

David Luis-Brown

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Academic Positions

Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of Miami, 2006-present. Secondary appointment in the Program in American Studies, 2009-present.
Assistant Professor, Department of English, Lafayette College, 2003-2006.
Lecturer, Departments of Comparative Literature and Rhetoric, University of California, Berkeley, 2002-2003.
Lecturer, Departments of Comparative Literature and English, University of California, Davis, 2001-2002.
Adjunct Professor, Department of Cultural Studies, Claremont Graduate University, spring 1999.
Lecturer, Department of English, Pomona College, spring 1999.

Degrees

Ph.D., Literature, University of California at Santa Cruz, 1998.
M.A., Literature, University of California at Santa Cruz, 1995.
M.A., Comparative Culture, University of California at Irvine, 1992.
B.A., English, Magna Cum Laude, Amherst College, 1989.

Publications

BOOKS

Published

Waves of Decolonization: Discourses of Race and Hemispheric Citizenship in Cuba, Mexico and the United States, New Americanists series, Duke University Press, 2008.

In Progress

Blazing at Midnight: Slave Rebellion and Social Identity in U.S. and Cuban Culture (unpublished manuscript)

Blazing at Midnight is a comparative analysis of the uses of slave rebellion in constructing social identity at moments of national crisis. This study reveals that at times of political impasse, a wide range of social groups—poor whites, Cuban exiles, travel writers, and male and female slaves—thought through the significance of the slave rebel as a model for alternative social arrangements. The figure of the slave rebel galvanized U.S. antislavery advocates following the Fugitive Slave Act, rural whites in both countries who increasingly worked as migrant laborers in the 1840s, and a dissenting group of Cuban nationalist exiles, who began rethinking tactics following Narciso López's failed annexationist expedition in 1851. The multiple uses of the trope of slave rebellion expose its centrality to mid-nineteenth-century debates over race, nation and empire.

The Sun of Jesús del Monte: A Novel of Cuban Customs by Andrés Avelino de Orihuela. (unpublished manuscript). Includes a translation and critical introduction, both by David Luis-Brown, the editor of the volume.

ARTICLES

"An 1848 for the Americas: the Black Atlantic, 'El negro mártir,' and Cuban Exile Anticolonialism." *American Literary History* 21.3 (fall 2009): 431-463.

"'White Slaves' and the 'Arrogant *Mestiza*': Reconfiguring Whiteness in *The Squatter and the Don* and *Ramona*." *American Literature* (1997): 813-839.

"Memory, Potentiality, and the Antipodes of Social Identity in Slave Societies: Guajiros, Poor Whites, and Haiti in Faulkner and Villaverde." Under submission.

"Orihuela's Cosmopolitan Abolitionism: A Cuban Migrant's Antislavery Novel Foregrounds Plácido and the Ladder Rebellion" (critical introduction and translation). Under submission.

BOOK REVIEWS

"Transition or Self-Determination? Decolonizing U.S. Foreign Policy on Cuba" (Review of *Cuba in the American Imagination* by Louis A. Pérez, Jr. and *That Infernal Little Cuban Republic: the United States and the Cuban Revolution* by Lars Schoultz), *CLIO: A Journal of Literature, History, and the Philosophy of History* 38.3 (summer, 2009): 349-357.

"A Journey of Political Awakening" (Review of Juan Felipe Herrera, *Mayan Drifter: Chicano Poet in the Lowlands of America*). *San Francisco Chronicle Book Review* (Jan. 4, 1998): 4, 6.

Awards and Fellowships (selected)

General Research Support Award, competitively awarded, University of Miami, 2009-10.

Max Orovitz Summer Award in the Arts and the Humanities, competitively awarded, University of Miami, 2009.

Sheila Biddle Ford Foundation Fellow, W. E. B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research, Harvard University, spring 2009.

Visiting Scholar, Department of English, Harvard University, fall 2008.

Junior Faculty Research Leave, University of Miami, fall 2008.

Max Orovitz Summer Award in the Arts and the Humanities, competitively awarded, University of Miami, 2007.

Summer Research Grant, competitively awarded, Lafayette College, summer 2005.

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Research Fellowship, Library Company of Philadelphia and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, summer, 2004.

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute Fellow, "The Americas of José Martí," University of South Florida (Tampa) and the *Centro de Estudios Marianos* (Havana, Cuba), June 2-July 5, 2002.

University of California President's Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Comparative Literature, University of California at Berkeley, 1999-2001.

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend, July 1-September 1, 2001.

University of California Humanities Research Institute Fellow, “The Culture of the Americas and the Narratives of Globalization,” residential research group, University of California, Irvine, spring 1998.

Areas of Interest

Hemispheric Americas Studies, African Diaspora Studies, Latino Studies, Late Nineteenth- and early Twentieth-Century American Literature and Culture.

Teaching and Advising

Graduate courses

University of Miami

- English 682, Contemporary Criticism and Theory - Bodies of Theory, fall 2009
- English 668, The Seeds of “Our America”: Transnationalism in Early Latino/a Literature and Culture, spring 2007
- Cultural Studies 322, Decolonization in the Americas, Claremont Graduate University, spring 1999.

Undergraduate courses

University of Miami

- American Studies 310/English 395, The United States, Transnationalism, and Globalization
- English 486, Early African American Literature: The “World Aspect” of the “Color Line”
- English 360, Comparative Literature of the Black World: Slavery in the Americas
- English 395, Latino/a Metropolis: Culture and the Latinization of Contemporary Urban America
- English 210, Introduction to Latino/a Studies
- English 321. Major American Novels
- English 492, Postcolonial Literature and Theory

Lafayette College

- The Dream is Over: Los Angeles Between Sunshine and *Noir*;
- American Literature and its Backgrounds (survey to 1900)
- The Nineteenth-Century American Novel
- Nationalism, Patriotism and Empire: 9/11 and World War I
- Latinos/-as and U.S. Culture—An Introduction
- Postcolonial Literature: Imperialism, Decolonization and the “Mental Revolution”
- College Writing: Race, Representation and Violence...the Los Angeles Riots of 1992
- First Year Seminar: The Americas in the 1920s; Slavery and the Problem of Resistance in the U.S. and Cuba.

Director of Undergraduate Theses

University of Miami

- “Immigration Laws - Public Policy, Ethics, and Cultural Experiences,” by Annery Pulgar, B.A. English (Magna Cum Laude), University of Miami, 2008.

Lafayette College

- “Resisting Exclusion: Contemporary Native American Literature as a Form of Resistance” by Jesslyn Roebuck, B.A. English, Lafayette College, 2006.

Dissertation Committee Member

- Carmen Ruiz-Castaneda, “Three Poets and a Painter: The Baroque Imaginations of José Lezama Lima, Derek Walcott, Seamus Heaney and Dunstan St. Omer,” 2009–present.
- Josune Urbistondo, “Sexed Object/Vexed Subject: Caribbean Female Authors Write the Body,” Department of English, University of Miami, 2009–present.

Papers and Panels (selected)

- Chair and commentator, “Reframing American Studies: Hemsipheric Citizenship and Transnational Affiliation in the Americas.” American Studies Association (ASA), Washington D.C., November 7, 2009.
- “Travel Narratives and Comparative Slaveries in Cuba and the United States,” Black Atlantic panel, Latin American Studies Association (LASA) International Congress, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, June 11–14, 2009.
- “An 1848 for the Americas: the black Atlantic, ‘El negro mártir,’ and Cuban Exile Anticolonialism,” Harvard University, April 29, 2009.
- “The Antipodes of Social Identity in Slave Societies: Guajiros, Poor Whites, and Haiti in Faulkner and Villaverde.” W. E. B. Du Bois Institute work-in-progress workshop, Harvard University, April 8, 2009.
- “Traveling Theories of Race in Cuba and the United States,” Genre and Genetics panel (convened by Bill Brown), Modern Language Association Annual Convention (MLA), San Francisco, Dec. 27–30, 2008.
- “Traveling Theories of Race,” Unauthorized States conference (convened by Ivy Wilson), University of Notre Dame, April 4, 2008.
- “‘Phantasm of Liberty’: 1848, the black Atlantic, and Cuban Exile Anticolonialism in New York City,” roundtable discussion, Atlantic Studies Research Group, University of Miami, Sept. 14, 2007.
- “Did Bush Knock Down the Towers? Latinos Indict the National Security State,” guest lecture for Latin American Studies 302, “Migration, Migrant Labor and Social Movements in the Americas,” University of Miami, April 17, 2007.
- “The American 1848 in Latino New York: The Cuban Exile Movement, Republicanism and Slavery,” LASA International Congress, San Juan, Puerto Rico, March 15–18, 2006.
- “Republicanism and Race in 1850s New York,” delivered at the session, “(In)Comparable Américas? Writing Race and Ethnicity in the Hemisphere,” MLA, Dec. 27–30, 2005.
- “Independence or the Lash: Race and the Reconfiguration of Cuban Anticolonialism in the 1850s,” delivered at the session, “Racial Discourses in 18th and 19th Century Spain,” MLA, Dec. 27–30, 2005.
- Chair, “Crossroads of Colonialism and Empire: The Emergence of the U.S. as an Imperial Power,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting (ASA), Atlanta, Nov. 11–14, 2004.
- “Anticolonialism, Race, and Nation: The Question of the Annexation of Cuba in the 1850s,” ASA, Atlanta, Nov. 11–14, 2004.
- “Slave Rebellion, Identity and Social Change in Cuba and the U.S.,” The Library Company of Philadelphia, June 16, 2004.

"The Racial Politics of Black and Cuban Exile Anticolonialism in the 1850s," Theory and Literature of the African Diaspora session, Afro-Latin/American Research Association Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico, August 10-15, 2004.

"'Rising Tides of Color': Theories of Race and Migration in Boas, Park, Gamio and Hurston," MLA, San Diego, Dec. 30, 2003.

Chair, "Postcolonial Encounters" Session, MLA, San Diego, December 30, 2003.

"Implosive Nationalism: Race and Anticolonialism in Cuban Exile Writings in New York in the 1840s and 1850s," American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), Puerto Rico, April 11-14, 2002.

Professional Activities

Codirector and cofounder, Hemispheric Studies Interdisciplinary Research Group, Center for the Humanities, University of Miami, 2009-present.

Member of the Atlantic Studies Reading Group, University of Miami, 2006-present.

Member of the American Studies Association, the Latin American Studies Association and the Modern Language Association.

November 18, 2009.