

KIMBERLY A. DIAZ

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diazk@oxy.edu

EDUCATION

University of California Riverside (UCR)

Ph.D. Study of Religion

June 2025

- Major Field: Religious History of the Modern Americas
- Minor Field: Religion, Race, and Gender of the Modern United States
- Theory and Method: Affect, Body, and Society

University of California Riverside (UCR)

M.A. Religious Studies

September 2022

University of California San Diego (UCSD)

B.A. Study of Religion, B.A. Political Science

June 2018

- Honors: Study of Religion (*summa cum laude*)
- Minor: Film Studies

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

The National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH), Mexico

Visiting Research Fellow

August 2023

Center for Ideas and Society, UCR

Graduate Student Research Fellow

2021 - 2022

Latino & Latin American Studies Research Center, UCR

Graduate Student Researcher

2020 - 2021

Department of Ethnic Studies, UCR

Graduate Student Researcher

2019 - 2020

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

“Nation Beautiful: Muscular Christianity and the Quest for Perfection” (article in preparation)

“Latin American Theology as A Great Dialectical Chain,” for *Latin American Perspectives*
(multiple book review in preparation)

“Slavery’s Long Shadow: Race and Reconciliation in American Christianity.” Book review, *Reading Religion*, 2021.

“Unsettling Science and Religion: Contributions from Queer Studies.” Book review, *Religious Studies Review*, 2021.

“Faith and Feminism in Nineteenth-Century Religious Communities.” Book review, *Religious Studies Review*, 2020.

CONFERENCE EXPERIENCE

Panelist, “Reflections on the UC Strike.” Presented in the “Graduate Student Professional Development Roundtable” session, American Academy of Religion Western Region Annual Meeting, March 2023

Convener, “QTSR and North American Religion,” UCR Conference on Queer and Transgender Studies in Religion, UCR, February 2023

Presider, “Divine and Human Selves,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2022

Panelist, “Nearing God’s Reality: Muscular Christian Healthy-Mindedness as a Negotiation Between Jamesian, Hegelian, and Marxist Theory.” Presented in the “Subjectivity and Religion” session, Critical Approaches to the Study of Religion Conference, June 2022

Panelist, “Reframing Graduate Student ‘Professional Development:’ Movements Toward Equity, Social Justice, and Mercy.” Virtually presented in the “Graduate Student Professional Development Roundtable” session, American Academy of Religion Western Region Annual Meeting, March 2022

Convener, “Religion and Sex Work,” UCR Conference on Queer and Transgender Studies in Religion, UCR, February 2022

Panelist, “Nation Beautiful: Muscular Christianity and the Quest for Perfection.” Presented in the “Shadow, Sins, and Profits: Complicating Sport and Play” session, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2021

Panelist, “Chaos Averted: Muscular Christianity as a Unique Form of Healthy-Mindedness.” Virtually presented in the “Church in the Pandemic Age” session, American Academy of Religion Western Region Annual Meeting, March 2021

Respondent, Religious Studies Panel, Center for Ideas and Society Virtual Conference, UCR, April 2020

Panelist, “From Muscular Christianity to Feats of Strength Ministries in Contemporary United States: Peculiar Manifestations of the Public and Private Spheres.” Virtually presented in the

“New Religious Movements and New Movements within American Religion” session,
American Academy of Religion Western Region Annual Meeting, March 2020

PRESENTATIONS

Panelist, “Muscular Christianity in Latin America: Attempted Liberations through the Myth of Modernity,” Global 19th Century Working Group, Center for Ideas and Society, UCR, March 2022

Panelist, UCR Graduate Student Panel, Virtual Colloquium, Department of Religious Studies, UCR, November 2021

Panelist, UCR Graduate Student Panel, Virtual Colloquium, Department of Religious Studies, UCR, March 2020

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND RECOGNITIONS

| | |
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| 2019 - present | Dean’s Distinguished Fellowship Award UCR |
| 2023 | Graduate Dean’s Dissertation Research Grant UCR |
| 2023 | Humanities Graduate Student Research Grant Center for Ideas and Society, UCR |
| 2023 | Chicano Latino Alumni Scholarship Chicano Latino Alumni Scholarship Committee, UCR |
| 2021 | Cardenas Markets Scholarship Chicano Educational & Cultural Fund, Inc. |
| 2021 | Global 19th Century Workshop Graduate Student Fellow Center for Ideas and Society, UCR |
| 2020 | Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF) Finalist HSF Program |

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion, Western Region (2020 - present)

American Academy of Religion (2019 - present)

PROFESSIONAL AND SERVICE ACTIVITIES

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| Religion, Sport and Play, AAR Unit (Co-)Chair | 2023 - present |
| Gender and Sexuality, Religious Studies Review (RSR) (Co-)Editor | 2022 - present |
| Graduate Student Professional Development, AAR/WR Unit (Co-)Chair, Student Representative | 2021 - present |
| Religion, Sport and Play, AAR Steering Committee Member | 2020 - 2022 |

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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| Department of Religious Studies, Occidental College Visiting Instructor | 2022 - present |
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- Religion, Liberation, and Latin American Social Movements (RELS/LLAS 228)

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| Department of Religious Studies, UCR Teaching Assistant | 2020 - present |
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| Department of History, UCR Teaching Assistant | Winter 2023 |
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| Department of Religious Studies, Mount Allison University Guest Lecturer | March 2023 |
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- “Apocalypse in Pop Culture and Media: (De-)Centering Whiteness in *Stranger Things* and *Nope*,” Cults and New Religious Movements course (RELG 1991-A)

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| Program of Religious Studies, Defiance College Guest Lecturer | November 2022 |
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- “What is Liberation? Liberation Philosophy/Theology as Foundations for Social Justice,” History of Christianity (REL 360)

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| Department of Religious Studies, Mount Allison University Guest Lecturer | October 2022 |
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- “Muscular Christianity at the Intersection of Nationalism and Neocolonialism,” Gender, Religion and Colonialism course (RELG 2991-B)

Department of Religious Studies, Mount Allison University

Guest Lecturer

April 2022

- “Muscular Christianity at the Intersection of Nationalism and Neocolonialism,” Gender, Colonialism and Religion course (RELG 2991)

Program of Religious Studies, Defiance College

Guest Lecturer

March 2022

- “Cultivating or Constructing Masculinity? Comparing and Contrasting Masculinities during the Mexican Revolution,” Gender and Sexuality in Religion (RELG 295)

Department of Religious Studies, Mount Allison University

Guest Lecturer

March 2022

- “Apocalypse in Pop Culture and Media: The (De-)Centering of Whiteness in the Horror Genre,” Apocalyptic Consciousness course (RELG 2841)

Department of Religious Studies, Mount Allison University

Guest Lecturer

September 2021

- “Muscular Christianity, Early American Eugenics, and the Body,” Religion, Body and Sexuality course (RELG 1641)

Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies, UCR

Guest Lecturer

June 2021

- “Introduction to Feminism and Toxic Masculinity,” Gender and Sexuality course (GSST 001)

Department of Religious Studies and Ethnic Studies, UCR

Guest Lecturer

April 2021

- “Colonization as an Analytical Tool,” Myths and Rituals course (RLST 012/ETST 012)

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Mentorship Program (GSMP), UCR

Mentor

2020 - present

Chicano Student Programs, UCR

Semana de la Mujer Planning Committee Member

2020 - 2022

The Well, UCR

Graduate Student Public Health Peer Lead

2021 - 2022

The Well, UCR
Graduate Student Peer Health Coach

2022

Women's Resource Center, UCR
Mentor

2020 - 2021

LANGUAGES

Spanish: native; Italian: intermediate; French: elementary.

REFERENCES

Dr. Melissa Wilcox, Professor, Holstein Family and Community Chair in Religious Studies,
Department Chair, UCR, melissa.wilcox@ucr.edu

Dr. Jennifer Hughes, Associate Professor in History, UCR, jennifer.hughes@ucr.edu

Dr. Alyssa Maldonado-Estrada, Assistant Professor, Kalamazoo College,
alyssa.Maldonado-Estrada@kzoo.edu