

# DEMOCRACY

CHALLENGES AND POSSIBILITIES IN THE AMERICAS OF THE 21ST CENTURY



**The 12th Annual La Academia del Pueblo**  
Latina/o/x and Latin American Studies Research Conference



**WAYNE STATE**  
UNIVERSITY  
Center for Latina/o and  
Latin American Studies

**Friday, April 22, 2022**  
**12 to 4 p.m.**

# Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies

## Mission

Our mission is to transform the academy, and ultimately society, by providing equitable access to a quality university education to students interested in U.S. Latino/a and Latin American cultural studies while enhancing diversity on campus.

Our mission has four main components:

- Student support services
- Internal university advocacy
- Outreach to local communities
- Research on U.S. Latino/a and Latin American topics

## Research Showcase

This year students in LAS 1420: Introduction to Interdisciplinary Latino/a Studies Research examined the complex contours of Democracy from multiple perspectives including, intersection with gender identities, health care, educational and migration policies, notions of citizenship and enfranchisement, freedom of expression and popular culture. Students completing LAS 3990: Community Based Service Learning, will discuss their capstone projects conducted at a charter middle school and non-profit organizations in Southwest Detroit.



# Conference Overview

**Friday, April 22**

**WSU Student Center Building**

**12 p.m. REGISTRATION AND LUNCH**

**12:30 p.m. CLLAS WELCOME**

Dr. Jorge L. Chinea, Director, Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies, Wayne State University

**OPENING REMARKS**

Dr. Mark Kornbluh, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Wayne State University

**COLLEGE WELCOME**

Dr. Stephanie Hartwell, Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Wayne State University

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

"The Power of Latinx Studies: Making Space for Us in Academia and Beyond"

Dr. Delia Fernández-Jones, Assistant Professor of History, Michigan State University

**1:30 p.m. WSU STUDENT RESEARCH PANELS**

**Hilberry A "Peer Health Exchange: Exploring Identity through Health Equity"**

**Moderator: Dr. Zach Morales, Wayne State University**

**LAS 3990 Presenters:**

Andrea Meza, Evelyn Rios, Jesus Ochoa, Emily Jaramillo, Evangelia Korogiannis, Sofia Piloni and Karla Narvaez.

**Hilberry B "Encouraging Access and Agency: Health Education through a Near Peer Model"**

**Moderator: Nathan Chavez, Wayne State University**

**LAS 3990 Presenters:**

Sabine Alvarenga, Meagan Diaz, Alejandro Sepulveda, Abril Ayala-Rodriguez, Aylyn Garcia, Daniela Peredo and Citlali Espino.

Hilberry C

## "Community Based Internships: Latina/o/x College Students Build Professional Networks"

**Moderator: Theresa Ramirez-Zipser, Wayne State University**

### **LAS 3990 Scholars:**

Daniela Lupercio, MANA de Metro Detroit

Luis Sanchez, Community Health and Social Services (CHASS) Center, Inc.

Andrew Taszreak, Community Health and Social Services (CHASS) Center, Inc.

**2:30 p.m.  
Ballroom**

### **LAS 1420 STUDENT POSTER SESSION**

**3:30 p.m.  
Ballroom**

### **AWARDS CEREMONY**



# SCHOLARS POSTER SESSION

1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

## LAS 1420 Scholars

### **"Latino Access to Higher Education"**

Uriel Barraza

### **"The Path and Hardships to Citizenship for Latinx"**

Efrain Centeno

### **"The Struggle for DACA and its Impact on Democracy"**

Alberto Cervantes

### **"Perspectives/Perceptions on the HIV/AIDS Epidemic Impacting the Latino/a/x Community"**

Jesus Cruz-Navarro

### **"El Blanqueamiento of U.S. Soccer"**

Andy Galvan

### **"Mis Padres Using Democracy"**

Alberto Herrera

### **"Controversial Latinx Music in the Americas"**

Cristian Luz Gutierrez

### **"Immigrants Robbed of the American Dream"**

Nalialh Maldonado-Ortiz

### **"'Feticide' Guilty or Not Guilty?"**

Javier Martinez

### **"Latinx and Climate Change"**

Ximena Mazariegos

### **"Girls Against Dress Codes"**

Leslie Maria Mercado

### **"The Utilization of Social Media and Latinos"**

Nathalie Miranda

### **"Filipino Artistic Contributions on the Philippine-American War"**

John Sydney Molano

### **"The Price Central American Immigrants Are Paying: Mental Health & Asylums"**

Yajaira Perez

### **"Community Policing: Relations in Metro Detroit"**

Micheal Ramirez

### **"Mothers of Mexico Mourn the Missing"**

Madison Rivera

### **"Latinx Women vs Pay Inequality in The Workplace"**

Astrid Rodriguez

### **"When Healthcare Becomes A Privilege - Healthcare Difficulties and Discrimination Against Latino/a Immigrants"**

Abrahan Salas

### **"Shining Light on the Hidden Side of Crossing the Border"**

Nazli Sancen

### **"Obtaining A Green Card: An Immigrant's Lottery"**

Jose Sanchez

### **"Racial Inequality in the Sports World for Latinx"**

Tayvin Spina

### **"The Young Lords' Legacy Impacting Exploitation and Oppression Today"**

Brandon Torres-Rojo

### **"Honduras - Challenging Corruption"**

Valeria Vazquez

### **"Citizenship and Voting in the 21st Century"**

Alexa Zepeda

### **"LBGTQ+ in Michoacan"**

Xanny Alcantar

### **"The Sleeping Giant : Latinas and Democracy"**

Jishell Alvarado-Vest

### **"Understanding the Motives Behind Politically Active Latinos"**

Denisha Barnett

### **"The Evolution of the American Dream"**

Citlalli Cervantes

**“Legal Status of Immigrants: A Nightmare”**

Yissel Escoto-Cervantes

**“Soldiers and Statehood”**

Julian Feliciano

**“Latinas in the Kitchen? In Power? Or Both?”**

Janneth Flores

**“The American Dream in the Eyes of an Immigrant”**

Agustin Garcia

**“Indigenous Struggle for Democracy in Mexico”**

Guadalupe Garcia-Chapa

**“How Reproductive Rights Effect Women of Color”**

Dilysia Garcia-Martin

**“Narcocorridos and Victims of Narcotraficantes”**

Uriko Gomez

**“Callando La Verdad ”**

Jennifer Gonzalez

**“The Status of Immigrants and their Effects”**

Karla J. Gonzalez

**“The Effects of COVID-19 in Mexico”**

Jacqueline Hernandez

**“The American Dream vs Latinos”**

Alexandra Lopez

**“The Backs of the Undocumented”**

Emanuel Lucero

**“The Land of Opportunity”**

Priscilla Martinez

**“Undocumented Women At Risk in the Workplace”**

Stephanie Martinez

**“Hispanic/Latinx Importance in the Construction Industry”**

Oscar Miranda-Alderete

**“¡LIBRE! Democratic Socialism and the Future of Honduras”**

Ezra Mitchell

**“Mexico, Democracy and Sports”**

Hector Molina

**“ICE Detention Centers: Is Humanity Possible?”**

Valeria Murillo

**“Globalization and Indigenous Communities”**

Surisaddai Peralta

**“Punkcheras and Activism ”**

Alondra Rodriguez

**“No Hay Democracia con Femicidio”**

Priscila Rodriguez Vazquez

**“Chicano Art and Public Expression on Democracy”**

Stephanie Sanchez

**“Latinx Women Will Not Go Unheard on Social Media”**

Olivia Torres

**“The Cost of Freedom”**

Emiliano Vasquez

**“Femicidio in Latin American Countries”**

Ashley Villalobos

**“The Dark Side of Mexico's Democracy”**

Alexandro Vivanco

**“Latinx Voter Suppression”**

Wendolee Zamudio

**“Hatred Towards Latinx”**

Leslie Zarate

## **The Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies extends a thank you to all conference presenters and attendees!**

### CLLAS faculty and staff

Dr. Jorge L. Chinaea, Director  
Melissa Miranda Morse, Assistant Director  
Alicia Diaz, Part-time Faculty, LAS 1420 Instructor  
Tamara Serrano Chandler, Academic Advisor  
Estenia Elisevich, Academic Advisor

Jasmin Perez, LAS 1420 Instructional Assistant, CBS Scholar, Peer Mentor  
Pamela Esparza, LAS 1420 Instructional Assistant, CBS Scholar, Peer Mentor  
Ida Martinez, Research Support Librarian, CLLAS Liaison

### Special thanks to

Dr. Zach Morales, McNair Program Director  
Amy Cooper, Learning Community Manager  
Sharon Almeranti, Senior Budget Analyst, Office of the Provost  
Nathan Chavez, Associate Director, Computing & Info Technology  
Theresa Ramirez-Zipser, STEM Engagement Coordinator  
Diana Garcia Rivera, Graphic Designer, LAS Scholar, Peer Mentor  
Ana Calandrino, Director, COE Upward Bound Program  
Dr. Roxana Zuniga, Assistant Professor, Spanish  
Vanessa Reynolds, Admissions Counselor

#### **CLLAS Peer Mentors**

Andrea Meza, LAS Scholar  
Alfonso Garcia Rivera, LAS Scholar  
Nikki Alvarenga, LAS Scholar  
Alondra Mireles, LAS Scholar  
Alexa Lopez, LAS Scholar  
Andrew Taszreak, LAS Scholar  
Sarah Arredondo, LAS Scholar  
Paulina Yllescas, LAS Scholar  
Daniela Peredo, LAS Scholar  
Juan Savala, LAS Scholar

#### **CLLAS Office Assistants**

Julie Rodriguez, LAS Scholar  
Daniela Lupercio, LAS Scholar



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