

Fernando A. Blanco is Associate Professor of Spanish and Director of the Latin American Studies Program (LAMS) at Bucknell University. He holds a Ph.D. in Latin American Literatures and Cultures from The Ohio State University. He completed his B.A. at the Universidad de Chile. He specializes in 20th and 21st century Latin American literature and cultures with a focus on Memory and Sexuality Studies. His research examines narratives of memory and violence in the Southern Cone and Central America. His work in Sexuality Studies focuses on textual and cultural representations of sexual minorities and analyzes the struggle for sexual citizenship in the Latin American region. He has published extensively on the intersection of Human Rights, Memory, LGBTQ+ Aesthetics and Politics, Visual Art, and Literature in Latin America.

He has authored several books, among them *Neoliberal Bonds: Undoing memory in Chilean Art and Literature* (The Ohio State University Press: Columbus, 2015). *Desmemoria y pervisión: Privatizar lo público, mediatizar lo íntimo, administrar lo privado* (Santiago de Chile: Cuarto Propio [2010] 2012). In addition, he has edited three books on Pedro Lemebel's work, *La Vida Imitada: Narrativa, performance y visualidad en la obra de Pedro Lemebel* (Iberoamericana-Vervuert, 2020) and *Reinas de otro cielo: Modernidad y autoritarismo en la obra de Pedro Lemebel* (Santiago de Chile: LOM, 2004). He has also coedited several books and dossiers, among them: *Desdén al infortunio: Sujeto, comunicación y público en la narrativa de Pedro Lemebel* (Santiago de Chile: Cuarto Propio, 2010) co-edited with Juan Poblete; *Democracias incompletas en el Cono Sur: Actores, demandas, intersecciones*, coedited with Cristián Opazo (Santiago de Chile: Cuarto Propio, 2019); *Políticas del amor: Derechos sexuales y escrituras disidentes en el Cono Sur*, co-edited with Mario Pecheny and Joseph Pierce (Santiago de Chile: Cuarto Propio, 2018); *Dossier Monográfico 10: Chile de Memoria. Nuestra América. Revista de Estudios sobre la Cultura Latinoamericana* co-edited with Andrea Jeftanovic and Bernardita Llanos (Porto, Portugal, 2016); *The Performance of Archives: Re-imagining Memory and History in Latin America*, coedited with Wolfgang Bongers and Michael J. Lazzara (*A Contracorriente. Journal of Latin American Studies*, 2014); *Archivo y memoria: Culturas subversivas de la memoria en arte, medios, literatura y experiencia cotidiana. Latinoamérica 1970-2010. Chasqui: Revista de Literatura Latinoamericana*. 2012. *Carlos Monsiváis. Yo, Ambulante de Memoria*. Dossier in *Revista Taller de Letras*: 50. Universidad Católica de Chile, 2012.

His article “La Frida no envejeció, Yo soy la Frida envejecida.” La última performance de Pedro Lemebel, published by *Cuadernos de Literatura* won the best article prize awarded by the LASA Sexuality Studies Section. His articles have appeared in journals such as *Revista Iberoamericana*, *Chasqui*, *Revista de Crítica Literaria Latinoamericana*, and *A Contracorriente*, among others.

Blanco served as Chair of the Southern Cone Studies Section of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) from 2015-2018. During his term, the section started organizing biannual symposia in Latin American countries: Chile (2015), Uruguay (2017), and Argentina (2019). The success of these initiatives strengthened the academic and grassroots dialogue between USA based scholars and their Latin American peers. He also created an Advisory Board for the section to maintain continuity among the incoming chair and the work done by previous section chairs.

While serving as Chair of the Southern Cone section, Blanco had two goals: first, to allow Latin American scholars and grassroots activists to engage in a fruitful and reciprocal dialogue with their American peers; and second, to increase the exchange of scholarship and collaboration among

them and the other constituents of civil society in their home countries as these encounters revitalize research agendas on both sides, overcoming the colonial legacy. He was successful in meeting these goals and remains committed to fostering and nourish a North-South dialogue in which accessibility and cost does not represent an obstacle for those who cannot afford to attend a LASA conference.

He has been a member of LASA since 2003, serves on several editorial boards, and has been a faculty member at the Universidad de Chile and a Visiting Professor at Universidad Católica de Chile. He has been invited to give talks by several Latin-American, American, and European colleges and universities.