

CERTIFICATE CEREMONY CLASS OF 2020

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2020

• WELCOME & KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Brian D. Farrell, *Director, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies; Monique and Philip Lehner Professor for the Study of Latin America, Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology; Curator in Entomology, Museum of Comparative Zoology*

• PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES IN LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

Eduardo González, AB '18

Eduardo Andrés González graduated cum laude from Harvard University in 2018 with an AB degree in Social Studies, a certificate in Latin American Studies, and a language citation in Spanish. His prize-winning senior thesis, titled "Immoral Constructions: Central American Refugee Flows from the 1980s-2010s", investigated how the American legal system has responded to Central American refugee crises since the 1980s. Eduardo was heavily involved with the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies while in college, joining a DRCLAS-led January trip to Mexico City and later interning for the Center for two years. Since graduating, Eduardo has worked full-time at Mintz, a major law firm in Boston, where he has brought his expertise in Latin America to bear by helping write country condition reports for Central American asylum cases. To further bolster Eduardo's existing knowledge for these cases, the firm sponsored his attendance at the 2019 Latin American Studies Association conference in Boston, MA, to learn from and network with academic experts on Latin America from across the world. Moving forward, he will be attending Stanford Law School beginning this fall to pursue his dream career of representing Latinx immigrants and asylum seekers as a civil rights attorney.

• DAVID ROCKEFELLER CENTER PRIZES FOR GRADUATING SENIORS

James R. and Isabel D. Hammond Thesis Prize
Joan Morthland Hutchins Thesis Prize in Latino Studies
Kenneth Maxwell Thesis Prize in Brazilian Studies

• DAVID ROCKEFELLER CENTER TRAVEL FELLOWSHIPS

Clémence Jouët-Pastré Brazil Travel Fellowship
Steve Reifenberg Travel Fellowship

CLASS OF 2020

RECIPIENTS OF THE CERTIFICATE IN LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

UNDERGRADUATES

Adonica McCray

Government and Classics

Abedeze against Ayodeze: Ethnic Conflict in Guyana

Alejandro Lampell

Economics, Secondary in Statistics

Earnings in the Time of Violence: The Effects of Gang Violence on Business Development in El Salvador

Ana Lucía Suazo

Government, Secondary in Portuguese

Aranza Caballero

History and Science, Secondary in Ethnicity, Migration, and Rights

Disease and Discrimination: Unpacking the Racialized Medicalization of Mexican Immigrants and Their Experience

Audrey Sheehy

Social Studies

Matter(s) of Interpretation: Uncovering Judicial Activism and "Rationality" through Plyler v. Doe (1982)

Cecilia Andrea Jennings Nuñez

History and Literature, Secondary in Spanish

"Como Arenitas Haciendo Una Playa": Photography and Afro-Mexican Activism from the 1980s to 2019

Eleanor Shea

Social Studies, Secondary in Spanish

Elmer Vivas Portillo

Sociology, Secondary in Ethnicity, Migration, Rights

Isabel Bernhard

Social Studies

Controlling Alternative Sources of Power: Denuclearization and Democratic Consolidation in Brazil and Argentina, 1983-1994

Isabelle Katherine Madden DeSisto

Government, Secondary in Spanish

"From the 'Island of Freedom' to the Iron Curtain: Rethinking the Role of Soft Power in Soviet-Cuban Educational Exchange Programs"

Jeannie Bermáida Regidor

History & Literature

Jessenia Nicole Class

Psychology, Secondary in English

Jessie Rodriguez

Government, Secondary in Psychology

What Embargo?: An Analysis of the Mula System Between the United States and Cuba

María José Pérez Franco

Economics, Secondary in Ethnicity, Migration, & Rights

Maribel Nava

Sociology, Secondary in Ethnicity, Migration, & Rights

Paulino Yanez

Neuroscience

Scott Roberts

Anthropology & Music

La Sinfonía Africana: The Musical Record of the Batá Drum

Sophia Vargas

Anthropology, Secondary in Economics

In the Wake of War: An Ethnography of Women Ex-Combatants in Colombia

Steven Espinoza

Economics, Secondary in History of Art and Architecture

Valeria Zúñiga Morales

Economics & Government

Zoe Hughes

Neuroscience, Secondary in Global Health and Health Policy

GRADUATE STUDENTS

Alejandro Lagomarsino

Economics

Essays on Welfare and Taxation

Ana Paula Kojima Hirano

Romance Languages and Literatures, Secondary in Film and Visual Studies

A terceira margem do Rio: relações raciais sob as lentes de Eduardo Coutinho / The third bank of Rio: racial relations under the lenses of Eduardo Coutinho

Jared Abbott

Government

The Paradox of Participatory Institutions: Explaining the Limits and Potential of Large-Scale Experiments in Participatory Democracy

Thenesoya Vidina Martín De la Nuez

Romance Languages and Literatures

Insular Syntax. Archipelagic Thinking and Relational Literature

2020 THESIS PRIZE WINNERS

James R. and Isabel D. Hammond Thesis Prize in Latin American Studies

Isabelle Katherine Madden DeSisto

Government, Secondary in Spanish

"From the 'Island of Freedom' to the Iron Curtain: Rethinking the Role of Soft Power in Soviet-Cuban Educational Exchange Programs"

Joan Morthland Hutchins Thesis Prize in Latino Studies

Daniel L. Rosenblatt

History and Literature

"Déjame Que Te Cante Yo También": Constructing Working-Class Puerto Rican Identity in New York City, 1917-1936

Kenneth Maxwell Thesis Prize in Brazilian Studies

Isabel Bernhard

Social Studies

Controlling Alternative Sources of Power: Denuclearization and Democratic Consolidation in Brazil and Argentina, 1983-1994

2020 FELLOWSHIP WINNERS

Clémence Jouët-Pastré Brazil Travel Fellowship

Adele Woodmansee

Integrative Biology and Social Anthropology, secondary in Latinx Studies

"It is Pure Criollo Maize": Subsistence Agriculture and Ideas of Locality and Contamination in San Miguel del Valle, Oaxaca

Adele is from Westfield, Vermont, and is currently completing her final semester abroad in Bhutan. At Harvard, she concentrated in Integrative Biology and Social Anthropology with a secondary in Latinx Studies. She is interested in interdisciplinary, collaborative research about subsistence agriculture, agrobiodiversity, and rural food security. Over the course of several years, she completed thesis research about subsistence maize agriculture in Oaxaca, Mexico, where she conducted ethnographic research in a Zapotec community and collected maize samples for genetic analysis. Adele's time in Oaxaca increased her interest in climate change adaptation in agriculture, particularly the significance of traditional seed varieties and farming methods for adaptation strategies.

Adele had the opportunity to travel to Bahia, Brazil during her junior year for a spring break field trip, as part of OEB 103, Plant Systematics and Evolution. This experience inspired her to enroll in Portuguese for Spanish Speakers the following semester, and she has hoped to return to Brazil ever since. Through the support of the Clémence Jouët-Pastré Brazil Travel Fellowship, she will return to Bahia to study Portuguese, intern at an NGO working in the areas of agrobiodiversity and food sovereignty, and conduct research about small-scale agriculture and farmers' perceptions of climate change in the arid Caatinga region.

Steve Reifenberg Travel Fellowship

Alejandro Lampell

Economics, Secondary in Statistics

Earnings in the Time of Violence: The Effects of Gang Violence on Business Development in El Salvador

Born in Uruguay to Mexican parents, Alejandro has always lived in and around Latin America and has been passionate about helping to solve some of the region's social issues. Having lived in four different countries in Latin America that finished with a stint in El Salvador during his high school years, Alejandro came to Harvard where he studied Economics with a secondary in Statistics. While at Harvard, he continued to take an interest in Latin American issues and politics, becoming co-president of the Latin American Organization on campus, vice-president of a debate conference for high school students in Latin America, and serving as an intern to the Student Program Director at the David Rockefeller Center for Latin America. He also volunteered in his spare time, helping mentor kids from low-income backgrounds in Boston. Through economic development and educational policy classes at the College, Alejandro became interested in using educational reform as a means of breaking the cycle of poverty. Now, he wants to take his experiences and interests to a new region of the continent, by volunteering at Instituto da Criança, a social development NGO based in Rio de Janeiro. While there, Alejandro hopes to work with the Instituto to teach essential life skills to at-risk youths and help develop their curricula even further. This volunteer work, supported by the Steve Reifenberg Fellowship, will provide Alejandro with crucial insights into the application of educational and youth empowerment techniques to help address the poverty and inequality that plague certain communities. He hopes to take what he learns to policy or development work in the region later on.

DRCLAS would like to give special thanks to our thesis prize committee members:
Maria Atuestsa, Fernando Bizzarro, Bruno Carvalho, Marcia Castro, Laura Correa Ochoa, Julia Coyoli,
June Elrick, Verónica Figueroa, Frances Hagopian, and Marysa Navarro



**DAVID ROCKEFELLER CENTER
FOR LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES**
HARVARD UNIVERSITY