

**Denise Meda-Lambru**  
University of North Texas  
Department of Philosophy and Religion

Areas of Specialization: Latin American Philosophy, Latinx Philosophy, Latina/x Feminisms, Chicana/x Philosophy, Social and Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Death

Areas of Competence: Feminist Philosophy, Decolonial Theory, Aesthetics, American Pragmatism

## **Academic Position**

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of North Texas                      Current

## **Education**

PhD    Texas A&M University, Philosophy                      August 2024

Interdisciplinary Graduate Certificates:  
Latina/o/x Mexican American Studies, Department of Sociology  
Women and Gender Studies, Department of Sociology

MA    San Jose State University, Philosophy                      May 2012

BA    University of San Diego, Philosophy and Spanish                      May 2009

## **Publications**

### *Peer Reviewed Articles*

“A Unique Response to Death: Day of the Dead Fiestas and Communal Articulations of Resistance,”  
*The Pluralist*, Volume 19, No. 1, Spring 2024.

“Chicana/x Aesthetic Expressions of Resistance: Making Art and Spirit through Altars and Writing,”  
*Journal of World Philosophies*, Volume 8, Issue 1, 2023.  
<https://scholarworks.iu.edu/iupjournals/index.php/jwp/article/view/6323>

“Decolonial Movidas: María Lugones’s Notion of Decolonial Aesthetics Through Cosmologies,” *The Pluralist*, Vol. 18, No. 1, Spring 2023: 22-31. DOI: [10.5406/pluralist.18.1.03](https://doi.org/10.5406/pluralist.18.1.03)

“Cosmologies, Ritual, and Resistance: An Exploration of María Lugones’ Decolonial Aesthetics and Coalitional Movidas,” *Inter-American Journal of Philosophy*, Volume 13, Issue 1, Spring 2022.  
<https://ijp.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/9-Denise-Meda-Calderon.pdf>

### *Book Chapters*

“Latin American Philosophy, U.S. Latinx Philosophy, and Anglo-American Pragmatism”,  
Co-authored with Andrea J. Pitts, *Routledge Handbook of Pragmatism*. January 2023.

### *Book Reviews*

“*Toppling the Melting Pot: Immigration and Multiculturalism in American Pragmatism*.” *The Pluralist*. Vol. 14, No. 2, Summer 2019: 121-126. DOI: [10.5406/pluralist.14.2.0121](https://doi.org/10.5406/pluralist.14.2.0121)

“Soul-Searching, Scribbling, and Finding Your Power: The Value of Testimonio.” *Pushed Out. Journal of Latinos in Education*, DOI: [10.1080/15348431.2019.1612403](https://doi.org/10.1080/15348431.2019.1612403)

## Invited Lectures and Presentations

Invited Speaker: “Adorning Día de los Muertos Altars: A Talk on Altar Offerings and a Paper Flower Making Workshop,” Latino/Mexican American Studies Program, University of North Texas, Denton, TX, November 1, 2024

Invited Speaker: “Honoring the Dead: A Discussion of Día de los Muertos Commemorations and Altar Offerings,” Latinx Faculty & Staff Association, Baylor University, Baylor, TX October 26, 2023

Guest Lecturer: “Chicana Spiritualities and Altars: Theorizing Aesthetic Resistance in Community Practices,” Texas A&M University, Department of Performance Studies (PERF 611, Graduate level course), College Station, TX, November 17, 2022

Invited Speaker: “Connecting with the Dead: An Examination of Day of the Dead Altars as Aesthetics Practices of Resistance,” The Wolfe Institute for the Humanities, Brooklyn College, Department of Philosophy, Brooklyn, NY, October 18, 2022

Invited Speaker: “Movidas Filosóficas: A Brief Reflection on Latinx Philosophy,” *Showing Trajectory Lecture Series*, Texas A&M University, Department of Communication, College Station, Texas, October 13, 2020

Invited Speaker: “Showing Up for Community: Localized Support for Our Immigrant and Refugee Community Members,” *Immigration Week: An Uncertain Border*, Texas A&M University, February 25, 2020

Guest Lecturer: “Beyond the Melting Pot: Race, Migration, and Memory,” Texas A&M University, Latino/a and Mexican-American Studies, College Station, TX, January 28, 2020

Invited Speaker: “Keeping Memory Alive: An Exploration of Re-membering through Days of the Dead Celebrations,” *David K. Carter Lecture Series in Philosophy*, South Texas College, Philosophy Department, McAllen, TX, November 21, 2019

Invited Panelist: “Family Separations Along the Southern Border,” *Hispanic President’s Council Town Hall*, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX, September 26, 2018

## Conference Presentations

“Dual Processes of Chicanx Aesthetic Expressions: Disruptions and Communal Creations,” *American Society for Aesthetics* (Rocky Mountain Division), Santa Fe, NM, July 2023

Refereed Paper: “A Unique Response to Death: Day of the Dead Fiestas and Communal Articulations of Resistance,” *Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy*, Rollins College, Denver, CO, March 2023

“Buried in the Brown: Processes of Invisibilizing Blackness in Projects of Mexicanidad,” *American Philosophy Association* (Pacific Division), Vancouver, BC, April 2022

Refereed Paper: "Decolonial Movidas: María Lugones' Notion of Decolonial Aesthetics Through Cosmologies," *Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy*, Rollins College, Orlando, FL, March 2022

"Chicanx Aesthetics and the Art of Making Spirit through Ritual," *Southeast Roundtable on Philosophy of the Americas*, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, NC, October 2021

"Transborder Communitality: A Chicanx Investigation of the Aesthetic and Ethical Responses to Re-Member our Dead," *Dissertation-In Progress panel- Summer Institute in American Philosophy*, via Zoom, June 2021

"Chicana Aesthetics and the Art of Making Spirit through Ritual," *Latinx Scholarship and Creativity Symposium*, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX, May 2021

"Keeping Memory Alive: Re-membering through Days of the Dead Celebrations," *Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy*, San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato, Mexico, March 2020

"Remembering Our Selves Together: An Examination of Self Hood and Collective Memory within Latinx Communities," *Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy*, Columbus, Ohio, March 2019

"Buried in the Brown: African Roots Producing Fruits of *Mexicanidad*," *Latina/x Feminisms Roundtable*, Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA, September 2018

"A Close Examination of Saidiya Hartman's: "Redressing the Pained Body," *Feminist Decolonial Politics Workshop*, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, NC, May 2018

"Latin American Feminist Philosophy: Distinct Voices on Cultural Identity and Social Justice," *American Philosophy Association (Eastern Division)*, Savannah, GA, January 2018

"*La Mexicana* and Lived Experience: Revisiting *La Malinche* and Mexicana Selfhood," *philoSOPHIA: A Feminist Society*, Florida Atlantic University, March 2017

## **Fellowships, Grants, Awards**

*Glasscock Graduate Residential Fellowship*, Glasscock Center for Humanities, Texas A&M, Spring 2024

(Awarded to advanced doctoral students to support the completion of their dissertation, \$11,000 plus cost of tuition and insurance benefits)

*Douglas Greenlee Prize*, Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Annual Conference, Rollins College, March 2023

(Awarded to the best paper by either a graduate student or a person holding a Ph.D. for no more than five years)

*Louisville Institute Dissertation Fellowship*, Louisville Institute, 2022-2023

(Granted to outstanding Ph.D. students engaged in research pertaining to religion and social issues with the potential to generate new knowledge, \$25,000)

*The Graduate Recruitment, Enhancement, and Travel Program Award*, Graduate and Professional Studies, Texas A&M University, 2022-2023

(Awarded to high-achieving doctoral students and designed to elevate Texas A&M's recruitment of graduate and professional education, \$12,500)

*Douglas Greenlee Prize*, Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Annual Conference, Rollins College, March 2022

(Awarded to the best paper by either a graduate student or a person holding a Ph.D. for no more than five years)

*RESI/Cantu Graduate Research in Latinx Studies Fellowship*, Race and Ethnicity Studies Institute and the Carlos H. Cantu Education and Opportunity Endowment, Texas A&M University, 2021-2022

(The RESI-Cantu Graduate Fellowship is a year-long fellowship awarded annually to one Ph.D. level student at Texas A&M University whose research contributes to the field of Latinx studies and/or analyses of race, ethnicity, sexuality, and gender, \$10,000)

*Glasscock Graduate Research Fellowship*, Melbern G. Glasscock Center for Humanities Research, Texas A&M University, 2021-2022

*Graduate Student Research and Presentation Travel Award*, Office of Graduate and Professional Studies, Texas A&M University, 2019

*Lechner Graduate Grant*, Department of Philosophy, Texas A&M University, 2017

*Hypatia Diversity Project Grant*, 2017

## Research Experience

“The Mexican Reintegration Project,” Dr. Sonia Hernandez and Dr. Nancy Plankey-Videla, Texas A&M University, Fall 2019-Summer 2023

## Academic Teaching Experience

University of North Texas

Social and Political Philosophy

Spring 2025

Feminism

Spring 2025

Latin American Philosophy

Fall 2024

Texas A&M University

Latin American Philosophy

Fall 2023, Spring 2022

Contemporary Moral Issues

Summer 2022, Summer 2021, Spring 2021 (online), Summer 2018

Engineering Ethics (online)

Summer 2020

Southern Arkansas University

Introduction to Philosophy and Ethics (online)

Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019, Fall 2018

Mount Saint Mary's University

Moral Values/Ethical Decision

Spring 2017, Fall 2016, Spring 2015

Introduction to Philosophy through Culture

Spring 2017, Fall 2016, Spring 2015

Critical Thinking

Spring 2017, Fall 2016, Spring 2015, Fall 2014

Los Angeles Community College

Introduction to Philosophy

Summer 2016

Ethics

Summer 2015, 2014

California State University, Fullerton

Introduction to Moral Philosophy  
Critical Thinking

Spring 2014  
Fall 2013

California State University, Northridge

Introduction to Philosophy  
Business Ethics

Fall 2012  
Fall 2012

### **Service to the Profession**

Conference Co-organizer, *Latina/x Feminisms Roundtable*, Conference Theme: *Disorderly Aesthetics: Translocal Art and Communities*, April 2025

Committee Member, *APA Hispanic/Latinx Issues Newsletter*, August 2022- Current

Roundtable Participant, *SoCal Pragmatist Forum*, September 16, 2023

Convener, *La Colectiva Académica Working Group*, 2020-2024

Abstract Reviewer, *Scholars Circle*, Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, November 2021

Editorial Assistant, *The Inter-American Journal of Philosophy*, September 2017-Spring 2020

Convener, *Latinx Studies Working Group*, 2019-2020

Conference Host, *Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy*, Conference Theme: "Inter-American Philosophy," March 2020, San Miguel de Allende, Mexico

### **Membership in Learned Societies and Professional Organizations**

*Society of Mexican American Philosophy*

*Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy*

*American Philosophy Association*

*American Society for Aesthetics*

### **Language Skills**

English- Fluent speaker and fluent writer

Spanish- Fluent speaker, proficient writer, and reader