

Celine M. Ayala

PhD Student and Graduate Assistant

Department of Sociology

University of New Mexico

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Education

Ph.D. Student, Sociology, University of New Mexico Las 2021-Present

Ph.D. Student, Sociology, University of Nevada Las Vegas 2018-2021

M.A. in Sociology. University of Nevada Las Vegas. May 2018.

B.A. in Sociology. University of Nevada Las Vegas. May 2016.

Research Interests

Overall Interests: Afrolatinidad, Urban Sociology, Race and Ethnicity, Gender and Sexuality, Masculinity,

Specific Interests: Afrolatinx identity, negotiations of Blackness, diasporic Blackness, masculinity, transnational processes, the formation of communal relations in cosmopolitan cities, scenes,

Publications

Rodriguez, Cassandra and **Celine Ayala**. Forthcoming “It's happening in Vegas, too': How Las Vegas Became the Home of a Vibrant Student Mariachi Scene” for the edited volume by Jake Johnson *Viva Las Vegas: Music and Myth in America's City of Second Chances*.

Ayala, Celine. “Healing Showers” published poem in *the Griot Newsletter* 2021.

Awards and Grants

UNLV Summer Doctoral Research Fellowship \$7000, 2020

UNLV Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award, 2020

Patricia Sastaunik Scholarship \$2500, 2020-2021

Graduate Rebel Grad Slam 3 Minute Thesis Competition 2nd place \$750, 2017

Graduate Rebel Grad Slam 3 Minute Thesis Audience Choice (x3) \$300, 2017

Awards and Grants (continued)

UNLV Sociology Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award \$100, 2017

Classroom and Teaching Experience

Research Assistant: Ranita Ray, Fall 2021

Teaching Assistant: Soc 380 Intro to Research Methods, Spring 2022

Online Instructor: Sociology 101 Principles of Sociology Fall 2021, Spring 2020

Online Instructor: Sociology 443 Urban Sociology Fall 2021, Spring 2020

Instructor: Sociology 443 Urban Sociology, Spring 2020, Fall 2019

Instructor: Sociology 101 Principles of Sociology, Spring 2019, Fall 2018

Teaching Assistant: Sociology 414 Popular Culture, Spring 2017

Teaching Assistant: Sociology 443 Urban Sociology, Fall 2016

Teaching Assistant: Sociology 431 Crime and Criminal Behavior, Fall 2016

Teaching Assistant: Sociology 489 Capstone in Sociology, Spring 2019, Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Spring 2017, Fall 2017

Public Sociology

TEDx Speaker, “In(car)nation of The Self: An Ethnography of The Las Vegas Street Car Scene, Las Vegas, NV 2018

UNLV Creates Graduate Student Speaker, “A Community Beyond the Neon Lights: An Ethnography of The Las Vegas Street Car Scene.” Las Vegas, NV 2018

Guest Lecture, “In(car)nation of The Self: An Ethnography of The Las Vegas Street Car Scene.” UNLV Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Las Vegas, NV 2017

Presentations at Professional Conferences

Panel (Virtual): “Building While Black: Navigating Higher Ed as a Black Student” CSA 2020- Celine Ayala, Semassa Boko, Brent Clark Jr., Mariah Poitier

Panel: “Teaching as Womxn of Color Graduate Instructors.” Sociology for Women in Society, San Diego CA, 2020- Alexia Angton, Celine Ayala, Jennifer Casper, Alexis Grant-Panting, Koyel Khan, Kim-Phuong Truong-Vu

Panel: Honoring the Legacy of Anna Julia Cooper, Ida B. Wells & W.E.B. Du Bois: The Next Generation of African American Sociological Thinkers #NextGenBlackSoc.” Sociology for Women in Society, San Diego CA, 2020- Celine Ayala, Leia Belt, Lisa Covington, D.

“Don’t Forget Me Cause I’m Black: Afrolatinx Erasure Within Latinx Masculinities.” Pacific Sociological Association, Eugene Oregon, 2020 *Accepted but canceled due to Covid-19*

“They Hate Us Cause They Ain’t Us: Afrolatinx Erasure within Latinx Masculinities.” Sociology for Women in Society, San Diego CA, 2020

“(Race)ing identities: Racial and Ethnic Expressions in The Las Vegas Street Car Scene.” Sociology for Women in Society, Denver CO, 2019

Panel: “For Us By Us: Strategies for Creating and Maintaining POC Spaces In Academia and Why It’s Important.” Sociology for Women in Society, Denver CO, 2019 (with Jeanette Hernandez, Nichole Jenkins, Vanessa Nunez, Karen Villa).

Presentations and Professional Conferences (continued)

- Conference Presider for “Ethnographic Subcultures: People Places and Practices.” Oakland CA, 2019
- “A Community Beyond the Neon Lights: An Ethnography of The Las Vegas Street Car Scene.” Pacific Sociological Association, Oakland CA, 2019
- “In(car)nation of The Self: An Ethnography of The Las Vegas Street Car Scene.” South West Best Thesis Competition, Phoenix AZ, 2018
- Conference Presider Panel for Urban and Community Studies Pacific Sociological Association, Long Beach CA, 2018
- “In(car)nation of The Self: An Ethnography of The Las Vegas Street Car Scene.” Pacific Sociological Association, Long Beach CA, 2018
- “(Her)stories of the field: In(car)nation of The Self, An Ethnography of The Las Vegas Street Car Scene.” Sociologists for Women in Society Winter Conference, Atlanta GA, 2018
- “In(car)nation of The Self: An Ethnography of The Las Vegas Street Car Scene.” UNLV Graduate Rebel Grad Slam 3 Minute Thesis Competition, 2017
- “Towards Cultural Criminology: Theoretical Analysis of Street Racing.” Pacific Sociological Association Annual Conference, Portland, OR, 2017
- “Black Privilege: Loosening the Shackles of Oppression.” Sociology for Women in Society Winter Conference, Albuquerque, NM, 2017

Professional Associations

- Association of Black Sociologists
American Sociological Association
Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Honor Society
Black Latinas Know Collective
Pacific Sociological Association
Sociology for Women in Society
MALCS (Mujeres Activas En Letras Y Cambio Social)

Professional and Academic Experience

- UNM Sociology Graduate Assistant Aug.2021-Present
Department of Sociology, UNLV. Graduate Assistant. Aug. 2016-May-2021
UNLV Graduate Student Advisory Board 2020-Present
UNLV Latinx Graduate Student Initiative 2020-Present
MALCS Afrolatinx Caucus representative 2020-Present
Department of Sociology, UNLV. Graduate Representative. 2018-19