

CERTIFICATE CEREMONY CLASS OF 2021

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 2021

- WELCOME

Steven Levitsky, *Director, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies; David Rockefeller Professor of Latin American studies and Professor of Government*

Steven Levitsky is the Director of the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies at Harvard University. As the David Rockefeller Professor of Latin American Studies and Professor of Government, his research focuses on democratization, authoritarianism, political parties, and weak and informal institutions. He is author (with Daniel Ziblatt) of *How Democracies Die* (Crown, 2018), a New York Times Best-Seller that has been published in 25 languages, *Competitive Authoritarianism: Hybrid Regimes after the Cold War* (with Lucan Way) (Cambridge, 2010), and *Transforming Labor-Based Parties in Latin America: Argentine Peronism in Comparative Perspective* (Cambridge, 2003), and co-editor of *Informal Institutions and Democracy in Latin America* (with Gretchen Helmke) and *The Resurgence of the Latin American Left* (with Kenneth Roberts). He has written frequently for the *New York Times*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Vox*, *The New Republic*, *The Monkey Cage*, *La República* (Peru) and *Folha de São Paulo* (Brazil). He is currently writing a book (with Lucan Way) on the durability of revolutionary regimes. Levitsky received his PhD from the University of California, Berkeley.

- KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Bruno Carvalho, *Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures and African and African American Studies; Co-Director of the Harvard Mellon Urban Initiative; Affiliated Professor in Urban Planning and Design at the Graduate School of Design*

Bruno Carvalho works on cities as lived and imagined spaces. He studies relationships between cultural practices and urbanization, with a focus on Brazil. Carvalho's interdisciplinary approaches bridge history, literary analysis, and urban studies. Often, he investigates how socio-cultural processes of the past converge in and with the present. He is writing a book on different ways in which people have imagined urban futures since the 1750s, tentatively titled *The Invention of the Future: A cultural history of urbanization in the Atlantic World*. A Rio de Janeiro native, Carvalho received his Ph.D. at Harvard University (2009) and was a faculty member at Princeton University (2009-2018).

At Harvard, Carvalho is Co-Director of the Harvard Mellon Urban Initiative, and a member of the Faculty Standing Committee on History and Literature, of the Advisory Committee on Ethnicity, Migration, Rights, and of the Brazil Studies Program, as well as the Steering Committee of the Weatherhead Initiative on Global History. He is also a Faculty Affiliate in Critical Media Practice, at the Afro-Latin American Research Institute, the Center for the Environment, the Graduate School of Design, and the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs.

- PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES IN LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

- POETRY READING

Ming Li (Ari) Wu, *Walking, Home*

Ming Li (or Ari) Wu is a queer Chinese-Puerto Rican ethnic studies scholar and poet from Huntsville, Alabama, by way of Reno, Nevada. Both his academic work and his poetry deal with themes such as queer and trans precarity, belonging, and futurity, especially in Latinx contexts. After graduating from Harvard College, Ming Li will go on to teach US History at Boston Collegiate Charter School and earn a master's degree from the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

- 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

CLASS OF 2021

RECIPIENTS OF THE CERTIFICATE IN LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

UNDERGRADUATES

Alejandra Yasmin Nava Garcia
Neuroscience

Alexander Vars McQuilling Cabral
Economics

Warlords, Sugarcane, and Armed Insurrection: An Exploration of the Historical and Contemporary Influences of Geography and Culture in the Dominican Republic

Amanda Wasserman
Social Studies

Beyond the 'Plaza': Women's Experiences Under and Responses To Argentina's Proceso de Reorganización Nacional, 1976-1983

Dani Pérez
History and Literature and Art, Film, and Visual Studies
(In)communicadxs: Online Community and Barriers to Communication in the Venezuelan Diaspora

Debora Gonzalez
Sociology & Government
Nuestra Voz: How Spanish Media Influences the Identity and Political Attitudes of Latino Immigrants

Delano Franklin
Government

Gabriela Rivero
Sociology
¿Quiénes Somos? Who Are We? The Role of the Iberian in Latinx Identity Conceptualization and Construction

Hannah Fontaine
History and Literature with a focus in Latin America
Let Down by Legislation: Women's Advocacy as a Response to State-Sponsored Violence in Guatemala

Henry Villarreal
Psychology

Jakob Lazar
History
International Fission: Atoms for Peace, Mexico, and the Creation of a Cold War International Community, 1953-1967

Jamie Paterno Ostmann
Archaeology and History & Literature

Joseph Michael Rager
Romance Languages & Literatures and Linguistics
Continently Abrazándose: Code Switching, Identity Creation, and the Rise of Spanglish

Karla Chavez Espinosa
History
Actors Beyond Borders: An International Perspective on Transitional Justice Following El Salvador's Civil War

Kayla Ruth Getter
Social Studies

Mariana Lizbeth De Leon Dominguez
History and Literature and The Study of Religion
Women and Children First – La Virgen de Guadalupe's Role in Creating a Life-Affirming Mexican-Catholic Culture

Mariceli Ming Li Wu
History and Literature
Death, Dislocation, Dance: Theorizing Queer Floatiness through Queer Latino Urbano Music

Melisa Santizo
History and Literature and Romance Languages & Literatures
Marian Icons, Myths, And Cultural Memory: Virgen De Guadalupe Murals And Their Role In The Identity Formation Of Latinos In Los Angeles

Michael Koske
Romance Languages and Literatures and Human Evolutionary Biology
Repairing the Border (In)humanities: A Reparative Reading of Migrant Motherhoods in Latinx Literature and Ethnography, 2011-2019

Olivia Meyers Ferdinand
Government

Peter Morrissey
Sociology

Swathi Srinivasan
History and Science and Social Studies
"Et tu, Brazil?": Evaluating the Historical and Present-Day Relationships Between Inequality and Urban Health Disparities in Brazil, from Colonial Times to COVID-19

Tessa Wood
Romance Languages and Literatures
Appearance and Social Status in the Late Nineteenth-Century Peruvian Novel: Aves sin nido and Blanca Sol

GRADUATE STUDENTS

Marcella McGee Hayes
PhD History
The Black Spaniards: The Color of Political Authority in Seventeenth-Century Lima

Maria Atuesta
PhD Urban Planning
Forced Migration and Neighborhood-Formation: How Internally Displaced Families Find Residential Stability in an Unstable World

Trenton Barnes
PhD History of Art and Architecture
Emptiness and the Production of Bodies in the Architecture of Teotihuacan, Mexico

2021 THESIS PRIZE WINNERS

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

Jakob Lazar
History
INTERNATIONAL FISSION: Atoms for Peace, Mexico, and the Creation of a Cold War International Community, 1953-1967

Joan Morthland Hutchins Thesis Prize in Latino Studies

Ryen Diaz
Social Studies
"Humanity on Trial": The History and Impact of State Criminalization on Humanitarian Aid Efforts in the Southern Arizona Desertlands

Vivekae Kim
Anthropology
'Future Revolutionaries': A Campaign to Reform Immigration Court in the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands

Kenneth Maxwell Thesis Prize in Brazilian Studies

Swathi Ravi Srinivasan
Social Studies and History and Science
"Et tu, Brazil?": Evaluating the Historical and Present-Day Relationships Between Inequality and Urban Health Disparities in Brazil, from Colonial Times to COVID-19

DRCLAS would like to give special thanks to our thesis prize committee members:
Sol Cusicanqui, June Erlick, Frances Hagopian, Ted MacDonald, Lucas Mertehikian, and Marysa Navarro



**DAVID ROCKEFELLER CENTER
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HARVARD UNIVERSITY