

YOLANDA CHÁVEZ LEYVA

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Associate Professor
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EDUCATION

University of Arizona, Ph.D. in U.S. History, 1999
University of Texas at El Paso, MA in Borderlands History, 1989
University of Texas at Austin, BBA in Management, 1977

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2010- Present Chair, Department of History, University of Texas at El Paso
Co-director, *Museo Urbano*

2006- Present Associate Professor of History, Department of History, University of Texas at El Paso.

2001-2006 Assistant Professor of History, Department of History, University of Texas at El Paso.

1997- 2001 Assistant Professor of History, Division of Behavioral and Cultural Sciences, University of Texas at San Antonio.

1996-97 Visiting Assistant Professor, The Department of History, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces. .

1995-96 Lecturer, The Department of History, The University of Texas at El Paso. Four course per semester teaching load.

1992-95 Instructor, part-time, summers, The Department of History, The University of Arizona, Tucson.

1994-95 Lecturer, Pima Community College, Tucson. Part-time.

1991-94 Teaching Assistant, The Department of History, The University of Arizona, Tucson.

1990-91 Lecturer, The Department of History, The University of Texas at El Paso. Part-time.

1987-1990 Teaching Assistant, The Department of History, The University of Texas at El Paso.

PUBLICATIONS

Book manuscripts

Creating and Confronting the Border: Mexican Children in El Paso, 1880-1940. Under preliminary contract from the University of Arizona Press, 2013.

Heart Knowledge: Chicana/o History, Memory, and Pedagogy. Work in progress.

Public history publications

Unidos sin fronteras: La historia viviente del Centro de los Trabajadores Agrícolas Fronterizos (editor and writer) 2013

Her Medicine Remains Strong: Teresita Urrea, la Santa de Cabora, 2007.

El Segundo Barrio: Una historia viviente (co-authored with undergraduate and graduate students), 1st and 2nd editions, 2006; 3rd edition, 2007.

Socorro: The History of a Community (in conjunction with graduate public history class), 2005.

Socorro: A Legacy of the Past (in conjunction with graduate public history class), 2003.

Children on the Border, The Pass of the North Heritage Corridor Booklets Series. Oscar J. Martínez, editor. El Paso Community Foundation. (2001)

Articles in journals and books

“Healing the Borderlands across the Centuries” in *Grace and Gumption: The Women of El Paso.* Texas Christian University Press (2011)

“There is a Great Good in Returning: A Testimonio from the Borderlands.” *Women's Lives,* edited by Kathleen J. Ferraro (Allyn & Bacon, 2008).

“Cruzando la linea: Engendering the History of Border Mexican Children during the Early 20th Century,” *Memories and Migrations: Mapping Boricua and Chicana Histories.* Edited by Vicki L. Ruiz and John Chávez, editors. (University of Illinois Press, 2008.)

"Monuments of Conformity: Commemorating and Protesting Oñate on the Border," *New Mexico Historical Review*, Volume 82, Number 3 (Summer 2007).

"There is a Great Good in Returning: A Testimonio from the Borderlands." *Gender on the Borderlands: The Frontiers Reader*, University of Nebraska Press, 2007. Antonia Castaneda, Patricia Hart, et al, editors. Reprint of article.

Photo essay co-authored with Yolanda Retter, *500 Years of Chicana Women's History*, by Betita Martinez. (Rutgers University Press; Bilingual edition (December 15, 2007).

"In ixtli in yóllotl/ a face and a heart: Listening to the ancestors," *Studies in American Indian Literature*, Volume 15, Numbers 3 & 4 (Fall 2003-Winter 2004). Inés Hernández Avila and Domino Pérez, guest editors.

"'There is great good in returning': A Testimonio from the Borderlands," *Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies*, Volume 24, Number 2 & 3, 2003. Special Issue: Gender on the Borderlands. Antonia Castañeda, guest editor.

"Breaking the Silence: Putting Latina Lesbian History at the Center." Reprinted in *Unequal Sisters: A Multicultural Reader in U.S. Women's History*. Vicki L. Ruiz and Ellen Carol Dubois, editors. New York: Routledge Press, 2000.

"Breaking the Silence: Putting Latina Lesbian History at the Center" in *The New Lesbian Studies: Into the Twenty-First Century*. Bonnie Zimmerman and Toni McNaron, editors. New York: The Feminist Press at The City University of New York, 1996.

"'I Go to Fight for Social Justice': Mexican Children as Revolutionaries in the Mexican Revolution, 1910-1920" in *The Journal of Peace and Change* (October 1998).

"Listening to the Silences in Latina/Chicana Lesbian History" in *Living Chicana Theory*. Carla Trujillo, editor. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1997.

"El Amparo de las Viudas: Widows and Land in Colonial New Mexico," in *Writing the Range: Race, Class, and Culture in the Women's West*. Elizabeth Jameson and Sue Armitage, editors. Norman: The University of Oklahoma Press, 1997.

"Faithful, Hardworking Mexican Hands: Mexicana Workers during the Great Depression," in *Perspectives in Mexican American Studies*, Vol. 5 (1995). Juan R. García, editor. Tucson: The University of Arizona, Mexican American Studies and Research Center.

Blog entries (invited)

“Museo Urbano and ‘A Living History,” National Dialogues on Immigration. Accessible at <http://www.dialoguesonimmigration.org/museo-urbano-and-a-living-history/> (2014)

“The Power of Place within us,” History@Work, National Council on Public History. Accessible at <http://publichistorycommons.org/author/yolanda-chavez-leyva/> (2013)

Encyclopedia Entries

“Mexican American Women and the Great Depression,” “Chicana Lesbians,” and “Maria Urquides” in *Latinas in the United States: A Historical Encyclopedia*, edited by Vicki L. Ruiz and Virginia Sánchez Korrol (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2006).

“La Mujer Obrera,” “Emma Tenayuca” and “Industrial Workers of the World,” *Encyclopedia of Latinos and Latinas in the United States*. Suzanne Oboler and Deena J. Gonzalez, editors. (Oxford University Press, 2005).

“El Paso” for the *Dictionary of American History*, third edition. Stanley Kutler, editor (Charles Scribner’s Sons, 2002.)

“Latina Lesbians,” in *Encyclopedia of Lesbian Histories and Cultures: Volume 1*, Bonnie Zimmerman, editor. (Garland Press, 1999.)

Reviews

Review of *Making Aztlan: Ideology and Culture of the Chicana and Chicano Movement, 1966-1977* by Juan Gómez Quiñones and Irene Vasquez. University of New Mexico Press, 2014. In *Western Historical Quarterly* (forthcoming).

Review of *Chicana Power* by Maylei Blackwell. University of Texas Press, 2011. In *Western Historical Quarterly* (forthcoming).

Review of *José Limón and La Malinche: The Dancer and the Dance*. Edited by Patricia Seed. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2008. In the *Hispanic American Historical Review* 89.4 (November 2009)

Review of *Border Fictions: Globalization, Empire, and the Writing at the Boundaries of the United States* by Claudia Sadowski-Smith. In *Western Historical Quarterly*, Vol. XL No. 2

Review of *Life Along the Border* by Jovita Gonzalez. *New Mexico Historical Review*, 2008.

Review of *Mexico Profundo: Rituals of an Indo-Hispano Homeland* by Miguel A. Gandert and *The Contested Homeland: A Chicano History of New Mexico*, edited by David Maciel and Erlinda Gonzales-Berry. *Western Historical Quarterly* 2002 33(1): 79-81.

Review of *De Colores Means All of Us: Latina Views for a Multi-Colored Century* by Elizabeth Martinez. (H-Books, Summer 2000)

Review of *A Place in El Paso: A Mexican American Childhood* by Gloria Lopez-Stafford. *Journal of the West*, July 1998 (vol. 3, no. 3).

Review of *Cultures across Borders: Mexican Immigration and Popular Culture* by David R. Maciel and Maria Herrera Sobek in *Password*, vol. 43, No. 4 (Winter 1998).

Review of *Walls and Mirrors* by David Gutiérrez. (H-Books, Spring 1996).

"Searching for a Reflection." *Sojourners: Faith, Politics, and Culture* (July-August 1996). (Review of *Walls and Mirrors* by David Gutiérrez reprinted with permission from H-Books).

Review of *Decade of Betrayal; Mexican Repatriation in the 1930s* by Francisco E. Balderrama and Raymond Rodríguez. (H-Books, Summer 1996).

Review of *Memories of Chicano History; the Life and Narrative of Bert Corona* by Mario T. García. (H-Books, December 1996).

Other Publications

Contributing writer for the Progressive Media Project, "Latino Voices" series. PMP distributes commentary pieces to daily newspapers throughout the United States, 2000-present.

Contributing writer for *La Voz*, a publication of the Esperanza Peace and Justice Center, San Antonio, Texas. Recent articles include a multi- installment historical series, "Crossing Bridges/ Burning Bridges: The Mexican American Border." *La Voz* has a national circulation of over 5,000.

"If a woman stands at the door, you can't go it": Jovita's Story, April 1914," in *Between Guadalupe and La Malinche*, an anthology of Tejana writers. Inés Hernández Avila and Norma Cantú, editors. Austin: The University of Texas Press. Forthcoming.

"A Long Line of People." *Esto no tiene nombre*. Miami, Florida. Fall 1992.

"A People Who Honor Our Dead." *Woman of Power*. Summer 1994.

Poetry published in various journals and books, including *La Voz de Esperanza*, *Cantos del Sexto Sol*, *Ixhwa*, *Border Senses*, *A Tejana in Tenochtitlan*.

TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

My teaching is shaped profoundly by my understanding of the ancient indigenous Mexican system of education. In 2003/2004, I published an article in *Studies in American Indian Literature* that described my teaching philosophy while exploring a study abroad course I organized that year. I use the concept of *in ixtli in yollotl* (a Nahuatl *disfrasismo* for “the face, the heart”) to describe the responsibility of a teacher who not only imparts knowledge to her students, but also places a mirror in front of her students (self-reflection), encourages students to take a stand with their “face” (their mind) and their “heart” (their conscience and sense of ethics) while instilling a sense of humanity.

PUBLIC HISTORY

Since 2001, I have worked at the public history in the Department of History at UTEP and this has resulted in publications, internships, and other collaborations between UTEP and community organizations and schools. Through the public history internship program, graduate students have worked with the UTEP library Special Collections, the Catholic Archdiocese, the Center for InterAmerican and Border Studies, Socorro High School, the Esperanza Peace and Justice Center, the Paso al Norte Immigration Museum and Mayachen Plaza y Centro Cultural.

In 2013, Museo Urbano developed a new exhibit, "Encuentro con los Antepasados: Traditional Medicine in the Borderlands," to debut in conjunction with their feria de salud.

In 2013, I helped organize “A World of Border Music: The African Roots of Mexican Music in collaboration” with Café Mayapan, La Mujer Obrera.

In 2012, I received funding from Humanities Texas for “The Mexican Revolution and Beyond: An Outdoor Exhibit of South El Paso’s History.” The unveiling of the new historical banners occurred in February 2013 in conjunction with the 30th anniversary of the founding of Sin Fronteras. I also edited a booklet, *Unidos sin fronteras: La historia viviente del Centro de los Trabajadores Agrícolas Fronterizos*.

In 2012, I guest curated an exhibit, “Walking with the Ancestors: From Mesoamerica to the Southwest” at the El Paso Archaeology Museum. The exhibit was up from September 2012- July 2013.

In 2011, I guest curated an exhibit, “Healing Hands and Healing Ways: Traditional Medicine in the Borderlands,” at the El Paso Museum of History.

In 2011, I was chosen as chair of the El Paso Museum of History’s Strategic Planning Committee.

In 2010- present, I directed a historical photographic project, placing large historical images on historic buildings in S. El Paso and downtown. Funded by a Humanities Texas grant.

In 2010, I co-directed *Museo Urbano*, a community museum in an historic immigrant barrio in El Paso. Funded by a grant from the Texas Historical Commission.

In 2010-present, I directed an oral history project gathering the stories of traditional healers in the El Paso-Ciudad Juárez region. On-going.

In 2009-2010, I served as project developer for “El Paso: The Other Side of the Mexican Revolution,” at the El Paso Museum of History, a ground-breaking exhibit on the history of the Mexican Revolution and El Paso’s central role in the intellectual and cultural production of the revolution.

In 2007, I researched and wrote a guide to a mural at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in South El Paso describing the historical personages in the mural along with their significance.

During the summer of 2006, we began organizing an oral history project titled “Voces del Segundo Barrio.” The project began to gather new oral histories of people who live or lived in South El Paso with the intention of creating a book of oral histories and adding to the already existing group of oral histories housed in Special Collections through the Institute for Oral History.

Publications have included three booklets *Socorro and the Lower Valley: A Legacy of the Past* produced by public history students under my supervision, 2002, and *Socorro: The History of a Community* produced by public history students under my supervision, 2005. In 2006, students volunteered to research and produce a public history booklet, *El Segundo Barrio: Una historia viviente*, which has been distributed in the community. A booklet based on oral histories conducted with ESL students, in collaboration with El Paso Community College and the Housing Authority, is in production, and scheduled to be completed in 2006.

We also organized two “museums for a day” with Socorro High School in 2002 and 2005. Each event was attended by approximately 200 community members.

In addition, we collaborated with the County Historical Commission to implement a Historical Marker Project. Under my direction, graduate students researched and wrote text for historical markers, including markers for Aoy Elementary School, Scenic Drive, El Paso High School, and Smeltertown. (2003-2004)

Graduate students and I also presented oral history workshops to schools and the community, including the Ysleta Independent School District Social Studies Conference, the National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies state conference, Eastwood High School, Socorro High School, and the El Paso Community College. I have also presented oral history workshops for English, History, Women’s Studies classes.

Other community public history consulting and presentations include:

Research and writing the text for a historical marker at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 2006.

Work with the Paso al Norte Immigration Museum on a conference, called “The Children of the Revolution/ Los Niños de la Revolución,” which will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the Mexican Revolution in 1910.

In the fall of 2004, I met with Nancy Delat, a public historian working with the consulting firm of Freeman/Whitehurst Group to provide information for inclusion in the El Paso Public Arts Plan.

Participation as a speaker in a local history conference, “Making San Elizario a Place to Remember,” which was sponsored by the San Elizario Genealogy and Historical Society and the Texas Council for the Humanities. April 2002.

Participation in the Paul Espinosa Film Festival, sponsored by the El Paso Community Foundation. I, along with the filmmaker, commented on the documentaries. March 2002. As part of this, I was interviewed by Felipa Solis of Channel 9 and George Torok of the El Paso Community College on the importance of local history as related to Paul Espinosa’s films. 2002.

I was invited to speak about our public history minor to the County Historical Commission in April 2002.

Consulting scholar for video on the history of El Paso (Paul Espinosa, producer). 2001.

Consultant for the Institute of Texas Cultures projects including an oral history website, the “Ranching in Texas” website, and “The Mystery of the Disappearing Indians of Texas, 1998-2000.

Consultant for “Alcala Gold: The Cotton Kingdom,” produced by Kent Paterson, the University of New Mexico, 1999.

Consultant for the “Latinas in Texas” Project of the Center for the Study of Women and Gender, University of Texas at San Antonio. (Developed an extensive bibliography), 1998.

HONORS AND AWARDS AND BOARDS

Board member, El Paso County History Society (2013- 2014)

Board member, El Paso Museum of History (2004-2006)

Board member, National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies (1990s- 2001, including General Coordinator, 2000-2011)

Awards

Outstanding Public History Project from the National Council on Public History, 2013.

Distinguished Service to Students and the University Award, 2013.

La Mujer Obrera Award for promoting and uplifting the rights of women on the border, 2012.

Scholarships, fellowships and grants

International Coalition of Sites of Conscience National Immigration Dialogues funding for local dialogues through Museo Urbano, 2014-2015. (\$5,000) Funding from the NEH and the IMLS.

Humanities Texas mini-grant for “The Mexican Revolution and Beyond: An Outdoor Exhibit of South El Paso’s History.” 2012-2013. (\$2500)

Texas Historical Commission grant for Museo Urbano. Dr. Paul Edison was PI and I administered the grant. 2010-2011. (\$10,000)

Faculty Development Leave, University of Texas at El Paso, 2007-08.

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute Fellow, 2004.

Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow/ Visiting Scholar, Center for Mexican American Studies, The University of Texas at Austin, 2000-2001.

Recipient, along with Ruthe Winegarten, of the Fred White Jr. Fellowship in Texas History, The Texas State Historical Association, 1999.

Recipient, along with Ruthe Winegarten, of Texas Council for the Humanities Grant (via the Austin Writers League, 1999.

Minority Graduate Fellowship, University of Arizona, 1994-95.

Minority Graduate Fellowship, University of Arizona, 1990-91.

National Hispanic Scholarship Fund, 1990, 1989, 1988.

Graduate Minority Scholarship, University of Texas at El Paso, 1989.

Pan American Roundtable of El Paso Scholarship, 1989.

Graduate Scholarship, University of Texas at El Paso, 1988.

Teaching Awards

Who’s Who Among American Teachers [nominated by graduating senior student(s)], 2002.

Faculty Excellence Award, Disability Services, University of Texas at San Antonio, 2000.

Outstanding Mentor, University of Texas at San Antonio Freshmen Mentoring Program, 2000.

Two nominations to Who's Who Among American Teachers [nominated by graduating senior student(s)], 1999.

The Department, the College of Liberal Arts and the University:

Dean of the College of Education search committee, Fall 2013- Spring 2014

Graduate Incentive Fellowship Committee, Graduate School, 2013

History MA advisor, Fall 2013- Summer 2014

Museum Studies committee, 2013-present

Tenure Committee for Dr. Brenda Risch, Women's Studies Director, 2013

Foreign language dissertation committee (2012)

Low Producing Program Task Force Committee (2012- 2013)

Department Oral History Review Committee (2009- present)

Tenure and Promotion Committee, College of Liberal Arts, 2007.

Department Merit review committee (2006-07, 2010- 2014)

CAMP Mentor (2006-08)

Department Long range planning committee (2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006)

Department Borderlands caucus (2002- present) [chair 2003-04, 2005-06, 2006-07]

U.S. caucus (2002)

Department Grade Spanish language exams (2004, 2006, 2009, 2013, 2014)

Department Graduate program committee (2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013)

Department Tertulia coordinator (2002, 2004-2005)

Institute of Oral History Advisory Committee, Chair (2002, 2003, 2004, 2006)

Hispanic Heritage Month Committee (2004-2007)

Faculty writing group, Las Comadres, founder and participant (2001-present)

Ad-hoc museum studies committee (2001, 2002, 2003, 2004)

Principal investigator, Institutional Review Board (IRB) Protocol, Department of History. Faculty and students who wish to conduct oral histories must apply for permission through the Institutional Review Board. I am the liaison between the Department of History and the IRB. I review applications, make recommendations to the IRB, and track the project (2002, 2003, 2004, 2005)

Women's Studies Women's History month committee (2001-2003)

Women's Studies Advisory Committee (2002)

Judge for the Women's History Month Essay Contest (March 2002)

Judge for Women of Valor of UTEP, Women's Resource Center (2005)

Organized a screening of the film "Maquila: A Tale of Two Mexicos" and panel discussion for History Department Film Series (2002).

Contributing scholar, Paso al Norte Museum of Immigration (2001-2005)

Coordinator for the Southwest Women's History conference (2002).

Interviewed about research on Mexican border children for Oye Program, KTEP Radio (2002).

Center for Civic Engagement, Action Research for South and South-Central El Paso's Neighborhood Plans: A Collaboration of the National Council of La Raza (NCLR), La Alianza, and the Center for Civic Engagement at the University of Texas at El Paso (2001)

Professional Service

Texas Historical Commission advisory committee, Hispanic Travel Guide to Texas, 2013-present

El Paso Museum of History search committee member for digital content specialist, 2013

Worked with the Paso al Norte Immigration Museum, 2001-2004.

Board member, El Paso Museum of History, 2001- 2005

Consulting scholar, Latino Music Oral History Project, Alameda Museum and Center for Latino Arts and Culture in affiliation with the /Smithsonian Institution, 2001.

Conference planning committees:

UTEP Department of History, The State in/of Borderlands History, November 2015.

American Association for State and Local History Conference Planning Committee, Birmingham, Alabama, 2013

Organizer for the “Communities under Siege” series that brought Dr. David Diaz, author of Barrio Urbanism, to campus in February 2007 as well as a film series on gentrification and displacement.

“Monuments of Conformity: Commemorating and Protesting Oñate on the Border” conference held in February 2007.

Centennial Museum exhibit committee for “Monuments of Conformity” conference held in February 2007.

Envisioning Bracero History, 2005.

Childhood on the Border, Childhood Crisis Center, 2005.

Women’s Western History Conference, Washington State University, July 2000.

Inaugural panel, Comparative International Education Society, San Antonio, March 2000

Chicana Plenary, National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies, San Antonio, March 1999.

Editorial/ advisory boards:

UTEP Encyclopedia Editorial Board, Fall 2013- present

Editorial board for *The Pass of the North Heritage Corridor* Booklet Series, El Paso Community Foundation.

Latinas in the United States: A Historical Encyclopedia, edited by Vicki L. Ruiz and Virginia Sanchez Korrol (Indiana University Press), 1999-2000.

500 Years of Chicana History, edited by Elizabeth Martinez, 2000-2007.

Other professional service

Member, Wy'mn's Roundtable Writing Workshop, facilitated by playwright Sharon Bridgforth, 2000-2001.

Co-Founder of Mujeres Escritoras, a writing/mentoring group, for Mexican American women in higher education, 1999.

Faculty reviewer for the Educational Testing Service CLEP history test. 1999.