

## ALALS INITIATIVE EVENTS

### SPRING 2020

Featured Scholar Lecture by Dr. Vanessa Valdés  
February 14, 2020, 12:15 pm  
Wesley W. Posvar Hall, Room 4130

This lecture features the interdisciplinary scholarship of Dr. Vanessa Valdés, the Director of the Black Studies Program and Associate Professor of Spanish and Portuguese at The City College of New York-CUNY. Her research specialization focuses on comparative studies of Black cultural productions throughout the Americas, including the Caribbean, Brazil, and the U.S. She is the author of the critically acclaimed *Diasporic Blackness: The Life and Times of Arturo Alfonso Schomburg* (2017), in which she analyzed Schomburg's engagement with the vibrant, ethnically diverse, and racially charged world of early twentieth-century New York City. As an historian, writer, activist and collector, Schomburg's personal library served as the basis of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture at the New York Public Library. In addition to her public talk, Dr. Valdés will also speak with students enrolled in a class on Afro-Hispanic writers in the Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures.



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### FALL 2019

Afro-Latinx Perspectives on Race, Representation, and Society Student  
Student Research Exhibit and Reception  
Tuesday, December 3, 2019, 6:00 -7:30pm  
Global Hub, Wesley W. Posvar Hall, First Floor

This event showcases student research from the upper division undergraduate course, "Afro-Latinos in the U.S." The twenty-one participants will provide visual and textual iterations of the experiences of Afro-Latinxs in regional and transnational contexts. Based on a range of primary sources, including memoirs, historic newspapers, interviews, and social media, this exhibition will present a powerful narrative of the struggles and achievements of Afro-Latinxs. Examples include the racial acculturation of Cubans and Puerto Ricans who migrated in the early twentieth century; racism encountered by sports figures, such as Roberto Clemente (baseball) and Herbert Lewis Hardwick (boxing); Afro-Latinas' resistance to colorism and sexism; the invisibility of Afro-Latinxs in media and film; and broader efforts to counter injustice and prejudice.

THE AFRO-LATIN AMERICAN AND AFRO-LATINX STUDIES INITIATIVE  
PRESENTS:

# AFRO-LATINX PERSPECTIVES: RACE, REPRESENTATION, AND SOCIETY

STUDENT RESEARCH POSTER EXHIBIT AND RECEPTION

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3RD, 2019  
6-7:30PM, GLOBAL HUB, POSVAR HALL



Join us for an exhibition of student research on the challenges and  
achievements of the Afro-Latinx population in the U.S.



Hillman Library, Eduardo Lozano Latin American  
Collection and African American Collection  
University Archives and Special Collections

DEPARTMENT OF  
**Africana Studies**



CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

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Talk by Tianna Paschel  
Rethinking Black Mobilization in Latin America: Lessons from Brazil  
Monday, November 18, 2019, 4:00 pm  
Room 4130, Wesley W. Posvar Hall  
Co-sponsored by the ALALS Initiative

## Professor Tianna Paschel

Associate Professor of African American Studies and  
Sociology, University of California, Berkeley

### “RETHINKING BLACK MOBILIZATION IN LATIN AMERICA: LESSONS FROM BRAZIL”

Black mobilization in Latin America has long been cast as a story of absence. Both scholars who saw the region as a kind of racial paradise and those that challenged such characterizations agreed that effective black mobilization was not likely. In this talk, I deploy examples of recent mobilization by Brazil's black movement to rethink the nature, challenges and outcomes of black mobilization in this region. I suggest that even while there have been many impediments to successful mobilization, black movements have reconfigured their respective states and societies in both expected and unexpected ways.

**Monday, November 18th**

**4pm • 4130 WWPH**



CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

Afro-Latin American and Afro-  
Latinx Studies Initiative

DEPARTMENT OF  
**SOCIOLOGY**

DEPARTMENT OF  
**HISTORY**



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**PAST EVENTS**

Roundtable and Poetry Recitation by Cristiane Sobral  
Celebrating Female Black and Indigenous Voices in Latin American Poetry  
November 8, 2019, 6:00 pm  
Global Hub, Wesley W. Posvar Hall, First Floor  
Co-sponsored by the ALALS Initiative

**ADDverse+Poesia**  
PRESENTS:  
**Cristiane Sobral**  
A renowned Afro-Brazilian writer, mother, actress, writer,  
teacher, public speaker, and entrepreneur.



**Join us for a roundtable conversation  
celebrating Black poetry followed by  
a recital with the special  
participation of the musicians  
John Bagnato and Mathew Tembo!**

**FRIDAY, NOV 8 AT 6 PM**  
**Global Hub - Posvar Hall  
University of Pittsburgh**

Department of  
**Hispanic Languages & Literatures**

**AFRO-LATIN AMERICAN AND  
AFRO-LATINX STUDIES INITIATIVE**

**HUMANITIES  
CENTER**

DEPARTMENT OF  
**Africana Studies**

**CULTURAL  
STUDIES**

**CENTER FOR  
LATIN AMERICAN  
STUDIES**

 **Gender, Sexuality, &  
Women's Studies Program**

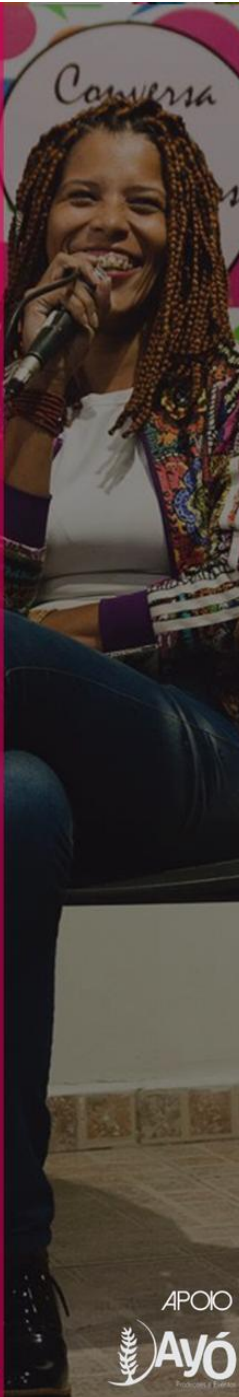
 **GLOBAL  
STUDIES CENTER**

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Talk by Raquel Almeida and Translate-o-thon

October 25 and 26, 2019

Co-sponsored by the ALALS Initiative



**RAQUEL ALMEIDA**  
PITTSBURGH CALENDAR

**25 SEXTA FEIRA . FRIDAY**

PITTSBURGH – PENSILVÂNIA UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH UNIVERSIDADE DE PITTSBURGH

1 PM | MEET AND GREET WITH RAQUEL ALMEIDA, BRAZILIAN POET

“ENCONTRO COM A AUTORA RAQUEL ALMEIDA” COM ALUNOS DA GRADUAÇÃO EM AULA DE PORTUGUÊS.

3 PM | SPOKEN WORD FOLLOWED BY Q&A OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
SARAU E CONVERSA SPONSORED BY ADDVERSE+POESIA, HL&L, AFRICANA STUDIES, AFRO-LATIN AMERICAN AND AFRO-LATINX INITIATIVE.

**26 SÁBADO . SATURDAY**

1 PM | TRANSLATE-O-THON  
TRANSLATION TOWARDS DECOLONIZATION: BRAZILIAN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH WITH NEGRITUDE/ AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE WITH BRAZILIAN-NESS.



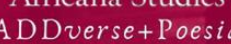


A DAY OF COLLECTIVE TRANSLATION FOCUSED ON SELECTED POEMS OF SAGRADO SOPRO AND SHORT STORIES FROM CONTOS DE YÖNU BY RAQUEL ALMEIDA.

UM DIA DE TRADUÇÕES EM COLETIVO ENFOCADO EM SAGRADO SOPRO (2014) E CONTOS DE YÖNU (2019) DA RAQUEL ALMEIDA.

MODERATED BY DR. SARAH SOANIRINA OHMER WITH A PRESENTATION BY LUANA REIS, GRADUATE STUDENT, HISPANIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES  
CO-SPONSORED BY AFRICANA STUDIES AND THE AFRO-LATINX INITIATIVE.CO-ORGANIZERS: LUANA REIS AND DR SARAH SOANIRINA OHMER

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ADDVERSE+POESIA!

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Representations of Afrolatinidad Conference

April 11-13, 2019

University of Pittsburgh

This event featured 16 speakers, including two keynote addresses by Juliet Hooker, Professor of Political Science at Brown University; and Nancy Mirabal, Associate Professor, American Studies, Director of the US Latina/o Studies Program, University of Maryland-College Park. In addition, the panel sessions explored the

following themes: the historical roots of Afro-Latin America, negotiating blackness and anti-blackness, popular and visual cultures, and curriculum and community. The cumulative audience of over 180 people included scholars, staff, students, teachers, and community members. Positive feedback included common descriptors on social media such as “amazing,” “fabulous,” and “energizing.” Throughout the conference, and especially at concluding roundtable, attendees praised the event for being “motivating, “well-conceived,” “lovingly and obviously curated,” and conceptually strong.”

University of Pittsburgh

# Representations of AFROLATINIDAD

**April 11–13, 2019**

This conference seeks to foster a dialogue that addresses regional, national, and transnational expressions of Afrolatinidad. Presenters from multiple disciplines will explore the ways that Afro-Latin Americans and Afro-Latinxs create, sustain, and transform meanings surrounding blackness.

**Thursday, April 11, 2019**  
University Club, third floor  
4:30 p.m.  
*Reception to follow lecture*



**JULIET HOOKER** | Keynote Speaker  
*Professor of Political Science, Brown University*  
“Afro-Latin Americans and Hemispheric Black Political Thought”

**Friday, April 12, 2019**  
Humanities Center, 602 Cathedral of Learning



**NANCY MIRABAL** | Keynote Speaker  
*Associate Professor of American Studies and Director of the U.S. Latina/o Studies Program, University of Maryland, College Park*  
“An Unknowable Archive: Writing Afro-Cubanidades in New York”

**Conference Panels**

9:15–10:30 a.m.	Afro-Latin America: Historical Roots
10:45–11:30 a.m.	Mariele Franco Documentary Film Screening and Discussion
1–2:15 p.m.	Negotiating Blackness and Anti-Blackness
2:30–3:45 p.m.	Popular and Visual Cultures
3:45–4:45 p.m.	Reception
5–6:30 p.m.	Keynote Address

**Saturday, April 13, 2019**  
Humanities Center, 602 Cathedral of Learning

**Conference Panels**

9:30–10:45 a.m.	Curriculum and Community
11 a.m.–noon	Wrap-up Roundtable

**Cosponsors**  
Afro-Latin American and Afro-Latinx Studies Initiative, Center for Latin American Studies, Humanities Center, Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences Department of African Studies, Office of the Chancellor, and the Year of Pitt Global

This conference is free and open to the public. For more information and free registration, visit [africanastudies.pitt.edu/Events](http://africanastudies.pitt.edu/Events).



Kenneth P. Dietrich  
School of Arts and Sciences  
Department of African Studies

africanastudies.pitt.edu

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Afro-Latin American Studies Graduate Seminar in Cuba  
May 3–11, 2019

The Initiative launched the Afro-Latin American Studies Graduate Seminar Abroad program in Cuba. This one-credit course provided graduate students in art and art history, linguistics, and history with a first-hand experience in understanding the historical, social, and cultural legacies of Afro-Latin America. The course focused on the history and legacy of Cuba’s African roots and utilized a combination of scholarly texts, films, discussions, essays, and field excursions to address the topics of enslavement, syncretism, resistance, and agency, especially as found in Cuban history, African-derived music, religions, literature, and art; and issues of race and gender in revolutionary society. Four students participated in the pilot program hailed from diverse ethnic, racial, and national backgrounds. They praised the program for being an “amazing trip” which they described as a “deeply enriching” and “positive” experience.

AFRO-LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES IN CUBA - UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH - MARCH 2019  
Rebecca Giordano, Paula Kupfer, Chelsey Smith, Yue Zhang

