

Curriculum Vitae

Theresa L. Torres, Ph.D.

Associate Professor
Latinx and Latina American Studies Program & Sociology Department

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Education

Ph.D.	Catholic University of America	Washington, DC
Religion, Anthropology, Gender Studies, and Latinx Studies		
M.A.	Boston College	Boston, MA
Religion and Latinx Education		
B.A.	Benedictine College	Atchison, KS
Secondary Education		

Areas of Specialization

Chicana/o Studies, Latinxs in United States, Curriculum, Pedagogy, Immigration, Race and Ethnic Studies, Cultural Anthropology, Gender Studies and Religion.

Professional Experience

2014-current	Associate Professor, Latinx and Latin America Studies Program and Sociology Department, University of Missouri-Kansas City
2006-2013	Assistant Professor, Sociology Department, University of Missouri-Kansas City
2002-2006	Assistant Professor, Religious Studies, Benedictine College

Academic Association Memberships

American Academy of Religion (AAR)
Secretary of *La Comunidad* of Latina/o Religious Studies Scholars, 2012-2015
National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies (NACCS)
Co-Chair of the Chicana Caucus 2014-2016

National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies (NACCS)
Co-Chair of the Midwest FOCO (Region) 2016-current

Mujeres Activas en Letras y Cambios Social (MALCS is an interdisciplinary society of Latinas/Chicanas and Native American women in the academy.)
Latin American Studies Association (LASA) is an interdisciplinary society of scholars who study Latin America and Latinxs in the United States.

Honors

Manuela Trevino Alanis Professorship, 6/17/2007-7/1/2007
Hispanic Summer Program, Duke University.
Dr. Purcell Award, Sept. 12, 2014. Guadalupe Centers Board Service Award.

RESEARCH

Book:

The Paradox of Latina Religious Leadership in the Catholic Church: Las Guadalupanas of Kansas City, New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2013.

Peer Reviewed Articles:

Marx, Dea, Theresa Torres, and Leah Panther. “‘This class changed my life:’ Using Culturally Sustaining Pedagogies to Frame Undergraduate Research with Students of Color.” *CUR Quarterly: Council on Undergraduate Research*. 2019. Forthcoming.

Torres, Theresa. “The Virgin’s Daughters,” *Listening: Journal of Religion and Culture*, Volume 44, No. 2, Spring 2009: 100-112.

Torres, Theresa. “Who is Our Lady of Guadalupe? Guadalupana Testimonios” *Perspectivas* Published by The Hispanic Theological Initiative, Fall 2009: 50-68.

Essays in peer reviewed edited books:

“What My Abuelita Taught Me About Prayer”. In *Prayers and Rituals from the Ancestors and Beyond: Chicana and Latina Spiritual Expressions* ed. Lara Medina, Maria Elena Fernandez and Martha Gonzales. Tucson, AZ: University of Arizona Press, Fall 2019.

“A Latina *Testimonio*: Challenges as an Academic, Issues of Difference, and a Call for Solidarity with White Female Academics.” In *Unlikely Allies: Women of Color and White Women in the Academy*, ed. Karen Dace. New York: Routledge, 2012.

Dace, Karen, Theresa Torres, et.al. “What Makes Cross-Race Alliances Unlikely.” In *Unlikely Allies: Women of Color and White Women in the Academy*, ed. Karen Dace. New York: Routledge, 2012.

“*La Quinceañera*: Traditioning and the Social Construction of the Mexican American Female.” In *Futuring Our Past*, ed. Orlando Espín and Gary Macy. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2006.

Public History/Public Engagement Project—Local History with National Impact

Kansas City’s Guadalupe Centers: 100 Years of Service in the Community.

Major Exhibition at Kansas City Public Library May 2019-2020. 2018—work with Guadalupe Centers, gathering oral histories, collecting documents and photos for archives and pulling together documentation for the exhibit, engaging students: involving student engagement, student service learning projects, mentoring graduate students in the development of the exhibit. Collaboration with Guadalupe Centers for funding of the grants for the project. Co-PI collaboration with PI Dr. Sandra Enriquez

Encyclopedia Articles:

“*The Chancellor’s Hispanic Advisory Board.*” In *Latinos in the American Political System: An Encyclopedia of Latinos as Voters, Candidates, and Office Holders*, ed. Jessica L. Lavariega Monforti. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, March 2019.

“The Sex Abuse Scandal and Cover-up in the Roman Catholic Church.” In *Religion and American Cultures: Tradition, Diversity, and Popular Expressions*, ed. Luis Leon and Gary Lademan. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2014.

“*Latina Feminism.*” In *Hispanic American Religious Cultures*, Vol. II, ed. Miguel De La Torre. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2009.

“*Our Lady of Guadalupe.*” In *The Global Dictionary of Theology*, ed. William Dyrness, Veli-Matt Kärkkäinen, Simon Chan, Nzash Lumeya, and Juan Francisco Martinez. Downers Grove, Ill: InterVarsity Press, 2009.

“*Posadas.*” (Latino Christmas Novena). *The New Catholic Encyclopedia*. Farmington Hill, MI: The Catholic University, 2003.

Book Reviews:

Kristy Nabhan-Warren. *The Virgin of El Barrio: Marian Apparitions, Catholic Evangelizing and Mexican American Activism*. *Theological Studies*, 67: 4, December 2006: 912-914.

Timothy Matovina and Gary Riebe-Estrella, S.V.D., eds. *Horizons of the Sacred: Mexican American Traditions in U.S. Catholicism*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2002. *The New Theology Review* 17:3, August 2004: 87-88.

Peter Casarella and Raúl Gómez, S.D.S., eds. *El Cuerpo de Cristo: The Hispanic Presence in the United States Catholic Church*. New York: Crossroad Publishing Company, 1998. *The Living Light* 36: 4, Summer 2000: 81-83.

Alejandro García-Rivera. *The Community of the Beautiful: A Theological Aesthetics*. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 1999. *Modern Theology* (Spring 2000).

Christian Parker. *Popular Religion and Modernization in Latin America: A Different Logic*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1996. *Benedictines* LII: 1, Summer 1999: 47.

Journal Articles under review and resubmit:

Torres, Theresa. "Transformational Resistant Leadership in Kansas City: A Case of Chicana Activism, Racial Discourse, and White Privilege," *Chicana/Latina Studies: The Journal of Mujeres Activas En Letras y Cambio Social*. Revise and Resubmit.

Garcia-Howlett, Toya Like, Theresa Torres, and Clara Irazabál-Zurita. "Latinx in the Kansas City Metro Area: Policing and Criminalization in Ethnic Enclaves" *Journal of Planning Education and Research*--Revise and Resubmit; resubmitted; pending.

Journal Articles in progress:

Torres, Theresa. "The Founding of the UMKC Latina/Latino Studies Program: Challenging Anti-Immigrant Leaders Through Solidarity and Action," *Dialogo*. Pending submission.

Irazabál-Zurita, Clara, Theresa Torres, and Ignacio Ramirez. "Urban Community Development: A Community Capitals Framework Assessment in Kansas City, KS." *In process*.

Grants

2018 Missouri Humanities Grant with Guadalupe Centers PI, Co-Pi Sandra Enriquez, granted \$10,000

2018 Kellogg Foundation with Guadalupe Centers PI, Co-Pi Sandra Enriquez, granted \$20,000

2018 Kemper Foundation with Guadalupe Centers PI, Co-Pi Sandra Enriquez, \$38,000

2018 UM Intercampus Course Sharing granted (funding based on numbers of student participation in course sharing online class) \$2,000

2017 UM Intercampus Course Sharing Grant (major grant not funded); continued funding for course sharing based on numbers of students in online class

2017 University of Missouri Research Grant Co-PI granted \$21,184

2017 Robert Wood Johnson Grant PI, \$337,491.00 not granted

2016 HRSA Grant with School of Nursing, cultural advisor, \$1,851,852.00 accepted but not funded

2016 NEA Our Town Grant with El Centro PI not granted \$50,000

2016 UM Intercampus Course Sharing granted (funding based on numbers of student participation), \$2,000

2016 UMKC Excellence Grant Co-PI not granted \$14,822

2016 Missouri Humanities Grant with Guadalupe Centers PI granted \$7,500

2015 Missouri Humanities Grant PI granted \$2,500

2015 Francis Family Foundation Grant for Guadalupe Centers granted PI for Guadalupe Centers granted \$7,500

2015 Missouri Humanities Grant for Guadalupe Centers not granted \$5,000

2015 UMKC Women and Gender Studies Grant granted \$1,000

2012 UMKC On-line Teaching Grant 2012 granted \$2,500

2012 UMKC Diversity Infusion Grant granted \$1,000

2011-2012 FACET UMKC Teaching Grant granted \$1,000

2008-2010 Wabash Center Latino/a Religion Teaching Grant granted \$3,000

2008-2009 New Faculty Teaching Grant, University of Missouri system granted—in kind-participation in UM system teaching conferences

2008-2009 UMKC Women and Gender Studies Grant granted \$1,000

2008-2009 UMKC Faculty Research Grant Summer granted \$4,000

2001-2002 The Hispanic Theological Initiative Dissertation Award, Pew Foundation, granted \$16,000

2000-2001 The Hispanic Theological Initiative Special Mentoring Award, Pew Foundation, granted \$5,000

1999-2000 The Hispanic Theological Initiative Doctoral Award, Pew Foundation, granted \$13,000

1999-2000 Social Science Research Training Fellowship, Office of Research for Religion in Society & Culture at City University of New York, granted \$1,000

Professional Papers and Lectures

2018-2007

2018 “Kansas City Leaders Panel: Latinx in the Heartland: Fostering Resilience and Cross-Cultural Connections,” Cambio de Colores Conference, University of Missouri-Kansas City, June 6.

2018 “Guadalupe Center’s Vision of Education: An Educational System that Works for Latinxs in Kansas City,” Cambio de Colores Conference, University of Missouri-Kansas City, June 8.

2018 “New Immigrants in Kansas City, KS: A Community Capitals Framework Analysis,” National Conference for Chicana Chicano Studies, Minneapolis, MN, April 5.

2017 “Unlikely Allies: Creating Support Across a Diverse University,” invited lecture. University of Texas-Denton. November 14th.

2017 “Latina Leaders: Strategies of Resistance and Resilience,” MALCS Institute, California State University-Sonoma, July 20.

2017 “Supporting Latinx High School Academic Success in Kansas City,” Inter-University Program for Latino Research, San Antonio, TX, May 18.

2016 Caruthers, L., Davis, J., DeSimone, A., Ismail, S., Maher, M., Marx, D., McNeil, H., Panther, L., Nash, K., Patterson Hazley, M., Pecina, U., Peterman, N., Strekalova-Hughes, E., Thomas, R., Torres, T., & Warner, C. (2016, December). “Who has writing and snacks to share?” Writing groups as sites of scholarship and community.” Presented at the UMKC Faculty Research Symposium, University of Missouri-Kansas City, Kansas City, MO.

2016 “Ethnic Identity and Latina/o Academic Success,” NACCS Conference, Denver, CO, April 8.

2016 “The Paradox of Latina Religious Leaders” Kansas City Public Library, February 21.

2015 “Strategies of Resistance: Latina Leaders” NACCS Conference, San Francisco, CA, April 15.

2015 “The Paradox of Latina Leaders in the Catholic Church and Las Hermanas”, Invited Plenary Lecture, Las Hermanas Symposium, Incarnate Word University, San Antonio, TX, March 21, 2015.

2014 “Latina/os in the Midwest,” Invited Lecture, Stephens College, Columbia, MO, Oct. 16, 2014.

2014 “The Founding of the UMKC Latina Latino Studies Program 2011-2014”, Latina/o Studies International Conference, Chicago, IL, July 19th, 2014.

2014 “Mexicans in the Kansas City Westside: Las Guadalupanas of Kansas City,” The International Conference on Chicano Literature and Latino Studies,” Oviedo, Spain, May 29.

2014 “The Kansas City Westside: Las Guadalupanas,” The National Association for Chicana Chicano Studies Conference, Salt Lake City, NV, April 11.

2013 “Interpreting Las Guadalupanas’ Vision: Gloria Anzaldúa’s Pathway to *Concimiento*,” El Mundo Zurdo 2013, An International Conference on the Life and Work of Gloria Anzaldúa San Antonio, TX, Nov. 15.

2012 “Latina Catholic Spirituality: Liberation or Repression?” American Academy of Religion, Chicago, IL, November 17.

2012 “Chicano/Latino Studies Programs in the Midwest,” National Association for Chicana Chicano Studies Conference, Chicago, IL, March 17, 2012. Panel chair and presenter, “The History and Context of Latina Latino Studies at University of Missouri - Kansas City.”

2012 “Bloom’s Taxonomy & Working with Technology: Internships and Service Learning,” National Conference of Black Studies, Atlanta, GA, March 9, 2012.

2011 “Latino/as in Kansas City: Rethinking Leadership and Research in Immigration Advocacy,” MALCS Institute, California State, Los Angeles, CA, August 6.

2010 “Latino/as in Kansas City, MO: Rethinking Leadership and Research in Immigration Advocacy, Part II” National Meeting of The Society for Applied Anthropology, Merida Mexico, March 26.

2009 “Latino/as in Kansas City, MO: Building New Strategies for Leadership in the 21st Century,” National Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Philadelphia, N.J., Dec. 3.

2008 “Latina Activists: Intersections of Gender, Religion, and Politics.” National Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Chicago, IL, November 5.

2008 “Love the Immigrant as Yourself,” The Sister Wilma Lyle Lecture, Mount Marty College, Yankton, South Dakota, Invited Lecture.

2008 “Futuring Our Past by Remembering Our Roots,” Annual Meeting of the Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians in the United States, Miami, June.

2007 “Latina Leaders in the Catholic Church: Creating Religious Identity and Meaning in Context of Homophobia.” National Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, CA, November.

2007 “The Guadalupanas and the Bishop: A Case of Subversive Agency.” Catholic Theological Society of American, Los Angeles, CA., June.

2003 “Using Experience and Narrative: Toward the Development of a Theology of Our Lady of Guadalupe.” Annual Meeting of the Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians in the United States, Dayton, OH, June.

2002 “Voices from the Margin: Toward a Theology of Reconciliation.” Catholic Theological Society of American, New Orleans, June 2002.

1999 “Understanding the Historical and Theological Bases of the Guadalupanas.” National Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Boston, MA, November.

TEACHING

Current Courses taught at the University of Missouri - Kansas City

Latina Latino Studies Courses:

LLS 201 Introduction to Latina/o Studies

LLS 210 Crossing Boundaries: Anchor course (team taught)

LLS 348 Latinx and Latin American Immigrants and Migrants in the US

LLS 400 Feminist Theories

LLS 300 Mentoring Latina/o Youth: An Applied Research Course

LLS 322 Race and Ethnic Relations (Online course)

LLS 336 Society, Community, & Service: A Service Learning Course

LLS 300 Latinx and Black Health & Mental Health (Online Course)

Sociology and Anthropology Courses:

Dissertation Research

Soc 418 Feminist Theories

Soc 348 Latin American Immigrants and Migrants in the US

Soc 332 Race and Ethnic Relations (Online course)

Soc Directed Field Research

Soc 336 Society, Community, & Service: A Service Learning Course

Soc/Anthro 348 & Black Studies 480 Latin American Immigrants and Refugees

Soc/Anthro 331/5580 Urban Anthropology (students completed service learning projects, 2011)

Soc 303 Critical Issues in Women and Gender Studies, cluster course, team taught

Soc 300/5500 Society, Sexuality, & Religion

Soc/Anthro103 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

Soc/Anthro 300 Mentoring Latina/o Youth

Religious Studies Courses (taught from 2011-2006; some were cross-listed with Soc/Anthro)

Rel St 492/5593 Soc 300 Sex and Religion

Rel St 404/5504 Soc/Anthro 300 Soc 5580 Gender and Religion

Rel St 400/500 Soc/Anthro 300 Religion and Politics, team taught

Rel St 584 Sacred Texts and Narratives (graduate student course)

Rel St 440/5567 Myth and Ritual

Rel St 494/5594 Death and the History of Religion, team taught

Dissertation Supervision:

Current:

Current-2012 Deborah Taylor, Dissertation Chair

Current-2017 Annie Derrell Dissertation Committee Member

Current-2017 Ana Toms Dissertation Committee Member

Current-2016 Marsh Perkins Dissertation Committee Member

Completed:

2018-Deanna Marx Dissertation Committee Member

2018-Leah Panther Dissertation Committee Member

2017-2014 Allison Katuesz, Dissertation Committee Member

2016-2012 Alex Binder, Dissertation Committee Member

2013-2010 Michelle Abualkhair, Doctoral and Dissertation Committee Member

2011-2010 Ken Mulliken, Dissertation. Committee Member

2010-2009 Jeremy O'Connor, Dissertation Committee Member

2009-2007 Cristie Barron, Dissertation Committee Member

2009-2008 David Harris, Dissertation Committee Member

Master's Thesis Completed:
2012-2010 Andres Lopez, Chair

SERVICE

National Service

2018-2016 Midwest FOCO (regional) Chair for the National Association for Chicana Chicano Studies (NACCS)

2016-2014 Chicana Caucus Co-Chair for the National Association for Chicana Chicano Studies

2015-2011 Secretary for La Comunidad, (Association of Latina/o Scholars of Religion and Theology), a subcommittee of the American Academy of Religion

2014-2011 Hispanic Theological Initiative, Princeton, N.J.

Mentor for PhD student at Claremont School of Theology

Regional Service

2018 Cambio de Colores Annual Conference, Planning Committee

2014 Midwest FOCO NACCS (National Association for Chicana/Chicano Studies) Meeting, Conference Co-Chair, October 2014, University of Missouri-Kansas City

City Service

Current-2018 Guadalupe Centers 100th Anniversary Planning Committee, Co-Chair

2018 Creating Change in a Fractured World, invited panelist by the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. State Celebration, Commission of Missouri

2016-current League of United Latin American Citizens Education Committee

2016-2013 Guadalupe Educational System, Charter School Board, Secretary to Board

2015 Missouri Historic Society Planning Committee for Hispanic Heritage Month poster series

2013-2007 Guadalupe Center Inc., Board Member; 2010-2013 Secretary to the Board

2013-2011 Kansas City Public Television Advisory Board

2010 Anchor of Hope Project, Kansas City. Collaboration with Mayor's Office and three non-profit agencies: United Inner-City Services, Operation Breakthrough, and Guadalupe Centers, Inc., August-December 2010

University Service

Current-2015 College of Arts & Sciences Curriculum Committee, chair 2016 & secretary 2015

Current-2015 Avanzando Mentor

2018 Hiring Committee for Avanzando Director, (Latinx Mentoring Program)

2018-2008 Cesar Chavez Lecture, Planning Committee for UMKC

2017-2016 University Climate Study Work Group with Rankin and Associates

2017-2008 Agapito Mendoza Scholarship Breakfast for Latino/a Students, Planning Committee for UMKC; 2010-2008 presented the formal request for donations during the program

2017 Cockefair Course “Vatican and Popes II”
2016 Cockefair Course “Vatican and Popes”
2012-2007 Presenter and assisted in student recruitment at the annual Hispanic Youth Days on UMKC campus

Department Service

2018-2006 Development of community engaged learning projects: service learning projects (82 students), public sociology projects with the Indian Center and United Way (28 students), and internships (20 students)
2017-2005 Sociology Diversity Ambassador for Arts & Sciences Diversity Task Force
2013 Chair of the Service Management Committee
2013 Chair: organized and hosted with the Sociology Club and Service Management Committee Members the welcome to sociology department and sociology club event. Roughly 150 students and 40 recruited potential UMKC students from three area high schools.
2013, 2011 Planned and hosted the Annual Sociology Department Graduate Student Conference March 4, 2011 and March 2013.
2012 Chair of Committee on Committees.

Latinx and Latin American Studies Program Service

2018 Assessment of Program goals through course evaluation/assessment
2018, 2017, 2016. Hosted high school students from Shawnee Mission North
2018-2015 Assisted in program recruitment speaking at Alta Vista High School
2018, 2016, 2015, 2014 Assisted with research and funding for 24 students. Traveled with 24 students to National Association for Chicana Chicano Studies Annual National Conference
2017 Hiring Committee for Assistant Professor of Latina/Latino Studies
2016 Hiring Committee for Director of Latina/Latino Studies
2016 Chair/Host of the LLS Undergraduate Student Symposium Conference
2016 Assisted in Latinx recruitment with Admissions Recruiter in Lawrence, KS high schools
2015 Assisted in program recruitment by hosting a booth at local Argentine Fair
2015 Assisted in program recruitment speaking at Cristo Rey High School.