

Dr. Manuel “Manny” Grajales

Department of History
University of North Texas
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CURRENT APPOINTMENT

2022- Lecturer, Department of History, University of North Texas (Denton, Texas)
Latina/o and Mexican American Studies Affiliate Faculty

EDUCATION

2022 PhD History, Texas A&M University, College Station Texas
Dissertation Title: *Our Fight is Here: The Puerto Rican Anti-War Movement, 1940-1973*

2015 M.A. History, Texas A&M University-Commerce (now East Texas A&M University), Commerce, Texas
Thesis Title: *Transnational Freedom Movements: A History of the American League for Puerto Rico Independence, 1944-1950*

2012 B.A. History, Texas A&M University-Commerce (now East Texas A&M University, Commerce, Texas)

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2019-2022 Team Leader/Writing Consultant, Texas A&M University Writing Center, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

2019-2021 Adjunct Faculty, Department of History, Lone Star College System, CyFair Campus, Cypress, Texas

2019-2020 Graduate Assistant Lecturer (Instructor of Record), Department of History, Texas A&M University

2015-2019 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of History, Texas A&M University

2013-2015 Graduate Teaching Assistant (Instructor of Record), Department of History, Texas A&M University-Commerce

2012-2013 Graduate Assistant, Department of History, Texas A&M University-Commerce

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

United States History (teaching: Survey courses for 1st and 2nd half); 20th Century U.S. Social and Cultural History; Latinx History; Puerto Rican Studies; Transnational Political/Social/Religious Movements; Comparative Civil Rights; Migration and Diaspora; Modern Latin America; Anti-war, Peace, and Anti-Militarism; Historical Depictions in Video Games; Sports, Politics, and Popular Culture.

PUBLICATIONS

ARTICLES (PEER REVIEWED JOURNALS)

2025 “Crafting Identity and Belonging through Resistance: Puerto Rican Soldiers and Draftees during the Vietnam War, 1964-1968.” *Cultural and Social History Journal*, 22, no. 3 (2025), 409-431

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2026 Review of *Insurgent Politics in the Lone Star State: Remembering the Antiwar Movement in Austin, Texas, 1967-1973* by Martin J. Murray. *Journal for Texas History* June 2026, 2 (1): 121-124.
- 2026 Review of *The Politics of Care Work: Puerto Rican Women Organizing for Social Justice* by Emma Amador. *Hispanic American Historical Review* (February 2026) 106 (1): 167–168.
- 2025 Review of *Radical Solidarity: Ruth Reynolds, Political Alchemy, and the Battle for Puerto Rico's Independence* by Lisa Masterson. H-Caribbean, H-Net Review, Commissioned by Professor Aaron Coy Molton, September 2025 (<https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=61868>)
- 2024 Review of *Puerto Rico: A National History* by Jorell Meléndez-Badillo. H-Caribbean, H-Net Review, Commissioned by Professor Aaron Coy Molton, June 2024 (<https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=60651>)
- 2020 Review of *Solidarity under Siege: The Salvadoran Labor Movement, 1970-1990* by Jeffrey L. Gould. H-LatAm, H-Net Review, Commissioned by Professor Casey M. Lurtz, April 2020

PEER REVIEWED ENCYCLOPEDIC ENTRIES

- 2018 “Alva Jo ‘Tex’ Fischer.” Handbook of Texas Online
<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/ffisc>
(Entry is also part of San Antonio: 300 Years of History, ebook, Texas State Historical Association)
- 2018 “Ruth Elizabeth ‘Tex’ Lessing.” Handbook of Texas Online
<https://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fless>
- 2018 “Emily Marie ‘Red’ Mahoney.” Handbook of Texas Online
<https://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fmahoe>

CONTRIBUTION TO ACADEMIC READER

- 2025 Headnote for Chapter 26, Post War Affluence. *Containing Multitudes: A Documentary Reader of US History since 1865* (co-edited by Wesley Phelps and Jennifer Jensen Wallach), University of Arkansas Press.

WORKS IN PREPARATION

- Manuscript (Preliminary Title) *Resistance through Conviction: Puerto Rican Belonging and War Resistance from World War II to Vietnam*.
- Book chapter (Preliminary Title) “This is MY history and I have a place within it”: Latinx student engagement in History and Culture through project-based learning.” For *The American Research Handbook on Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion: Hispanic/Latinx Experience* (proposal accepted)
- Book Review Review of Aurora Santiago Ortiz and Jorell A. Meléndez-Badillo, eds. *Interrogating the Future of Puerto Rican Studies*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2026 (*Hispanic American Historical Review*, Submitted and scheduled to publish February 2027)
- Book Review Review of *Cold War Puerto Rico: Anti-Communism in Washington's Caribbean Colony*. By Steve Howell. Boston: University of Massachusetts Press, 2026 (Submitted and under review, *Journal of Military History*)
- Book Review Review of *Borders of Care: Immigrants, Migrants, and the Fight for Health Care in the United States*. By Beatrix Hoffman. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2025 (submitted)
- Article *Debating “Acceptable” Participation and Dissent: Puerto Rican Independence, The U.S. Peace Movement, and Military Service during World War II*

- Book Review Review of *Making the Immigrant Soldier: How Race, Ethnicity, Class, and Gender Intersect in the US Military* by Cristina-Ioana Dragomir. *New Mexico Historical Review* (Submitted and Under Review)
- Book Review Review of *Sanctuary People: Faith-Based Organizing in Latina/o Communities* by Gina M. Pérez. *Diálogo* (Submitted and under review)
- Article (Preliminary Title) *Defender of the Damned: Civil Rights lawyer Conrad J. Lynn and Solidarity with Puerto Rico's Independence Movement*

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

External Grants and Fellowships

- 2024-2025** Margaret W. Moore and John M. Moore Research Fellowship (Awarded \$3,000 for two weeks of research, granted June 2024)
- 2021-2022** Louisville Institute Dissertation Fellowship (\$25,000 to complete dissertation on spiritual/religious life in North America)

Internal/University Grants and Fellowships

- 2025** UNT Department of History, Summer Conference Grant (Awarded \$2400)
- 2025** UNT Department of History Research Grant (Awarded \$700)
- 2025** UNT Department of History Small Travel Grant-Conference (Awarded \$400)
- 2017-2022** Carlos H. Cantú Hispanic Education and Opportunity Endowment Graduate Fellow, Texas A&M University
- Roles included:* Assisted Coordinator with logistics, organization, and promotion of the Latinx Lecture Series
- Coordinated with History Department Office Administration and Student organizations concerning contracts, venue, catering, and promotion of speaker events

SELECT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS/WORKSHOPS (Peer Reviewed)

- 2026** Presented "This is Not Our Army": Latino Draftee and Soldier Vietnam War Resistance" Latina/o Studies Association Conference, March 26-29, 2026. Thompson Conference Center at the University of Texas, Austin, Texas
- 2026** Presented "History through Popular Culture: Mexican American History and Student based learning through Popular Culture" on panel "Mexican American Resilience and Resurgence Through Media and Popular Culture Analysis and Pedagogy (with Dr. Anthony Ramirez, Panel Co-organizer)." National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies Tejas Foco, February 2026, University of Houston-Downtown, Houston, Texas
- 2025** Presented "Conscientious Resistance: Puerto Rican Soldiers and Draftees Resistance to the Vietnam War." Social History Society 49th Annual Conference, July 7 through 9, 2025, Black County Living Museum, Dudley, Birmingham, United Kingdom
- 2025** Presented "Toward a New Latino Military History: Mapping the Contours and Expanding its Horizons. National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies Tejas Foco, March 2025, Lubbock, Texas
- 2024** Presented "'...The First War I knew was against the poverty of Spanish Harlem': Puerto Rican Soldier appeals to Identity and conviction against the Vietnam War." Dallas Area Society of Historians (DASH), Dallas, TX (Virtual)

- 2022** “An Anti-War Consciousness: Black and Puerto Rican Collaboration against U.S. Wars and the Draft, 1940-1968.” 2nd Latinx Creativity and Scholarship Symposium, April 2022, Texas A&M University (Virtual)
- 2021** "Faith, Anti-Draft Activism, and Nationalism: The Complexity of Draft Resistance in the US and Puerto Rico." *1st Latinx Creativity and Scholarship Symposium*, April 2021, Texas A&M University (Virtual)
- 2021** “Resistance to the Good War: The Case of Julio Pinto Gandia and Puerto Rican Anti-War Expression during World War II,” *Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies*, 68th Meeting, (Virtual)
- 2017** “To Liberate our own Nation”: Puerto Rican Independence Activists Debate War Effort Participation during World War II,” *Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies* 64th Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah
- 2015** “Transnational Freedom Networks: The Puerto Rican Nationalist Party’s Outreach to Establish Activist Networks, 1930-1950,” *Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies* 62nd Annual Meeting, Tucson, Arizona
- 2014** “Ruth Elizabeth “Tex” Lessing and the Baseball Hall of Fame,” “The Texas Women’s History is U.S. Women’s History Project-Adding more Women to the Handbook of Texas Online.” *East Texas Historical Association* Spring 2014 Program, Emory, Texas

TEACHING

COURSES BEING PREPARED/CONCEPTUALIZED FOR 2026 to 2028

- (Tentative Title) Latinoamérica: Diaspora and Identity
- Tentative Video Games Class
- Sports, Politics, and Culture

COURSES TAUGHT AND DESIGNED

- HIST 3010: History through Video Games
- HIST 3080: 20th Century United States Anti-War Movements
- HIST 3150: The Historical and Cultural Development of the Mexican American Community
- HIST 3160: Latinx Civil Rights Movements
- United States History to 1865/1877 (at UNT: HIST 2610; at Texas A&M-Commerce: HIST 1301)
- United States History since 1865/1877 (at UNT: HIST 2620; at TAMUC and Lone Star College: HIST 1302; at TAMU: HIST 106)

STUDENT ADVISING

GRADUATE ADVISING: UNT

- 2023-2024** Member of Master’s Committee for Mr. Colton Campbell, Department of History, University of North Texas (Graduated May, 2024)

UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING: UNT

- 2026-2027** Advisor, Capstone Research Project, Jasmine Flores, Political Science/Latino/Latin American Studies (Summer 2026)
- 2026-2027** Advisor, Capstone Research Project, Alejandro “AJ” Pérez, Latino/Latin American Studies Major (Pending)
- 2026-2027** Advisor, Capstone Research Project, Jasmine Flores, Political Science/Latino/Latin American Studies (Fall 2026)

AWARDS AND HONORS

AWARDS AND HONORS FOR TEACHING

2024-2025 Outstanding Teaching Award by Department of History, University of North Texas

SERVICE

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

EDITORIAL AND OTHER WORKS

2024- Consultant Editor and Advisor Board Member. *Latin American Histories in the United States* Module. Adam Matthew Digital Limited, London, England, United Kingdom.

ANONYMOUS REVIEWER

2026 Oxford Bibliographies, Latino Studies (pending)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2023 UNT Department of History Representative, American Historical Association (AHA) Teaching Introductory Courses Conference, Baylor University, Waco Texas

2019 Voces Oral History Summer Research Institute, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

SELECTED CONFERENCE PANEL COMMENTER/CHAIR, LOCAL (Representing UNT)

2023 Panel Chair, "Revolutionary Ideals and Nationalism," World History of Texas (WHAT) Conference, Texas A&M University Commerce, Commerce, Texas, February 25, 2023

INTERNSHIPS

2014 Archival Intern, Velma K. Waters (Formerly James G. Gee) Library Special Collections, Texas A&M University-Commerce (Now East Texas A&M University)

- Assisted Archivist in the processing & organization of the J. Mason Brewer Archival Collection.
- Created the Finding Aid for the Collection, including the addition of a biographical section:
<https://archives.etamu.edu/repositories/2/resources/57>

CONFERENCE PROGRAM COMMITTEE (at Texas A&M University)

2016-2017 Co-Organizer, 8th Annual Texas A&M University History Graduate Student Organization/Phi Alpha Theta Graduate Conference, Texas A&M University

2016-2017 Conference Program Committee Member, National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies (NAACS) Tejas Foco 2017 Conference, College Station, Texas

RESEARCH AFFILIATE

2019 Hired Researcher, Dr. Cynthia Orozco (Eastern New Mexico University). Cushing Library, Texas A&M University

2016 Summer Contract Researcher, Handbook of Texas Women Project

SELECTED CONFERENCE PANEL COMMENTER/CHAIR, LOCAL (Representing Texas A&M)

2022 12th Annual Texas A&M University History Conference, Texas A&M University

Panel Chair, "Post World War II Activism in Latinx Communities"

Panel Chair, "The Impact of Immigration and Migration on Communities"

2020 11th Annual Texas A&M History Conference

- Panel Commenter*, “Political and Social Clashes in the 20th Century”
- 2019** 10th Annual Texas A&M History Conference: Resistance in Retrospect
Panel Commenter, “New Paths of Remembering Identity: Food, Murals, Rodeos, and Ghost Stories”
Panel Chair, “Fascism as Making Modern Europe” and “From Baghdad to Detroit: The Palestinian Resistance, Anti-Imperialism Movement, and the Islamic State”
- 2017** National Association for Chicana and Chicano Scholars (NACCS) Tejas Foco 2017 Conference, College Station, TX
 Panel Chair, “Repatriation, Expulsions, and Activism: The Cycle of US Immigration and Education”

UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE, AND DEPARTMENT SERVICE (*University of North Texas*)

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Advising

- 2023-** Undergraduate Faculty Advisor for the History Department
2022- Faculty Advisor, Mexican American Studies Minor

Committees

- 2023-** Ex-officio member, Undergraduate Committee
2022- Mexican American History Committee
 Member (2022)
 Chair/Co-Chair (2022-current)
2024-2025 Professional Faculty Taskforce, Member
2022-2025 Native American History Committee, Member
2024 Revision of Guidelines Committee, Non-Tenure Track Member
2023-2024 Department Search Committee Member for Lecturer in Department of History

Event Organizer, Department level

- 2025** (Organized by the Mexican American History Committee) Co-arranged (with Dr. Joshua Lopez) Online talk by Dr. Deborah Paredez (School of the Arts, Writing Faculty, Columbia University) to present “Divas in America,” September 2025
2024 (Organized by the Mexican American History Committee) Co-arranged (with Dr. ToniAnn Treviño) visit by Dr. Christina Villarreal (Department of History, University of Texas at El Paso) to present “Deceptive Landscapes: Waterways, Forests, and Other Inconveniences in Spanish Texas,” October 2024
2024 (Organized by the Mexican American History Committee) Co-arranged (with Dr. ToniAnn Treviño) visit of Dr. Aaron Sanchez (Department of History, Texas Tech University) to present “Between Mendigos de Nacionalidad and True and Loyal Citizens,” April 2024
2023 (Organized by the Mexican American History Committee) Arranged visit of Dr. Anthony Ramirez (Communications Department, University of Houston-Downtown) to present on *Comics, Popular Culture, and the Texas-Mexico Borderlands*, April 2023

Professional Development

(also as Department Representative)

- 2023** American Historical Association Teaching Introductory Courses Conference
 Baylor University, Waco Texas

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Advising

- 2024-2025** Faculty Advisory Board Member
Latina/o and Mexican American Studies Program
- 2023-** Faculty Advisor
UNT Puerto Rican Student Association (PRSA)
UNT League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)

Committees

- 2023** Outside Committee Member, Department of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures
search for Lecturer in Italian Language/Studies

Invited Talks (on campus for student orgs/campus)

- 2026** Celebrating Puerto Rican Women. Talk for UNT Puerto Rican Student Association, General Meeting, March 4, 2026
- 2025** Understanding Latinx Civil Rights Movements. Talk for UNT LULAC, General Meeting, November 17, 2025
- 2025** *Student Power and Protest: Remembering the Walkouts in Crystal City, Texas, 1969*. Talk for Hispanic Heritage Month. UNT Phi Alpha Theta, September 25, 2025
- 2024** *Legacy and Remembrance of the Santos Rodríguez Murder*. Hispanic Heritage Month Talk, UNT Young Democratic Socialists of America. October 10, 2024
- 2024** Hispanic Heritage Month Lunch & Learn. UNT Center of Belonging and Engagement. October 9, 2024
- 2024** *Legacy and Remembrance of the Santos Rodríguez Murder*. Hispanic Civil Rights talk for Hispanic Heritage Month. UNT Phi Alpha Theta. September 26, 2024

UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE, AND DEPARTMENT SERVICE (Texas A&M University)

Department

- 2021-2022** Graduate Member, Department Social Committee
- 2018-2019** Graduate Member, Department Social Committee
- 2017-2019** Senator (Formerly Delegate), Texas A&M University Graduate and Professional Student Government (formerly Graduate and Professional Student Council)
Member of Travel Awards Internal Committee
- 2016-2017** Secretary (Officer position), Texas A&M History Graduate Student Organization

Professional

- 2019** Panel Chair "Questions of Migration and Conflict," *World History Association of Texas Conference: Global Civil Rights*, Texas A&M University-Commerce
- 2017** Volunteer, Living Heritage Symposium San Antonio, TX
- 2016** Blind Reviewer, *Traversea*, University of Texas-Arlington

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS

Puerto Rican Studies Association
The Social History Society
Latina/o Studies Association

PAST MEMBERSHIPS

National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies (NACCS)

World History Association

Texas State Historical Association

Latin American Studies Association

Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies