CENTER NEWS

Welcome

Bienvenidxs to the start of a new academic year! CLLAS has planned a wide range of programming, from academic lectures and Treinta y tres to community art projects and a Latin jazz party. We hope to see you at our upcoming events! We’re excited to continue to engage with faculty and students interested in Latin America and Latinx in the United States. New this year are our revised minor in Latino and Latin American Studies and our new graduate certificate in Latin American Studies. Stop by the Latino Center to learn more about these offerings!

Christina D. Abreu, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of History
Director of the Center for Latino and Latin American Studies
Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115
815-753-1532
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Welcome Reception
Tue 8/27 - 5PM
Latino Center, Atrium

Academic Diversity Centers Open House
Thu 8/29 - 11:30AM - 1:30PM
College View Court
Rain Location: CLB 100

*Invited Lecture
"From Deportation to Prison: The Politics of Immigration Enforcement in Post-Civil Rights America"
Patricia Macías-Rojas, Ph.D.
Wed 9/18 - 5PM
Latino Center, Room 121

*Invited Lecture
"Venezuela's Once and Future Crisis"
Alejandro Velasco, Ph.D.
Wed 10/2 - 5PM
Latino Center, Room 121

Latinx Community Art Project
Thu 10/31 - 12PM
Latino Center, Student Lounge and
Mon 11/11 - 7PM
Stevenson Multipurpose Room

*Invited Lecture
Latin Hip Hop as the New Poetry
Catalina Maria Johnson, Ph.D.
Wed 11/6 - 5PM
Latino Center, Room 121

*Treinta y tres
"Language, Literature, and Literacy"
Fri 11/15 - 9:30AM - 4PM
Latino Center, Room 121

*BUSINESS PASSPORT APPROVED
For more information, contact us at 815-753-1531.
To request disability-related accommodations, contact the Disability Resource Center at 815-753-1303 as early as possible.
FACULTY NEWS

Leila Porter and Colleagues Presented Their Research in Bolivia

Leila Porter (Anthropology), Laurie Spencer (Biology) and their Bolivian colleagues Pamela Durán, Eddy Martínez, José Martínez and Erika Alandia presented their research on the health of small mammals at the Universidad Amazónica de Pando, Cobija and the Universidad Mayor San Andrés, La Paz. The symposia were entitled “Vida silvestre y salud en la Amazonia boliviana: de la conservación de los mamíferos al riesgo de enfermedades emergentes.” They also helped to organize the first assembly of the Bolivian Network of Primatology (Red Boliviana de Primatología) in La Paz, a group which is now formally recognized by the International Primatological Society.
Francisco Solares-Larrave Participated in NEH Seminar

Earlier this summer, Franciasco Solares-Larrave (Spanish) participated in an NEH seminar for higher education instructors titled "José Martí and the Cuban Immigrant Communities of Florida." The main topic of the seminar addressed the complex story behind the arrival and establishment of cigar factories from Cuba to Tampa, FL, and the role José Martí had in stirring their support during the Cuban independence movement from Spain. Participants examined, with the aid of several visiting faculty, the relationships between Ybor City, where many of the cigar factories and their workers were established, and the rest of the state (and even the country at large); in addition, participants examined the development of the different political movements in Cuba, and how some favored annexation to Spain as an autonomous region, annexation to the U.S. as a state, and independence as a sovereign state. In all these cases and circumstances, Martí’s influence was considerable. He favored independence and fought for it but not merely as a military hero. In the institute, the participants read Martí’s writings in support of Cuban independence, analyzed his relationship with other Cuban patriots and societies, and got a fuller, more complete vision of the man through lectures, films, discussions about his texts and even about contemporary iconography. In his interactions with 29 faculty members from institutions across the U.S., professor Solares-Larrave learned a variety of approaches to teaching Martí’s work and also to doing research on his work. Some of the visiting faculty were prominent historians specializing in Florida history, like Gary Mormino and Lisandro Pérez, and literature scholars, like Anne Fountain and Esther Allen (translator of Martí’s texts into English).

Congratulations to Simón Weffer (Sociology) who co-authored "Taking a Knee," one of the most downloaded articles among sociology journals in 2018!

Upcoming Conference Opportunities

MALAS Annual Conference
Midwest Association for Latin American Studies
Democracy, Human Rights, and Environmental Justice in Latin America: Past, Present, and Future
October 10-12, 2019
University of Illinois Springfield
Springfield, IL
https://www.malasnet.org/

NCCLA Annual Conference
North Central Council of Latin Americanists
Celebrating the Study of Latin America Culture, History, Language and More
October 25-26, 2019
Simpson College
Indianola, IA
https://uwm.edu/clacs/public-engagement/nccla/

30th Anniversary Conference Celebration
Julian Samora Research Institute
Michigan State University
Latina/os and the Renewal of U.S. Democracy
October 31-November 2, 2019
Marriott at University Place
East Lansing, MI
www.jsri.msu.edu/30years

LSA2020 Call for Papers
Latina/o Studies Association
Beyond Borders: Latina/o Studies in Times of Crisis
Proposals due by November 1, 2019
July 15-18, 2020
University of Notre Dame
South Bend, IN
https://latinxstudiesassociation.org/
STUDENT NEWS

Luis Sánchez, Summer Research Opportunities Program

History major and Latino and Latin American Studies minor Luis Sánchez participated in the Summer Research Opportunities Program sponsored by the Office of Student Engagement and Experiential Learning. Dr. Abreu served as Luis’ faculty mentor, and he presented his research titled "Origins and Transitioning into a Political Movement: The Young Lords, Latino Civil Rights Movement of Chicago" at the Undergraduate Research Symposium. Congratulations Luis!

Devin Smith, CLLAS Summer 19 Intern

Kudos to Spanish and Business Translation major and Latino and Latin American Studies minor Devin Smith for completing a summer internship with our Center. Devin translated an almost 100-page transcription from the NIU Latinx Oral History Project from Spanish to English. In addition, Devin helped introduce new NIU students to the Center at the Orientation Resource Fairs and assisted with additional outreach efforts as well as with the coordination of the CLLAS’ Huskie Service Scholars training.

Join the CLLAS Student Advisory Council

CLLAS is now looking for LATS minors who may be interested in serving as members of the Center for Latino and Latin American Studies Student Advisory Council. The council aims to meet twice each semester so members can provide feedback regarding their experiences as students minoring in Latino and Latin American Studies.

CLLAS Advising Tip
Go to Class. *Ve a Clase.*
Even if the professor doesn’t take attendance. The number one reason why students fail courses is because they don’t go to class

We wish you a successful Fall 19!
Please stop by the Center to say hi, and let us know if we can be of any help!