

# **Claudia Becerra Méndez, Ph.D. (she/her)**

Teacher and writer

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## **RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE**

- 2024-present**      **Lecturer of Spanish**, World Languages and Literatures, University of Vermont
- 2021-2024**      **Full-Time Professor**, Spanish Department, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus
- 2022-2023**      **Coordinator**, Women and Gender Studies Minor, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus
- 2019-2021**      **World Languages Faculty**, The Calhoun School, Upper West Side, New York

## **EDUCATION**

- 2018**      **Ph.D. Brown University, Hispanic Studies**  
*Dissertation*: “Personas, animales y objetos: hacia una ética de la relación en la poesía latinoamericana de los sesenta y setenta.”  
  
*Fields*: Latin American and Caribbean Literatures, Puerto Rican Studies, Ecocriticism, Gender Studies, Book-Objects, Animal Studies
- 2016**      **M.A. Brown University, Hispanic Studies**
- 2013**      **B.A. University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, Hispanic Studies**  
Minor: Women and Gender Studies

## **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

- 2024-2025**      “Máquina Simple” Fellowship in support of experimental art practices in Puerto Rico, sponsored by Beta-Local.
- 2021-2022**      Puerto Rican Arts Initiative (*PRAI*) Writer Fellow with artist Teresa Hernández, co-sponsored by the Mellon Foundation, Northwestern University, and the University of Texas.
- 2018-2019**      Deans’ Faculty Fellowship for Advanced Dissertation Students, Brown University.
- 2017**      David and Ruth Kossoff Prize for Leadership in Language Teaching, Brown University.
- 2016**      Joukowsky Research Travel Grant, Brown University.
- 2015-2016**      James J. Burke Fellowship Fund, Brown University.
- 2013**      Dean’s Prize for Outstanding Performance and Service, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### *University of Vermont:*

SPAN1200 Basic Spanish, Fall 2024, Spring 2025, Fall 2025  
SPAN2200 Intermediate Spanish, Fall 2024, Fall 2025

### *University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus:*

ESPA3003 Basic Spanish I, Fall 2021, 2022, 2023.  
ESPA3004 Basic Spanish II, Spring 2022, 2023, 2024.  
ESPA3101 Language and Discourse, Fall 2021.  
ESPA3019 Literature and Cultural Nationalism in Puerto Rico, Spring 2022.  
INTD4999 Gender, Animality, and Culture in Puerto Rico, Fall 2022.

### *The Calhoun School:*

Basic Spanish. 2019-2021.  
Intermediate Spanish. 2019-2021.  
Advanced Spanish: Literature and Film. 2019-2021.

### *Brown University:*

HISP100 Basic Spanish. Teaching Associate, Fall 2014.  
HISP200 Basic Spanish. Teaching Associate, Spring 2015.  
HISP300 Intermediate Spanish. Teaching Associate, Fall 2015.  
HISP400 Intermediate Spanish. Teaching Associate, Spring 2016.  
HISP400 Intermediate Spanish. Course Supervisor, Fall 2016.  
HISP13070z Puerto Rico: literatura y política. Co-taught with Julio Ortega, Spring 2017.  
HISP1350 El gran Zoo: Animals in Latin America. Spring 2019.

## **POETRY PUBLICATIONS**

### BOOKS:

*Versión del viaje*. (Second Edition) Lima: Alastor Editores, 2025.  
*Sirenas*, San Juan: Riel, 2023. <https://www.rialeditorial.com/sirenas>  
*Versión del viaje*. San Juan: Folium, 2018. <https://libros787.com/products/version-del-viaje>

### JOURNALS AND ANTHOLOGIES:

Poems from *Sirenas* in *Distropika*, 2023. <https://www.distropika.com/post/poemas-de-claudia-becerra>  
Three translations from *Versión del viaje* by Jacqui Cornetta for *Words Without Borders*, 2022.  
<https://wordswithoutborders.org/read/article/2022-08/the-sea-swarms-your-shout-extends-claudia-becerra-jacqui-cornetta/?src=contributor>  
“12”. *Memoriza: poemas para aprenderse de memoria*. San Juan: La Impresora, 2019.  
Poems in *La pequeña*, 2018. <https://www.revistapequena.com/claudia-becerra>  
Poems in *América Invertida*, New York, 2018.  
Poems in *Rialta: Revista Literaria*, 2018. <https://rialta.org/poemas-version-del-viaje/>  
Poems in *The Puerto Rico Review*. No. 2, 2018.  
Poems in *Mundo Musgo. Antología de poesía joven puertorriqueña*. San Juan: Parawa, 2015.  
Poems in *Revista Lucerna*. Lima, Perú. 2015.

## **PUBLISHED ESSAYS, ARTICLES, AND INTERVIEWS**

“Elogio al disparate. Beatriz Santiago Muñoz and Claudia Becerra in conversation.” Vienna Secession Gallery Booklet. Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther und Franz König, Köln, pp. 5-25. 2024.  
[https://secession.at/publikation\\_beatriz\\_santiago\\_munoz\\_EN](https://secession.at/publikation_beatriz_santiago_munoz_EN)  
“Between the not-yet and the no-longer: Conversación entre Claudia Becerra y Víctor Torres Rodríguez sobre *Sirenas*”. *Caribbean Studies Journal*, Vol. 51 No.1, pp. 143-156. 2024.

- “Literatura y venganza en *Antes que anochezca* de Reinaldo Arenas”. *Reinaldo Arenas. La memoria del cuerpo*. Ed. Yolanda Izquierdo y Rita Moliner. Editorial Isla Negra, 2021.
- “¿Quién le teme a René Marqués?”. *The Puerto Rico Review*. 3.5 (2020): 95-102.
- “Entrevista a Sebastián Otero, a propósito del EP, *Cantando al oscurecer: anjelamaria dávila en canción*”. *The Puerto Rico Review*, 2019.  
<http://www.thepuertoricoreview.com/blog-de-entrevistas/entrevista-a-sebastin-otero>
- “De árboles y Arguedas”. *Inti: Revista de Literatura Hispánica* 1.79 (2014): 105-116.

### **NEWSPAPER COLUMNS**

- “Un inventario de cosas perdidas”. “Será otra cosa”, Periódico *Claridad*, 2021.  
<https://www.claridadpuertorico.com/sera-otra-cosa-un-inventario-de-cosas-perdidas/>
- “Ese lugar era una isla”. “Será otra cosa”, Periódico *Claridad*, 2021.  
<https://www.claridadpuertorico.com/ese-lugar-era-una-isla/>
- “Apuntes sobre un poeta antifascista”. “Será otra cosa”, Periódico *Claridad*, 2021.  
<https://www.claridadpuertorico.com/apuntes-sobre-un-poeta-antifascista/>
- “Interiores”. “Será otra cosa”, Periódico *Claridad*, 2020. <https://www.claridadpuertorico.com/interiores/>
- “Para decirle adiós a Fittonia Albivenis”. “Será otra cosa”, Periódico *Claridad*, 2020.  
<https://www.claridadpuertorico.com/para-decirle-adios-a-fittonia-albivenis/>

### **EVENT COORDINATION**

- Coordinator, Ciclo de cine experimental presenta... Year-long curated program of experimental films by Puerto Rican artists Sofia Córdova, Arnaldo Rodríguez Bagué, Gisela Rosario aka “Macha Colón”. Sponsored by the fellowship “Máquina Simple”, Beta-Local, 2024-2025.
- Coordinator and moderator, Ciclo de cine experimental presenta *Celaje* de Sofia Gallisá Muriente, University of Puerto Rico, 2023.
- Coordinator and moderator, Ciclo de cine experimental presenta “Shorts” de Beatriz Santiago Muñoz, University of Puerto Rico, 2024.
- Coordinator and moderator, Ciclo de cine experimental presenta *Retiro* de Natalia Lassalle Morillo, University of Puerto Rico, 2024.

### **EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE**

- 2018-2022** Co-editor, *The Puerto Rico Review* (no. 3-8). <http://www.thepuertoricoreview.com/>

### **PARTICIPATION IN READINGS, BOOK LAUNCHES, AND PUBLIC EVENTS**

- Poetry Reading, NECLA Conference, University of Vermont, November, 2025.
- Book Launch/Reading, Festival Internacional del Libro en Lima, organized by Alastor Editores. July 2025.
- Reading, Festival Internacional de Poesía en Puerto Rico (FIPR), Casa de la Música, March 2025.
- Conference, “Luis Palés Matos a través de otros”, organized by the municipality of Guayama, Museo Casa Cautiño, March 2025.
- Book launch and reading, *Sirenas* presented by Vanessa Vilches and Jean Alberto Rodríguez, Beta-Local, 2024. <https://claridadpuertorico.com/sera-otra-cosa-las-sirenas-de-claudia1/>
- Reading, *La noche*, poetry reading organized by Riel Press, Regina Café, 2024.
- Reading, *The Puerto Rico Review*, with Cezanne Cardona y Jorge Lefevre, Librería La Esquina, 2024.
- Moderator, “Cafecito con Frank Báez”, organized by UPR Caribe Digital and University of Texas, Facultad de Estudios Generales, Universidad de Puerto Rico, 2024.
- Reading and poetry workshop with students from Escuela Especializada en Matemáticas, Ciencias y Tecnología, Semana de la Lengua, 2024.

Book presenter, *Archivo rural* de Vanessa Vilches, Archivo General de Puerto Rico, 2022.

[https://issuu.com/revistacruce/docs/cruce - de la sombra a la luz - 26 de septiembre 2](https://issuu.com/revistacruce/docs/cruce_-_de_la_sombra_a_la_luz_-_26_de_septiembre_2)

Reading, *Los animales interiores* with Irizelma Robles, Noel Luna, Nora Dávila, Guillermo Rebollo and Sylvia Figueroa, Casa de les Contrafuertes, San Juan, 2022.

Presentation, No.7 *The Puerto Rico Review*", Casa Ruth, San Juan, 2021.

Reading, "Este borde no es una frontera", Casa de les Contrafuertes, San Juan, 2021.

"Alapoesía", reading and interview con Rosa Vanessa Otero, Radio Universidad, San Juan, 2021.

<https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/alapoesia/episodes/Para-celebrar-dos-aos--tres-poetas-el-5gojq>

Reading, "Escritoras transatlánticas", junto a Berta García Faet (España) y Ethel Barja (Perú), presented by Julio Ortega, Brown University, 2020.

"Puerto Rican Literature and Translation", Librería Mil Mundos, Nueva York, 2019.

"I Encuentro de revistas literarias", Librería Word Up, Nueva York, 2019.

Reading, "Los animales interiores", presenta Beatriz Llenin, librería El Candil, Ponce, 2019.

Presentation, No. 2 *The Puerto Rico Review*, McNally Jackson Books, Nueva York, 2018.

Reading, "Huelga de sueños / Poetry Stands Up to Support DREAMERS", Brown University, 2017.

### **THESIS COMMITTEES**

Reader, "La Impresora: autogestión editorial independiente y puertorriqueña" by Amanda Hernández, Masters in Cultural Work, Universidad de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Río Piedras, May 2024.

Reader, "Unafraid of Words: Manuel Ramos Otero's Selected Translations" by María del Mar Antongiorgi, Master's in Translation, Universidad de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Río Piedras, May 2024.

### **JURY IN LITERARY PRIZES**

National Poetry Prize, Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña, 2023.

Poetry Out Loud (Finals), Teatro Victoria Espinosa, Puerto Rico, 2022.

II Premio Internacional de Poesía Pedro Lastra, Stony Brook University, 2020.

### **LANGUAGES**

Native: Spanish

Near-native: English

Reading: French