

Alexander Aviña

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Employment

Associate Professor of History, Arizona State University, 2016-present

Associate Professor of History, Florida State University, 2015-2016

Assistant Professor of History, Florida State University, 2009-2015

Education

Ph.D., History, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, 2009

B.A., History, *magna cum laude*, Saint Mary's College of California, Moraga, CA, 2002

Research and Publications

Books (Peer Reviewed):

Specters of Revolution: Peasant Guerrillas in the Cold War Mexican Countryside (Oxford University Press, 2014)

***Awarded the María Elena Martínez Mexican History Book Prize as the top book on Mexican history published in 2014, (awarded January 2016)**

Major Research Projects in Progress:

Acapulco Gold, Red Gold: Marijuana, Opium Poppies, and the Hidden Histories of the Mexican Drug War (Second book project, in progress, no book contract, in discussions with Duke University Press, will send proposal to Stanford University Press in summer 2019)

"Sociology of Civil Wars: Mexico and Central America," European Research Council Fellowship Project directed by Dr. Gilles Dorronsoro (Sorbonne), Part of an 8-9 interdisciplinary, international team of investigators and scholars (Workshops in September 2016 and November 2017 in Paris, France)

Digital Projects (Peer Reviewed):

“Guerrilla Movements and Armed Struggle in Cold War Mexico,” *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Latin American History*, ed. William Beezley (Oxford University Press, 2017) (Published, June 2017)

“The New Left in Latin America (Annotated Bibliography),” *Oxford Bibliographies Online: Latin American Studies* (Oxford University Press, 2011).

Articles (Peer Reviewed):

“‘Are you with the Rich or the Poor?’ The Making of a Poor People’s Revolution in Cold War Mexico,” *Histoire@Politique* (Centre d’histoire de Sciences Po, Paris) (Published Spring 2018)

“Self-Defense and the Commune in Past and Present Mexico,” co-authored with George Ciccariello-Maher (anticipated submission date to *South Atlantic Quarterly* or *Nepantla* in Summer 2019)

“‘They Say the Bones Talk:’ Enforced Disappearances and the Archives of State Terror in Past and Present Mexico” (anticipated submission date to *Hispanic American Historical Review* for late Spring 2019)

“Mexico’s Long Dirty War,” *NACLA Report on the Americas* 48:2 (Summer 2016), 144-149.

“State Anxieties, Campesino Guerrillas, and an Archive of Counterinsurgency in Cold War Mexico,” *Journal of Iberian and Latin American Research* 19:1 (July 2013), 41-51.

Chapters:

“‘El Norte Chiquito:’ A Local History of the Mexican Narco-State in the Guerrero Hotlands,” Part of the “Sociology of Civil Wars,” European Research Council Fellowship Project (edited volume in progress, 2020 anticipated publication date).

“Group Blood: Drugs, Death Squads and the Dirty War Origins of the Mexican Narco-State,” in *Drugs, Politics, and Society: The Regional History of the Mexican Drug Trade*, eds. Benjamin Smith and Wil Pansters (in progress, 2020 anticipated publication date with University of California Press).

“A War Against Poor People: State Terror and Mexico’s War on Drugs during the Global Sixties,” in *Beyond 1968: Confronting Mexico’s Dirty Wars From the Ground Up During the 1960s and 70s*, eds. Jaime Pensado and Enrique Ochoa (Published, Fall 2018, University of Arizona Press)

“Seizing Hold of Memories in Moments of Danger: Guerrillas and Revolution in Guerrero,

Mexico,” in *Challenging Authoritarianism in Mexico: Revolutionary Struggles and the Dirty War, 1964-1982*, eds. Fernando Calderón and Adela Cedillo (London: Routledge, 2012).

“We have returned to Porfirian Times:’ Neo-Populism, Counterinsurgency, and the Dirty War in Guerrero, Mexico 1969-1976,” in *Populism in 20th Century Mexico: The Presidencies of Lázaro Cárdenas and Luis Echeverría*, eds. María L.O. Muñoz and Amelia Kiddle (Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2010).

Newspaper/Web Articles/Op-Eds/Radio/TV

“US Imperialist Intervention in Latin America: A Discussion with Professor Alexander Aviña,” Millennial Politics-Brand New Congress Podcast, 23 March 2019.
<https://millennialpolitics.co/alexander-avina-venezuela/>

“La verdadera crisis fronteriza no es la que Trump siempre menciona,” *Expansión/CNN*, 27 February 2019.
<https://expansion.mx/opinion/2019/02/27/opinion-la-verdadera-crisis-fronteriza-no-es-de-la-que-trump-habla>

“Border Security, Migrant Caravans,” Arizona PBS Horizonte 10 January 2019.
<https://www.pbs.org/video/01102019-border-security-migrant-caravans-get-to-know-p6aq7k/>

“Chilean Coup of 1973: Salvador Allende, Augusto Pinochet and the CIA,” *Revolutionary Left Radio Podcast*, 21 May 2018.
<https://revolutionaryleftradio.libsyn.com/chile>

“Episode 6,” Radical Americas Podcast/Radical Americas Network, 21 June 2018.
<https://www.buzzsprout.com/112436/730873-the-radical-americas-podcast-episode-006>

“Author Alexander Aviña talks about Mexico’s Cold War in New Book,” Arizona PBS *Horizonte* 22 March 2018.
<https://azpbs.org/horizonte/2018/03/author-alexander-avina-talks-about-mexico-cold-war/>

“Pence to Attend Mexico’s Presidential Inauguration,” *KJZZ*, 8 October 2018.
<http://kjzz.org/content/709009/pence-attend-mexicos-presidential-inauguration>

“1v1: Politics and the Complexity of Fandom,” *Tropics of Meta*, 1 July 2018.
<https://tropicsofmeta.com/2018/07/01/1-vs-1-politics-and-the-complexity-of-fandom/>

Quintin Bingham and Ivonne Arballo, “Cinco de Mayo is Not Mexico’s Independence Day,”

The State Press, 27 April 2018.

“Could A Renegotiated NAFTA Be Better For Indigenous People Than Current Deal?” *KJZZ ‘The Show,’* 18 October 2017.

“The Mexican Revolution and the Zapatistas,” *Revolutionary Left Radio Podcast*, 17 September 2017.
<http://revolutionaryleftradio.libsyn.com/the-mexican-revolution-and-the-zapatistas>

“New ASU Online course to provide historical context of global migrations,” *ASU NOW* 3 August 2017.

“Trump’s Adjustment to U.S. Policy Toward Cuba Draws Reaction,” *KJZZ*, 16 June 2017.

“Q & A: Obama pushes to maintain Cuba relations but will Trump listen?” *ASU NOW*, 14 December 2016.

“Following the Money Behind the Drug Wars,” *NACLA Report on the Americas* Podcast, August 2016.
<http://nacla.org/news/2016/08/04/following-money-behind-drug-wars-audio-0>

Book Reviews:

Review of Javier Valdez Cárdenas, *The Taken: True Stories of the Sinaloan Drug War* (University of Texas Press, 2017), for *Mexican Studies/Estudios Mexicanos* 34:3 (Fall 2018), 405-408.

Review of Carlos Illades, *Conflict, Domination and Violence: Episodes in Mexican Social History* (New York: Berghahn Books, 2017), for the *Bulletin of Latin American Research* (in progress, anticipated publication date Spring/Summer 2019).

Review of Joseph Lenti, *Redeeming the Revolution: The State and Organized Labor in Post-Tlatelolco Mexico* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2017) for *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 49:1 (Summer 2018), 168-170.

Review of Gladys McClintock, *The Logic of Compromise in Mexico: How the Countryside Was Key to the Emergence of Authoritarianism* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2015) for *Canadian Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Studies* 42:1 (2017), 107-108.

Review of Randall Sheppard, *A Persistent Revolution: History, Nationalism, and Politics in Mexico since 1968* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2016) for *The Hispanic American Historical Review* 97:4 (Winter 2017), 754-755.

Teaching Experience

Arizona State University

Modern Latin America (HST 376)

Radicals, Rebels, and Revolutionary Theories in the Americas (HST 305)

Latin American Revolutions (HST 305)

History of Modern Mexico (HST 447)

North American History (HST 641)

Global Migrations, Online PLS Alliance (HST 598)

Empire and Revolution in Cold War Latin America (HIST 305)

History of Modern Mexico (HIST 447)

Social Revolutions in Latin America: 1789-1991 (HIST 305)

Florida State University

Revolution and Counterrevolution in Latin America's Long Cold War (Graduate Course)

Global Capitalism and the Making of the Modern World (Graduate Course)

Social Revolutionary Movements in Latin America (Graduate Section)

Social Revolutionary Movements in Latin America

History of Mexico

Empire and Revolution in Cold War Latin America (Honors Course)

Latin America in the Cold War (Honors Course)

Sports in Latin American History, (Honors Course)

Honors Latin American Civilization

Latin America: A Cross-Cultural History

Senior Seminar: Latin American Revolutions

Senior Seminar: High Times: Narcotics in Modern Latin American History

Conference Presentations

“Una guerra contra los pobres: terrorismo de estado y narcotráfico en México durante los años 1970,” presented at the XV Reunión Internacional de Historiadores de México, 18 October 2018.

“Drugs, Death Squads and the Dirty War Origins of the Mexican Narco-State,” Presented at the XXXVI International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Barcelona, Spain, 23 May 2018.

“A Long Dirty War: State Terror and the Counterinsurgent Origins of Mexico’s Contemporary Drug Violence,” Invited Lecture at the University of California, Irvine, School of Humanities, 9 May 2018.

“Self-Defense and the Commune in Past and Present Mexico,” presented at the Tepoztlán Institute for the Transnational History of the Americas, Tepoztlán, Mexico, 21 July 2017.

“Group Blood: Drugs, Death Squads and the Dirty War Origins of the Mexican Narco-State,” presented at *Drugs, Politics, and Society: The Regional History of the Mexican Drug Trade*, University of Warwick, 20 June 2017. Invited panelist and paper presenter.

“‘El Norte Chiquito:’ A Local History of the Mexican Narco-State in the Guerrero Hotlands,” presented at the “Sociology of Civil Wars” Workshop, European Research Council Fellowship Project, 17 November 2017, Paris, France. Invited paper presenter and part of the research team.

“A War Against Poor People: State Terror and Mexico’s War on Drugs during the Global Sixties,” presented at *Confronting Mexico’s Dirty War: Youth Radicalism(s), Repression, and Accountability Symposium*, University of Notre Dame, 3 October, 2016. Invited panelist and paper presenter

“Behave and go to Work:’ Counterinsurgent Terror and Biopower in Mexico’s Dirty War,” presented at the XXXIV International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, New York City, 29 May 2016

“They Gave Us Land: Poppies, Agrarian Reform and the Rise of a Transnational Narcotics Economy in 1970s Guerrero, Mexico,” Presented at the Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies Annual Conference, Durango, Colorado, 4 April 2014

- “Before Votán Zapata: Indigenous Communities, Guerrilla Resistance, and the ‘National-Ethnic’ Question in Cold War Latin America,” Presented at the XXXI International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Washington D.C., 30 May 2013
- “‘The Time Has Come to Base Ourselves on the 30-30 (Carbine):’ The Radicalization of Rural Protest in 1960s Mexico,” Presented at the Conference of Latin American History/American Historical Association, New Orleans, Louisiana, January 2013
- “The Spiritual Economy of the Mexican Right: The Legion of Christ in Post-1940 Mexico,” presented at the Latin American Studies Association Congress, San Francisco, California, 24 May 2012
- “Two, Three, Many Dirty Wars: The Limits of Populism and Counterinsurgent Terror in 1960s and 70s Rural Mexico,” Presented at the Conference of Latin American History/American Historical Association, Chicago, Illinois, 8 January 2012
- “‘Do not plunder in the archives, for nothing is recorded:’ Reading Cold War Mexican Peasant Rebellions in an Archive of Counter-Insurgency,” Presented at the Conference of Latin American History/American Historical Association, Boston, Massachusetts, 6 January 2011
- “A Cold War Comala: State Terror in Guerrero, Mexico, 1967-1975,” 57th Annual Conference of the Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies, Mexico City, Mexico, April 2010
- “‘The Government is the Delinquent:’ Terror and Counterinsurgency in Guerrero, Mexico, 1960-1980,” Presented at The Conference of Latin American History/American Historical Association, San Diego, California, 10 January 2010
- “‘The way to make a revolution will not be taught by Cuba:’ The Making of a Poor Peoples Revolution in Guerrero, Mexico, 1967-1974,” Presented at The Conference of Latin American History/American Historical Association, New York City, 3 January 2009
- “Poor People’s Revolution in Guerrero: A History of the Party of the Poor (PDLP), 1960-1974,” Lecture presented at Occidental College for two courses taught by Dr. Dolores Trevizo, April 2008
- “¡Viva la Revolución Pobrista! The ‘Perfect Dictatorship’ and Poor People’s Revolution in Guerrero, Mexico, 1967-1974,” Presented at the Tepoztlán Institute for the Transnational Study of the Americas, Tepoztlán, Morelos, Mexico, 6 August 2007
- “Dirty Wars, Failed Revolutions, and the Struggles for Democracy in Contemporary Mexico,” Report presented at the Fulbright García-Robles Mid-Term Conference, Mexico City, Mexico, 1 March 2007

"The 'Small Arms Fire' of the Mexican Population in Post-1848 Los Angeles," Ninety-Seventh Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, Pacific Coast Branch, San Jose, California, 7 August 2004

Selected Lectures and Panel Discussions

"Migrations: Germany and the U.S.," Roundtable, organized by the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies, and the School of International Letters and Cultures, 15 November 2018.

"Generatively Humane: Inclusive Approaches to Undocumented Experiences and Histories," Invited Paper and Speaker, University of California, Irvine, 5 October 2018.

"A Long Dirty War: State Terror and the Counterinsurgent Origins of Mexico's Contemporary Drug Violence," Invited Lecture at the University of California, Irvine, School of Humanities, 9 May 2018.

"Movimientos sociales y organización popular en el México actual," Invited roundtable participant and paper presenter at the Conferencia Internacional: Democracia y autoritarismo en México y el mundo, at the National Autonomous University of Mexico, 15 February 2018.

"Debates on Immigration and Asylum in the US and Germany," Germany Making Choices Lecture Series, Roundtable, organized by the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies, Arizona State University, 21 November 2017.

"A U.S./Mexico Border Wall and its Implications on Immigration in Arizona," Faculty discussion and invited panelist, organized by the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies, Arizona State University, 19 September 2017.

"Protest and Survive: The Need for Radical History in a Time of Emergency," presented at the Max Kade Institute, University of Southern California, and co-sponsored by the USC History Graduate Student Association and the Department of History, 8 March 2017.

Specters of Revolution: Peasant Guerrillas in the Cold War Mexican Countryside, Invited book talk/discussion with graduate students at Yale University, History Department, 29 April 2016.

"An Unprecedented Experiment in Military Governance: Counterinsurgency, Narcotics and the Historical Roots of the Mexican Drug War," presented at The Florida State University Faculty Luncheon Series, 19 April 2016.

Specters of Revolution: Peasant Guerrillas in the Cold War Mexican Countryside, Nave Visiting Scholar, invited public book talk at the Latin American, Caribbean, and Iberian Studies Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 20 October 2015.

Keynote Speaker for the Latin American Studies Week, organized by the Program of Latin American Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, 19 October 2015.

Specters of Revolution: Peasant Guerrillas in the Cold War Mexican Countryside, Invited public book talk and seminar workshop at the Oaxaca Summer Institute XVI in Oaxaca, Mexico, 23 July 2015.

Specters of Revolution: Peasant Guerrillas in the Cold War Mexican Countryside, Book talk and seminar discussion at Dartmouth College, invited by Dr. Tanalís Padilla and the Department of History, May 2015.

Specters of Revolution: Peasant Guerrillas in the Cold War Mexican Countryside, Public book talk at Cornell University, invited by the Department of History, 16 April 2015.

Specters of Revolution: Peasant Guerrillas in the Cold War Mexican Countryside, Public book talk at Ithaca College, invited by the Department of History and the Center for the Study of Culture, Race, and Ethnicity, 17 April 2015.

"'An Unprecedented Experiment in Military Governance:' Counterinsurgency, State Formation, and the Rise of a Transnational Narcotics Economy in 1970s Guerrero, Invited essay delivered at Vanderbilt University as part of the "Mexico on the Verge" Symposium organized by the Vanderbilt History Seminar, the Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, and the Center for Latin American Studies, 13 March 2015.

Specters of Revolution: Peasant Guerrillas in the Cold War Mexican Countryside, Public book talk and class workshop at the University of California, Santa Cruz, invited by the Latin American and Latino Studies, 5 December 2014.

Specters of Revolution: Peasant Guerrillas in the Cold War Mexican Countryside, Public book talk at the Kellogg Institute for International Studies at the University of Notre Dame, 14 November 2014.

"Spy Reports in Contemporary Mexico," Graduate Student Workshop and Panel Discussion at the Oaxaca Summer Institute XV (Oaxaca, Mexico) with Drs. Louise Walker, Pablo Piccato, and Maria Muñoz, July 2013.

"Peace in Latin America: International Conflict Resolution," Panel discussion with President and Nobel Peace Laureate Dr. Oscar Arias and Dr. Terry Coonan organized by Southeast PeaceJam and Florida State University, 12 April 2013.

“Peasant Guerrillas, State Terror, and the Counterinsurgent Origins of the Contemporary Narco Wars in Rural Mexico,” Presented at the Center for Humanities and Society at Florida State University, 2 February 2012.

“Durable Utopias and Peasant Longings: Guerrillas in the Mexican Countryside, 1960-1975,” Latin American Studies Colloquium at the University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, 14 April 2011.

“Mexico after 1940,” Graduate Student Seminar and Workshop at the Oaxaca Summer Institute XII, Oaxaca City, Mexico, 6 July 2010.

Fellowships and Awards

Faculty Seminar, “Religion, Journalism and Democracy: Strengthening Key Institutions of Civil Society,” Luce/ACLS Program in Religion and International Affairs and the Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict/Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, Arizona State University, Fall 2018-Spring 2019.

Committee on Faculty Research Support, Summer Award, Council on Research and Creativity, Florida State University, Summer 2013

Guardian of the Flame Faculty Award for the College of Arts and Sciences, Burning Spear Society, Florida State University, April 2013

Awarded a University Teaching Award, Florida State University, April 2012

Stephen Risley Family Fellow in the College of Arts and Sciences at Florida State University, Spring 2012

Hubert Herring Award Awarded by the Pacific Coast Council on Latin American Studies for the best dissertation in Latin American Studies

First Year Assistant Professor Fellowship Council on Research and Creativity, Florida State University, Summer 2010

Final Year Dissertation Fellowship Awarded by the College of Letters, Arts and Sciences of the University of Southern California, 2008-2009

Fulbright García-Robles Grant COMEX Fellowship, for research in Mexico, 2006-2007

Haynes Foundation First Year Fellowship, University of Southern California graduate study Fellowship, 2002-2003

Service

Arizona State University

Director, Undergraduate Studies, History (Fall 2018-)
Director, Graduate Studies, History (Spring 2018)
Ad-Hoc Committee, Targeted Latin@ Faculty Recruitment & Search, History, Fall 2017
SHPRS Personnel Committee, Fall 2017
Graduate Studies Committee (History), Fall 2017
Chair, Committee for Target of Opportunity Hire (Dr. Mireya Loza), Fall 2016

Florida State University

Ben Weider Endowed Chair Professor Search, 2015-2016
Presidential Scholars Weekend, Faculty Mentor, March 2015
Council for International Education and Programs Committee, 2015-2018
University Diversity and Inclusion Council, 2012-2015
Students for a Democratic Society, Faculty Advisor, 2015-2016
Faculty Committee for the US Fulbright Program, 2014-2016
Latin@ Faculty Affinity/Provost Group, 2013-2015
Mexican American Student Association, Faculty Advisor, 2012-2016
Faculty Senate Grievance Committee, 2012-2015
Faculty Senator, 2012-2015
Salary Committee, 2010-11, 2014-2015
Wright/Campbell/Richardson Prizes, 2010-2014
Target of Opportunity Hire, 2011-2013
Modern East Asia/China Search Committee, 2012-2013
Department Chair Search, 2012-2013
Executive Committee, 2012-2013
19th Century U.S. History/South Search Committee, 2014-2015

Profession:

Program Committee, Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association
Collective Member, Tepoztlán Institute for the Transnational History of the Americas,
2017-currently
Maria Elena Martínez Mexican History Book Prize Committee, 2016

Professional Development

Annual President's Retreat, Florida State University, On Critical Thinking, Fall 2013
Multicultural Excellence in the Academy, National Summer Institute, Invited Panelist, 2009
Multicultural Excellence in the Academy, National Summer Institute, Fellow, Summer 2007
Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano/a de Aztlán High School Conference, Organizer, Fall 2004

Napa County, CA Latino Youth Conference, Invited Speaker and Panelist, May 2003
Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano/a de Aztlán High School Conference Organizer, Fall 2003
Institute for the Recruitment of Teachers (IRT), Fellow, Summer 2001

Memberships

Latin American Studies Association
American Historical Association
Conference on Latin American History
American Historical Association, Pacific Coast Branch
Rocky Mountain Council on Latin American Studies