

Mirtha Garcia
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Arizona State University
School of Human Evolution and Social Change
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EDUCATION

- 2019 - Current Ph.D. Anthropology, Arizona State University (ASU)
Committee Chairs: Emir Estrada, Ph.D. and Takeyuki Gaku Tsuda, Ph.D.
Committee Members: Marivel Danielson, Ph.D. and Paula Hermida-Otero, Ph.D.
- 2022 Ph.D. Immigration Studies Graduate Certificate, Arizona State University (ASU)
Advisor: Dr. Takeyuki Gaku Tsuda
- 2014 M.A. Visual Anthropology *Summa Cum Laude*, University of Southern California (USC)
Master's Thesis: “¿Cómo SER Mujer: How TO BE a Woman”:
Exploring the way femininity is constructed and altered in the lives of trans Latina immigrant women.
Mentors: Joseph R. Hawkins, Ph.D., and Erin Moore Ph.D.
- 2011 B.A. Anthropology, Arizona State University (ASU)
Graduated from the Barrett Honors College, *Magna Cum Laude*
Honor's Thesis: “Cierra Los Ojos-Close Your Eyes”: Exploring Latina teen pregnancy.
- 2011 B.A. Spanish (Literature track), Arizona State University (ASU)
Graduated from the Barrett Honors College, *Magna Cum Laude*

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Queer migration, gender studies, immigration, Latin America, Spain, identity, agency, and public policies.

AWARDS

- | | | |
|------|---|----------|
| 2023 | Graduate College Completion Fellowship | \$24,600 |
| 2023 | School of Human Evolution and Social Change Philip Mason Thompson Award | \$300 |
| 2023 | School of Human Evolution and Social Change Summer Writing Fellowship Award | \$5,000 |
| 2023 | Barrett Alumni Service Award Winner | N/A |
| 2023 | School of Human Evolution and Social Change Spring 2023 Research Award | \$2,000 |
| 2022 | The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Student Leader | N/A |
| 2022 | School of Human Evolution and Social Change Fall 2022 Travel Award | \$300 |

2022	Earl A. and Lenore H. Tripke Travel Grant	\$2,000
2022	School of Human Evolution and Social Change Spring 2022 Research Award	\$843
2021	School of Human Evolution and Social Change Spring 2021 Research Award	\$4,000
2019	Wells Fargo Transborder Chicana/o and Latina/o Studies Research Scholarship	\$3,000
2019	School of Human Evolution and Social Change Multi-Year Funding Package for Sociocultural Anthropology Ph.D. Degree	
2010	Dons of Arizona Scholarship	\$1,500
2011	Provost Scholar	NA
2010	Provost Scholar	NA
2009	Provost Scholar	NA
2008	Provost Scholar	NA
2007	Provost Scholar	NA
2011	Latin American Certificate Award	\$150
2011	Jose Franco and Francisca Ocampo Quesada Research Award	\$1,500
2010	Dean's List	NA
2009	Dean's List	NA
2008	Dean's List	NA
2007	Dean's List	NA

PUBLICATIONS

Karway, G. (1st), Grando, M.A. (1st), Murcko, A (1st), Kaing, T. (1st), Syed, K. (1st), Dyer, H. (1st), Ivanova, J. (2nd), **Garcia, M. (2nd)**, Todd, M. (3rd), Chern, D. (4th), Franczak, M. (4th), Whitfield, M.J. (5th).
 Forthcoming 2022. "My Data Choices: Pilot Evaluation of Patient-Controlled Medical Record Sharing Technology." *Journal of American Medical Informatics Association (JAMIA)*

Manuscripts Under Review

Roque, A., A. Wutich, A. Brewis, M. Beresford, L. Landes, O. Morales, R. Lucero, W. Jepson, Y. Tsai, M. Hanemann, **Garcia, M. (Consortium co-author)** *Action for Water Equity Consortium. Community-Based Participant-Observation (CBPO): Basic Tenets and an Example. Field Methods.* (Forthcoming, March 2023)

Garcia, M. "The experiences of trans women migrants from the Global South in the Global North." *Migration, Ethnicity and Diversity Handbook.* Edited by Takeyuki Tsuda, Edward Elgar. (Forthcoming, March 2023)

Garcia, M. "Trans Migrants In Spain: An Interview with Daries about la Ley Trans and More." *Contingent Horizons: The York University Student Journal of Anthropology.* (Under review, April 2023)

Manuscripts in Progress

Garcia, M. “*Trans Migration: What Do Current Studies and Ethnographies on the Migrant Trans Experience Indicate about the Rise of Intersecting Interests and Positionalities?*” (In progress, May 2023)

Garcia, M. Book review of “*Transexualidades: Otras Miradas Posibles.*” Re-Reviewed Section of The Cambridge Journal of Anthropology (In progress, February 2023)

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

15. **Garcia, M.** 2023 (*forthcoming*)
Transnational Trans Identities: Resisting US Hegemonic Terminology. Decolonizing Transnational and Transhuman Relations: Eco-Eorticisms, Trans Identities, and Traditions Panel. 19th Berkshire Conference of Women, Genders and Sexualities. Co-panelist. Hybrid. Santa Clara, California.
14. **Garcia, M.** 2023
Introduction to the Photovoice Methodology. Women’s Council of Indigenous Doctoral Scholars Spring Workshop. Online. Co-facilitator. Valencia, Spain and Boston, Massachusetts
13. **Garcia, M.** 2023
Trans Migration: What Do Current Studies and Ethnographies on the Migrant Trans Experience Indicate about the Rise of Intersecting Interests and Positionalities? Applied Anthropology at a Crossroad. 83rd Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology. Presenter. Hybrid. Cincinnati, Ohio.
12. **Garcia, M.** 2022
Session: Creating Communities of Care at Your Institution. American Indian Studies Association (AISA) Graduate Student Pre-Conference. Invited Panelist. Tempe, Arizona.
11. **Garcia, M.** 2022
La Ley Trans Excluding While Including: What do media publications reveal about the lack of representation? Unsettling Landscapes. American Anthropological Association (AAA). Presenter. Hybrid. Seattle, Washington.
10. **Garcia, M.** 2022
Differential Accessibility and Recognition: Examining Disparities in Spain's Ley Trans Among Native-Born and Foreign-Born Trans Individuals within the LGBTI+ Collective. Storytelling, Representation, and Authenticity Panel. Public Spaces, Private Places: Constructing Race and Liberation. Monmouth University’s Seventh Biennial Interdisciplinary Conference on Race. Presenter. Hybrid. Monmouth University, West Long Branch, New Jersey.
9. **Garcia, M.** 2022
Introduction to the Photovoice Method. Lambda Valencia Organization (Col·lectiu LGTB+ per la diversitat sexual, de gènere i familiar). Facilitator. In-Person. Valencia, Spain.
8. **Garcia, M.** 2022

Trans Migration in Spain: An Interview with Daries about the Ley Trans and More. Raising Indigenous Voices in Academia and Society (RIVAS) Conference. Hybrid. University of Montana, Missoula, Montana.

7. **Garcia, M.** 2022
Research Presentation on Pilot and Future Dissertation Research on Trans Individuals in Spain, Staff at the School of Human Evolution and Social Change, February 2022, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona.
6. **Garcia, M.** 2021
Virtual Visit and Research Presentation on Trans Women from Latin America and Spain, Summer Scholars at the School of Human Evolution and Social Change, May 2021, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona.
5. **Garcia, M.** 2020
Proposed Pilot Research Presentation: Trans Women in Spain, the School of Transborder Studies, May 2020, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona.
4. **Garcia, M.** 2019
Introduction to Visual Anthropology Methodology Workshop, Institute of Humanities Research Cluster on Women, Youth, Non-binary People and Art Meeting, October 2019, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona.
3. **Garcia, M.** 2014
¿Cómo SER mujer?- How TO BE a woman? Ethnographic Film, University of Southern California Masters in Visual Anthropology Thesis Projects Premiere, September 2014, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California.
2. **Garcia, M.** 2011
Cierra los ojos- Close your eyes? Documentary Film Presentation, Barrett Honors College Symposium of Research and Creative Projects, April 2011, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona.
1. **Garcia, M.** 2011
Cierra los ojos- Close your eyes? Documentary Film Presentation, The School of Human Evolution and Social Change First Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium, April 2011, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2022

***Trans Individuals in Spain: Social and Personal Experiences and Identities* Valencia, Spain**
Dissertation Research Part 1

I conducted ethnographic fieldwork in Valencia, Spain that employed semi-structured interviews, participant observation, photovoice, and archival work. The main areas that my research addressed were: how trans individuals describe their gender identity, why they have adopted such identities, and how they assert and display them in different spaces; the types of social relationships in their private lives that trans community members rely on for gender validation and other types of social and emotional support; and the types of social interactions and experiences that trans individuals face when they are in public settings interacting with various members outside the trans community. I was able to conduct 15 semi-structured interviews with trans individuals who reside in Spain. Thirteen of the research participants were non-migrants who reside in Spain but two of the research participants were migrants. I also conducted participant observations at local community and

public events throughout the city of Valencia which included: activist and volunteer demonstrations, events, and workshops, academic and social presentations on LGBTI+ history in Valencia and Spain, and LGBTI+ community gatherings. Finally, I added to my archive collection by processing and collecting additional local publications from 1977-1999 on the trans experience that was available from Lambda Valencia, a local LGBTI+ organization.

2022

Trans Individuals' Experiences in Valencia, Spain Throughout the Years **Valencia, Spain**
Archival Research

The experiential travel included doing active archiving of local publications on the experience of trans individuals before conducting my dissertation research. I completed the archiving within Lambda Valencia, a local non-profit organization in Valencia, Spain that supports the LGBTI+ community in the area with educational, social, health, and advocacy services. They currently store one of the largest collections of LGBTI+ publications in the city of Valencia of LGBTI+ historical materials and publications such as magazines, newspapers, books, and physical materials. I was able to read the entire collection of newspaper publications that had been published about the trans experience locally and nationally from 2000-2003, which are not available online or whose copies are limited. I read hard copies of articles that contained critical information on how trans individuals were depicted, the types of laws that were implemented during that time, and the non-profit organizations and political groups that were part of the conversation. In addition to this, I was able to work alongside archivists and staff who are experts on the historical perspective of the region of Valencia as well as the country of Spain and they were able to guide me to specific books, articles, and media resources that could help me establish a deeper historical and cultural understanding of the topic.

2021-2022

Culture, Health, and Environment Laboratory (CHELab) Projects **Tempe, Arizona**

As the CHELab manager, I created, administered, and assigned tasks to an average of 30 undergraduate research apprentices who participated in the Research Apprenticeship Program within the School of Human Evolution and Social Change at Arizona State University. Through 20 hours per week, I assisted with the following research projects: COVID Residuals Linguistic, Cutting-Edge Cultural Anthropology, Aging and Body Image, COVID and Education, and Aging and Body Image. The supervising faculty and leaders for these projects were Dr. Ruth, Dr. SturtzSreetharan, Dr. Wutich, and Dr. Roque. I aided in implementing training, practices, and tasks for qualitative and quantitative research methods, which included data coding, analysis, and essential ethnographic research skills. I assigned research-related tasks, tracked student progress for multiple research projects, followed up with students, and ensured deadlines were met.

2021

Recognition and Integration of Trans Individuals in Spain **Valencia, Spain**
Pre-dissertation Pilot Study

I completed a month-long pilot study in Valencia, Spain where I interviewed five trans individuals about their daily experiences navigating public and private spaces. The semi-structured interviews lasted between 60-90 minutes and were conducted in Spanish/Castilian. During the pilot study, I collaborated with the local LGBTI+ organization and established a partnership with them. I was able to attend their volunteer workshops, public events, and demonstrations, and access their extensive library of resources. I worked on-site to read and generate a list of local publications that discuss the trans experience in the Spanish context.

2013-2014

¿Cómo SER mujer?- How TO BE a woman? **Los Angeles, California**
MVA Visual Ethnographic Thesis Project

I completed a 30-minute ethnographic film, which delves into the construction of femininity of trans Latina immigrant women in the United States, as my MVA thesis ethnographic film. I learned qualitative and

quantitative research methods and attained ethnographic tools and tactics to conduct research for my topic. Part of the research tools that I learned include: transcription analysis, interview skills, and participant-observation. I managed and produced different elements of my film, including: creating a website to generate awareness and promote the film, distribution, project proposals, scheduling, interviewing, translation, logistics, visual and sound editing and mixing, and motion graphics and media design.

2010-2011

Cierra los ojos- Close your eyes

Tempe, Arizona

Latina Teen Pregnancy in Arizona: A documentary

Spent a year researching and creating a short film on the causes of Latina teen pregnancy in Arizona, for my thesis project, for the Barrett Honors College at Arizona State University. I organized and managed the following aspects of my short documentary: interviewing, translation, scheduling, logistics, visual and editing and mixing. I also applied and received the Quesada research award for this film, which provided me with funds for the editing software and the equipment.

TEACHING AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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|-------------|--|
| Spring 2023 | Teaching Assistant, Ethnographic Research Methods ASB 455 (Online), Arizona State University, Tempe Arizona |
| Spring 2023 | Teaching Assistant, Sports and Culture ASB 252 (Online), Arizona State University, Tempe Arizona |
| Fall 2022 | Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Global Health ASB 100 (Online), Arizona State University, Tempe Arizona |
| Fall 2022 | Teaching Assistant, Bones, Stones, and Human Evolution ASM 104 (Online), Arizona State University, Tempe Arizona |
| Summer 2021 | Laboratory Manager, Culture, Health, and Environment Lab ASB 484 (CHELab) Internship, Arizona State University, Tempe Arizona |
| Spring 2022 | Laboratory Manager, Culture, Health, and Environment Lab ASB 484 (CHELab) Internship, Arizona State University, Tempe Arizona |
| Fall 2021 | Laboratory Manager, Culture, Health, and Environment Lab ASB 484 (CHELab) Internship, Arizona State University, Tempe Arizona |
| Summer 2021 | Teaching Assistant, Poverty and Global Health ASB 305 (ASU Sync), Arizona State University, Tempe Arizona |
| Summer 2021 | Laboratory Manager, Culture, Health, and Environment Lab ASB 484 (CHELab) Internship, Arizona State University, Tempe Arizona |
| Spring 2021 | Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Cultural Anthropology ASB 102 (ASU Sync), Arizona State University, Tempe Arizona |
| Fall 2020 | Teaching Assistant, Peoples of Latin America ASB 322 (Online), Arizona State University, Tempe Arizona |
| Summer 2020 | Graduate Service Assistant, for The College of Health Solutions for a research study about medical data sharing preferences in Spanish called My Data Choices (MDC) under the guidance of Dr.Adela Grando, Arizona State University, Tempe Arizona |

- Summer 2020 Teaching Assistant, Disaster ASB 327 (Online), Arizona State University, Tempe Arizona
- Spring 2020 Teaching Assistant, Immigration and Ethnic Relations ASB 202 (In-person), Arizona State University, Tempe Arizona
- Fall 2019 Teaching Assistant, Disaster ASB 327 (Online), Arizona State University, Tempe Arizona
- Fall 2019 Teaching Assistant, Global History of Health ASB 301 (Online), Arizona State University, Tempe Arizona

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2018-2019 6th Grade Structured English Immersion (SEI) Teacher, Empower College Prep Elementary School, Phoenix, Arizona
- 2017-2018 8th Grade High School Readiness Teacher, Empower College Prep High School, Phoenix, Arizona
- 2016-2017 6th Grade Team Lead and Writing and Social Studies Teacher, Empower College Prep Elementary School, Phoenix, Arizona
- 2015-2016 6th Grade Writing and Social Studies Teacher, Empower College Prep Elementary School, Phoenix, Arizona
- 2014-2015 6th Grade Humanities Teacher, Empower College Prep Elementary School, Phoenix, Arizona
- 2011-2013 High School Spanish Teacher, Metropolitan Arts Institute, Phoenix, Arizona

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Women’s Council of Indigenous Doctoral Scholars (WCIDS) Council Delegate **Tempe, Arizona**
2022-Current

- Elected as one of the council delegates for WCIDS.
- Attend executive meetings and help plan events and workshops.
- Deliberate weekly virtual writing group sessions.
- Collaborate with fellow graduate students.

Culture, Health, and Environment Laboratory Laboratory Manager **Tempe, Arizona**
2021-2022

- Led and assisted over 70 undergraduate research apprentices who were admitted into the CHELab laboratory which aims to provide qualitative and quantitative ethnographic research method training including data coding, analysis, and management skills.
- Delegated and assigned tasks to students based on the projects that the CHElab faculty were executing.
- Completed check-ins and monitored students’ progress as they worked on simultaneous research projects for the fall and spring semester.
- Managed and edited the lab’s Canvas shell to the lab’s projects’ needs and tasks.

Women’s Council of Indigenous Doctoral Scholars (WCIDS) Council member **Tempe, Arizona**
2022-Current

- Attend executive meetings and help with events.
- Connect and integrate with fellow graduate students.

**School of Human Evolution and Social Change
Graduate Mentor**

**Tempe, Arizona
2021-current**

- Mentor incoming graduate students and provide guidance as they settle into their graduate program.
- Provide weekly check-in hours to offer support and resources.
- Check-in monthly to see how I can be of assistance.

**Association of All Graduate Students
Sociocultural Anthropology Approach Representative**

**Tempe, Arizona
2021-Current**

- Attend all the AGGS meetings to represent the sociocultural anthropology approach and stay up-to-date on important campus, program, and school activities.
- Update current sociocultural anthropology graduate students of upcoming deadlines, events, and tasks.
- Support students with graduate program questions, inquiries, and needs.

**Association of All Graduate Students
Co-Secretary**

**Tempe, Arizona
2020-2021**

- Attend and take minutes of AAGS meetings and post the minutes to AAGS Google Drive.
- Summarize and disseminate general, council, and directorate meeting notes to AAGS members.
- Organize, facilitate, and help plan events with the AAGS Events Committee

**Empower College Prep
6th Grade Team Lead**

**Phoenix, Arizona
2016-2017**

- Lead and managed the sixth-grade team (sixth-grade teachers and instructional aides), created testing schedules, delegated tasks, and enforced norms and regulations that we created and those handed down by our school's administration.
- Strengthened the sixth-grade curriculum and lesson plans for writing, grammar, and social studies by incorporating Problem-based learning (PBL) into the core of the material.

**The Page Turner's Book Club at ASU
Founder and President**

**Tempe, Arizona
August 2009- May 2011**

- Founded and developed the first book club at Arizona State University, which successfully ran for five years.
- Coordinated all the fundraising events and administered all the meetings and activities.
- Established the club to improve literacy and reading skills among college students and provide a sanctuary and forum for students from different disciplines to come together and discuss a variety of topics and current events.

**School of International Letters and Cultures (SILC) at ASU
Attaché**

**Tempe, Arizona
August 2009- May 2011**

- As an attaché for the School of International Letters and Cultures (SILC), I educated and motivated students to explore different languages and cultures through the majors and study abroad opportunities offered at SILC.
- Explored various events around campus to connect and network with organizations and clubs, in order to promote each other's programs and initiatives.

References

Takeyuki Gaku Tsuda

Professor

Takeyuki.Gaku.Tsuda@asu.edu

(480) 965-7887

Emir Estrada

Associate Professor

Emir.Estrada@asu.edu

Marivel Danielson

Associate Professor

mtdaniel@asu.edu

Paula Otero-Hermida

Researcher

pauother@upvnet.upv.es

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Language

Spanish: Native Language

English: Fluent

Skills and Programs

General Softwares: Microsoft Office, Excel, Google Docs Editor suite, SurveyMonkey, Final Cut Pro, Adobe Suite, Canva, and Procreate

Educational programs: MAXQDA and Canvas

Professional Memberships

American Anthropological Association

Association of Latina and Latino Anthropologists

Society for Visual Anthropology

Society for Applied Anthropology

Berkshire Conference of Women Historians

Lambda Alpha Anthropology Honors Society