

Mario E. Mercado Diaz  
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September 2018

## **EDUCATION**

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2015- Present      PhD in Sociology  
                         **Rutgers University, New Brunswick**

2013-2015          Masters in Arts, Latin American Studies  
                         Latin American Studies Program (LLILAS)  
                         **University of Texas, Austin**

2009-2012          Baccalaureate in Arts  
                         Hispanic Studies  
                         **Universidad de Puerto Rico, Río Piedras (UPR-RP)**

Fall 2010-  
Spring 2011        Student Exchange Program  
                         Completed 30 credit hours  
                         **Universidad Complutense de Madrid**

## **RESEARCH & WORK EXPERIENCE**

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June 2018 –  
August 2018        **Research Assistant “Survey on Afro-Latin@s”**  
                         **For:** Afro-Latin@ Forum

March 2018 –  
Present              **Quantitative Analysis Lead “Racialized Incorporation in Old and  
New Destinations”**  
                         **For:** Dr. Ali Chaudhary, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

February 2018 –  
Present              **Fieldwork**  
                         **Research for Second Qualifying Paper**  
                         **“Decision-Making and Integration of Middle-Class Puerto Ricans”**

November 2016-  
Present              **Research Assistantship “Inequality in Neighborhood Experience”**  
                         **Supervisors:** Dr. Lauren Krivo (PI), Dr. Zaire Dinzey-Flores, Dr. Hana  
Shepherd, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

January 2016 –  
September 2016    **Study Coordinator & Research Assistant**  
                         **Supervisor:** Dr. Yarimar Bonilla, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Summer 2015        **Archival Work**  
                         **Supervisor:** Dr. Zaire Dinzey-Flores, Rutgers University New Brunswick

Summer 2014        **Fieldwork**  
                         **Research for Masters Thesis**  
                         **“Distances and Proximities : Havana and San Juan From the Point of**

### **View of Literature and Oral Histories”**

Cuba and Puerto Rico have for long been considered sister islands, fighting together against the influences of the Spanish Empire and the United States. The decade of the 1950s, however, proved to be the splitting point for both islands, sending them into very different trajectories of development. In their shared experience of Spanish colonization and USA interventions, how do San Juan and Havana residents perceive and use space today in their particular socio-political contexts and how does this affect the resident's sense of citizenship? I closely engage with the different urban spaces using ethnographic data and photographs taken during my recent fieldwork, creative texts describing said spaces and case studies examining the formation of racial, gender and class identities.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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January 2018 – Present	<b>Teaching Assistant</b> <b>SOC 101 “Introduction to Sociology”</b> <b>Rutgers University, New Brunswick</b>
August 2017- December 2017	<b>Instructor</b> <b>SOC 108 “Minority Groups in American Society”</b> <b>Rutgers University, New Brunswick</b>
June 2017 – July 2017	<b>Instructor</b> <b>SOC 311: “Introduction to Social Research Methods”</b> <b>Rutgers University, New Brunswick</b>
September 2014 - May 2015	<b>Teaching Assistant</b> <b>IRG301: Introduction to International Relations and Global Studies</b> <b>University of Texas, Austin</b>

### **FELLOWSHIPS AND RESEARCH GRANTS**

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#### *Spring 2018*

Gretel Weiss Graduate Student-Faculty Collaboration Grant for “Racialized Incorporation in Old and New Destinations”

Gretel Weiss Graduate Student-Faculty Collaboration Grant for “Inequality in Neighborhood Experience”

Latino Studies Research Initiative Student Fellowship, Rutgers University, New Brunswick  
Off-Campus Dissertation Development Award, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

#### *Fall 2015-2017*

Excellence Fellowship, Department of Sociology, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

#### *Summer 2014*

Lozano Long Graduate Summer Field Research Grant, University of Texas

*Fall 2013 and Spring 2014*

LLILAS Graduate Fellowship for Incoming Students, University of Texas, Austin

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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### **October 2017**

Violence and Abandonment Outside: Re-Imagining Urban Renewal in San Juan, Puerto Rico. National Conference on Planning History. Society for American City and Regional Planning History. Columbus, OH.

### **August 2017**

Outwards Migration of Island-Born Puerto Ricans: Baby Boomers and Millennials. American Sociological Conference. Montreal, Canada.

### **October 2016**

AmeRican Suburbs: New Millennium Migration and the Perceptions of Suburban Life Amongst Puerto Rican Immigrants in Florida. Puerto Rican Studies Association Conference. College Park, MD

### **January 2016**

"*Un café vespertino*: Sediment and Privilege in the Isles of San Juan, Puerto Rico" Old and New Media in Puerto Rican Literature and Culture. Proc. of CXXXI Annual Convention of the Modern Language Association, Austin, TX. Panel.

### **May 2015**

"Distancias, Cercanías: Miradas Entre San Juan Y La Habana Desde La Literatura E Historias Orales." Sin Murallas: Puerto Rico, Ciudad E Identidades Híbridas. Proc. of XXXIII International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Caribe Hilton, San Juan, PR. May 2015. Panel.

### **February 2015**

"Distancias, Cercanías: Miradas Entre San Juan Y La Habana Desde La Literatura E Historias Orales." Cuban Perspectives. Proc. of ILASSA 35 Annual Student Conference, University of Texas, Austin.

## **NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINE PUBLICATIONS**

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### **2016**

Puerto Ricans' Response to the Economic Crisis Rooted in Misinformation and Frustration. (2016). *Counterpunch*. Retrieved October 18, 2016, from <http://www.counterpunch.org/2016/08/09/puerto-ricans-response-to-the-economic-crisis-rooted-in-misinformation-and-frustration/>

### **2015**

'El Pueblo Murió': La Crisis Económica De Arecibo. (2015). *80 Grados*. Retrieved October 18, 2016, from <http://www.80grados.net/el-pueblo-murio-la-crisis-economica-de-arecibo->

puerto-rico

Haz La Maleta. (2015, September 25). *El Nuevo Día*, p. 66.

"This Town Is Dead": The Long Decline of Arecibo, Puerto Rico. (2015). *Counterpunch*. Retrieved October 18, 2016, from <http://www.counterpunch.org/2015/08/18/this-town-is-dead-the-long-decline-of-arecibo-puerto-rico/>

LASA 2015 en el Caribe Hilton. (2015). *80 Grados*. Retrieved October 18, 2016, from <http://www.80grados.net/lasa-2015-en-el-caribe-hilton/>

Arecibo: Arte urbano, comunidad y autogestión. (2015). *Puerto Rico Te Quiero*. Retrieved October 18, 2016, from Arecibo: arte urbano, comunidad y autogestión.

## 2014

Distancias y cercanías: Miradas entre San Juan y La Habana. (2014). *Diálogo Digital*. Retrieved October 18, 2016, from <http://dialogoupr.com/distancias-y-cercanias-miradas-entre-san-juan-y-la-habana-5/>

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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American Sociological Association  
Latin American Studies Association  
Puerto Rican Studies Association Member  
Society for American City & Regional Planning History Member

## REFERENCES

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Assistant Professor  
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