

Alexander D. Huezo, PhD

contestednatures.com

huezoad@uci.edu

EDUCATION

- 2017 Ph.D. Global and Sociocultural Studies
Florida International University
*Contested Natures, Insecurities & Territorialities:
The Aerial Eradication of Coca in Colombia*
- 2010 M.A. Latin American Studies
University of California, Los Angeles
*The Violence of Displacement:
Rural Migrants and Elements of the Supernatural in Cali, Colombia*
- 1997 B.A. Political Science
University of California, Los Angeles

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2023- Present Assistant Professor in Department of Global & International Studies
University of California, Irvine
- 2022-2023 Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow in School of Environmental Science,
Policy and Management
University of California, Berkeley
- 2019-2022 Lecturer in Department of Ethnic Studies
University of California, San Diego
- 2018 Lecturer in Department of Geography
San Diego State University
- 2017-2019 Lecturer in Department of Liberal Studies
California State University, San Marco

PUBLICATIONS

Book Manuscript:

Huezo, Alexander. 2025. *Visions of Global Environmental Justice: Comunidades Negras and the War on Drugs in Colombia*. Oakland: University of California Press.

Book Manuscript (not yet under contract):

Huezo, Alexander and Jose E. Arboleda. *¿Justicia Ambiental? Resistencia afro-pacífica contra la fumiga.*

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles:

Huezo, Alexander and Gerardo Bazán Orobio. 2021. "Corrective Lenses for a Myopic State: Unseeing Coca or Not Unseeing Comunidades Negras in Colombia?". *World Development* 140: 105265-105679.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2020.105265>

Huezo, Alexander. 2019. "Contested Natures: Coca, the War on Drugs, and Ecologies of Difference in Colombia's Afro-Pacific communities". *Journal of Political Ecology*. 26(1): 305-322. <https://doi.org/10.2458/v26i1.23060>

Huezo, Alexander. 2017. "Eradication without prior consultation: the aerial fumigation of coca in the black communities of the Colombian Pacific". *Canadian Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Studies*. 42(3): 375-399.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/08263663.2017.1378406>

Book Chapter:

Huezo, Alexander and Ulrich Oslender. 2023. "Afro-descendant Territorialities: Assertions, Processes and Dilemmas". In Reiter Bernd and Antón Sánchez, Jhon (eds.). *Routledge Handbook of Afro-Latin American Studies*. New York: Routledge Taylor & Francis Group.

Book Review:

Huezo Alexander. 2025. "Community of Peace: Performing Geographies of Ecological Dignity in Colombia by Christopher Courtheyn, Pittsburg, University of Pittsburgh Press, 2022, ISBN: 978-0-8229-4714-1." *Antipode*. https://antipodeonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Book-review_Huezo-on-Courtheyn.pdf

Interviews:

Huezo, Alexander. 2014. "Dominican Hip-Hop in Spain" (interview with Arianna Puello). In Roorda, Eric, Lauren Hutchinson Derby, and Raymundo González (eds). *The Dominican Republic reader: history, culture, politics*. Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press: 479-482.

Huezo, Alexander. 2014. "The Queen of Merengue" (interview with Milly Quezada). In Roorda, Eric, Lauren Hutchinson Derby, and Raymundo González (eds). *The Dominican Republic reader: history, culture, politics*. Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press: 483-485.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & AWARDS

2025	Social Science Society Anti-Black Racism Initiative – Dean’s Leadership Society - University of California, Irvine
2024-2025	Fulbright US Scholar Award – Centro de Estudios Afro-Diaspóricos - la Universidad Icesi
2022-2023	President's Postdoctoral Fellow – School of Environmental Science, Policy and Management - University of California, Berkeley
2021	Outstanding Faculty Member, John Muir Commencement Ceremony – University of California, San Diego
2018-2019	Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Grant - California State University San Marcos
2018	Best Dissertation Award– Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies – Florida International University
2018	Faculty Center Professional Development Grant – California State University San Marcos
2016-2017	Dissertation Year Fellowship - Florida International University
2015	Dissertation Evidence Acquisition Fellowship - Florida International University
2014	Mellon International Dissertation Research Fellowship - Social Science Research Council
2011-2014	Presidential Fellowship - Florida International University
2011-2012	Graduate Minority Opportunity Fellowship - Florida International University
2010	Outstanding Thesis Award - Latin American Institute - University of California, Los Angeles
2009	Research Grant (Colombia) - Latin American Institute - University of California, Los Angeles
2009	Foreign Language Area Studies (Brazil) - University of California, Los Angeles

2008-2009 Foreign Language Area Studies (Portuguese) - University of California, Los Angeles

2007-2008 Graduate Opportunity Fellowship - University of California, Los Angeles

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Presentations:

2025. "Visions of Global Environmental Justice." Latin American Institute, University of California, Los Angeles.

2025. "Justicia Ambiental: ¿Qué significa en Colombia?" Centro de Estudios Afrodiaspóricos, La Universidad Icesi, Santiago de Cali, Colombia.

2022. "Conflict, Coca and Comunidades Negras in Colombia: The Supernatural Dimensions of Environmental Racism and Justice." Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Barbara.

2022. "Mythmaking and Environmental Justice: EcoMonsters and Necropolitics in the Colombian Afro Pacific." Ethnic Studies Graduate Colloquium, University of California, San Diego.

2021. "La Visibilidad de Comunidades Negras frente la Política de Aspersión Aérea." Fumigando los Derechos, La Universidad del Cauca, Colombia.

2020. "Coca, Violence and the Supernatural: Necro-politicizing the War on Drugs in Colombia." Latin American Institute, University of California, Los Angeles.

2019. "Why is Environmentalism so White?" Student Sustainability Collective, University of California, San Diego.

2015. "Aspersión Aérea: Territorialidades, Inseguridades y Biodiversidad." Departamento de Ciencia Política, La Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia.

Conference Presentation + Panel Organized and Chaired:

2016. "Territory is Life: The Aerial Eradication of Coca in Colombia." Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, San Francisco, CA.

Conference Presentation + Panel Co-Organized:

2019. “The Legal Dimensions of the Pluriverse: Socio-environmental Justice & Restitution for Rural Ethnic Communities.” *Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers*, Washington, D.C.

Conference Presentations:

2018. “Contested Natures: Coca, the War on Drugs, and a Political Ecology of Difference in the Colombian Afro-Pacific.” *Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers*, New Orleans, LA.

2015. “Contested Natures & Insecurities: Examining the Disconnect Between Aerial Eradication Guidelines & Local Experiences in Colombia.” *Desafios para la paz*, University of Toronto.

2013. “Imperial Globality & the Geopolitics of Knowledge: Some perspective on the letter from Guapi.” *Im/Mobilities & Dis/Connections*, Florida International University.

2010. “The Violence of Displacement: Rural Migrants and Elements of the Supernatural in Cali, Colombia.” *Overt and Discreet Violence: Ruptures and Continuities in Latin America and the Caribbean*, Columbia University.

Conference Panel:

2024. “¿Derechos de la naturaleza?: Límites, posibilidades y alternativas de la justicia ambiental en Colombia.” Latin American Studies Association (LASA) Congress, Bogotá, Colombia.

ACADEMIC TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2023-Present Assistant Professor – Department of Global and International Studies, University of California, Irvine

- Global Environmental Justice
- Global Political Economy
- Drug Wars Americas
- Global Environmental Issues

2019-2022 Lecturer – Department of Ethnic Studies, University of California, San Diego

- Environmental Racism
- Race in the Americas
- Slavery and the Atlantic World
- Race and Social Movements

- Contemporary Immigration Issues
- Ethnic Politics in America
- US Militarism
- Discourse, Power, and Inequality
- Monsters, Orphans and Robots
- Immigration and Ethnicity in Modern American Society
- Life, Death, and the Human
- The United States-Mexico Border in Comparative Perspective
- Race & Performance: The Politics of Popular Culture
- Decolonizing Education
- Madness and Urbanization
- Race, Sound, and Music
- Hip Hop: The Politics of Culture
- Decolonial Theory

2017-2019

Lecturer – Department of Liberal Studies, California State University San Marcos

- Globalization and Trade
- Environment, Development and Sustainability
- California, Nature & Society
- World Regional Geography

2018

Lecturer – Department of Geography, San Diego State University

- Environment and Development

2014-2016

Teaching Assistant –Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies, Florida International University

- Classical Sociological Theory
- Ethnohistorical Research Methods
- Introduction to Anthropology
- Sociology of Gender
- Urban Geography
- World Regional Geography

2008-2010

Lecturer - Department of Spanish and Portuguese, University of California, Los Angeles

- Spanish 1,2,3

REFEREE

2024 *World Development*
2023 *Global Perspectives*
2023 *Journal of Political Ecology*
2020 *Journal of Borderlands Studies*

LANGUAGES

Spanish: Advanced, spoken & written

Portuguese: Intermediate, spoken & written