

Viviana Alvarez Rodriguez
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University of California, Irvine
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Education

University of California, Irvine
Ph.D. Student, Department of History
In Progress

University of California, Irvine: Master of Arts, History
Spring 2025

California State University, San Bernardino: Bachelor of Arts, History, Minor in Political Science
Spring 2023
Summa Cum Laude

Research and Academic Experience

Cold War Archive Research Program

2025-2026 Academic Year

- Attend bi-weekly archival methodology trainings with other graduate scholars of the Cold War organized and led by scholars from the CWAR-Institute housed in the Oxford Centre for Life Writing at Wilson College.
- Work with cohort of graduate scholars to engage with innovative methodologies and archival approaches for understanding the Global Cold War and prepare for in-person archival dissertation research at the Bodleian Library in Oxford in Summer of 2026.

Associated Graduate Students (AGS) First-Generation Engagement Chair, UC Irvine

2024-2025 Academic Year

- Met with resource centers at UC Irvine that serve first-generation graduate students and strategized ways to expand the reach of these centers to first-generation students.
- Planned workshops and social events for first generation students at UCI with on-campus centers.
- Advocated for first generation graduate students' needs and concerns both on- and off-campus, including working with AGS staff and council members to push for policy change related to first-generation students at UC Irvine.

Digital Humanities Exchange Graduate Student Fellow, UC Irvine

2024-2025 Academic Year

- Served on the Digital Humanities Exchange steering committee housed within the UC Humanities Center and provided suggestions for graduate student engagement within DHX activities and events.
- Planned research talks and skill share events with other committee members to take place throughout the academic year.

Graduate Student Research Assistant, UC Irvine

Summer 2024

- Assisted Dr. Kevan Aguilar, Assistant Professor of History at UC Irvine with soliciting, scanning, and organizing primary sources housed at the Archivo General de la Nación in Mexico City.

Student Editor, Immigration and Ethnic History Society Newsletter

May 2022 - 2024

- Line edited bi-yearly newsletter publication and uploaded content to MailChimp.
- Worked alongside Dr. Ryan Keating in the formulation of bi-annual IEHS newsletter.

Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow, California State University, San Bernardino

June 2021 - May 2023

- Carried out research focused on student-youth protest against the Somoza regime in Nicaragua during the 1960s and 70s under the guidance of faculty mentor Dr. Pedro Santoni in the Department of History which culminated in the publishing of an article.

UCI Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship

Summer 2022

- Worked under the mentorship of Dr. Rachel O'Toole, Professor of History at UC Irvine, to record oral histories of Afro-Mexican student activists in Veracruz and researched the state educational institution's narrations of Afro-descendant history.

Research Assistant

January 2022 - June 2022

- Assisted Dr. Louie Valencia, Professor of History at Texas State University, with archival research for an ongoing book project regarding anti-fascist youth movement's response to the AIDS epidemic in late twentieth-century Spain.
- Worked with primary sources in Spanish and organized source material on Microsoft Excel.

History in the Making, Editor, California State University, San Bernardino

Spring 2021

- Worked collaboratively with authors and other editors to enhance submission pieces structurally and mechanically.
- Amassed experience working on original historical research pieces as well as various graduate-level literature reviews.

Languages

English: Native language speaker, fluent in reading and writing

Spanish: Advanced language speaker, fluent in reading and writing

Portuguese: Reader

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant

2025-2026 Academic Year

Courses Taught: History 70: African American History to 1877, History 21B: World History 1650-1870.

2024-2025 Academic Year

Courses taught: History 70: African American History to 1877, History 12: Mexican History Through Film, History 70D: Gender and Nation in Modern Latin America.

Service

UCI History Graduate Student Association (HGSA) 2025 Conference Co-Director and Grant Writer

2024-2025

Oversaw the conference planning committee for the 2024-2025 HGSA Conference titled “(Re) Visioning Narratives.” Acquired funding for the annual conference from the UCI Humanities Center through the awarding of their Building Intellectual Community Grant and an event co-sponsorship.

Diverse Educational Community and Doctoral Experience (DECADE) Cohort Representative

2023-2025

Met with other DECADE representatives to coordinate and plan events that promote inclusivity and community among graduate students, alumni, and faculty in the Department of History at UC Irvine.

UCI Graduate Division Ambassador

2024-2025

Assisted prospective graduate students interested in programs at UC Irvine by providing resources and answering questions virtually and at graduate fairs. Planned and executed a workshop series with other ambassadors for prospective graduate students at UC Irvine.

Next-Gen Pathways Mentor

2024-2025

Mentored 6 first-generation graduate students at UCI by being a resource for questions and concerns regarding navigating the transition to doctoral studies, opportunities for first-generation students on campus, and adjusting to campus life.

Inland Empire People’s History Conference

June 1, 2024

Chair for panels titled “Latinx Representations in Educational Spaces” and “Politics, Race, and Labor in Migration.”

CSU San Bernardino MMUF Guest Speaker

February 15, 2024

Met with current second-year cohort Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows at CSU San Bernardino to discuss navigating doctoral acceptance offers and packages.

American Historical Association 2024 Annual Conference

January 6, 2024

Chair for a panel titled “Can We Call It White Supremacy? Rethinking Racial Systems in Modern Latin America.”

Consortium of Social Sciences Advocacy

April 24-25, 2023

Met with CA Senate and House representative’s staff at the U.S. capital to advocate for expanding federal funding for social science research.

CSUSB Afro-Latinx Teaching Symposium

May 22, 2022

Volunteer.

Awards and Fellowships

Cold War Research Archive Research Program Fellowship

October 2025

UC Irvine Department of History Summer Research Fellowship

July 2025

UC Irvine Division of Teaching Excellence Graduate Student Fellowship

July 2025

University of California, Irvine Humanities Center Building Intellectual Community Grant

December 2024

University of California, Irvine Center for Liberation, Anti-Racism, and Belonging (C-LAB) Graduate Fellowship

September 2024

University of California Digital Humanities Exchange (DHX) Graduate Fellowship

September 2024

University of California Routes of Enslavement Graduate Student Research Grant

April 2024

UCI Associated Graduate Students Winter 2024 Conference Stipend

April 2024

CSU Chancellor’s Doctoral Incentive Program Fellowship

July 2023

CSUSB College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Outstanding Student Award

April 2023

University of California, Irvine Eugene Cota-Robles Fellowship

March 2023

University of California, Irvine Humanities Dean Recruitment Fellowship

March 2023

University of California, Irvine Diversity Recruitment Fellowship

March 2023

University of California, Irvine Summer Program Participant Fellowship

March 2023

University of California, Irvine School of Humanities Fellowship

March 2023

California State University San Bernardino Research Delegate

February 2022 & 2023

CSUSB College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Dean's List

Every Term Fall 2018-Spring 2023

CSU Sally Casanova Pre-Doctoral Scholarship Recipient

May 2022

Mellon Mays Undergraduate Research Fellowship

June 2021

Memberships

American Historical Association

Conference on Latin American History

Rocky Mountains Council for Latin American Studies

UCI History Graduate Student Association

Presentations

"Indigenous Radicalism and "Rural Violence" in Postrevolutionary Veracruz," University of California, Irvine - 2025 (Re) Visioning Narratives HGSA Conference, April 18, 2025.

"Keys of Progress:" Mothers, Indigeneity, and Visions of Social Improvement in Twentieth Century Mexico," Ottawa CA, Rocky Mountains Conference for Latin American Studies, April 10, 2025.

"Race and Gender in Postrevolutionary Mexican Eugenics Societies," University of California, Irvine- 2024 Historians in the Public(s) HGSA Conference, April 6, 2024.

“From Classrooms to Photo-Albums: Examining the Scope of Afro-Descendant Student Activism in Veracruz, Mexico,” San Diego State University- 2023 CSU Research Competition, April 29, 2023.

“Becoming Sandinistas: The Scope of Student Activism in the Nicaraguan Revolution,” California State University, San Bernardino- 2023 Latin American Studies Conference, April 19, 2023.

“Back to Photo-Albums: Afro-Descendant Student’s Employment of Local and Familial Histories as Alternate Historical Narration in Veracruz, Mexico,” California State University, San Bernardino-2023 CSUSB Research Competition, February 10, 2023.

“Institutional Barriers to Afro-Descendant Self-Narration in Veracruz, Mexico,” Pepperdine University- Southern California Conference for Undergraduate Research, November 19, 2022.

“Beyond Yanga: Afro-Descendant Self-Narration in Veracruz Mexico,” UC Irvine- Summer Undergraduate Research Symposium, August 11, 2022.

“Afro-Mexican Resistance in Colonial and Contemporary Veracruz,” California State University, San Bernardino - 2022 CSU Research Competition, April 30, 2022.

“Collective Memory of the Nicaraguan Revolution in Contemporary Student and Youth Protest,” California State University, San Bernardino, April 15, 2022.

“A Comparative Analysis of Youth Participation During the Nicaraguan Revolution and Contemporary Youth Protest,” Virtual- Southern California Conference for Undergraduate Research, November 20, 2022.

“Student and Youth Protest in the Nicaraguan Revolution,” Virtual- Mellon Mays Undergraduate Research Fellowship West Coast Regional Conference, November 5, 2022.

Publications

“Fugitive Histories and Migrant Knowledge in Latin America and the Caribbean.” *Bulletin of the German Historical Institute* 75 (2025): 133-136.

“Review of Jarquín, Mateo. *The Sandinista Revolution: A Global Latin American History*.” Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2024. 336 pp. *A Contracorriente: Una Revista De Estudios Latinoamericanos*, 22(1): 357–360.

“Student and Youth Sandinistas in the Nicaraguan Revolution.” *History in the Making* vol. 16 (2023): 237-266.