

# KARMA F. FRIERSON

Curriculum Vitae

## EDUCATION

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- 2018 Ph.D., Anthropology  
Latin American and Caribbean Studies PhD Certificate  
University of Chicago  
  
Dissertation Title: Jarocho Publics and the Presencing of Blackness in Veracruz, Mexico  
Committee: Stephan Palmié (Chair); Shannon Dawdy, Justin Richland
- 2013 M.A., Anthropology  
University of Chicago
- 2009 A.B., *magna cum laude*  
African & African American Studies and Social Anthropology  
Harvard College

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

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- 2020 Assistant Professor  
Department of African & African American Studies, Washington University in St. Louis
- 2018 Postdoctoral Associate  
Center for Latin American Studies, Rutgers-New Brunswick

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Book Chapters

- Forthcoming “Enumerating Blackness: The Shifting Politics of Recognition in Mexico.” in *The Afro-Americas* edited by Jennifer Gomez Menjivar and Nicolas Ramos Flores, University of Pittsburgh Press.

## GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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- 2018 Latin American Studies Association Mexico Section: Student Travel Scholarship  
2016 Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows Dissertation Completion Grant  
2015 University of Chicago, Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture Residential Fellowship  
2014 COMEXUS Fulbright-Garcia Robles Scholarship, Mexico  
2014 SSRC-Mellon Mays Graduate Studies Enhancement Grant  
2013 University of Chicago, Center for Latin American Studies Tinker Field Research Grant

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- 2012 University of Chicago, Center for Latin American Studies Tinker Field Grant
- 2011 SSRC-Mellon Mays Graduate Studies Enhancement Grant
- 2011 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship

## CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

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- 2019 “Grappling with Expectations of Blackness in the Port City of Veracruz, Mexico.” *Weathering the Storm: Spaces of Blackness*. American Anthropological Association Meeting, Vancouver, Canada, Nov 20-24.
- 2019 “Music that Moves the Heart: Tempos and Temporalities of Blackness in Veracruz, Mexico.” *Diasporic Sounds: Black Music, Identity, and Migrations*, Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora Conference, Williamsburg, VA, Nov 5-9.
- 2019 *Takes on Whiteness: Experiments in Collaborative Ethnography*, Harvard University, May 17, 2019 (Organizer).
- 2018 “The Requisite Reckoning of “Lo Afro” in Mexico’s Son Jarocho.” *“Lo afro” and “lo negro” Latin America and Its Elsewheres: Histories, Images, Bodies, Performances, Virtualities*. Latin American Studies Association Congress, Barcelona, Spain, May 23-26.
- 2017 “Anchors Aweigh.” *Anthropology and the Matter of Whiteness*. American Anthropological Association Meeting, Washington, DC, November 14-18
- 2017 “The Afro-Andalusian Caribbean in Veracruz/Veracruz in the Afro-Andalusian Caribbean: A View from the Port.” *From Andalusia to Veracruz: The Afro-Hispanic Presence*. Collegium for African American Research, Malaga, Spain, June 13-16.
- 2015 ““Iguaito que las cuabanas”: Dance as Public Displays of Afro-Caribbeanness in Veracruz, Mexico.” *Race Displays: Presentation and Performance in the Black Atlantic*. Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora Conference, Charleston, SC, November 4-7.
- 2014 “On Having a History but Not a People: Imaginaries of Blackness in Veracruz, Mexico.” *Issues of Memory in Diaspora*. York University Harriet Tubman Institute/ Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (INAH), Mexico City, Mexico, August 18-23
- 2013 “The Perks of Being a Cultural Platypus: Presumptions of Political Efficacy in *The African Presence in Mexico*.” *Travel and Museums: Rethinking the Modern Experience*, Berlin Roundtables on Transnationality, Berlin, Germany, June 26-29
- 2012 “*The African Presence in Mexico*: Re-Presenting a “Hidden Past” for Contemporary Times.” Mellon Mays Graduate Student Summer Conference, Bryn Mar College, June 19-21

## INVITED TALKS

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- 2016 “*Lo negro a la veracruzana* in the Age of the Afro-Mexican,” Universidad Cristóbal Colon, Veracruz, Mexico, October 27
- 2015 “Patrimony as Spectacle, Patrimony as Pastime” COMEXUS Fulbright-García Robles Midterm Conference, San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato, Mexico, January 29

- 2014 “*La otra cosita*: Examining the ‘3rd Root’ in the Port of Veracruz,” Universidad Cristóbal Colon, Veracruz, Mexico, October 7

## CAMPUS TALKS

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- 2019 “Recreation of Blackness: Workshopping Culture in Veracruz, Mexico” Rutgers Musicological Society Colloquium, Rutgers University-New Brunswick, April 9.
- 2019 “Mexico’s Evolving Third Root: Rhetorical Shifts in the Recognition of Blackness” Center for Latin American Studies Research Symposium Rutgers University-New Brunswick, April 5.
- 2019 “‘Our’ Third Root: Recognizing Blackness in the Age of the Afro-Mexican” *Citizenship and the Making of Difference*, Eagleton Institute of Politics, New Brunswick, NJ, February 22. (Invited.)
- 2018 “Snacks, Comics, Songs, and Dolls: A Brief History of Anti-Blackness in Latin America,” Anti-Blackness in Latinx Communities Keynote Address. Latinas Promoviendo Comunidad/Lambda Pi Chi Sorority, Inc. (LPC), El Movimiento Estudiantil Chicax de Aztlán (MEChA), and Phi Iota Alpha Fraternity. Center for Identity + Inclusion, Univeristy of Chicago, February 21.
- 2014 “‘Que te pongas bien, que te pongas mal’: The Politics of Presentation and Patrimony in Veracruz’s Fandango Culture.” Tinker Brownbag Colloquium. Center for Latin American Studies, University of Chicago. Chicago, IL April 30.
- 2013 “Articulating the Third Root in Veracruz, Mexico.” Tinker Brownbag Colloquium. Center for Latin American Studies, University of Chicago. Chicago, IL. April 2.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### *Rutgers University*

- 2020 Maroons and Marronage (Spring; 200-level discussion)
- 2020 Latin America: A Brief Introduction (Spring; 100-level lecture)
- 2019 Latin America: An Introduction (Fall; 100-level lecture)
- 2019 Blackness and Indigeneity in Latin America (Spring; 300-level discussion)
- 2019 Geographies of Race and Ethnicity in the Americas (Spring; 400-level capstone)
- 2018 Latin America: An Introduction (Fall; 100-level lecture)

### *University of Chicago*

#### **Instructor of Record**

- 2018 Who Counts, What Counts? Racial Governance in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Latin America” (Spring; 200-level seminar; Ignacio Martín Baró Prize Lectureship in Latin American Studies and Human Rights)
- 2017 Defining the “Afro” in Afro-Latin America (Fall; 200-level seminar; Starr Prize Lectureship in Anthropology)
- 2017 Colonizations I (Spring; core curriculum seminar; Hong Kong Study Abroad Program)
- 2016 Colonizations I (Winter; core curriculum seminar)

### **Teaching Intern**

- 2013 Power, Identity, Resistance 3 (Spring; core curriculum seminar)
- 2013 Power, Identity, Resistance 2 (Winter, core curriculum seminar)
- 2012 Colonizations I (Fall; core curriculum seminar)

### **PEDAGOGICAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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- 2017 Mellon Mays Preparing for the Professoriate

#### *University of Chicago*

- 2017 Teaching as a Person of Color
- 2016 Mid-Course Review, Chicago Center for Teaching
- 2016 Individual Teaching Consultation, Chicago Center for Teaching
- 2016 Teaching by Discussion
- 2016 Teaching Anthropology
- 2016 Workshop on Teaching Portfolios
- 2016 Seminar on Teaching Portfolios
- 2015 Preparing Future Faculty Conference—The Intro Course: Gateway to Discipline
- 2015 Workshop on Teaching in the Core
- 2015 Teaching Your Own Course
- 2011 Social, Behavioral, and Economic (SBE) Sciences Professionalization Program

### **SERVICE**

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- Journal Reviewer ( *Current Anthropology*; *Caribbean Studies*)

#### *University of Chicago*

- 2017 Interviewer, Fulbright Campus Interview Committee
- 2015 Interviewer, Fulbright Campus Interview Committee
- 2015 Mentor, Minority Graduate Students Mentoring and Professionalization Program
- 2013 Student Rapporteur, Anthropology Students Association Committee on Faculty Recruitment
- 2013 Co-Coordinator, Workshop on Latin America and the Caribbean

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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St. Louis, MO 63130-4899

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