book chapter through Brandeis University Press. Maxwell is the 2021-22 Friedman Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Jewish, Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies at Washington University in St. Louis.

Title of Dissertation: The Frontier Jew: Entrepreneurship, Colonization, and Memory between the US and Mexico

Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Robert Chao Romero

Nadia Zepeda



Nadia Zepeda is a Chicana from Orange County, CA. She received her BA in Chicano/Latino Studies & Spanish from Cal State Long Beach. Nadia holds an MA in Chicana/o Studies from UCLA. Her dissertation, "Healing Justice in Chicana/x Feminist Organizing" centers sustainable Chicana/x feminist organizing practices and holistic community wellness as healing justice. Her research and commitment to holistic wellness exemplify her academic interests and the investments she has in visions of transformative justice. Nadia has accepted a Tenure Track position in the Department of Chicana/o Studies at California State University, Fullerton.

Title of Dissertation: Healing Justice in Chicana/x Feminist Organizing

Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Maylei Blackwell

2021 PhD Graduates

Rudy Mondragón



Rudy Mondragón's research looks at the sport of boxing and the ways in which black and brown boxers politically and culturally express themselves via the most important, yet understudied component of the sport: the ring entrance. He has written on the sport of boxing for Remezcla, We Are Mitú, and LA Taco and has been featured on ESPN, Fox Sports, CNN, Bleacher Report, Washington Post, New York Times, and other news platforms. Academically, Mondragón has written a film review of the boxing documentary "Champs" for the Journal of Sports History and a book review of Louis Moore's *I Fight for a Living: Boxing and the Battle for Black Manhood*, 1880-1915, for the International Review for the Sociology of Sport. He is currently working on *Rings of Dissent: Boxing and the Performance of Rebellion*, co-edited with Gaye Theresa Johnson and David J. Leonard and "Sporting Representations of El Salvador's First World Champion: El Famoso and his Boxing Robe as Material Culture" for the Routledge Handbook of American Material Culture Studies (Forthcoming 2022).

He is the recipient of the prestigious University of California Cota Robles Fellowship, UC Berkeley Oral History Center Fellowship, UCLA Gold Shield Alumnae Graduate Fellowship, Fellow of the Smithsonian Latino Museum Studies Program, NCAA Ethnic Minority Enhancement Postgraduate Award, and Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports-Scholar Award.

In the fall of 2021, Mondragón will start a Visiting Assistant Professor position in Sport and Society at Pitzer College.

Title of Dissertation: "Miles Before the Bell: Race, Agency, and Sporting Entitlements in Boxing"
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Gaye Theresa Johnson

¡FELICITACIONES!

2021 Bachelor of Arts Majors



Chelssea Adame	Brianna Estrada ** (H)
Esmeralda Aldaz	Zahra Yolanda Estrada
Josetina Celsa Alvarado	Andrea Feregrino-Rodriguez
Day Angeles	Sara Fernandez
Ana Antonio López	Cynthia Flores *(H)
Diana Avila (H)	Kate Teresa Galeana
Lesly Johana Ayala	Jennifer Garcia Lopez
Santos Ayon	Cassandra Xitlali Garcia
Enoc I Baeza	Daniela Garcia
Tiffany Barba Soto	Jennie Garcia
Alexis D Barragan	Jose Armando Garcia
Jennifer Sandra Becerra	Oscar A Gaytan *
Kevin Alexis Beltran Rivas	Koryn Ahilyn Gomez
Armando Berumen	Pricila Gomez
Elizabeth Blancas **	Jennifer Gonzalez Meza **
Carlos Antonio Borrayo	Jasmin Erika Gonzalez
Adriana Bravo	Johana Guatemala
Erick Mitchell Cabrera	Adriana Pamela Guerra Garcia
Leticia Isabel Camacho	Jorge Luis Guerra
Karina Elizabeth Camarena	Stephanie Guerrero
Maribella Carolina Cantu	Graciela Gutierrez
Daniel Jose Carranza	Montserrat Hernandez Garcia
Kathy Castillo Escutia	Joselin Hernandez Salome *
Amado Aztlan Castillo *(H)	Rosmin Hernandez
Elena Patricia Castro Beltran	Jailene J Herrera Hernandez
Celeste S Castro	Dana Lizett Herrera (H)
Jesus Andres Cortez	Alejandro Juarez-Ugalde
Christian Garcia	Veronica Leal **
Kaylee De Anda **	Gema Rubi Limeta
Helen Maria De Leon Alvarez	Arlene Lizeth Linares
Ana Bertha Delgado	Brenda Selen Llamas ***
Juan Carlos Diaz	Norma Aracely Lopez Matias
Daisy Dorantes	Iveth Lopez Obeso
Christopher Ricardo Duran	Aida Najette Lopez
Jonathan Escalante	Mayra Griselda Luis Antonio
Graciela Monserratt Espinoza	Erendira Luna-Hernandez

2021 Bachelor of Arts Majors


José Marín
Bianca Stella Martin **(H)**
Carmen Y Martinez
Christopher Vazquez Martinez
Evelyn Carolina Martinez
Zuleika Martinez
Kimberly Melendez
Lisa Marie Mendez
Pricila Mendoza
Jonathan A Menjivar
Isa Moreno **
Cristian Alexander Navarro
Karla Itzell Ocampo Arizmendi
Nancy Ocana
Anthony Elias Olmedo *
Leslie Mariah Ontiveros
Esmeralda Orozco Sanchez
Janette Ivette Ortega
Jennifer Nancy Ortega-Carrillo
Jayme Matias Perez, Jr
Jorge Alberto Pimentel Solorio
Daniel Ponce
Karen Casandra Quezada
Kimberly Maria Quijada
Isaias Ramirez *
Magally Resendez
Roberto Reyes, Jr
Nicole Rios
Diana Rivera Rios *
Gregorio Rodriguez
Jesus Armando Rodriguez
Brenda Lizbeth Rodriguez-Juarez
Emely Yanderi Rosales
Katerin Yuliana Rosales
Jessica Elizabeth Sanchez Galvan
Crystal Sanchez

Jennifer G Sanchez
Cesar Sandoval
Fabiola Santiago-Garrido
Jair Ivan Sanvicente Guerrero
Joaquin Alvarez Silva
Jocelyn Silva
Lizet Silva
Nicol Silva
Juan Manuel Solis ***(H)**
Luis Dario Sotelo
Jaquelin Tafolla
Mandie Torres ***** (H)**
Diana Trujano
Flor Uribe
Jessica Jaqueline Vaca
Lupita Valencia
Andrew Valles
Josuel Vasquez-Guzman
Betsabe Vazquez
Carlos Joel Velador
Nayeli Guadalupe Velarde
Eduardo Velazquez
Anthony Bryan Ventura
Arisbeth Carolina Verduzco
Lizbeth Villar-Aguirre
Maribel Villegas *
Andres Garcia Ybarra
Michael Chavez Ybarra
Nuvia Zavala
Alexandra Zuniga

HONORS KEY

H College Honors
* Cum Laude
** Magna Cum Laude
*** Summa Cum Laude
C Chancellor's Service Award

2021 Minors



Angela Jeanette Acosta	Edgar de Gracia
Mariana Guadalupe Aguilar Cortes	Joseline De Leon
Yesenia Yasmin Aguilar	Stephanie Delgado Borrayo
Juliana Rubi Alonzo Alvarez	Alejandra Kukuli Delgado
Celeste Alonzo	Eduardo Diaz
Rebecca Clare Altshuler	Hector Diaz
Lilia Noemy Antuna	Dimitri Donnel English
Cynthia E Aragon	Andrea Feregrino-Rodriguez
Joanna M Arredondo	Brayan Steve Flores Mejia
Myranda Denise Arreola	Alexis Flores
Evelyn Arrieta	Jasmine Flores
Alexander Ayala	Tru Haylee Marie Flores
Ita Andehui Ayuso Velasco	Monique Alessandra Fraile
Yvette Aida Barrera	Vanessa Gaeta Garcia
Stephanie Yesenia Batres	Carlos Israel Galindo Lopez
Mauro Bautista Flores	Leticia Garcia Arango
Alexis Yvette Bravo	Brenda N. Garcia
Belen Bravo	Denise Garcia
Jennifer Bribiesca	Leslie Garcia
Sara Caballero	Yuliana L Garcia
Efrain Cabral, Jr	Beatriz Garcia-Diaz
Citlaly Cahuantzi	Carolina Concepcion Gomez
Maricarmen Campos	Raul Gomez
Jorge Isai Cardenas	Cytlalli Soneli Gonzalez
Aylin Araseli Carranza	Jasmin Gabrielle Gonzalez
Selina Castaneda-Gutierrez	Melissa Kristine Gonzalez
Khrisley Jisselle Castillo	Albino Guatemala
Daniela Castro-Alvarez	Mariah Alexis Guerrero
Jose Adalberto Cervantes, Jr	Aidee Guzman
Michelle Athena Cervantes	Ashley Thays Guzman
Rose Arlene Chavez	Abigail Hernandez
Vanessa Ariel Chavira	Aly Michaela Hernandez
Kimberly Marie Cienfuegos	Andrea Guadalupe Hernandez
Michelle Cisneros	Ashley Hernandez
David Benjamin Cruz	Kimberly Herrera Rodriguez

2021 Minors

Luis Adrian Ibarra
Adriana Jaramillo Castillo
Samantha Lucia Jimenez Ramos
Jessica Elizabeth Jimenez
Julaina Rose Juarez
Kimberly Jean Kilps
Benjamin Lemus
Josceline Tatiana Lima Rosales
Jimmy Mitchel Lira
Natalie Llamas
Jessica Lopez
Stephanie Yvonne Lopez
Elizabeth Martinez
Johanna P Medina
Noelia Medina-Flores
Aida Elena Mejia
Julio Jesus Mena Bernal
Kevin Mendez Lopez
Luis Mendez
Charisma Michelle Menendez
Silvia Guadalupe Meza-Rendon
Ashley Rashell Michel
Charleen Elizabeth Molina
Anthony A Monroy-Cruz
Kaitlin Andrea Montalvan
Jennifer Montes Flores
Melanie Moreno
Lorna Taylor Morris
Alyssa Giselle Munguia
Melissa Najera
Giselle Olivares
Rosamari Orduna
Yailin Orozco
Alejandro Ortega
Gabriel Borges Ortiz

Miranda Ortiz
Sabrina Noelle Ortiz
Francisco Javier Osuna Zayas
Angelica Berenice Pech Cortes
Laura Elena Perez
Jazmin Thalia Perez
Jesus Perez
Laura Elena Peña
Madison Dolores Quiroz
Kyle Christopher Radwanski Ortega
Diana Paola Ramirez Munoz
Angie Del Socorro Ramirez
Jasmin Ramirez
Oyuki Ariana Ramos
Naomi Riley
Angel Rios
Jason Alexander Rivas
Nathan Richard Rivas
Liset Margarita Rivera Garcia
Angelica Rivera
Janet Elizabeth Rivera
Camila Ximena Robles
Aidee Rodriguez
Elisa Judith Rojas Palato
Jazmin Paola Rojas Resendiz
Maria Celeste Roman Gamez
Jamie J Roman Nunez
Randy Romo
Jisselle Rosales
Kathia Berenice Rosas Diaz
Leslie Salcedo
Melisa Edith Sales Castaneda
Betsy Joseline Sanchez-Briones
Maria Guadalupe Santana
Miriam Santana

2021 Minors

Melissa Lorraine Santos
Michelle Servin
Diego Gdalia Share-Vargas
Raquel Sierra
Samantha Silva
Juan Carlos Solis, Jr
Maria Elena Solis
Alexandra Nicole Soto
Mariana Alejandra Tejeda
Elizabeth Tinoco-Bravo
Daniel Efrain Torres Velasquez
Estrella Urena Cuevas
Karina Uriostegui
Vanessa Valdez Cruz
Marilyn Jeanette Valdez
Florencia Valenzuela
Stephanie Vargas Maldonado
Criscelle Vargas
Mayra Vasquez
Chelsea Paola Velasquez
Victoria Alise Venzor
Monique Daniella Verdugo
Paola Jimena Vergara Gonzalez
Vianey Del Rosario Vicencio Torres
Emily Diane Vose
Jozny Marie Wolf
Miqtlayohuallly Isa Xochipilli-Hill
Jesus Angel Yanez
Brian Zamora
Isaac A Zamora
Athziri Michelle Zaragoza
Alma Beatriz Zuniga Munoz

HONORS KEY

- H College Honors
- * Cum Laude
- ** Magna Cum Laude
- *** Summa Cum Laude
- C Chancellor's Service Award

Faculty

Leisy Abrego, Professor and Chair

Karina Alma, Assistant Professor

Eric Avila, Professor, Chicana/o Studies & History

Matt Barreto, Professor, Political Science & Chicana/o Studies

Maylei Blackwell, Associate Professor, Chicana/o Studies & Gender Studies

Floridalma Boj Lopez, Assistant Professor

Genevieve Carpio, Assistant Professor

Jason De León, Professor, Anthropology & Chicana/o Studies

Alicia Gaspar de Alba, Professor, Chicana/o Studies, English & Gender Studies

Raúl Hinojosa-Ojeda, Associate Professor

Gaye Theresa Johnson, Associate Professor, Chicana/o Studies

Reynaldo F. Macías, Professor, Chicana/o Studies & Education

Robert Chao Romero, Associate Professor, Chicana/o Studies & Asian
American Studies

Abel Valenzuela, Jr., Professor, Chicana/o Studies & Urban Planning,
Director - Center for Urban Poverty

Charlene Villaseñor-Black, Professor, Art History & Chicana/o Studies

Christopher Zepeda-Millán, Associate Professor, Chicana/o Studies & Public
Policy



Joint Faculty

Rosina M. Becerra, Social Welfare
Laura E. Gómez, Law & Sociology
Gary Segura, Dean of Public Affairs
Daniel G. Solórzano, Jr., Education

Affiliated UCLA Faculty

Héctor Calderón, Spanish & Portuguese
David Hayes-Bautista, Medicine
Marissa Lopez, English
Chon A. Noriega, Film and Television
Vilma Ortiz, Sociology
Rafael Pérez-Torres, English
Fernando M. Torres-Gil, Social Welfare

Visiting Faculty

Richard Andalón
Helen Burgos-Ellis
Virginia Espino
Cristina Frias
Omar González
Audrey Harris
Alma López Gaspar De Alba

Michaela Mares-Tamayo
Celina Martinez
Krissia Martinez
Martha Ramírez-Oropeza
Avis Ridley-Thomas

2021 Departmental Honors

Dana Lizett Herrera

Title: One person's trash is a mother's treasure: Reframing undocumented Latina mothers' strategies to sustain their families through cash recycling during COVID-19

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Leisy Abrego



Honors Distinction

Students who graduate with **College Honors** receive one of the highest academic awards UCLA can bestow on an undergraduate. College Honors requires not only outstanding work in a major field and in general courses, but also a special set of rigorous courses and they have to maintain superlative grades.

Latin Honors is based solely on a student's cumulative University of California GPA at the end of Winter Quarter 2020. (gold fourragère)

CUM LAUDE	3.700 minimum overall GPA
MAGNA CUM LAUDE	3.816 minimum overall GPA
SUMMA CUM LAUDE	3.893 minimum overall GPA

The **Chancellor's Service Award** is a selective award honoring graduating undergraduate students who have made significant contributions to UCLA and/or the surrounding Los Angeles community through a sustained record of outstanding leadership and service. (blue and gold fourragère)

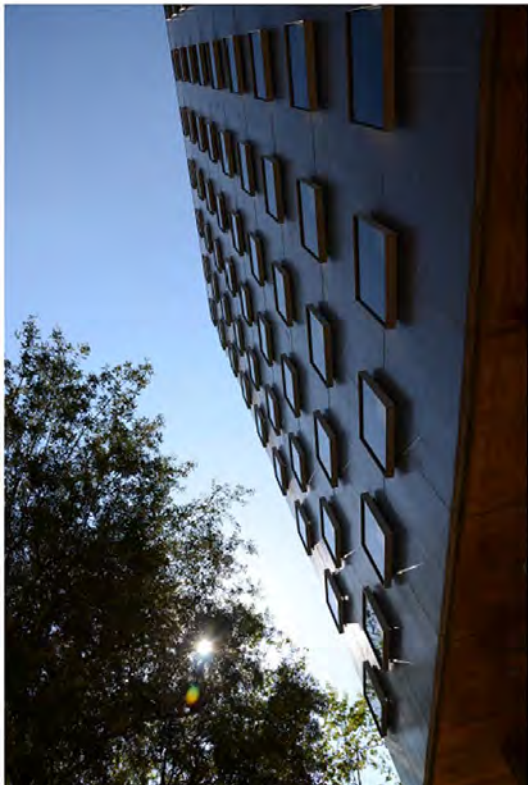
Chicana/o & Central American Studies Department

Leisy Abrego	Department Chair
Charlene Villaseñor Black	Director of Graduate Studies
Isamara Ramirez	Department Manager
Eleuteria (Ellie) Hernández	Undergraduate & Graduate Advisor
Sandy Garcia	Administrative Coordinator
Valeria Moedano	Administrative Assistant

The Department Thanks

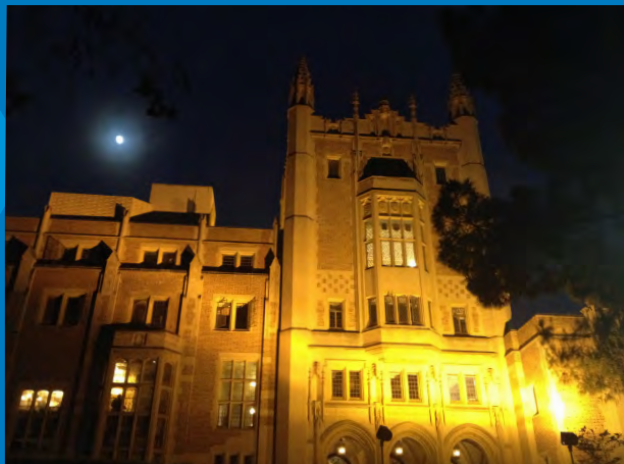
Darnell Hunt - Dean, Division of Social Sciences
Eleuteria (Ellie) Hernández
Sandy Garcia
Isamara Ramirez

iHasta Pronto!



UCLA

César E. Chávez Department of Chicana/o & Central American Studies



¡Sí se pudo!

Your success is our success so
please keep us updated

www.chavez.ucla.edu