**James V. Mestaz**

**Department of History Residence**

**Claremont McKenna College 515 Harwood Place**

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**Academic Appointments**

2017-present Visiting Assistant Professor/Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of History

Claremont McKenna College

2016-2017 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History

University of Iowa

**Education**

2016 University of Illinois at Chicago

Ph.D., Department of History (Summa Cum Laude)

Dissertation Title: Fuerte River Histories and Ambivalent Mayo Modernity

in Mexico, 1926-1970

Focus: Environmental History

Dissertation Committee: Christopher Boyer (Chair and Advisor)

UIC: Joaquín Chávez, Javier Villa-Flores, John Monaghan (Anthropology)

Jeffrey Banister (University of Arizona)

University of Miami

2009 M.A. Latin American History (Cum Laude)

University of California, Los Angeles

1998 B.A. History/Specialization in Chicana/o Studies

**Fellowships**

2016 Dean’s Scholar Fellowship, UIC (Declined Offer)

(Awarded to 20 advanced PhD students at UIC)

2014 Marion S. Miller Dissertation Fellowship, UIC

(Awarded to two PhD candidates annually in the UIC History Department)

2012, 2013 UIC Chancellor’s Supplemental Research Fellowship

(To conduct Pre-Dissertation Research in Mexico)

2010, 2014 Abraham Lincoln Graduate Fellowship, UIC

(Two year recruitment award granted to a limited number of UIC graduate students

Covered First Year and One Year of Dissertation Research in Mexico)

**Works in Progress**

Fuerte River Histories and Ambivalent Mayo Modernity in Mexico, 1926-1970 (Manuscript)

Sweetness and Water Power: El SICAE Sugar Cooperative and Mayo Struggles for Water, 1938-1955 (Article)

**Teaching Experience**

Visiting Assistant Professor/Postdoctoral Fellow, Claremont McKenna College, Dept. of History, 2017-present

Latinx Immigration

The Mexican Revolution

Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Iowa, Department of History, 2016-2017

Mexican History

Modern Latin America

The Mexican Revolution

Latinx Immigration

Mexican American History

Teaching Assistant, Department of History, University of Illinois at Chicago, 2011-2016

History of Western Civilization

Latin American History

World History

Mexican History

Teaching Assistant, Department of History, University of Miami, 2001-2003

History of Western Civilization

History of the United States

**Invited Lectures**

2016 “The Russian Revolution,” UIC, History of Western Civilization

2015 “The Practice of Oral History toward the Completion of a Doctoral Dissertation,”

UIC, Politics and Revolution in Latin American and Caribbean History

2012 “The Fuerte River: Mayos, Modernization, and Technology,” UIC, Mexican History

2011 “Mayo and Yaqui Mobilization during the Mexican Revolution,”UIC, Mexican History

2002 “U.S. Imperialism and the Mexican-American War,” University of Miami, History of the U.S.

**Conference Presentations**

2016 “Sweetness and Water Power: El SICAE Sugar Cooperative and the Fracturing of Mayo

Communities, 1938-1955,” Conference on Latin American History, Atlanta, GA, Jan. 7-10.

2015 “Their Technology, Our Way: Mayo Uses of Fuerte River Infrastructure, 1926-1942,” Rocky

Mountain Council for Latin American Studies Conf., Univ. of AZ, Tucson, AZ, April 8-12.

2014 “Mayo Oral Histories on the Fuerte River, 1930-1970,” 12th International Conference on New

Directions in the Humanities, Universidad CEU San Pablo, Madrid, Spain, June 11-13.

2013 “Fuerte River Histories and Ambivalent Mayo Modernity,” Global Water Conference,

University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, April 12-13.

2013 “River Histories: Mayo Cultural Change and the Fuerte River,” Midwest Latin

American History Conference, Loyola University, Chicago, IL, January 26.

2012 “Our Truth is Our Struggle Yaqui and Mayo Utilization of the Mexican Revolution,”

Southwest Council of Latin American Studies Conference, Miami, FL, March 8-10.

2011 “Yaqui and Mayo Adaptability: Resistance and Survival During the Mexican Revolution,”

Loyola University History Conference, Chicago, IL, November 5.

2011 "Yaqui Resistance and the Mexican Revolution," Eyes on the Mosaic Graduate Student

Conference on Race, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, May 21.

**Honors and Travel Awards**

2015 Best Graduate Student Paper Award (in honor of Adrian Bantjes)

Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies Conference

2014 Graduate Scholar Award

12th International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities, Madrid, Spain

2012-2016 UIC Graduate Student Council Travel Award

2012-2016 UIC College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Ph.D. Student Travel Award

2012-2016 UIC Graduate Student Conference Presenter Award

2013, 2015 UIC History Department Graduate Travel Award

2011-2013 UIC History Department Doctoral Award (Enhanced Honorarium TAship)

2011 San Juan de Letras Society, Oaxaca Summer Institute (outstanding research paper)

2002-2004 University of Miami History Department Travel Award

2000 U.S. Student Delegate

Latin American and Caribbean Student Congress, Havana, Cuba

1999 Witness for Peace Delegate

(U.S. Delegate to Guatemala to monitor implementation of 1994 peace accords)

**Community Service/Related Work Experience**

2010 Conducted Information Seminars "How to Get Accepted to Graduate School"

UIC Academic Center for Excellence, U.S. Hispanic Leadership Institute Conference

2009-2010 Intern/Writer

Indigenous People’s Issues and Resources

1999-2000 Coordinator

Chicano/Latino Student Resource Center, California State University, Los Angeles

1999-2000 Volunteer Tutor

Chicano/Latino Student Resource Center, California State University, Los Angeles

1993-1996 Office Manager/Researcher

National Center for History in the Schools, Los Angeles, California

1994-1996 Mentor and Tutor for Inner-City Youth

Amigos del Barrio, Los Angeles, California

**Service**

2016-2017 League of United Latin American Citizens

2016-2017 University of Iowa Latino Council

2013-2016 Founding Member UIC Latina/o Graduate Student Association (Treasurer)

2011-2016 UIC Latino Cultural Center Ambassador Group

2010-2013 UIC Windy City History Conference Committee

2010-2016 UIC History Graduate Society

1995-1997 UCLA Movimiento Estudiantial Chicano de Aztlán

1994-1996 UCLA Latin American Student Association

1993-1998 Theta Delta Chi National Fraternity (UCLA Chapter)

**Professional Asssociations**

Conference on Latin American History

Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies

Southwest Council for Latin American Studies

**Foreign Languages**

Fluent in Spanish (reading, writing, conversation, translation)