

Laura Lee Oviedo

Ph.D. ABD, History
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TEACHING & RESEARCH FIELDS

20th c. U.S./Mexican American/Latinx History • Public History • Oral History • Borderlands • War & Society • Race & Ethnicity • Gender & Labor • Citizenships & Belonging • Civil Rights

SKILLS & EXPERTISE

Historical Teaching, Research, & Writing • Oral History • Public History • Museum • Community Engagement • Community Outreach • Event Planning & Coordination • Project Development
• Bilingual: Spanish and English (oral, reading, writing) • AmeriCorps Alum
• Mimsy XG • Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, & Adobe Suite

EDUCATION

Ph.D., History, Texas A&M University Aug 2014 --
Dissertation: “Forsaken Bodies, For Sake of Nation: Latinas, Militarization, and Hemispheric Politics in Texas and Puerto Rico during World War II”
Advisor: Dr. Felipe Hinojosa

M.A., History, University of Texas-Pan American May 2014
Certification in Mexican American Studies
M.A. Thesis: “Yes, we are Latino women but very proud to have served our country: Ethnic Mexican Women’s Contributions to World War II”
Advisor: Dr. Sonia Hernandez

CERTIFICATIONS & TRAININGS

Mimsy XG Training, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC (2019)

Collection Stewardship Training, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC (2018)

Geographic Systems (GIS) with ArcGIS, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC (2018)

VOCES Oral History Summer Research Institute, School of Journalism, University of Texas at Austin (2017)

Teaching Assistant Training and Evaluation Program, Center for Teaching Excellence and Teaching Assistant Institute, Texas A&M University (2017)

Mexican American Studies Certification, Mexican American Studies Program,
University of Texas- Pan American (2014)

TEACHING, RESEARCH, PUBLIC HISTORY EXPERIENCE

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE & NATIONAL COUNCIL ON PUBLIC HISTORY |
Washington, DC
American World War II Heritage City Program Oct 2021- Sept 2022
Author, Criterion Essays

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY | College Station, TX
Department of History Aug 2021 – May 2022
Graduate Teaching Assistant, U.S. History I & II

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY |
Washington, DC
Division of Work & Industry March 2021 –
Project Historian, Philanthropy Initiative

SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE | McAllen, TX
Department of History & Philosophy Oct 2020 – Dec 2020
Adjunct Instructor, U.S. History to 1865, online

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY |
Washington, DC
Division of Work & Industry June 2019 – July 2020
Project Historian, War & Latina/o Philanthropy

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY |
Washington, DC
Division of Armed Forces History June 2019- May 2020
Pre-Doctoral Curatorial Fellowship

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY | College Station, TX
Department of History Aug 2017 – May 2018
Graduate Teaching Assistant, U.S. History I & II, Texas History

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS- PAN AMERICAN | Edinburg, TX
Department of History & Philosophy August 2012- May 2014
Graduate Teaching Assistant, U.S. History I & II

PUBLICATIONS

“The Spirit of Latina/o Giving from the Shadows of War,” (Jan 2020), Smithsonian National Museum of American History

“Latina/os and World War II,” *50 Events That Shaped Latino History*, ABC-CLIO (2018), co-authored with Dr. Jesse Esparza

in progress

“Race, Gender, and Space: Black Soldiers in the U.S. Army during World War II,” (in progress for submission to the *Journal for the Studies of Race and Ethnicity*)

FELLOWSHIPS AND RESEARCH GRANTS AWARDED

2021 **College of Liberal Arts Summer Dissertation Completion Fellowship**, Texas A&M University

2019 **Center for Mexican American Studies- Benson Latin American Summer Research Fellowship**, University of Texas-Austin

2019-2020 **Portal to Texas Research Fellowship**, University of North Texas Libraries

2019 **ABC- CLIO Research Grant**, Society for Military History

2019 **Dissertation Fellowship**, Department of History, Texas A&M University

2018-19 **Smithsonian Pre-Doctoral Curatorial Fellowship**, Division of Armed Forces History, National Museum of American History

2017-18 **University of North Texas Special Collections Fellowship**

2016-17 **Aggies Commit to Graduate and Professional Student Educational Experiences Fellowship**, Texas A&M University

2015-16 **Leland T. and Jessie W. Jordan Institute for International Awareness, L.T Jordan Fellowship**, Texas A&M University

2016 **National Women’s Study Association Travel Award**, Montreal, Canada

2016 **Graduate Student Presentation Grant**, Office of Graduate and Professional Studies, Texas A&M University

2016 **Aggies Commit Mini-Grant for Innovative Programming**, Texas A&M University

2016 **Summer Graduate Research Award**, Department of History, Texas A&M University

2015 **Travel-to-Conference Grant**, Department of History, Texas A&M University

2014-17 **Diversity Fellowship**, Office of Graduate and Professional Studies, Texas A&M University

2014-17 **Vision 2020 Fellowship**, College of Liberal Arts, Texas A&M University

2013 **Center for Mexican American Studies Conference Travel Grant**, University of Texas Pan-American

2012 **South Texas Academic Rising Scholars Scholarship**

2010-12 **Segal AmeriCorps Education Award**

INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

“Latina Soldiering and U.S.-Latin American Relations during World War II: Puerto Rican and Mexican Women in the Women’s Army Corps” in *Military Frontiers Graduate Student Symposium: An Interdisciplinary Conversation on National Security*, The Ohio State University (April 16, 2021), virtual

The Puerto Rican Experience in the U.S. Military: A Century of Unheralded Service and Celebration of National Borinqueneers’ Day,” Commentator, webinar, Center for Puerto Rican Studies at The City University of New York, (April 13, 2021), virtual

“Latinas in War and Memory,” in *Towards a More Inclusive Women’s Military History*, Smithsonian Institution (July 18, 2019) Washington, DC

“Latinas and World War II,” National Museum of American History (May 28, 2019) Washington, DC

“Belonging in Nation and War: Latina/os & World War II,” in *Forgotten Voices, Forgotten Objects*, 75th D-Day Anniversary Ceremony, Smithsonian Institution (May 2019) Washington, DC

“Puerto Rico in World War II: Military Participation, Labor, and Nation,” Guest Lecture, Latina/o History, Dr. Sonia Hernandez (September 2018) Texas A&M University, College Station

“Atrevidas: Puerto Rican Women in the Women’s Army Corps During World War II,” for *Hispanic Heritage Heroes: From War and Peace to Prejudice and Pride Lecture Series*, presented at the Houston Metropolitan Research Center, October 2015, Houston, TX

“Chicana Poetry and Activism in the Chicano Movement”, Chicana/o Poetry and Poetics, Dr. Emmy Perez, Department of English, Center for Mexican American Studies, University of Texas-Pan American (February 2015)

CONFERENCES (SELECTED)

Eramos Atrevidas, We Were Daring": Tejanas and Puertorriqueñas in the Women's Army Corps during World War II" in *American Ethnic, Racial, and Gender Minorities in Two Wars*, Society for Military History, May 2019, Columbus, Ohio

"Making Peace, Making War in Imperial Spaces: Recovering the Narratives of Latina/os and World War II," in *Latina Historians Expanding the Archives*, National Council on Public History, March 2019, Hartford, Connecticut

"Everyone Pitched In": Informal Wartime Contributions of Tejanas during World War II" in *Social, Political, and Military Engagements of Latinas on the Homefront during WWII*, Texas State Historical Association (TSHA), TSHA 121st Annual Conference 2017, March 2-4, 2017, Houston, TX

"Tejanas and World War II: Militarization and Citizenship on the Home Front," in *Decolonizing the National Body: Women and Militarism*, National Women's Study Association (NWSA), November 10-13, 2016, Montréal, Québec, Canada

"Chicana Manual of Style: Practicing Border Herstory in the Anzaldúan Tradition" in *Decolonizing Ourselves: Pathography and Autoethnography as Method*, National Women's Study Association (NWSA), November 10-13, 2016, Montréal, Québec, Canada

"Tejanas and World War II: Wartime Maneuvers of Militarization and Citizenship on the Home Front," in *From Wartime Duties to Postwar Politics: The Evolution of a Militant Latina/o Consciousness*, Waging Peace Conference, Dale Center for the Study of War & Society, September 8- 10, New Orleans, Louisiana

"Race, Gender, and Space: Black Soldiers in the U.S. Military during World War II," Roundtable session, American Sociological Association (ASA), 111th Annual ASA Meeting, August 20-23, 2017, Seattle, Washington

"Continuing Border Herstory in the Anzaldúan Tradition," Wake-UP presentation, National Association for Chicano and Chicana Studies Tejas FOCO Conference, February 19, 2016, Houston, TX

"Latinas in Academia: Combating Structures of Racism in the Ivory Tower and Creating Strategies to Survive and Thrive," roundtable session, National Association for Chicano and Chicana Studies Tejas FOCO Conference, February 19, 2016, Houston, TX

"Confronting Institutional Violence and Moving Forward," roundtable session, National Association for Chicano and Chicana Studies Tejas FOCO Conference, February 20, 2016, Houston, TX

“I Went Anyway”: Tejanas in the U.S. Military During World War II” in *(De)Colonizing Identity: Race and Gender in Imperial Spaces*, National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA), NWSA National Conference, November 12 – 15, 2015, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

“Rio Grande Valley Mexican American Veterans of World War II and Viet Nam,” paper presentation, National Association for Chicano and Chicana Studies Tejas FOCO Conference, February 23, 2013, Edinburg, Texas

RELATED ACADEMIC/PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Lead Organizer and Coordinator, Oral History Workshop, Latinx Commons, Smithsonian National Museum of American History, Washington DC

NMAH- Latinx Commons, Smithsonian National Museum of American History, Washington DC

Congress of Scholars, Smithsonian National Museum of American History, Washington, DC

Visiting Research Scholar, Instituto de Estudios del Caribe, Universidad de Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras, May 2019

Task Force Committee Member, U.S. 250th Anniversary Commemoration, American Association for State and Local History, National Council on Public History, 2019-2023

Core Committee Member, 2019 Smithsonian Material Culture Forum, 75th anniversary of D-Day, *Forgotten Voices, Forgotten Objects*, May 2019

Committee member, Army Center of Military History’s Women’s Community of Interest, Washington, D.C.

Visiting Research Scholar, Instituto de Estudios del Caribe, Universidad de Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras, June-July 2016, August 2018 – November 2018

Red Can Graffiti Art Jam, Cheyenne River Youth Project, Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation, Eagle Butte, South Dakota, June 20-July 3, 2017

Conference Committee member, National Association of Chicana and Chicano Scholars-Tejas Foco, Conference 2017

Conference Chair, Seventh Annual Texas A&M History Conference, March 2016, College Station, TX

Vice-President, History Graduate Student Organization, Department of History, Texas A&M, College Station, Fall 2015-Spring 2016

Event Coordinating Committee Member, *El Retorno: El Valle Celebra Nuestra Gloria Anzaldua*, symposium, University of Texas- Pan American, May 2015, Edinburg, TX

Hector Galan Archival Committee, UTPA- Edinburg, TX, Spring 2013-Fall 2014

Event Committee Member, “Voces de Braceros Symposium” University of Texas- Pan American, April 2012, Edinburg, TX

Founder and Graduate Advisor, Mexican American Studies Club, University of Texas-Pan American, Spring 2012- Fall 2014