

NATALI VALDEZ

CURRICULUM VITAE

Wellesley College
Women's and Gender Studies
106 Central Street
Wellesley, MA 02481

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2018- Present Assistant Professor, Wellesley College
Women's and Gender Studies Department
- 2016-2018 Postdoctoral Fellow, Rice University
Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality

EDUCATION

- 2016 PhD, Anthropology, University of California, Irvine
Dissertation Title: *Weighing the Future: An Ethnographic Examination of Epigenetics and Prenatal Interventions, United States and United Kingdom*
- 2011 MA, Anthropology, University of California, Irvine
Master's Project: *Growing Cities and Growing Bodies: The Development of Women as Food Citizens in Mexico City pre-and post-NAFTA*
- 2009 BA, Anthropology, University of Florida, Gainesville
Emphasis: Health Sciences/Pre-Med
Minor: Chemistry
McNair Research Thesis: *The Inter/Intra-Cultural Variation in Food Knowledge among Latinx Families*

FELLOWSHIP AWARDS AND GRANTS

- 2021-22 AAUW American Postdoctoral Fellowship
- 2020 New England Humanities Consortium Grant
Knapp/Newhouse Summer Fellow, Wellesley College
- 2019 Faculty Research Award, Wellesley College
ER&D, Wellesley College
Mauer Public Speaking Fellow, Wellesley College
- 2018 Women of Color Leadership Project, National Women's Studies Association

- 2017 Wenner-Gren Foundation – Conference/Workshop Grant
- 2016 Dynamic Woman Award, University of California, Irvine
Brocher Foundation, Switzerland, Residential Fellow
UCI Graduate Student Fellowship Award, Spring Quarter
UCI Anthropology Department Fellowship Award, Fall Quarter
- 2015 Eugene Cota-Robles Diversity Fellowship Grant
- 2014 FAPESP's São Paulo School of Advanced Sciences on Biotechnology,
Biosocialities and the Governance of Life Sciences, Research Fellow
Wenner-Gren Foundation – Dissertation Improvement Grant
- 2013 Diversity Educational Community and Doctoral Experience program, travel grant
- 2011-2014 National Science Foundation-Graduate Research Fellowship Program (NSF-GRFP)
- 2011 UCI Graduate Student Summer Funding
- 2010 UCI Department of Anthropology Summer Research Grant
- 2009 Eugene Cota-Robles Diversity Fellowship Grant
Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program Fellow

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

- 2019-2020 *Treasurer, Executive Board member*, National Women's Studies Association
2020-present *Editorial Board Member*, Feminist Anthropology Journal

PUBLICATIONS

Book

- 2022 *Weighing the Future: Race, Science, and Pregnancy Trials in the Postgenomic Era*. University of California Press.

Original Edited Collections:

- 2017-2019 *Co-Editor*, Medical Anthropology, special double issue, Vol 38 (7) and Vol 38 (8) (guest edited with Daisy Deomampo).

Peer Reviewed Articles

- 2021 “The Politics of Postgenomic Reproduction: Exploring Pregnant Narratives from Within a Clinical Trial” *Science, Technology, and Human Values*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/01622439211066759>.
- 2020 “Reproducing Whiteness: Race, Food, and Epigenetics.” *American Anthropologist*. 122(3): 668–69. <https://doi.org/10.1111/aman.13451>.
- 2020 Burnett, Diana, Megan A. Carney, Lauren Carruth, Sarah Chard, Maggie Dickinson, Alyshia Gálvez, Hanna Garth, **Natali Valdez**, et al. “Anthropologists Respond to The Lancet EAT Commission.” *Bionatura*. 5(1): 1023–24. <https://doi.org/10.21931/RB/2020.05.01.2>.
- 2019 Valdez, Natali and Daisy Deomampo, “Centering Race and Racism in Reproduction” *Medical Anthropology*. 38(7): 551-559.
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/01459740.2019.1643855>.
- 2019 “Improvising Race: Clinical Trials and Racial Classifications” *Medical Anthropology*. 38(8):635-650.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/01459740.2019.1642887>.
- 2018 “The Redistribution of Reproductive Responsibility: On the Epigenetics of “Environment” in Prenatal Interventions.” *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*. 32(3): 425-442. <https://doi-org.ezproxy.rice.edu/10.1111/maq.12424>.
- 2014 Courtney Simmons, Chris Anderson, **Natali Valdez**, Francisco Mardones, Ellen A Nohr, Lucilla Poston, Katherina Quack Loetscher, and Barbara Abrams. No global consensus: A cross-sectional survey of maternal weight policies. *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth*. 14(1): 167-168.

Articles Under Review:

“Duoethnography as Transformative Praxis: Conversations about Nourishment and Coercion in the COVID-era Academy” *Feminist Anthropology*

Essays and Commentaries

- 2020 Warin, Megan, and Natali Valdez. “#My(White)BodyMyChoice” in special online project: Living and Thinking Crisis by Thesis Eleven: critical theory and historical sociology journal. July 13, 2020.
<https://thesiseleven.com/2020/07/14/mywhitebodymychoice/>.

- 2019 "Epigenetics and Methodological Limits." Theorizing the Contemporary, *Fieldsights*, April 25. <https://culanth.org/fieldsights/epigenetics-and-methodological-limits>.
- 2017 "Pregnancy." Lydia Zacher-Dixon, **Natali Valdez**, and Michael Montoya. *Oxford Bibliographies* in Latino Studies.
- 2016 Nutritional Epigenetics and Prenatal Diets: "But I've been eating like this for years." Council on Reproduction and Anthropology newsletter. Nov 2016.
- 2015 Food, Fat, Fetus, and the Future: Histories of Weight Gain During Pregnancy in the US and UK. Society for Medical Anthropology, *Anthropology News*. May 2015.

Book Reviews

- 2021 "A Book Review of Adverse Events by Jill Fisher." *Journal of Cultural Economy*.
- 2018 "The Reproductive and Carceral Politics of Ambiguity: A review of Jailcare by Carolyn Sufrin." *Somatosphere*.
- 2015 "50 Great Myths of Human Sexuality by Pepper Schwartz and Martha Kempner." West Sussex, U.K. John Wiley and Sons, Inc.
- 2015 "A Review of the 2015 CfSS Report: The Business of People: The Significance of Social Science over the Next Decade." *Anthropology in Action*.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

2022

Weighing the Future, Critical Health and Humanities, Harvard University, Jan.

Book Salon, Five College Women's Studies Research Program, Jan.

Weighing the Future, Purdue University, Jan.

2021

Weighing the Future, Ohio State University, Dec.

Invited Speaker/reviewer/discussant for the Boston University Emerging Scholars Program, Nov.

- “Discussing Nourishing Transformation with Emily Yates-Doerr” Food Matters Conference, Carleton University and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Sept
- “Empirical Applications of Gender Analysis in Medicine, Science, and Technology.” COLEV research group in Bogota, Colombia. Aug.
- “BIPOC Women in Clinical Studies: A Feminist Perspective” Delta Research and Educational Foundation Research Matters for All of Us. April.
- 2020 “Weighing the Future” Social Science Environmental Health Research Institute. Northeastern University, Nov.
- “What counts as ‘the environment’ in epigenetics?” Technologies of Resistance: Towards Feminist Futures Symposium. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, July.
- “Prenatal Environments” University of Florida, April.
- “Pregnant Biobits: Matter, Time, and Speculative Value in Late Capitalism” Barnard College, Jan.
- 2019 “Biological Bits, Matter and Time: The Clinical Translation of Epigenetics in Prenatal Trials,” University of North Carolina, Chapel-Hill, March.
- 2017 “The Proliferation of Environments,” University of Oklahoma, Jan.
- 2016 “Nature, Nurture, and Nutrition: Conceiving the Environment through Epigenetics and Prenatal Interventions,” MCTS University of Munich, April.
- 2015 “Demystifying Graduate School, Theory and Praxis,” Women’s Gender and Sexuality at California State University, Long Beach, September.
- “Food, Fat, Fetus, and the Future: Ethnographic Examination of Two Clinical Trials,” Carol Mukhopadaya Feminist Lecture Series at San Jose State University, March.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2021 “The Afterbirth of Epigenetic Foreclosure” Black Feminist Health Science Studies conference, virtual.
- 2021 “[The Future] is composed of Nows” Relations of Care Across and After Worlds Conference. Virtual.

- 2020 Nutrire CO-Laboration workshop, New College, New York, New York. July 15-17, 2020
- Postponed Feminist Speculative Fiction workshop on Octavia Butler, Huntington Library, Pasadena, California. Original date, May 2020.
- 2020 “Concealing/Revealing Exposures from Within,” Society for Medical Anthropology, Havana Cuba, March.
- 2020 “Pregnant bio potentials,” workshop on Reproductive Technologies and Reproductive Justice, Harvey Mudd, California, Feb.
- 2019 “Improvising Race” Race and Biomedicine Beyond the Lab. King’s College London, Sept.
- “After/post/neo colonial hauntings” Critical University Studies and the Futures of Academic Feminism. UMass Amherst, May.
- “Epigenetics and Prenatal Trials” FrancoAmerican Assisted Reprotech Workshop, Paris, Fr., June.
- “De-centering Pregnant Bodies in Chronic Illness discourse.” Chronic Disaster: Reimagining diet-related disease as structural violence, Workshop, Providence RI., April.
- “Environments Speak Back: Pregnant Narratives in Prenatal Interventions.” Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Boston, Ma., March.
- “Facts and Fictions about Race and the Biomedicalized Body.” Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Discussant, Boston, Ma., March.
- 2018 “‘Filthy’ Human/Nonhuman relations in the Human Microbiome Project.” National Women’s Studies Association Conference, Atlanta, Ga., Nov.
- “The (Re)production of Obesity: How Epigenetics Changed the Etiology of Obesity During Pregnancy.” American Anthropology Associations Annual Meeting, San Jose, Ca., Nov.
- “Reproductive Potentials.” Remaking Reproduction Conference, University of Cambridge, June 27-29.
- “Biological Bits, Matter, and Time.” Cold Storage: Time Temperature and Transit Workshop, Five College Women’s Studies Research Center, May 4-5.

- “Conceivable Comparisons: Epigenetics and Prenatal Trials,” Interpreting Assisted Reproductive Technologies in France and the USA, New York University, April 11-12.
- “Race and Reproduction at the Intersections of Medicine, Science, and Technology,” Wenner-Gren Workshop, (Co-Organizer and presenter) Fordham University, February 14-16.
- 2016 “Situated Meanings of ‘Good’ Care and Science Worth Doing,” 4S/EASST, Spain, September.
- “Race and Reproduction,” American Anthropology Association Meeting, Awarded Executive Panel, Nov.
- “Experimenting with cultures of biomedical interventions: making the familiar strange.” American Anthropological Association Meeting, (Discussant), November.
- “Weighing the Future: Epigenetic Paradigms in Clinical trial interventions during pregnancy,” American Anthropology Association Meeting, Awarded selected Honor from the American Association of Feminist Anthropology, Nov.
- “Anticipating Aftermaths: Obesity and the fetal/maternal relationship,” Society for North American Anthropology Meeting, (Co-Organizer, Chair, and Presenter), San Francisco, Ca., April.
- 2014 “The Clinical Trial: site, space, and method of knowledge production,” Annual Anthropology Association Meeting, Nov.
- “Anticipating the (Re)production of Obesity,” FAPESP’s São Paulo School of Advanced Sciences on Biotechnology Conference, Aug.
- “Dissecting an Intervention,” Risk, Embodiment, and Health Conference, University of College London June.
- 2013 “Negotiating Standards: Challenges to Taxonomy and Translation in Behavioral Interventions,” Society for Sociology of Science Studies Conference, Oct.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2021 COLEV, Bogota, Colombia, research collaborator, Universidad de los Andes
- 2020 A Journal of a Plague Year: COVID-19 Digital Archive Course Modules,

- Co-PI, with Victoria Cain, Northeastern University Humanities Center
- 2018-2020 Human Microbiome Project, ELSI grant project, United States
Ethnographer and co-author with research group based at the University of Houston, Texas
- 2014 “StandUP trial” Department of Women’s Health, United Kingdom
Ethnographer on a multi-sited randomized clinical trial
- 2013 “SmartStart trial” Department of Kinesiology, United States
Ethnographer, nutritional counselor, and volunteer staff member on multi-sited randomized clinical trial
- 2012 Co-Principal Investigator, with Lillian Sie, “A Nuanced Examination of Acculturation and Obesity among Mexican and Mexican-American Women: Using National Health and Nutrition Survey Data from 2005- 2008.” School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley
- 2007- 2009 University of Florida, Department of Health Psychology
Staff member and community liaison of the Family Health and Self-Empowerment Project
- 2006- 2007 University of Florida, Department of Anthropology
Co-ethnographer and research assistant on the international project titled, “The effects of a Western-Biomedical Clinic on the practices of traditional healers in an indigenous area in Mexico”
- 2005- 2006 Florida Atlantic University, Department of Microbiology
Research assistant at a microbiology laboratory specializing in plasmid cloning and anti-aging proteomics

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2020-2021 *Panelist*, NSF Science and Technology Review Panel
- 2019-2021 *Participant*, Women of Color in the Academy Conference. Northeastern, March.
- Participant*, Faculty of Color Working Group Symposium. Wheaton College, May.
- Participant*, New England Consortium of Latina/o Studies Conference, Oct.
- 2014- 2019 *Contributing Impact Editor* and Reviewer for *Anthropology in Action*.

2014-2017 *Co-founder* with Risa Cromer, Dana Ain Davis, Daisy Deomampo, Nessette Falu Race and Reproductivities Working Group.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, Wellesley College

2018-Present Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies
The Body: Across Medicine, Science and Public Health
Race, Gender and Science: Feminist Science Studies
Feminist Ethnography

Instructor, Rice University

2016-2018 Seminar and Practicum, Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality
Gender and Science, Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality

Instructor, University of California, Irvine

2015 Woman and the Body, Department of Anthropology

Instructor, California State University, Long Beach

2015 Gender, Race, Sexuality, and the Body, Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Irvine

2010-2011 Introduction to Chicano Studies, Department of Chicano and Latino Studies
Global Cultures, Department of Anthropology
Medical Anthropology, Department of Anthropology

Teaching Assistant, University of Florida, Gainesville

2008 Analytical Chemistry Lab, Department of Chemistry

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2019-present
- Committee on International Study Abroad Program, Wellesley College
 - Domna Stanton Lecture Committee, Wellesley College
 - Cultural Events Committee, Wellesley College
 - Major Adviser*, Anto Chavez Alfonso, Asya Kibko, Rachel Korkodilos, Ella Matticks, Ji Sun Jeon, Meg Bolan, Oliva Gorman, Natalia Reynoso, Evelyn Ruiz, Zaria Bunn, Claire Devine
 - Minor Adviser*, Krista Dong, Mar Barrera, Omwega Marglucy
 - Thesis Committee Member*, Sophia Adelson, Ana Zeghibe
- 2018
- Mentor*, Mellon Mayes Program, Wellesley College
 - Participant*, Latinx New Student Retreat, Wellesley College
 - Member*, Faculty of Color working group at Wellesley College
 - Organizer*, NCFDD Faculty Research Support, Wellesley College
 - Organizer*, 11th Annual Graduate Symposium: Exploring the Making/Unmaking of Borders. Rice University, April 21.
 - Co-PI* with David Cirillo, “Gender Identity and Detainment: Transgender-Specific Issues in Texan Immigration Detention,” Rice University.
 - Co-PI* with Brooke English, “Determining Access to Anti-Discrimination Policies in Community Colleges” Rice University
 - Co-PI* with Katie Lobodzinski, “Imagining LGBTQ Cultural Competence In Psychiatry.” Rice University
 - Co-PI* with Elana Margosis, “Evaluating Assessment Methods of a Middle School Health Curriculum used by Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast” Rice University
 - Co-PI* with Katie Webber, “LGBT Inclusion and Identity in Jewish Community” Rice University
- 2017
- Organizer*, Feminist Theory Faculty Group, Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, Rice University
 - Organizer*, 10th Annual Graduate Symposium: Environment, Space, Bodies.

Rice University, April 21

Co-PI with Meredith Glaubach, “Last Organic Outpost: Opportunities and Challenges Experienced by African Immigrant Women in Urban Farms,” Rice University

Co-PI with Camila Kennedy, “Understanding Information Barriers to Legal Resources Among Immigrant Women in Houston,” Rice University.

Co-PI with Olivia Lee, “Barriers to Healthcare in the Texas Transgender Community,” Rice University.

Co-PI with Kevin Armstrong, “Performance, Art, and Community Healing,” Rice University.

Co-PI with Zara Khan, “Young Women’s Perspectives on Sex and Social Welfare,” Rice University.

2012- 2016 *Mentor*, Diversity Educational Community and Doctoral Experience program (DECADE)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Anthropological Association
Society for Medical Anthropology
Association for Feminist Anthropology
National Women’s Studies Association
Society for Social Studies of Science

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND OUTREACH

2016-2018 Organizer for Faculty of Color Advancement Program, Houston, Texas
2013- 2016 Community Mentoring for Women from Underrepresented Backgrounds, Los, Angeles, California

LANGUAGES

Fluent in spoken Spanish, proficient in written Spanish