

## Rihan Yeh

Centro de Estudios Antropológicos  
El Colegio de Michoacán

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### EDUCATION

University of Chicago. Ph.D. in Sociocultural Anthropology, 2009  
Committee: Danilyn Rutherford, Claudio Lomnitz, Michael Silverstein, James Siegel  
University of Chicago. M.A. in Sociocultural Anthropology, 2004  
Barnard College, Columbia University. B.A. Magna Cum Laude in Music, 2000

### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2010-present Associate Researcher, Level C. Centro de Estudios Antropológicos, El Colegio de Michoacán (junior position; tenured in 2014)

### PUBLICATIONS

#### *Book*

In Press *Passing: Two Publics in a Mexican Border City*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

#### *Articles*

Under Review Three Types of Traffic in Tijuana. *Public Culture*.  
Accepted On the Possibility of Imagining an Open Border. *Political and Legal Anthropology Review*.  
2017 *La Racha: Speed and Violence in a Mexican Border City*. *Signs and Society* 5(S1):53-76.  
2017 Visas, Jokes and Contraband: Citizenship and Sovereignty at the Mexico-U.S. Border. *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 59(1):154-182.  
2016 Hankins, Joseph and Rihan Yeh. To Bind and To Bound: Commensuration Across Boundaries. *Anthropological Quarterly* 89(1):5-30.  
2016 Commensuration in a Mexican Border City: Currencies, Consumer Goods, and Languages. *Anthropological Quarterly* 89(1):63-92.  
2015 “La calle es un río”: El público de los (narco)corridos como “el pueblo.” *Revista Colombiana de Antropología* 51(1):79-107.  
2012 Two Publics in a Mexican Border City. *Cultural Anthropology* 27(4):713-734.  
2009 “We’re Mexican Too”: Publicity and Status at the International Line. *Public Culture* 21(3):465-493.

### **Book Chapters**

- 2015 “Deslices del ‘mestizo’ en la frontera norte,” in *Nación y alteridad: mestizos, indígenas y extranjeros en el proceso de formación nacional*, ed. Daniela Gleizer and Paula López Caballero. Mexico: UAM-Cuajimalpa: Educación y Cultura.
- 2012 “A Middle-Class Public at Mexico’s Northern Border,” in *The Global Middle Classes: Theorizing Through Ethnography*, ed. Rachel Heiman, Carla Freeman, and Mark Liechty. Santa Fe: School for Advanced Research Press.

### **Book Review**

- 2015 New Middle Classes and their Politics. *Political and Legal Anthropology Review* 38(2):386-390.

### **HONORS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS**

- Candidate Level, National System of Researchers, Mexico
- Visiting Scholar, Department of Anthropology, University of California, San Diego, 2016-2017
- Edmundo O’Gorman Visiting Scholar, Institute of Latin American Studies, Columbia University, Winter 2015
- Visiting Scholar, Department of Anthropology, Columbia University, Fall 2012
- Santander Grant for Young Professors and Researchers (supports four months at an institution outside Mexico), Fall 2012
- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies, University of California, San Diego, 2009-2010
- Visiting Scholar, Instituto de Investigaciones Sociales, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Winter and Spring 2009
- Frederick Starr Lectureship, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago, 2008
- Fulbright-Hays—Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship, 2006-2007
- Visiting Scholar, El Colegio de la Frontera, 2006-2007
- Roy D. Albert Prize (departmental award for best M.A. thesis), 2005
- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, 2003-2006
- Andrew Mellon Fellowship in Humanistic Studies for First-Year Graduate Students, 2002-2003

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- Seminario IV*. Workshop on field methods and ethnographic writing, Centro de Estudios Antropológicos, El Colegio de Michoacán, Fall 2015
- Antropología y Concepto de Cultura II: Lenguaje y Cultura*. Graduate seminar, Centro de Estudios Antropológicos, El Colegio de Michoacán, Spring 2012 and 2015
- Seminario V*. M.A. thesis writing workshop, Centro de Estudios Antropológicos, El Colegio de Michoacán, Spring 2013
- Seminario de Especialización Teórica I: Aproximaciones Etnográficas al Estado*. Graduate seminar, Centro de Estudios Antropológicos, El Colegio de Michoacán, Fall 2010
- Northern Mexico and the Border*. Undergraduate seminar, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago, Fall 2008

## **ADVISING**

### ***Ph.D. thesis advisor***

Vladimir Caraballo Acuña, *La economía esmeraldera en Colombia. Transacciones performativas, procesos de circulación y escalas de valor* (Ph.D. expected 2020)

Rogelio Córdova Nava, *El suplemento necesario: mercado de atención y trayectorias de adicción en el México contemporáneo* (Ph.D. expected 2017)

Virginia Marisol Escobedo Aguirre, *¿Futuridades diferenciadas? Cronotopos en contextos de violencia. Desplazamiento forzado hacia y en la Zona Metropolitana del Valle de México* (Ph.D. expected 2017)

### ***Ph.D. committee member***

Ariadna Sánchez Nava (El Colegio de México), *Violencias visibles y violencias invisibles en la periferia simbólica de Tijuana. Estudio de dos colonias populares* (Ph.D. expected 2017)

Kris Natalia Gómez, *¿Qué sientes al caminar sobre el paraíso? La construcción de espacios turísticos en la región de Ixtapa-Zihuatanejo: Un estudio comparativo sobre proyectos, ideales e imaginarios globales en la estructuración de tres localidades (1970-2012)* (Ph.D. expected 2017)

Luis Bedoya, *Transformaciones epocales del orden, el desorden y las jerarquías en Fray Bartolomé de las Casas, Guatemala* (Ph.D. expected 2017)

Victoria Luna Velarde, *Nosotros, los (no) lectores: Literacidad y distinción en la conformación de la esfera pública desde Zamora, Michoacán* (Ph.D. expected 2017)

Iliana Vázquez Zúñiga, *“Jugarse la suerte, ganarse la vida”: Familias, empresarios e industrias del entretenimiento en el circuito migratorio Tulcingo-Nueva York (1970-2017)* (Ph.D. expected 2017)

Briceidee Torres Cantú, *La construcción del riesgo ante proyectos de desarrollo energético en el Bajo Papaloapan y el Istmo de Tehuantepec*, 2016

Betsabe Adriana Martínez Manzanero, *Las artes del camino. Memoria, movilidad y otros pasajes del refugio guatemalteco*, 2016

### ***M.A. thesis advisor***

Rogelio Córdova Nava, *Adictos y políticas públicas. La intervención planeada para la construcción de sujetos adictos en recuperación crónica*, 2013

### ***M.A. thesis reader***

Vladimir Caraballo Acuña, *Comerciar sin afiebrarse. Cronotopos, qualias y oposiciones en la formalización de la explotación y el comercio de esmeraldas en Colombia*, 2016

Germán Leyva Valdez, *El juego de los espejos. Representaciones de la indigeneidad yoreme en dos centros ceremoniales del norte de Sinaloa*, 2016

Adriana Aleyda Alas López, *La legitimidad de pertenecer. Fotografías y cicatrices en la narrativización del sufrimiento en la repoblación El Corralito de El Salvador (1980-2016)*, 2016

José Jaime Huerta Céspedes, *Interpelación y enfermedad emocional, los grupos de cuarto y quinto paso en la ciudad de Puebla*, 2013

Victoria Luna Velarde, *Anhelos y sacrificios de un público (no) lector. Proyectos de fomento de lectura en Zamora, Michoacán (1970-2013)*, 2013

Gustavo Eduardo Morales Rosales, *El trabajo de intermediación, la formación de clientelas políticas y la urbanización acelerada de la zona poniente de Ramos Arizpe, Coahuila*, 2013

Marisa Josefina Valadez Montes, *Valor y cambio local: el caso del pulque en Nanacamilpa, Tlaxcala (1940-1970)*, 2010

## EVENTS ORGANIZED

2015 *Crowds and Citizenries in Latin America*, workshop at the Institute of Latin American Studies, Columbia University, co-organized with Rafael Sánchez (Amsterdam University College)

2014 *La crisis: usos del concepto en el México contemporáneo*, panel at the III Congreso Mexicano de Antropología Social y Etnología, co-organized with Alejandra Leal (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México)

2013 *Crowds and Citizenries in Latin America*, invited double panel at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, co-organized with Rafael Sánchez (Amsterdam University College)

2012 *Las temporalidades de la amenaza*, panel at the II Congreso Nacional de Antropología Social y Etnología, Morelia, Mexico

2011 *Signs of the Fetish*, panel at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, co-organized with Andrew Graan

The Annual Colloquium of El Colegio de Michoacán, collectively organized under the direction of Eduardo Zárate

*Públicos de la criminalidad*, panel at the Annual Colloquium of El Colegio de Michoacán

*Violencias ilegibles*, panel at the Annual Colloquium of El Colegio de Michoacán

*El patrón: Deseo y exceso en la intermediación política*, panel at the Annual Colloquium of El Colegio de Michoacán

2010 *Commensuration Across Boundaries*, panel at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, co-organized with Joseph Hankins (University of California, San Diego)

2009 *Unlocatable Subjects*, panel at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, co-organized with Alejandra Leal (Columbia University)

## PRESENTATIONS

### *Invited Lectures*

2016 “Vea por última vez: el régimen escópico del cruce fronterizo en Tijuana,” at the Instituto de Ciencias Sociales y Humanidades, Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla

“*La Racha*: Speed and Violence in a Mexican Border City,” at the Department of Anthropology, Columbia University

2015 “Slippages of the ‘Mestizo’ at Mexico’s Northern Border,” at the Latino Studies Speaker Series, Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, Columbia University

“Three Types of Traffic in Tijuana,” at the Latin American Studies Seminar Series, University of Toronto

2011 “Mimicry at the Border,” at the Mexican Studies Seminar, University of Chicago

- 2010 “Citizenship and Passing at the Border: Jokes, Contraband, and the U.S. Visa in Tijuana, Mexico,” at the Latin American Institute, Freie Universität Berlin  
 “Visas, chistes y contrabando. Ritos de pasaje ciudadano en Tijuana, Baja California,” at the Centro de Estudios Antropológicos, El Colegio de Michoacán  
 “Citizenship and Passing at the Border: Jokes, Contraband, and the U.S. Visa in Tijuana, Mexico,” at the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies, University of California, San Diego
- 2009 “Two Publics in a Mexican Border City,” at the Department of Anthropology and the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, Columbia University, 2009
- 2007 “‘¡Váyase por el cerro!’: el público tijuanaense y la Línea Internacional,” at the Departamento de Estudios Culturales, El Colegio de la Frontera Norte

### ***Conference Presentations***

- 2017 “El tiempo como materia en el sistema de transporte público de Tijuana, México,” for the panel *La política de la materialidad y la materia de la política en América Latina* at the Congreso de la Asociación Latinoamericana de Antropología  
 “Exposure to Death: A Border Journalist Amidst Mexico’s ‘War on Drug-Trafficking,’” for the panel *Temporalities of Exposure: Publicity and Wear* at the annual meeting of the American Ethnological Society  
 “Representaciones de la violencia en Tijuana. Periodizaciones cotidianas y normalización de la matabilidad,” for the conference *La violencia y sus representaciones en México y Centroamérica*, El Colegio de Michoacán
- 2016 “Eating Time, Burnt By Time: Public Transit in Tijuana, Mexico,” for the panel *Residual Evidence/Evidence of the Residual* at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association  
 “Accidental Responsibility in Tijuana, Mexico,” for the conference *Crimescapes: Space, Law and the Making of Illegality in the Americas*, Center for Latin American Studies, University of Florida, Gainesville
- 2015 “Just In Time: From Factory to Street in Tijuana, Mexico,” for the panel *Qualia and Ontology: Language, Semiotics, and Materiality* at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association  
 “Sobre la posibilidad de imaginar una frontera abierta,” at the conference *Pueblo, sociedad civil, ciudadanía: historias, significados, transformaciones*, Centro de Investigaciones Interdisciplinarias en Ciencias y Humanidades, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México  
 “‘Pinche país de plástico’: el poder de la fachada en la frontera México-Estados Unidos,” for the invited panel *Coleccionar, compilar, copiar, piratear: etnografías sobre la producción, circulación y el consumo de imágenes y sonidos en Latinoamérica* at the III Congreso Latinoamericano y Caribeño de Ciencias Sociales, FLACSO-Ecuador  
 “On the Possibility of Imagining an Open Border in Tijuana, Mexico,” at the conference *Managing Borders: An Interdisciplinary Conference on American Immigration Marking the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965*, Columbia University
- 2014 “Mexico’s 1982 Devaluation According to *La Familia Burrón*: Narrative Fantasy Amidst Economic Crisis,” for the panel *Deeply Felt: Ethnography and Absence in a Time of Crisis* at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association

- “‘Crisis’ y ‘normalidad’ en Tijuana,” for the panel *La crisis: usos del concepto en el México contemporáneo*, at the III Congreso Mexicano de Antropología Social y Etnología
- “Representación lingüística y performatividad en la formación de públicos,” for the conference *Representación: Entendidos y Malentendidos*, by the Seminar on Performance Studies, El Colegio de Michoacán
- 2013 “Two Types of Traffic in Tijuana,” for the panel *Crowds and Citizenries in Latin America* at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association
- “Psychoanalysis and Literature in *The Children of Sánchez*,” at the conference *Oscar Lewis’ The Children of Sanchez: An Exemplary Ethnography Fifty Years Later*, Universidad Iberoamericana
- “Two Types of Traffic in Tijuana: Authorship and Accident,” at the Associates Conference of the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies, University of California, San Diego
- 2012 “Passing: *Indios, Mestizos, and Gringos* at the U.S.-Mexico Border,” at the conference *Globalization and the Production of Spaces*, Institute of Latin American Studies, Columbia University
- “‘La muerte’ en Tijuana,” for the panel *Las temporalidades de la amenaza*, at the II Congreso Nacional de Antropología Social y Etnología, Mexico
- “Deslices del ‘mestizo’ en la frontera norte,” at the conference *Mestizos, indígenas y extranjeros. Nuevas miradas sobre nación y alteridad en México*, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Unidad Cuajimalpa
- “Citizenship at the Border: Jokes, Contraband, and the U.S. Visa in Tijuana, Mexico,” at the conference *Rethinking Law and Legality: Critical Approaches to Law and Lawlessness in Latin America*, Program in Latin American Studies, Johns Hopkins University
- 2011 “Passing: Patrons, IDs, and Time-Travel at the U.S.-Mexico Border (Tijuana),” for the panel *Signs of the Fetish* at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association
- “‘El Pueblo’ en los (Narco)corridos,” for the panel *Públicos de la criminalidad* at the Annual Colloquium of the Colegio de Michoacán
- “La moneda falsa: Mauss y la Familia Burrón,” at the Seminario sobre Patrimonio, Instituto de Investigaciones Sociales, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
- 2010 “Currencies, Languages, and Commodities in a Mexican Border City,” for the panel *Commensuration Across Boundaries* at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association
- “Cartolandia to Línea: Image and Orientation at Mexico’s Northern Border,” for the panel *Life in the Margins: Image and Power in Spaces of Contestation* at the Latin American Studies Association Congress
- “‘El Pueblo’ en los (Narco)corridos,” for the conference *Media Spaces: Culture and Representation in Mexico*, by the International Research Training Group *Between Spaces: Movements, Actors and Representations of Globalisation*, Latin American Institute, Freie Universität Berlin
- 2009 “Jokes and Contraband at Mexico’s Northern Border,” for the panel *Un/locatable Subjects* at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association

- “Two Traffickers in Public,” at the conference *Crime, Insecurity, Fear in Mexico: Ethnographic and Policy Approaches: An Interdisciplinary Workshop*, Columbia University
- “Los límites de la interpelación del Estado: la entrevista para la visa láser en Tijuana,” for the panel *Migración y movilidad social* at the Primer Congreso Internacional de Ciudades Fronterizas, Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez
- “The Limits of State Interpellation at the U.S.-Mexico Border: The U.S. Laser Visa Interview,” at the conference *Borders and Boundaries*, Columbia University
- 2007 “The Limits of Authenticity?: The U.S. Laser Visa in Tijuana, Mexico,” for the panel *Performances of Authenticity: Politics of Difference* at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association

### **Workshop Presentations**

- 2017 “Three Types of Traffic in Tijuana,” at the Critical Anthropology Workshop, University of California, San Diego
- 2016 “*La Racha*: Speed and Violence in a Mexican Border City,” at the Studio for Ethnographic Design, University of California, San Diego
- 2015 “Three Types of Traffic in Tijuana,” at the seminar Tiempo y Política, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
- “Three Types of Traffic in Tijuana,” at the Universidad del Rosario (Colombia)
- “Three Types of Traffic in Tijuana,” at the seminar (Des)orden Urbano, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
- “Lawful and Lawless: The Middle Class versus the *Pueblo*,” at the Americas South Seminar, Columbia University
- “Three Types of Traffic in Tijuana” and “Introduction” (with Rafael Sánchez), at the workshop *Crowds and Citizenries in Latin America*, Institute of Latin American Studies, Columbia University
- 2010 “Traffickers in Public,” at the Linguistic Anthropology Workshop, University of California, San Diego (formal presentation and follow-up “data session”)
- 2009 “A Middle-Class Public on Mexico’s Northern Frontier,” at the Advanced Seminar *The Middle Classes: A Global Perspective*, School for Advanced Research

### **Discussant**

- 2014 *Building Territory: On the Ethnographic Rendering of Landscape and Infrastructure*, panel at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association
- 2011 Bianet Castellanos, “Transnacionalismo indígena: migración, turismo y modernidad en Cancún,” at the Seminario Permanente sobre Migración Internacional, El Colegio de Michoacán

### **COMMITTEE SERVICE**

- 2017 Selection committee, Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies, University of California, San Diego
- 2014 Academic Committee, III Congreso Mexicano de Antropología Social y Etnología

Seminar Committee (curricular reform of M.A. project seminar series), Centro de Estudios Antropológicos, El Colegio de Michoacán  
2012-2014 Departmental representative, Council for the Doctoral Program in Social Sciences, El Colegio de Michoacán

## **MANUSCRIPT REVIEW**

### ***Journals***

Alteridades (Mexico)  
American Ethnologist  
Boletín de Antropología (Colombia)  
Cultural Anthropology  
Current Anthropology  
Diario de Campo (Mexico)  
Íconos (Ecuador)  
Journal of Linguistic Anthropology  
Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute  
Mitologías Hoy (Spain)  
Political and Legal Anthropology Review

### ***Book***

Editorial Universitaria, Universidad Autónoma de Baja California

## **LANGUAGES**

English: native language  
Spanish: fluent  
French: reading proficiency  
Mandarin Chinese: intermediate skills

### ***Please request references from:***

Claudio Lomnitz, Professor, Department of Anthropology, Columbia University,  
cl2510@columbia.edu

Danilyn Rutherford, Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Cruz,  
druther1@ucsc.edu

Michael Silverstein, Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago,  
mslv@uchicago.edu