

# Paul Joseph López Oro

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## EDUCATION

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- 2012-Present  
Ph.D. Student, African American Studies  
Graduate Certificate in Gender & Sexuality Studies  
Latin American & Caribbean Studies Cluster Fellow  
**Northwestern University**, Evanston, IL  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. John David Márquez
- 2009-2011  
Master of Science, Special Education  
**Hunter College of the City University of New York**, New York, NY  
Teacher for America Corps Member
- 2006-2009  
Master of Arts, Latin American Studies  
**The University of New Mexico**, Albuquerque, NM  
Concentrations: Community & Regional Planning and Southwest Studies  
Master's Thesis: *¡No Le Pegue a La Negra! 15 Years of ENLACE de Mujeres Negras de Honduras: Garifuna Women Decolonizing Honduran Blackness and Empowering Racial Identity through their Community-Based NGO in Bahia de Tela, Honduras*  
Faculty Committee: Dr. Claudia B. Isaac (chair), Dr. Nancy López, and Dr. Teresa L. Cordova
- 2002-2006  
Bachelor of Arts, *cum laude*, History  
**St. John's University**, Jamaica, NY  
Ronald E. McNair Scholar Senior Essay: *¡Pueblo! No Nos Abandones ¡Únete Pueblo!: Masculinity, Class, & Race in 1968 Mexico*.  
Faculty Advisors: Dr. Elaine Carey, Dr. Victor M. Macías-González, and Dr. Pablo Piccato

## AREAS OF RESEARCH INTEREST

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Garifuna youth in Honduras and the U.S; Central American blackness and indigeneity; black transnationalism in Latin America; black-Latina/o relations, critical race theory, and policing black and brown boys in NYC Public Schools.

## GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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- 2012-2013 Andrew W. Mellon Interdisciplinary Cluster Fellow in Latin American & Caribbean Studies  
2009-2011 Teach for America Corps Member  
Winter 2008 Tinker Foundation Latin American & Iberian Institute Field Research Grant for Master's Thesis fieldwork in Bahia de Tela, Honduras  
2006-2009 New Mexico Higher Education Department Graduate Fellowship.  
2006-2007 University of New Mexico Regent's Graduate Fellowship.  
2006-2007 Title VI Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship in Quechua (Federally Unfundable).  
2004-2006 Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program Fellow.

## PUBLICATIONS

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- *Journal Article*

“¡No Le Pegue a La Negra! 15 Years of *ENLACE de Mujeres Negras de Honduras (ENMUNEH)* Empowerment and Racialization of Garifuna Women through their Community-Based NGO in Bahia de Tela, Honduras”. A special issue of the *Afro-Hispanic Review*, November 2011, *Black is Black?: Rethinking Diaspora, Blackness, and Gender in Central American Literary and Cultural Production*.

- *Peer Reviewed Publication*

“Preliminary Findings: *ENLACE de Mujeres Negras de Honduras (ENMUNEH)* Garifuna Women and their Community-Based NGO in Tela, Honduras”. *LIMON*, Vol. 24, Issue 1 (September 2008, The University of New Mexico)

- *Conference Proceedings*

“How you a nigga and you dancing salsa? The Afro Latino Experiences in an East Harlem Classroom. Ethnography in the Racialization of Blackness and Latinidad”. January 2011 Conference *The State of African American and African Diaspora Studies: Methodology, Pedagogy, and Research* at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. Organized by The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture.

“¡Nuestro Propio Espacio! 15 Years of *ENLACE de Mujeres Negras de Honduras (ENMUNEH)* Garifuna Women and their Community-Based NGO in Bahia de Tela, Honduras”. Spring 2008 Conference *Global Movements, Local Identities: Race, Space, and the African Diaspora in Latin America* at the University of California, Los Angeles. Organized by the UC Berkeley Afro-Latino Working Group and the UCLA Center for Race and Democracy in the Americas.

“¡Buscando Sus Voces y Lugar! Racial Formation of Garífuna Identity in La Ceiba, Honduras: 1903-1965”. Spring 2007 Conference *Beyond Visibility: Rethinking the African Diaspora in Latin America* at the University of California, Berkeley. Organized by the UC Berkeley Afro-Latino Working Group and the UC Berkeley Center for Latin American Studies.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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*The University of New Mexico*, Department of Africana Studies May 2006 to May 2009  
Research Assistant to the Chair-Assisted Dr. Finnie Coleman on the coordination of a departmental research project titled “The Black Presence in New Mexico”, I created a community newsletter to invite black communities to be part of the project as well as wrote the presentation paper on the theme. Placing an emphasis on the historical trajectory of various black experiences in New Mexico.

*The University of New Mexico*, Community & Regional Planning Program August 2006 to May 2006  
Project Assistant-Outlined research literature on the growth machine trends in the Downtown Revitalization of Albuquerque and organized graduate course literature for Dr. Claudia Benoit Isaac.

*NEDAP: Neighborhood Economic Development Advocacy Project* September 2005 to January 2005  
Research Assistant- Conducted research on minority owned small businesses in all five of New York City’s boroughs, through statistical data and one-on-one surveys/interviews. This information was used in an Informal Lending Study that was presented at the New Yorkers for Responsible Lending Conference on November 1, 2005.

Program Participant-Under the mentorship of Dr. Elaine K. Carey, researched the 1968 Mexican Student Movement, analyzing the underlined racism, classism, and masculinity among student protestors, circulating propaganda literature, and political/cultural critic's personas.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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2009-2012 Spanish Teacher, 8<sup>th</sup> grade, *Esperanza Preparatory Academy*  
New York City Department of Education, New York, NY

Fall 2006- Spring 2009 Instructor, Undergraduate Spanish courses, *University of New Mexico*  
Department of Spanish & Portuguese, Albuquerque, NM

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & INVITED LECTURES**

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**Teresa Lozano Long Institute Conference: Refashioning Blackness: Contesting Racism in the Afro-Americas** at the University of Texas at Austin. Presented a paper titled "*Yo Soy Garifuna y con Orgullo: Central American Activism and Identity Politics in the South Bronx*," February 21, 2013.

**Afro-Latin@s Now: Strategies for Visibility & Action** at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture and the Graduate Center at the City University of New York: As a Member of the Afrolatin@ Forum, with Dr. Miriam Jimenez Roman, Guesnerth Josue Perea, Dr. Juan Flores, Yamila Sterling, organized and planned a three-day international conference that will gather scholars, community leaders and artists to advance a dialogue on issues of importance to Black Latin@s in the United States as well as foster positive relations between Latin@s, African Americans, and other peoples of color, November 3-5, 2011.

**The State of African American and Diaspora Studies: Methodology, Pedagogy, and Research** at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. Presented paper titled "*How you a nigga and you dancing salsa? The Afro Latino Experiences in an East Harlem Classroom: Ethnography in the Racialization of Blackness and Latinidad*," January 8, 2011.

**Afro-Latin@s in the Americas: Visibility and Identity: Community Dialogue and Culture Event** at El Museo del Barrio. Invited speaker on a panel discussing the black and indigenous (Garifuna) Central American experiences in New York City, April 10, 2012.

**Afro-Latin@ Identity in the Diaspora** at Teacher's College, Columbia University. Presented paper titled "Afro Latino Identities in the South Bronx classroom on February 24, 2012.

**Caribbean Studies Association XXXII Conference, the Caribbean: Embracing the Diasporas within and without** at San Andres, Colombia, invited by late Professor George Priestley a lecture titled "Gendering Garifuna Rights: Garifuna Honduran Women Claiming their Space in the Movement," on May 26-28, 2008.

**Global Movements, Local Identities: Race, Space, and the African Diaspora in Latin America** at the University of California at Los Angeles invited by the UC-Berkeley Afro-Latino Working Group, to present my fieldwork paper titled "*¡Nuestro Propio Espacio! 15 Years of ENLACE de Mujeres Negras de Honduras (ENMUNEH) Garifuna Women and their Community-Based NGO in Bahia de Tela, Honduras*," on March 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Los Angeles, CA.

**Beyond Visibility: Rethinking the African Diaspora in Latin America** at the University of California at Berkeley, sponsored by the UC-Berkeley Afro-Latino Working Group, presented paper titled "Formation of the Garifuna Identity in La Ceiba, Honduras: 1903-1965," on March 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>, 2007, Berkeley, CA.

## LANGUAGES

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*Spanish (native language)*

*English (advanced fluency)*

*Garifuna (intermediate proficiency)*

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

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*COMMUNITY & REGIONAL PLANNING GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION (January 2007-May 2009)*  
Active Student Participant-Co-Founded a community-based research symposium, a public space where graduate students and community organizers could share their past and current research, in hopes of bridging an intellectual and community bridge among academic planners and community activists.

*STUDENT ORGANIZATION OF LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES (SOLAS) (August 2006-May 2009)*  
Active Student Participant-Organized events centered on social/political movements currently occurring among indigenous and Afro-descendents communities in Central America.

*PEER MENTORING FOR GRADUATE OF COLOR (September 2006-May 2009)*  
Steering Committee Member-Coordinate University programs/events centered on providing academic, networking, and financial resources to graduate students of color at UNM.

## ACADEMIC REFERENCES

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*Elaine Carey, Ph.D*  
Department Chair and Associate Professor of History  
St. John's University  
718-990-5236  
[careye@stjohns.edu](mailto:careye@stjohns.edu)

*Teresa L. Córdova, Ph.D*  
Professor Emeritus, Community and Regional Planning  
The University of New Mexico  
505-277-3922  
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*Juan Flores, Ph.D*  
Professor of Social & Cultural Analysis  
New York University  
212-992-8302  
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*Claudia B. Isaac, Ph.D*  
Associate Professor of Community & Regional  
Planning  
The University of New Mexico  
505-277-3959  
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*Nancy López, Ph.D*  
Associate Professor of Sociology  
The University of New Mexico  
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*Victor M. Macias-González, Ph.D*  
Associate Professor of History  
The University of Wisconsin at La Crosse  
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