

MICAH D. McKAY

Dept. of Modern Languages & Classics
University of Alabama
Box 870246
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0246

EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Ph.D. in Spanish, Minor in Portuguese (2017)

Dissertation: "Stories from the Dump: Contemporary Latin American Trash Narratives"

University of Wisconsin-Madison

M.A. in Spanish (2012)

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

M.A. in Translation Studies (2007)

Truman State University

B.A. in Spanish, Minor in Philosophy and Religion (2004)

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2018-present Assistant Professor of Spanish, Dept. of Modern Languages & Classics,
University of Alabama

2018 Visiting Assistant Professor of Spanish, Dept. of Modern Languages &
Literatures, Beloit College

2017 Lecturer, Dept. of Spanish & Portuguese, University of Wisconsin-Madison

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Latin American Literature (20th/21st centuries), Film Studies (especially documentary),
Ecocriticism, Environmental Humanities, Discard Studies, Biopolitics, Neoliberalism, Urban
Studies, Critical Animal Studies, Posthumanism

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

Co-edited volume

Environmental Cultural Studies Through Time: The Luso-Hispanic World. Co-edited with
Katarzyna Beilin and Kathleen Connolly, *Hispanic Issues On Line* (University of Minnesota
Press), vol. 24, 2019.

Articles and chapters in peer-reviewed venues

- 2019: “Una imagen deliciosa sobre los escombros: la producción y estética de las ruinas en *Trilogía sucia de La Habana*.” *Romance Notes*, vol. 59, no. 2, 2019, pp. 349-60.
- “Trash and the Coming Community: Portrayals of Trash and Trash Workers in Argentina and Brazil.” *Environmental Cultural Studies Through Time: The Luso-Hispanic World*, edited by Katarzyna Beilin, Kathleen Connolly, and Micah McKay, *Hispanic Issues On Line* (University of Minnesota Press), vol. 24, 2019, pp. 45-64.
- 2017: “The Littered City: Trash and Neoliberal Urban Space in *El aire*, *Bariloche*, and *La villa*.” *Revista Canadiense de Estudios Hispánicos*, vol. 41, no. 3, 2017, pp. 597-620.
- “‘Deus, salve a América’: Ignácio de Loyola Brandão’s *Zero* and the Production of Trash.” *Chasqui: revista de literatura latinoamericana*, vol. 46, no. 2, 2017, pp. 144-60.
- 2016: “Documenting Jardim Gramacho: *Estamira* (2004) and *Waste Land* (2009).” *Luso-Brazilian Review*, vol. 53, no. 2, 2016, pp. 134-52.

Invited Talks

- 2018: “Trash or Treasure? Recycling in Latin American Culture,” Truman State University, Kirksville, MO, October 2018
- 2014: “‘Deus, salve a América’: Ignácio de Loyola Brandão’s *Zero* and the Production of Trash,” University of Wisconsin-Madison Center for Latin American, Caribbean and Iberian Studies (Lunchtime Lecture Series), Madison, WI, September 2014

Conference Panels Organized

- 2017: “Archivos alternativos en la literatura latinoamericana contemporánea,” XXXV International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Lima, Peru, April-May 2017
- 2014: “Trash in Contemporary Argentine Cultural Production: A New Aesthetic Horizon,” Mid-America Conference on Hispanic Literature, Madison, WI, October 2014

Papers Presented

- 2020: “‘La basura está a punto de ahogar al mundo’: Waste and Environmental Justice in the Poetry of José Emilio Pacheco,” XXXVIII International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Guadalajara, Mexico, May 2020 (proposal accepted)
- “Trash Thresholds in Luis Alberto Urrea’s *By the Lake of Sleeping Children*,” Border Environments: Toward a Political Ecology of the Edges of the World, Lake Erie Latin American Cultural Studies Symposium, Cornell, NY, March 2020 (proposal accepted)

- 2019: “*Baile con serpientes* y la (des)estructuración del sentido,” 91st Conference of the South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Atlanta, GA, November 2019
- “Paradise Laid Bare: Juan Villoro’s *Arrecife* as Capitalocene Fiction,” 13th Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment, University of California, Davis, June 2019
- “‘Pasto sin fin del basurero’: Trash and Disposal in the Poetry of José Emilio Pacheco,” Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, University of Kentucky, April 2019
- 2018: “Gallinazo Avisa: La teoría de ensamblajes y los límites del activismo ambiental,” 90th Conference of the South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Birmingham, AL, November 2018
- “Trash as Threshold in ‘Los gallinazos sin plumas,’” LIV Congress of the Canadian Association of Hispanists, University of Regina, May-June 2018
- 2017: “Resisting Catastrophe in the Dump: Trash and the Coming Community,” 12th Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment, Wayne State University, June 2017
- “Desechos narrativos: El archivo de la basura en la novela hispanoamericana contemporánea,” XXXV International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Lima, Peru, April-May 2017
- 2016: “More or Less Human: People, Animals, and Trash in ‘Ilha das Flores,’” New Materialisms and Economies of Excess, Emory University, September-October, 2016
- 2015: “Documenting Jardim Gramacho: *Estamira* (2004) and *Waste Land* (2009),” Northeast Modern Language Association Conference, Toronto, ON, April-May 2015
- 2014: “The Place of Trash in Three Contemporary Argentine Novels,” Mid-America Conference on Hispanic Literature, Madison, WI, October 2014

Book Reviews

Review of *Postgrowth Imaginaries: New Ecologies and Counterhegemonic Culture in Post-2008 Spain* by Luis I. Prádanos (review accepted by *Revista Canadiense de Estudios Hispánicos*)

Review of *Lo siniestro se sigue riendo en la literatura de Lamborghini, Aira y Carrera y en la producción cultural poscrisis 2001* by Ofelia Ros. *Dissidences*, vol. 9, no. 14, 2019, article 1.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Alabama

Spanish 366, Spanish American Civilization: fall 2018, fall 2019
Spanish 376, Masterpieces of Spanish American Literature II: spring 2020
Spanish 390, Independent Study: Waste & Waste Workers in Latin American Culture, fall 2019
Spanish 489, Latin American Trash Narratives: spring 2019
Spanish 590, Trash and/as Culture in Latin America: spring 2019
Romance Languages 557, Critical Theory: spring 2020

Beloit College

Spanish 110, Intensive Spanish Language Review and Culture: spring 2018
Spanish 282, Environmental Hispanic Literature: spring 2018

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Spanish 102: fall 2011, spring 2012, summer 2012
Spanish 203: fall 2012, spring 2013
Spanish 226, Intermediate Spanish Grammar and Composition: fall 2015
Spanish 223, Introduction to Hispanic Cultures (teaching assistant, directed four discussion sections and graded student work): spring 2016, fall 2016
Spanish 311, Advanced Spanish Language Practice: fall 2017

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Spanish 101: fall 2005, spring 2006
Spanish 102: fall 2006, spring 2007

Work with Graduate Students (University of Alabama)

Rachel Reilly (dissertation committee member)
James Dick (master's thesis committee member)

SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

Department of Modern Languages & Classics

2020	Strategic Plan Committee (MLC)
2019-	Co-chair and Organizer of Spanish Clubs Convention (Spanish Program)
2019	Ad hoc Committee on Research Cohesion (MLC)
2019	Panelist, Academic Job Search Roundtable (MLC)
2018-	Bulletin Board/Announcement Coordinator (Spanish Program)

Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies Program

2019- Organizer of LACLS Film Series

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Served as manuscript referee for

Hispania (2019)

LANGUAGES

English: native speaker

Spanish: near-native proficiency

Portuguese: advanced proficiency

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association for the Study of Literature and Environment

Latin American Studies Association

Modern Language Association

South Atlantic Modern Language Association