

DEPARTMENT OF HISPANIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE CONVOCATION CEREMONY 2020



**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
2020 CONVOCATION**



MAY 22, 2020

HISPANIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE CONVOCATION CEREMONY BOOKLET 2020





CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020 !!

We would like to celebrate your graduation and achievements in Hispanic Languages and Literature with this booklet crafted at home for you and your families.

We are deeply grateful for all of your work and participation in our academic projects and honored to have shared classrooms, hallways, and screens with you all these years.

¡ FELICITACIONES !

The Department of Hispanic Languages and Literature Faculty and Staff



Prof. Daniela Flesler
Department Chair

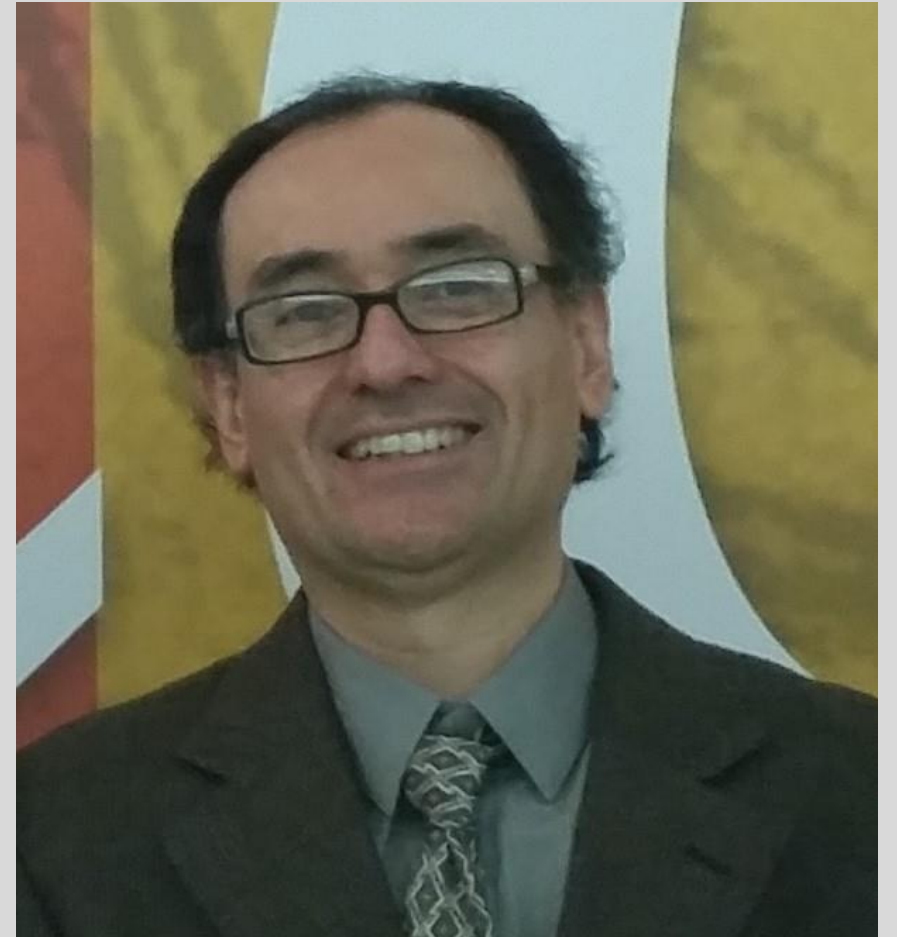
Dear students and families:

Congratulations! It is our deep honor to celebrate with you, through this modified format, the impressive achievement of your graduation. At the department of Hispanic Languages and Literature we pride ourselves in getting to know our students, fostering community, diversity and cultural awareness. Thank you for allowing us to share your journey these last few years. We wish you every success and happiness in the next stage of your lives, and very much hope you will stay in touch. We could not be prouder of you!

Dear students and families:

This spring semester of 2020 we all had to adapt to different environments and face unseen scenarios in a time that should have been full of joy and social warmth. Your endurance and all your achievements are a wonderful lesson for all of us. I admire your braveness, celebrate your accomplishments, and wish you all the best in your professional careers and personal life. You are now leading a new path into a better world.

¡Felicitaciones!



Prof. Paul Firbas
Director of Undergraduate
Studies



From our Department's graduation album!

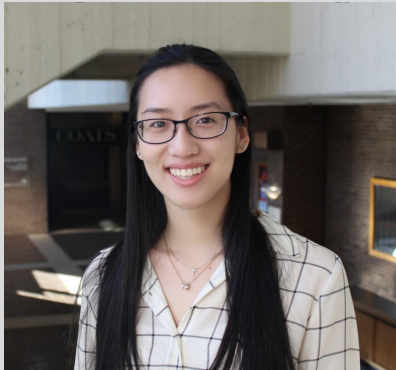
HONORS AND AWARDS



We are proud to present our 2019-2020 university and departmental honors and awards for undergraduates, graduates, and faculty.

Let us start our celebration by presenting our undergraduate students who have been distinguished with honors based on their stellar grade point average (GPA) and their exceptional academic writing in Spanish.

UNDERGRADUATE HONORS



Magna Cum Laude (GPA 3.7+):

Terrie Hsun



Summa Cum Laude (GPA 3.85+):

Ian Lesnick

UNDERGRADUATE DEPARTMENTAL HONORS



BEST GPA IN SPANISH MAJOR

Ian Lesnick



UNDERGRADUATE DEPARTMENTAL HONORS



UNDERGRADUATE BEST ESSAY AWARD

Anita Rescia

“La cultura inextricable de la lengua: una investigación a través de las expresiones idiomáticas”





*From our Department's
graduation album*

Prof. Aurélie Vialette

Director of Graduate Studies

¡Felicidades estudiantes graduados de 2020!
Getting a graduate degree, MA or PhD, implies a road full of emotions. Joy. Frustrations. Accomplishments. Fears. Doubts. Pleasure. You've spent years taking classes, researching and writing and have now in your possession an MA or PhD thesis. We are so proud of you. You are now MAs and PhDs, and some of you will teach and advise students, from which you will learn all the time: in the classroom, during office hours, at workshops and coffee breaks. And this is the most beautiful aspect of this profession. Welcome to the world of teachers and scholars!



GRADUATE AND FACULTY AWARDS



Let us continue our celebration by presenting our graduate students, teaching assistants, and faculty in Hispanic Languages and Literature who are the recipients of prestigious awards, fellowships, and scholarships.

DEPARTMENTAL GRADUATE AWARDS



BEST GRADUATE ESSAY AWARD



María Medín Doce

“La alteración del espacio: encuentros con la otredad en *Inferno verde* de Alberto Rangel”



Mario Henao

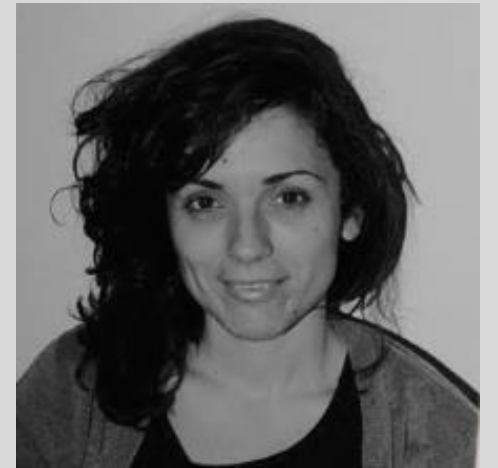
“De lo peor siempre viene lo mejor: nuevas formas de mirar en *Yo, la peor de todas* de María Luisa Bemberg”

DEPARTMENTAL GRADUATE TEACHING AWARD



EXCELLENCE IN GRADUATE TEACHING

Sara Martínez Navarro



NON DEPARTMENTAL GRADUATE AWARDS



HUMANITIES INSTITUTE AT STONY BROOK FELLOWSHIP
Cornell University Summer School of Criticism and Theory

Isabel Murcia Estrada



**PUBLIC HUMANITIES FELLOWSHIP FROM THE NEW YORK
COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES 2020-2021**

Moisés Hassan Bendahan



NON DEPARTMENTAL GRADUATE AWARDS



PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING BY A GRADUATE STUDENT

Sara Martínez Navarro



TURNER DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP AWARD

Régulo Silva



NON DEPARTMENTAL GRADUATE AWARDS



SUMMER 2020 AHLSS RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Isabel Murcia Estrada



SUMMER 2020 AHLSS RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Moisés Hassan Bendahan



FACULTY AWARDS



HUMANITIES INSTITUTE AT STONY BROOK FACULTY FELLOWSHIP 2020-2021

Paul Firbas for the book project "News Production and Networks in Colonial Lima (1620-1720): The Contreras Family Print Shop"



FUNDACIÓN FRANCISCO AYALA SCHOLARSHIP (SPAIN)

Lena Burgos-Lafuente for the project "El efecto Ayala: política, estética y educación superior en el Puerto Rico de los años 50"



FACULTY AWARDS



LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION 2020 BEST BOOK IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY AWARD

Joseph Pierce for his book *Argentine Intimacies: Queer Kinship in an Age of Splendor, 1890-1910*



2019-20 WILBUR MARVIN SCHOLAR OF THE DAVID ROCKEFELLER CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Lena Burgos-Lafuente for her project "A la izquierda de la izquierda: Cosmopolitan Communisms in Early to Mid-Twentieth Century Caribbean (1920-1959)"



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR AWARDEES!



WE ARE PROUD TO PRESENT OUR MAJORS

B.A IN SPANISH

MAY 2020 and FALL 2019





Elvis Gálvez

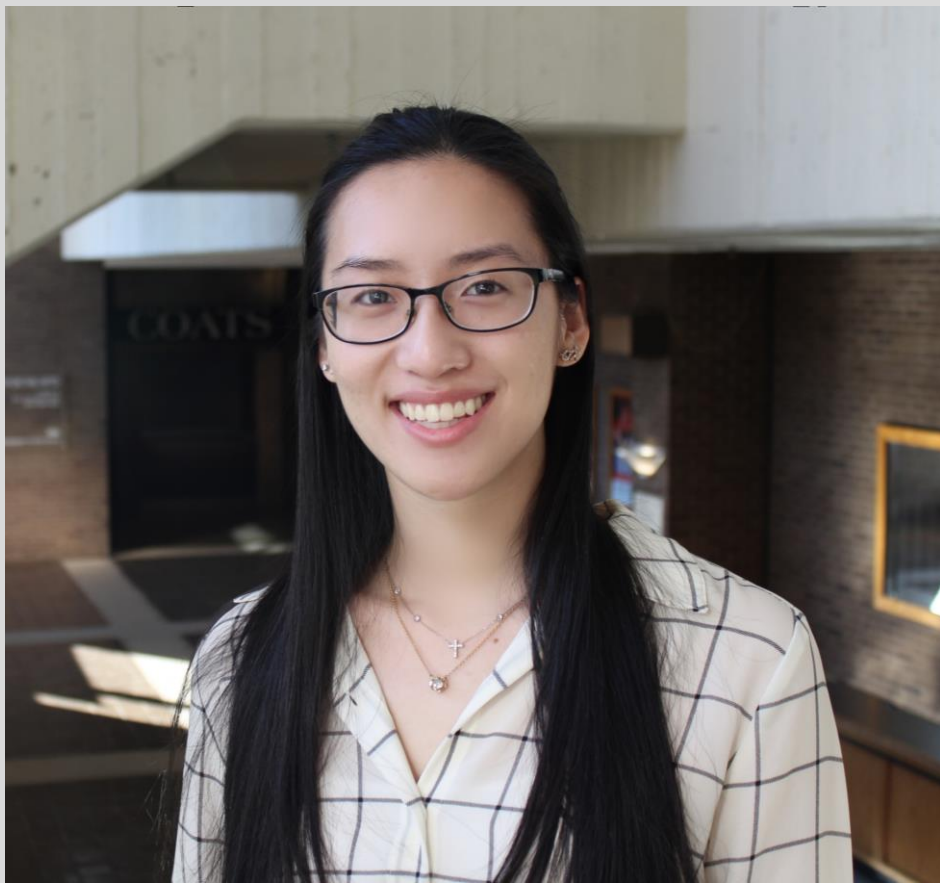
CLASS OF 2020

MAJOR IN SPANISH



Stony Brook University
College of Arts and Sciences

**Department of Hispanic Languages
and Literature**



Terrie Hsun

CLASS OF 2020

**Majors in Biochemistry
and SPANISH**



Stony Brook University
College of Arts and Sciences

**Department of Hispanic Languages
and Literature**



Terrie Hsun

*Mi gemela y yo
cuando
teníamos cinco
años*



Ian Lesnick

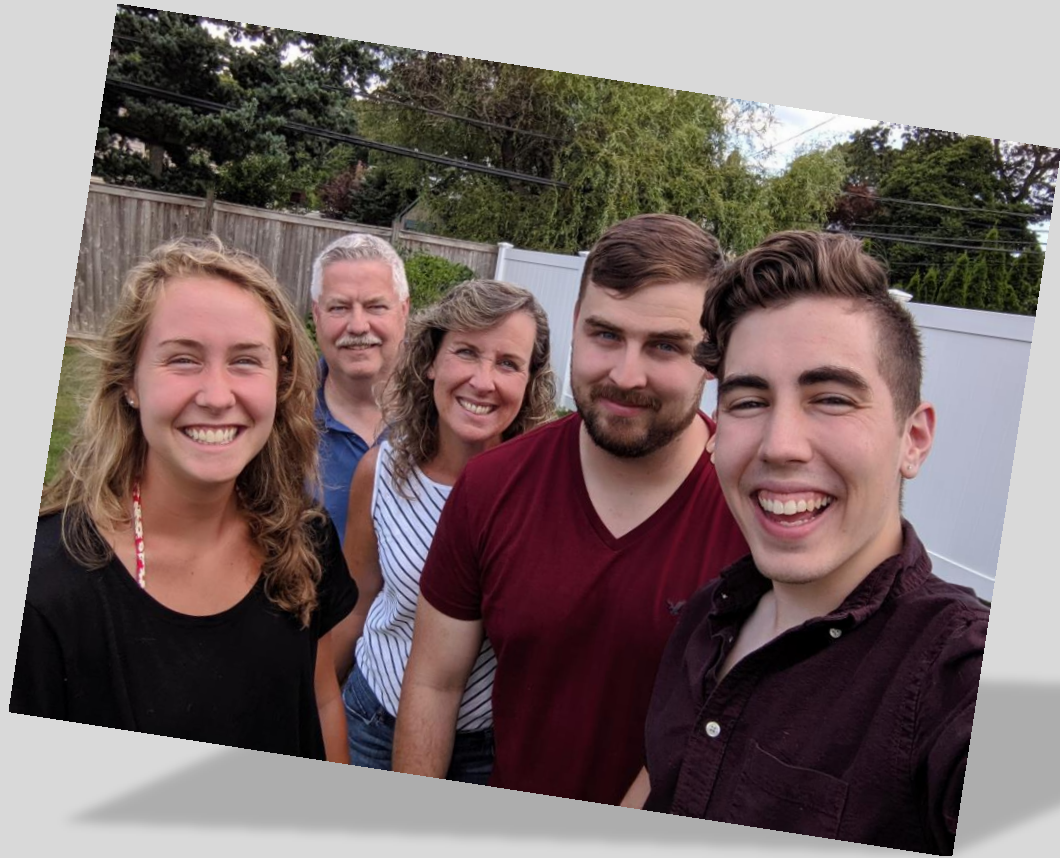
CLASS OF 2020

**Majors in
Linguistics/TESOL
and SPANISH**



Stony Brook University
College of Arts and Sciences

**Department of Hispanic Languages
and Literature**



*Forever grateful for the support
and love from my family*

Ian Lesnick

Quiero agradecer a todas las personas del departamento de Hispanic Languages & Literature: los profesores y los estudiantes. Todos me han dado tantas oportunidades de aprender y crecer. No tengo una cantidad de palabras suficiente para expresar mi gratitud por todo que me han ofrecido. Sé que durante toda mi carrera como profesor usaré todas las historias, lecciones, y conversaciones de nuestras clases para seguir desarrollando a mis estudiantes.
¡Muchísimas gracias y felicidades a todos!



Fátima Abarca Soriano

CLASS OF 2020

FALL 2019

**BS in Biology and
Major in SPANISH**



Stony Brook University
College of Arts and Sciences

**Department of Hispanic Languages
and Literature**



Fátima Abarca Soriano

La familia es donde la vida comienza y el amor nunca termina



Isabela Kyle

CLASS OF 2020

FALL 2019

MAJOR IN SPANISH



Stony Brook University
College of Arts and Sciences

**Department of Hispanic Languages
and Literature**



Isabela Kyle

Me at work- right after graduating in December, I was hired to work for Vera Wang!



Joshua Tanski

CLASS OF 2020

FALL 2019

MAJOR IN SPANISH



Stony Brook University
College of Arts and Sciences

**Department of Hispanic Languages
and Literature**



Joshua Tanski

*Last day of the Spring
Plaza.
La clase era nuestra
plaza de encuentros y
debates*



Emma Zoubek

CLASS OF 2020

FALL 2019

**Majors in SPANISH
and Biology**



Stony Brook University
College of Arts and Sciences

**Department of Hispanic Languages
and Literature**

Emma Zoubek

Thank you so much to all of the faculty in this department. You created a community for me and my classmates at Stony Brook. I always felt that I could turn to any of my professors for help and advice! Through these classes I grew both as a student and a person. I especially want to thank the department for their encouragement and support with the formation of the Spanish Language Club. I feel very privileged to have been a student in the Department of Hispanic Languages and Literature at Stony Brook.



My first ever day of school!

WE ARE PROUD TO PRESENT OUR

MINORS IN SPANISH



CLASS OF 2020

MINOR IN SPANISH



Stony Brook University
College of Arts and Sciences

Department of Hispanic Languages
and Literature

Congratulations!
¡Felicitaciones, Jeremy!

Jeremy Richard Cohen



Pauline Goerges

CLASS OF 2020

MINOR IN SPANISH

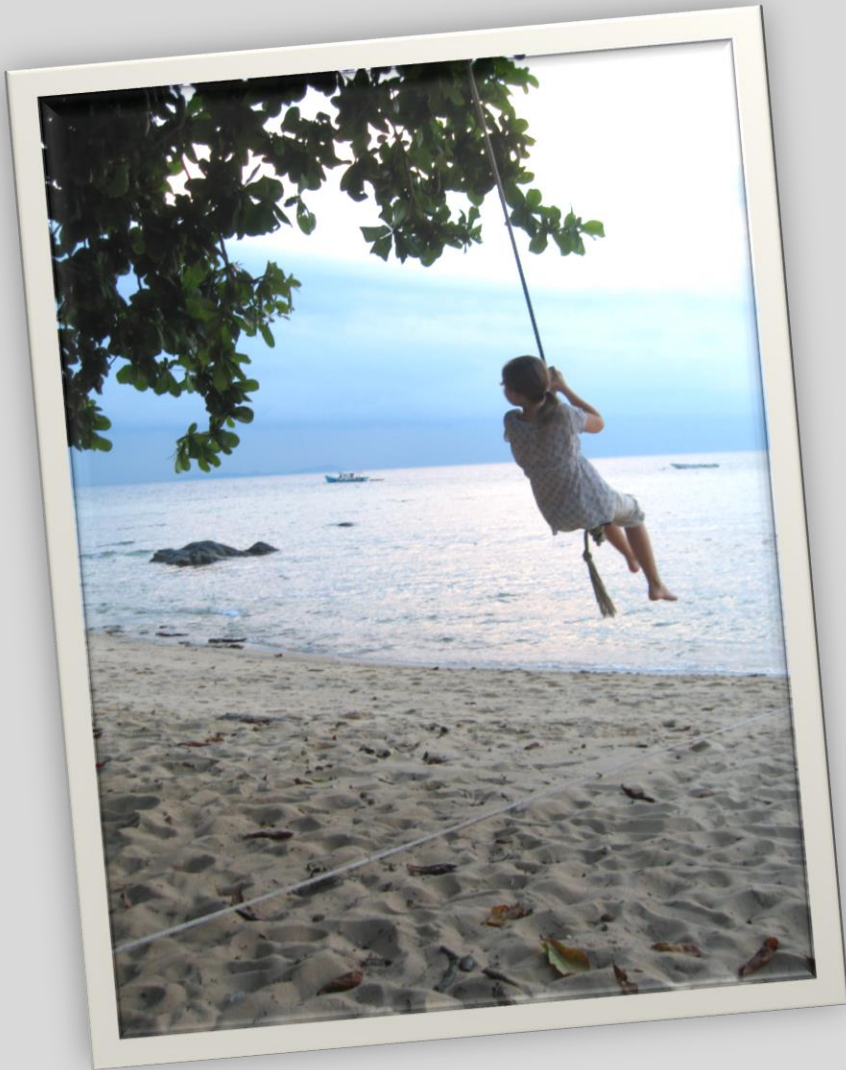


Stony Brook University
College of Arts and Sciences

**Department of Hispanic Languages
and Literature**

Pauline Goerges

As a Spanish student at SBU, I had the opportunity to study abroad in Madrid for one semester. I attended UC3M, got to explore Madrid, and made some amazing new friends with whom I am still in contact with. It was truly an unforgettable experience and the memories I made there will always be connect to my time at SBU.



The beach takes my heart to a place of serenity and peace

CLASS OF 2020

MINOR IN SPANISH



Stony Brook University
College of Arts and Sciences

Department of Hispanic Languages
and Literature

Congratulations!

¡Felicitaciones, John!

John Thomas Gryski



Kenneth James Meserole

CLASS OF 2020

MINOR IN SPANISH



Stony Brook University
College of Arts and Sciences

**Department of Hispanic Languages
and Literature**



My closest friends in the Class of 2019

Kenneth Meserole

Hosting the Salsa Night for the new Spanish Language Club was an unforgettable experience. Although I am a terrible dancer, my friends and I were helping to share Hispanic culture and forming something new for future students to be a part of; that was so exciting and special to me.



Leila Ya'Akova Rennie

CLASS OF 2020

MINOR IN SPANISH



Stony Brook University
College of Arts and Sciences

**Department of Hispanic Languages
and Literature**

Leila Rennie

*"Nunca serás capaz
de cruzar el océano
hasta que pierdas
de vista la costa"*





Dominique Alexa Rogers

CLASS OF 2020

MINOR IN SPANISH



Stony Brook University
College of Arts and Sciences

**Department of Hispanic Languages
and Literature**



Chelsea Hadley Rose

CLASS OF 2020

MINOR IN SPANISH



Stony Brook University
College of Arts and Sciences

**Department of Hispanic Languages
and Literature**



Chelsea Rose

*El último día en
Stony Brook*



Suzanne Marie Tawch

CLASS OF 2020

MINOR IN SPANISH



Stony Brook University
College of Arts and Sciences

**Department of Hispanic Languages
and Literature**



Suzanne Tawch

In loving memory of Señora Aigen, my high school Spanish teacher. Thank you for always encouraging my passion for Spanish. I will always cherish our class trip to Spain.



**Jennifer Joy
Melosantos Tiongco**

CLASS OF 2020

MINOR IN SPANISH



Stony Brook University
College of Arts and Sciences

**Department of Hispanic Languages
and Literature**



Jennifer Joy Tiongco

*Much love to
these people*

**WE ARE PROUD TO PRESENT OUR
MASTERS**

M.A. IN SPANISH



CLASS OF 2020



Stony Brook University
School of Professional Development

**MASTER OF ARTS IN
TEACHING SPANISH 7-12**

**Department of Hispanic
Languages and Literature**



Lindsay McCoy

Lindsay's longtime hope has been that, through her instruction, she could catch the zeal that most students have on their very first day of Spanish class and enable them to hold onto it for the rest of their lives - to find joy in learning material that can be so vividly brought to life both inside and outside the classroom. As the recipient of a Masters in Teaching from Stony Brook University, Lindsay has no doubt in her mind that she is equipped to accomplish this feat and change the lives and perspectives of her students in creative and meaningful ways!



Lindsay McCoy

Her adventurous spirit always guiding her, Lindsay aspires to utilize her Masters Degree to spark her students to discover the unwavering beauty of the world through the avenue of speaking a foreign language!

CLASS OF 2020



Stony Brook University
School of Professional Development

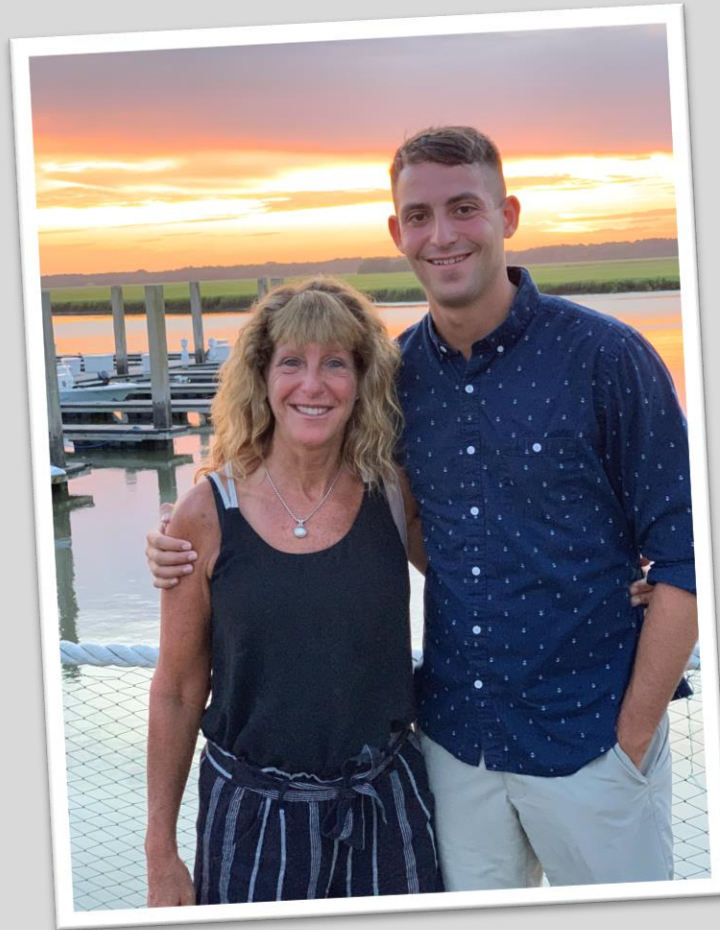
**MASTER OF ARTS IN
TEACHING SPANISH 7-12**

**Department of Hispanic
Languages and Literature**



Austin Portente

Being a student in Stony Brook's MAT program has been an extremely rewarding and fulfilling experience. Although I was nervous about starting a new journey at the graduate level, I must say that the memories that I have made with my fellow classmates and the faculty will continue to live on in my mind. I would like to specifically thank all of the professors with whom I established meaningful relationships (from Hispanic Languages and Literature & the Teacher Education Programs) because they truly made each commute to Stony Brook—after a long day of work—worth it!



Austin Portente

En la foto, estoy con mi mamá. Además de ser una persona cariñosa, mi mamá me ha inspirado mucho en mis estudios de lenguas extranjeras porque era profesora de francés y español como yo

CLASS OF 2020



Stony Brook University
School of Professional Development

**MASTER OF ARTS IN
TEACHING SPANISH 7-12**

**Department of Hispanic
Languages and Literature**



Matthew Tooman



At the Great Wall of China 2002, myself (left) and my friend, Dave. Looking ahead to all of life's challenges and successes

Matthew Tooman

My best memory started at the beginning of my journey at Stony Brook, meeting Professor Sarah Jourdain and being accepted into the Masters of Teaching program. Becoming a teacher has been one of the best experiences in my life!

CLASS OF 2020

**MASTER OF ARTS
Hispanic Languages and
Literature**

**Department of Hispanic
Languages and Literature**



**Stony Brook University
Graduate School**



Gisele Blain De Dios



Gisele Blain De Dios

There are plenty of good memories! Organizing The Hispanic Film Festivals are at the top, but the best include the numerous times my fellow classmates got together around my table, with good food, drinks and long wonderful conversations. The relationships built during my time at Stony Brook are invaluable and always cherished!

Hispanic Film Festival

CLASS OF 2020

**MASTER OF ARTS
Hispanic Languages and
Literature**

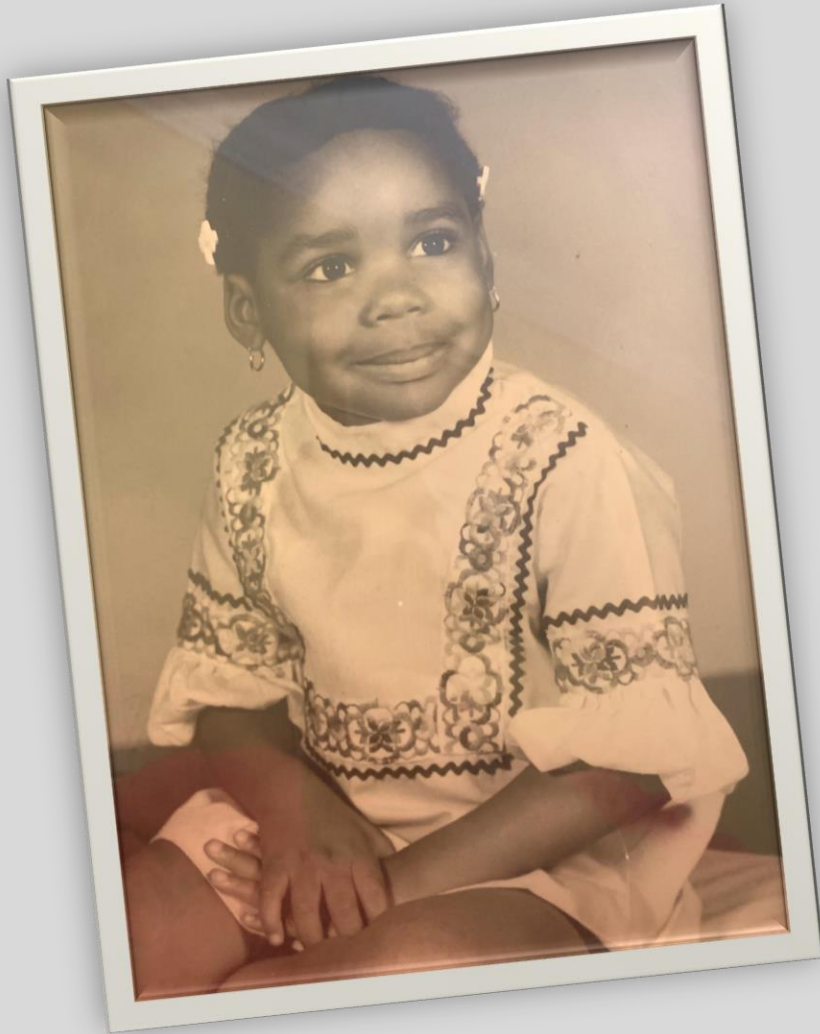
**Department of Hispanic
Languages and Literature**



**Stony Brook University
Graduate School**



Claretha Richardson



Claretha Y Richardson

Obrigado por me
defender.
Gracias por
ayudarme durante
la enfermedad.
Thank you most
of all for
encouraging me
and for not letting
me quit!

*The sky is the limit
to what I can have*

**WE ARE PROUD TO PRESENT OUR
DOCTORS**

**Ph.D. IN HISPANIC
LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE**





**Ph.D. in
Hispanic Languages
and Literature**



**Stony Brook University
Graduate School**

José Chueca

Dissertation

*El mirar barroco. Las supervivencias
del barroco y el trastorno de la
modernidad en el Perú
contemporáneo*

Spring, 2020

Advisor:
Prof. Adrián Pérez-Melgosa.



José Chueca

The best parts of my experience as a graduate student are the most challenging ones: understanding remarkably complicated things with the help of wonderful fellows and professors and teaching immensely beautiful things to the marvelous students of Stony Brook University.

Those experiences will travel with me forever.



Esther and I.

This doctorate is dedicated to her



**Ph.D. in
Hispanic Languages
and Literature**



**Stony Brook University
Graduate School**

Agustina Bullrich

Dissertation

*Más allá de las violencias machistas:
las acciones feministas de
Beth Moysés y Berna Reale*

Fall, 2019

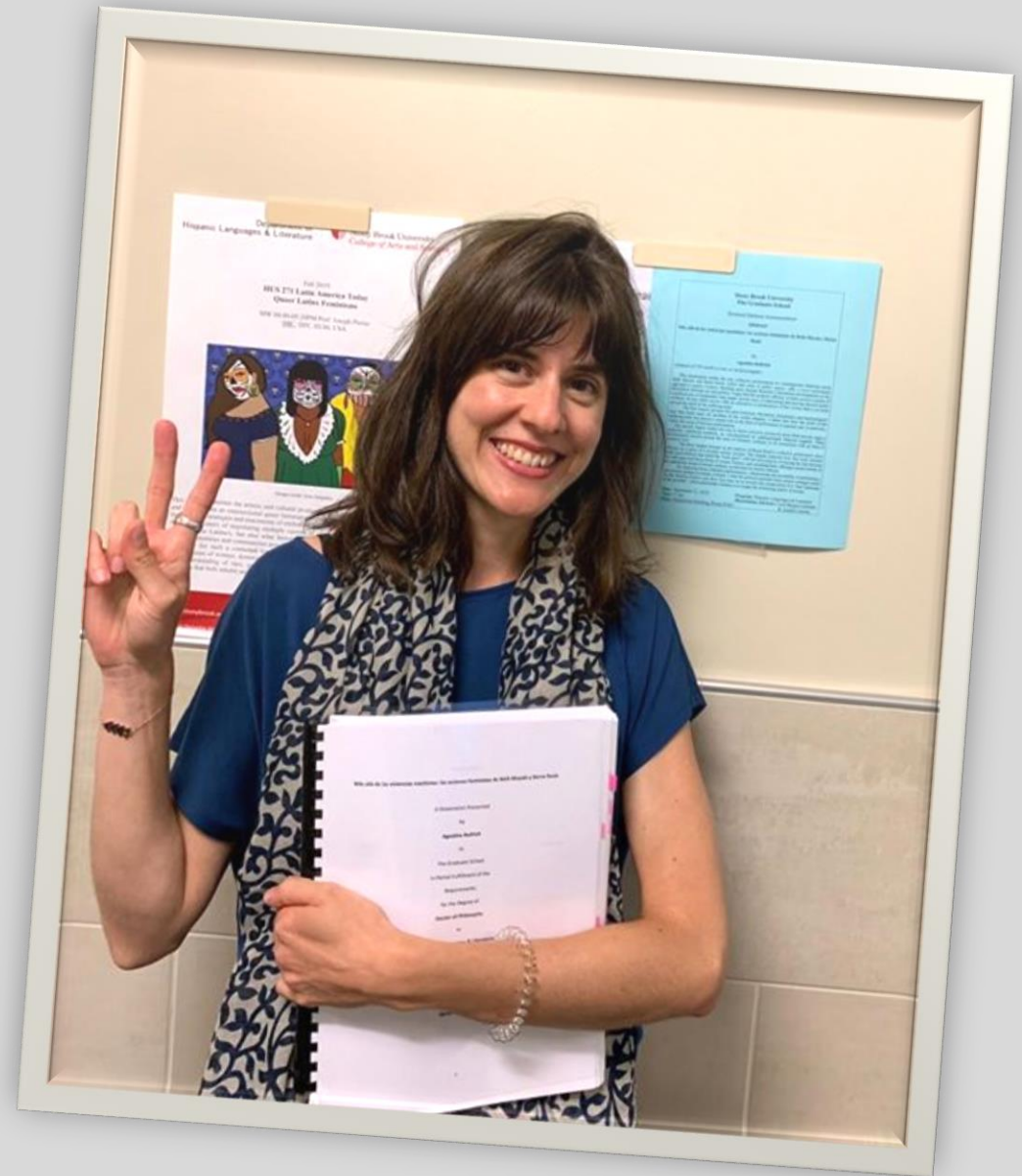
Advisors:

Prof. Lena Burgos-Lafuente

Prof. Aurélie Vialette

Agustina Bullrich

Post-defense joy





**Ph.D. in
Hispanic Languages
and Literature**



**Stony Brook University
Graduate School**

Gabriel Rudas Burgos

Dissertation

*Narrativas inhumanas: capitalismo extractivo,
delirios animistas y representación textual en
José Eustasio Rivera, José María Arguedas y
Juan Cárdenas*

Fall, 2019

Advisors:
Prof. Paul Firbas
Prof. Javier Uriarte

Gabriel Rudas Burgos

Standing for Humanities





Many thanks to all of our students for their dedication, passion, and friendship!

Department of
Hispanic Languages & Literature



Stony Brook University
College of Arts and Sciences



Watch our graduation video and more on our [youtube channel](#)

Visit us on our webpage: <https://www.stonybrook.edu/hispanic/>

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Stony Brook
University

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