

## **Omar Rivera PhD.**

Associate Professor of Philosophy  
Director, HSI Initiatives, College of  
Arts and Sciences,  
Texas A&M University  
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### **AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION**

Latin American Philosophy

### **AREAS OF COMPETENCE**

19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Continental Philosophy, Social and Political Philosophy, History of Western Philosophy

### **EDUCATION**

2007	Ph.D. The Pennsylvania State University	Field: Philosophy
1999	B.A. St. John's College (Annapolis)	Mjr: Liberal Arts

### **APPOINTMENTS**

2023-pres. Director of the Cantú Endowment Funds, Texas A&M

2023-pres. Director, HSI Initiatives, the College of Arts and Sciences, Texas A&M University

2022-2023 Associate Dean of Equity and Inclusion, College of Arts and Sciences, Texas A&M University

2021-2022. Director of ACES Fellows program, Office for Diversity, Texas A&M University

2020-pres. Associate professor of Philosophy, Texas A&M University

2019-2020. Chair of the Philosophy Department, Southwestern University

2019-2020. Chair of the Latin American and Border Studies Program, Southwestern University

2015-2020. Associate Professor of Philosophy, Southwestern University

2016-2017. Chair of the Latin American and Border Studies Program, Southwestern University

2013-2016. Chair of The Race and Ethnicity Studies Minor, Southwestern University

2010-2015. Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Southwestern University

2007-2010. Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Wisconsin—La Spring 2007. Crosse

Lecturer in Philosophy, University of Wisconsin—La Crosse

Fall 2006. Instructor in Philosophy, The Pennsylvania State University Visiting

2005-2006. Instructor in Philosophy, Washington and Jefferson College

## **LANGUAGES**

Spanish (native speaker), English (Fluent), German (intermediate, reading competence), Ancient Greek (intermediate), French (reading competence)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### ***Books***

1. Rivera, Omar. *Andean Aesthetics and Anticolonial Resistance: A Cosmology of Unsociable Bodies* (London: Bloomsbury Academic Press, 2021).
2. Rivera, Omar. *Delimitations of Latin American Philosophy: Beyond Redemption* (Indiana: Indiana University Press, 2019).

### ***Edited Books—in progress***

1. Rivera, Omar. *Perspectives on Latin American Philosophy* (in preparation for Bloomsbury Academic).

### ***Book Manuscripts—in progress***

1. Rivera, Omar. *Beyond (De) Humanization: Resistant Embodiments of Social Incompetence*.
2. Rivera, Omar. *The Body of the Earth: Eco-Aesthetics in the Americas*.

### ***Journal Articles—published/refereed***

1. Rivera, Omar. “Cosmological Topologies and the (De)formations of Things at Catastrophic Ends.” *Research in Phenomenology* 54 (2024): 52-73.
2. Rivera, Omar. “Toward the Vanishing of the “Human”: Animal Becoming and Elemental Architecture.” *Research in Phenomenology* 52, 2 (2022): 242-260.
3. Rivera, Omar and Hajovsky, Patrick. “Visual Epistemologies of Resistance: Imaging Saints and Virgins in Contemporary Cusco,” *Revista de Estudios Globales y Arte Contemporáneo*, Issue 2, Vol. 1 (2020).
4. Rivera, Omar. “Mestizajes and Resistant Alterities,” *Interamerican Journal of Philosophy*, Vol. 11,

Issue 1 (2020).

5. Rivera, Omar. “Resistant Epistemologies from the Andes (A Contribution to Latin American Philosophy)” *Journal of World Philosophies* Vol. 5, Issue 1 (2020).
6. Rivera, Omar. “Stillness, Aesthesis, Resistance.” *Critical Philosophy of Race*, Volume 8, 1-2 (2020).
7. Rivera, Omar. “Approaching Racial Embodiment, Aesthetics and Liberation in José Carlos Mariátegui’s *Seven Essays*” *APA Newsletter for Hispanics in Philosophy*, Volume 19 (2019).
8. Rivera, Omar. “Epistemological and Aesthetic Dimensions of Transmodernism: Linda Martín Alcoff’s and Alejandro Vallega’s Readings of Enrique Dussel.” *Inter-American Journal of Philosophy* 8/2 (2017).
9. Rivera, Omar. “Reading Alejandro Vallega Toward a Decolonial Aesthetics.” *Comparative and Continental Philosophy* 9/2 (2017).
10. Rivera, Omar. “Mariátegui’s Avant-Garde and Surrealism as Discipline.” *Symposium* 18/1 (2014): 102–124.
11. Rivera, Omar and Hajovsky, Patrick. “Sincretismo y Desencuentros en el Cusco.” *Contrastes* 3/3 (2013): 8-14.
12. Rivera, Omar. “Political Ontology and Representative Politics (Agamben, Dussel, Marcos...)” *Epoche* (2011): 125-138.
13. Rivera, Omar. “Toward a Future Andean Technology (From a Tentative Phenomenology of Inka Stonework).” *APA Newsletter on Hispanic/Latino Issues in Philosophy* 11/1(2011): 8- 14.
14. Rivera, Omar. “From Revolving Time to the Time of Revolution: Mariátegui’s Encounter with Nietzsche.” *APA News Letter on Hispanic/Latinos in Philosophy* 8/9 (2008): 22-26.
15. Rivera, Omar. “The ‘Image of the Indio’ in a Non-Representative Economy.” *The New Centennial Review* 7/3 (2007): 131-148.
16. Rivera, Omar. “The Comedy of Patricide (Or: a Passing sense of Manliness). Socrates’ Overcoming of *Andreia*.” *Epoche* 11/2 (2007): 353-369.

***Journal Articles in progress—invited/under commission/refereed***

1. Rivera, Omar. “*Aísthesis* and Beyond: on Charles Scott’s and Nancy Tuana’s *Beyond Philosophy*.” (Invited Review Essay for *Epoche*, expected 2024).

***Journal Articles— in Progress***

1. Rivera, Omar. “Rhythms of Resistance from the Black Pacific” (based on a lecture at LASA in Spring 2021).
2. Rivera, Omar. “Aesthesis/Utcatha: Motions of Sense” Rivera, Omar (based on a lecture at the Ancient Philosophy Society, Spring 2021).

### ***Book Chapters—Published***

1. Rivera, Omar. “Epistemic Decolonization of Culture.” In *Key Concepts in World Philosophies*. Chiara Robbiano and Sarah Flavel, Ed. (London: Bloomsbury Academic), 2023.
2. Rivera, Omar. “Inversiones Estéticas y Visualidades Andinas.” In *Para una estética de la Liberación Decolonial*. Enrique Tellez, Ed. (Mexico: Poliedro), 2020.
3. Rivera, Omar. “Hermenéutica, representatividad y espacio en filosofías de liberación social (una perspectiva Latinoamericana).” In *Sujeto, Descolonización y Transmodernidad: Debates Filosóficos Latinoamericanos*. Mabel Moraña, ed. Frankfurt/Madrid: Iberoamericana/Vervuert (2018).

### ***Encyclopedia Entries—Under Review***

1. Rivera, Omar; Cicoria, Rachel. “Gloria Anzaldúa.” Entry for the *Encyclopedia of Phenomenology*. Ted Toadvine, ed.; Springer.

### ***Book Reviews***

1. Rivera, Omar. “Jessica Whyte: Catastrophe and Redemption in the Political Thought of Giorgio Agamben.” *Comparative and Continental Philosophy* 7/1 (2015).

### ***Essay Translations***

1. Félix Duque. 2007. “Nature—in God, or the Problems of a Dash.” *Research in Phenomenology* 37/1 (2017): 56-74.

### ***Public Philosophy-Translation, Not Refereed***

1. Rivera, Omar and Hajovsky, Patrick. “Syncretism and Missed Encounters in Cusco.” Translation from Spanish version for *Latinx Spaces* (2016).

## **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

### ***External***

- 2018-2019. Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellowship for Recently Tenured Scholars (Book project: *Stonelight: Phenomenology, Hermeneutics and Architecture from Nuestra América.*) Lima, Peru, and Cusco, Peru. Host University: University of Texas, Austin. (\$95,000 stipend, \$7,500 for research).
2018. ACLS-FOCUS (Faculty of Color Uniting for Success). Member of the Southwestern University planning committee.
2016. Mellon Foundation Grant *Creating a Shared Culture of Inclusive Pedagogy.* Southwestern University and the University of Texas at Austin. (An undergraduate and post- doctoral fellows program for diversifying higher education and promoting inclusive pedagogies) Awarded as co-PI: \$500,000.
2015. Sam Taylor Award. For the book manuscript *Stonelight: Phenomenology, Hermeneutics and Architecture from Nuestra America.* Lima, Peru, and Cusco, Peru. (\$700).
- 2003-2004. DAAD Research Grant-Freiburg, Germany.

### ***Internal***

2020. Course Development Grant. Glasscock Center. Texas A&M.
2007. UW-L Faculty Research Grant, in support of research on the aesthetics of revolution in Peruvian Marxism. Lima, Peru.
2007. UW-L International Development Grant, Research on José Carlos Mariátegui-Lima, Peru. 2013. Junior Sabbatical, Southwestern University. for the book manuscript *Beyond Redemption: Latin American Philosophy through Mariátegui.* Lima, Peru.
2004. RGSO Dissertation Research Grant, The College of Liberal Arts, The Pennsylvania State University-Freiburg, Germany.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

2023. “Pre-Inka Rhythmic Ceramics as Ontological Poetics,” Penn State University.
2022. “Visualities of Rhythm in Andean Aesthetics,” Society for World Philosophies, SPEP, Texas A&M University.

2022. "Reflections on Reciprocity," Planetary Health and the Humanities, Melbern G. Glasscock Center for Humanities Research, College of Arts and Sciences, Texas A&M University.
2022. "Beyond (DE)Humanization: Resistance of Unsocialable Bodies," Alumni Lecture, College of the Liberal Arts, Pennsylvania State University.
2022. "Anybody Can Run a Faculty Hiring Program: Lessons Learned Implementing a Faculty Hiring Program through Dual Pandemics," National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, San Diego, CA.
2021. "Puriy and Instilled Sense," Ancient Philosophy Society, DePaul University.
2021. "Androgenous Pleasures and Decolonial Resistance," Oregon Philosophy Colloquium, University of Oregon.
2020. "The Agony of the Image." Blanton Museum of Art, February 2020.
2019. "Resistance as Alterity in Borderlands Aesthetics." At the "Difference and Alterity: Critical Models in Modern Thought" Conference, University of Toronto.
2019. "Corporeal and Cosmological Imagination in *Border Arte*." NASPH, University of Oregon.
2019. "Cataclysms: Elemental Exposures of a Cosmic Past" at the Collegium Phaenomenologicum on "Critical Phenomenology" in Citta Di Castello, Italy.
2019. "Art and Resistance" at the "Philosophies of Liberation Encuentro," Loyola Marymount University.
2019. "Pachakuti and Elemental Architecture" at the American Philosophical Association Pacific Meeting.
2019. "Elemental Rhythms of Andean Built Environments" at the conference "Hermeneutics, the Humanities and the Future of Interpretation," Texas A&M University.
2018. "Exilic Nostalgia: Aesthetics of Liberation and Decolonial Imagination" At the APA Central Division, Chicago, IL.
2018. "Stillness, Aesthesis, Resistance," at the "Toward a Decolonial Feminism" conference, Penn State.

2017. "Displacing Architecture: Gadamer's Aesthetics and Inka Stonework." At the NASPH conference, Baltimore, MD.
2017. "Fixed Bodies and Irrecoverable Spaces (Decolonizing Space)." At the Decolonizing Philosophy: Latinx and Latin American Perspectives Conference, St. Mary's University. San Antonio, Texas.
2017. "The Rhythms of Stone, Water and Light in Inka Stonework" at the Collegium Phaenomenologicum, Citta di Castello, Italy.
2017. "Corporalidades en Traslado y la Imaginación Decolonial" at the LASA meeting in Lima, Peru.
2016. "Shamanic Bodies: Alcoff, Anzaldúa, Kusch, and Andean Corporealities" at the Gloria Anzaldúa Lecture Series, UTRGV. Brownsville, Texas.
2016. "Andean After-Bodies and Martín Chambi's Aesthetics of Passing-in-Stillness" at the Collegium Phaenomenologicum, Citta di Castello, Italy.
2015. "The Coloniality of Time and Andean Embodied Temporalities" at the *Transamerican Experience* Conference at the University of Oregon. Eugene, Oregon.
2015. "A Response to Alejandro Vallega's Latin American Philosophy from Identity to Radical Exteriority" at SPEP. New Orleans, Louisiana.
2014. "An Introduction to Inka Stonework" at the NASPH meeting at SPEP. Atlanta, Georgia.
2014. "Cataclysmic Potency in Inka Stonework." The Mike Ryan Lecture Series in Philosophy at Kennesaw State University. Atlanta, Georgia.
2013. "Envisioning Activism from the Experience of Race." As part of Southwestern University's Conference: "Deconstructing the Inner You: An exploration of Race, Gender and Inclusion." Georgetown, Texas.
2011. "Retrieving 'Ruwana-sophical' Sources for Indigenous forms of Revolutionary Praxis," Ethics in the Americas Symposium, University of Oregon. Eugene, Oregon.
2011. "Response: In what Sense are States voluntary in Aristotle's Ethics" North Texas Philosophical Association. Denton, Texas.
2009. "Art and the Interruption of History: Photography and Mime in Oyarzun, Mariátegui and Monsivais." Presented to the Philosophy Department and the Latin

American Studies Department at CSU Stanislaus. Turlock, California.

2009. "Testimony and Photography: the Art of Politics after the Peruvian Internal Armed Conflict." Presented at the Comparative Continental Philosophy Conference, Asilomar, California.
2008. "From Revolving Time to the Time of Revolution, Mariátegui's encounter with Nietzsche," at the Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association. Chicago, Illinois.
2007. "The Image of the Indio in a Non-representative Economy," Symposium on Latin American Philosophy, University at Buffalo. Buffalo, New, York.
2006. "Philosophy Beyond Persuasion" The Philosophy Lectures Series, Washington and Jefferson College. Washington, Pennsylvania.
2005. "Material Traces in Aristotle's *ousia*," Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy. New York City, New York.
2005. "The Comedy of Patricide (or a Passing Sense of Manliness): Socrates' Comedic Overcoming of Greek Manliness," The Ancient Philosophy Society. Eugene, Oregon.
2004. "A Response to Alejandro Vallega's *Translucence of Words*," The Ancient Philosophy Society. Penn State University. State College, Pennsylvania.
2003. "The Comedy of Pride: The Overcoming of Tragedy in García Márquez," Guest Lecturer, The Department of Latin American Studies, California State University-Stanislaus. Turlock, California.
2001. "On Socratic Ignorance and Imagination" Guest Lecturer, The Philosophy Lectures Series, California State University-Stanislaus. Turlock, California.
2001. "The Search for Ordinary Things: The impact of Technology on Octavio Paz's Aesthetics," SAAP. Portland, Maine.

## TEACHING

### *Graduate Advising*

Ph.D. Dissertation Committee Member. *Living Legality: Law and Dussel's Philosophy of Liberation*. Juan Sebastián Ospina, Department of Philosophy, University of Oregon.



Ph.D. Dissertation Committee Member. *A Hermeneutics at the Limit: The Prelinguistic Testimony of Human Finitude*, Alexander Crist, Department of Philosophy, Texas A&M University.

Ph.D. Dissertation Committee Member. *All We Got: A Mixtape on the Phenomenology of Black Sonic Spaces*, Auzimuth Shane Jackson, African and African Diaspora Department, UT Austin.

***Undergraduate Teaching (Philosophy, Race and Ethnicity Studies, Latin American and Border Studies, Feminist Studies)***

19<sup>th</sup> Century Philosophy.

20<sup>th</sup> Century Philosophy.

The Embodied Self.

Theories of Race.

Latina/o Identities Philosophies of the Americas.

Philosophy and Literature—Latin America and the US/Mexico Borderlands Philosophy of Art—Latinx Aesthetics.

Visual Cultures of the Andes (advanced undergraduate interdisciplinary seminar in philosophy/art history, study abroad in Cusco, Peru).

Pre-Columbian and Indigenous Philosophies Decolonial Theory.

***Teaching Graduate Students***

Resistance Beyond Gender, Texas A&M University (2022).

Seminar on María Lugones, Texas A&M University (2020).

Seminar leader at the Collegium Phaenomenologicum in Citta di Castello, Italy. Theme: Time, Freedom, Nature. (2004).

**SERVICE**

***Editorial Positions***

Section Editor for Latin American and Latinx Philosophy, *Philosophy Compass*.

Latin American and Latinx Editor of the *World Philosophy Series* from Bloomsbury Academic.

Editorial Board, the *Interamerican Journal of Philosophy*.

Editorial Board, *Política Común*

### ***Diversification of Higher Education***

2022-present. Associate Dean for Equity and Inclusion, College of Arts and Sciences, Texas A&M University.

2022-present. Chair of sub-committee on research, HSI Guiding Committee, Texas A&M University.

2022-present. Center for Teaching Excellence Advisory Board, Texas A&M University.

2021-2022. Director of the Aces Fellows program, Office for Diversity, Texas A&M University.

2016-18, 2019-20. Co-PI of the Mellon Grant *Creating a Shared Culture of Inclusive Pedagogy* (Southwestern University). Responsibilities include:

1. Organize workshops and mentor junior faculty and advanced graduate students in the humanities and social sciences in inclusive pedagogy and strategies to navigate tenure (from UT Austin and Southwestern University).
2. Direct a post-doctoral program of Teaching Fellows at Southwestern supporting faculty of color.
3. Mentor and manage financial awards to support students of color who intend to go to graduate school in the humanities and social sciences.

### ***Reviewer for Philosophy Journals***

*Epoché*

*Research in Phenomenology*

*Journal of World Philosophies*

*Interamerican Journal of Philosophy*

*Critical Philosophy of Race*

*The Hegel Bulletin*

### ***Departmental Service***

2023-2024 Director of Graduate Studies, Philosophy Department, Texas A&M University

- 2020-2023. Member of GPAC, Philosophy Department, Texas A&M University.
- 2020-2021. Member on Committee on Climate and Inclusion in the Philosophy Department, Texas A&M University.
- 2013-2020. Chair of Philosophy, Race and Ethnicity Studies, Latin American and Border Studies, Southwestern University. Selected responsibilities:
1. Writing annual assessment of the program, including of faculty.
  2. Mentoring junior faculty toward tenure.
  3. Mentoring majors for graduate school or careers.
  4. Organizing events and lectures.
  5. Revising curriculum and assessing new classes.
- 2013-2019. Member of the Diversity and Enrichment Committee, Southwestern University.
- 2015-2016. Member of the Social Justice sub-committee (overseeing the Social Justice requirement), Southwestern University.
- 2012-2014. Member of the Committee on Intercultural Perspectives (including the assessment of study abroad programs), Southwestern University.
- 2014-2017. Americas: North by South coordinator (design and oversee an interdisciplinary path through Southwestern's general education requirements), Southwestern University.
2015. Member of the committee for the curriculum design of the Latin American and Border Studies program, Southwestern University.
2013. Member of the committee for the curriculum design of the Race and Ethnicity Studies Minor, Southwestern University.

***University and Community Engagement and Events-Regional and International***

- 2016-present. *latinxspaces.com* Chair of the International Editorial Advisory Board (online and multimedia publication on latinx politics and art).
- 2016-18, 2019-20. Organizer and Facilitator of the Mellon Teaching Workshops on Inclusive Pedagogies.
- 2016-18, 2019-20. Steering Committee of the Mellon Teaching Post-doctoral Fellowships at Southwestern (for UT Austin PhD's in the Humanities and Humanistic Social Sciences).

- 2016-2018. The Borderlands Symposium (For the Southwestern and larger Georgetown, TX, community).
- 2016-18, 2019-20. Steering Committee of the Mellon Undergraduate Award (supporting research by URM undergraduate students in Southwestern and UT, Austin, planning to go to graduate school).
2017. Co-curator. "The Cuzco Revolution in Painting: Richard Peralta and Edwin Quispecuro Nina." Exhibition of contemporary painting from Cuzco, Peru, at the Georgetown Art Center.
2016. Remembering Texas Racial History (For the Southwestern and larger Georgetown, TX, community).
2016. Teaching Social Justice (speaker and facilitator).
- 2014-2016. The Race and Ethnicity Studies Symposium (For the Southwestern and larger Georgetown, TX, community).
2014. Speaker on Inclusive Pedagogies. Dean's Teacher-Scholar Discussion.
2014. Speaker on Difficult Conversations in the Classroom. Dean's Teacher-Scholar Discussion.

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Philosophical Association

Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy Latin American Studies Association

North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics

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