

# Elizabeth Obregón

University of Illinois at Chicago  
Anthropology Department  
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## Education

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| 2015-present | Ph.D. Candidate in Anthropology<br><i>Dissertation Defense</i>                                 | University of Illinois at Chicago<br><i>Feb. 2022</i>                               |
| 2013-2015    | M.A. Anthropology<br><i>Graduate concentration in Latin American and Latino Studies (LALS)</i> | University of Illinois at Chicago   |
| 2009-2011    | B.A. Anthropology (Minor Biology)<br><i>Honors Thesis:</i>                                     | University of Illinois at Chicago<br><i>Mitochondrial Analysis of the Mijikenda</i> |
| 2006-2008    | A.S. in Biology  | Rock Valley College   |

## Graduate Awards

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| 2021-2022 | Inter-University Program for Latino Research/UIC Mellon Fellowship Program (\$25000.00)      |
| 2020-2021 | UIC Ethel Bohlen Scholarship by Student Affairs (\$1500.00)                                  |
| 2018      | UIC Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy Dissertation Research Grant (\$500.00). |
| 2016      | UIC Chancellor's Graduate Research Award (\$5000.00).  |

## Peer-Reviewed Publications

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| 2020 | Elizabeth Obregón.<br>"Así son los cubanos: narratives of race and ancestry" <i>Ethnic and Racial Studies</i> .<br>44 (11): 2135-53, DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2020.1823447">10.1080/01419870.2020.1823447</a> |
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## Web-based Publications

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| 2021 | Elizabeth Obregón<br>"Confronting Anti-Blackness in 'Colorblind' Cuba." <i>SAPIENS</i> , Sept. 2, 2021.<br><a href="https://sapiens.org/anti-blackness-cuba-confronting-anti-blackness-in-colorblind-cuba">Anti-Blackness Cuba - Confronting Anti-Blackness in "Colorblind" Cuba (sapiens.org)</a> |
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- 2018 Maria de los Angeles Torres with Cynthia Brito, Olga Herrera and **Elizabeth Obregón** (eds.) *Mapping New Directions in Latino Research*. Inter-University Program for Latino Research. [Microsoft Word - EXEC SUMMARY FINAL EDIT 8-15-2018 .docx \(iuplr.org\)](#)

### **In Preparation**

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- n.d. Elizabeth Obregón  
 “Biogenetic Ideas of Race Across the Florida Straits” (*Revise and Resubmit*)

### **Travel Awards**

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- 2018 Graduate Student Council Travel Award (\$275.00)  
 2017 Graduate Student Council Travel Award (\$275.00)

### **Conference Participation**

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- 2021 *Race-Making and Heritage Work Through the Racialized Cuban Body*. Paper presented at the 4<sup>th</sup> New Directions in Cuban Studies Conference. Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>. Cohosted virtually by the Cuban Heritage Collection at University of Miami and Cuba Studies Program at Harvard University.
- 2021 *Transnational and Cross-generational Cuban Genealogies: discourses on race and ancestry through biological narratives*. Paper presented virtually at the 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. April 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- 2018 *Transnational Narratives of Race and Ancestry: on the island and the diaspora*. Paper presented at the Cuban Studies Program Graduate Student Symposium: New Voices in Cuba Studies. Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> at Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.
- 2018 *Race and ancestry in Cuba and in the diaspora constructing ethnoracial identity in Miami and La Habana*. Paper presented at the 36<sup>th</sup> International Congress of the Latin America Studies Association. May 24<sup>th</sup> in Barcelona, Spain, EU.
- 2018 *Transnational Cubanidades: constructing ethnoracial identity in Miami and La Habana*. Paper presented at the biannual Second City Anthropology Conference on March 10<sup>th</sup> at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- 2017 Panel member. Siglo XXI Conference on the Mapping of Latino Research, May 19<sup>th</sup> in San Antonio, TX.
- 2017 *Cuban Identity: on the island and in the diaspora*. Paper presented at the La Academia del Pueblo Latino/a and Latin American Studies Research Conference on April 29<sup>th</sup> at Wayne State, Detroit, MI.

2015 *Modern DNA Analysis of the Mijikenda*. Poster presented at the 84<sup>th</sup> annual American Association of Physical Anthropologists Graduate Session March 25-28<sup>th</sup> held in St. Louis, MS.

### **Teaching Experience**

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2019-21 Teaching Assistant: Anthropology 105 (Introduction to Biological Anthropology)

Sum 2019 Instructor of Record: Anthropology 105

2017-19 Teaching Assistant: Anthropology 105

Fall 2016 Instructor of Record: Anthropology 237 (Human Skeleton)

2015-16 Teaching Assistant: Anthropology 105 & Anth 237

2014-15 Teaching Assistant: Anthropology 237 & Anth 437 (Bioarchaeology)

2013-14 Teaching Assistant: Geography 100 & Anth 237

### **Research Experience**

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2019-22 Research Assistant, Latin American and Latino Studies (LALS) under direction of Dr. Torres: research on Cubans in Angola.

Sum 2019 Research Assistant, LALS: Angola research.

2017-2018 Research Assistant, Inter-University Program for Latino Research (IUPLR) headquartered at UIC: Gathering research and writing reports on the state of Latino research.

### **Laboratory Research**

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2013-2016 UIC's Bioarchaeology and Genetic Lab  
**Graduate Research Assistant** under direction of Dr. Sloan Williams  
Duties: Lab work includes, but not limited to, inventory and extensive analysis of osteological remains from Mtwapa and Manda, Kenya sites, DNA extraction and analysis of ancient DNA and modern DNA of the Mijikenda and Swahili.

7-8/2015 Field Museum  
**Volunteer** Field Museum Osteological Analysis  
Duties: Inventory and analysis of Hopi human remains under the direction of Dr. Ann Grauer of Loyola University. Work included skeletal inventory and analysis of the Hopi remains housed at the Field Museum for the purpose of repatriation.

## **Service**

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- 2021 Mentorship with two Latina, Anthropology major, undergraduate students with work study. Leading Independent Study (ANTH 490) with weekly discussions and hands-on ethnographic transcription experience.
- 2018-2019 Mentorship with two Latina, Anthropology major, undergraduate students with work study.
- 2018 Moderator for Second City Anthropology Conference held at University of Illinois at Chicago on March 10<sup>th</sup>.
- 2017 Scribe during Siglo XXI Conference on the Mapping of Latino Research held in San Antonio, TX on May 19<sup>th</sup>.
- 2015 Abstract Committee Head for 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Midwest Bioarchaeology and Forensic Anthropology Association (BARFAA) conference held at University of Illinois at Chicago, October 23 – 25<sup>th</sup>.
- 2014 Sparks Volunteer – once a week with two students from Mollison Elementary School.  
Tech Assistant – Second City Anthropology Conference, 2014.

## **Foreign Languages**

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- Spanish      Fluent  
English      Native Speaker

## **Letters of Recommendation Upon Request**

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Sloan R. Williams, Ph.D. (Anthropology Department, University of Illinois at Chicago)

María de los Ángeles Torres, Ph.D. (Latin American and Latino Studies Department, University of Illinois at Chicago)