

**Mayra G. Sánchez Barba**

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Geography Graduate Group | University of California, Davis  
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**EDUCATION**

**Ph.D. Geography**, Designated Emphasis: Feminist Theory & Research, University of California, Davis, Expected 2019  
Dissertation title: Disabling Ecologies: Race and Toxic Pesticide Exposures in California's Central Coast  
The dissertation examines how the local communities in California's Central Coast articulate how the industrial scale use of pesticides affect their health and wellbeing, particularly through children's learning disabilities  
*Advisors:* Karen Watson-Gegeo, Julie Sze, Liza Grandia

**M.S. Community Development**, University of California, Davis, September 2013

**M.S. Child Development**, University of California, Davis, January 2013

**B.S. Psychology**, Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Occidente, Guadalajara, Mexico, December 2007

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

**Ph.D. Research**, UC Davis (2014 - present)

Use environmental justice, feminist and queer theory, and critical disability studies to investigate how local communities in California's Central Coast articulate the chronic, cumulative, and transgenerational exposure to agricultural pesticides in everyday spaces.

**Mellon Public Scholars**, UC Davis (2017 - 2018)

*Mentor:* Julie Sze, American Studies

As part of a community engaged research project, I collaborated with a grassroots parent support group formed by Latina mothers of children with disabilities in an agricultural town in Salinas Valley.

**Masters Research**, UC Davis (2010 - 2012)

Investigated socialization practices concerning institutional navigation in a mixed-status Mexican immigrant mother and her family through ethnography.

**Research Assistant**, Emergent Adulthood Lab, UC Davis (2010 - 2011)

*PI:* Adrienne Nishina, Department of Human Development

Developed study measurements for study of college students' characteristics and social experiences within their high school and university

**Research Analyst**, Infancy and Childhood Laboratory, University of Guadalajara (2007 - 2009)

*PI:* Carmen Quintana, Center of Studies and Behavioral Research  
Coded observations of middle- and working-class parent-child interactions for study of language and cognitive development during infancy, and between hearing-impaired parent-child dyads.

### **AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS**

American Association of Geographers Graduate Student Affinity Group Travel Award	2019
Geography Graduate Group Travel Award	2019
University of California Dissertation Year Fellowship	2018 - 2019
Degrowth and Environmental Justice Summer School, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona	2018
Institute for Social Sciences Award, UC Davis	2017
Mellon Public Scholars, UC Davis	2017
Feminist Research Institute, UC Davis	2017
Henry A. Jastro Research Award, UC Davis	2016
Henry A. Jastro Research Award, UC Davis	2015
Geography Block Grant, UC Davis	2014
Geography Block Grant UC Davis	2013
Community Service Award by the UC Davis Community Service Resource Center	2013
Orville Research Award, UC Davis	2012
Hemispheric Institute of the Americas Tinker Fellowship, UC Davis	2012
Community Development Fellowship, UC Davis	2012
Human Development Block Grant, UC Davis	2010

### **PUBLICATIONS**

Sánchez Barba, M. G. (under review). *'Keeping Them Down': Neurotoxic Pesticides, Race, and Disabling Biopolitics.*

Sánchez Barba, M. G. Taggug Jr, R. B. & Stein, S. A. H. (2018) Public Scholarship in a Time of Crisis: A Reflection. *Public* 5(1).

Sánchez, M. & Quintana, C. (2009). Effectiveness of teaching procedures used by mothers in children's learning of temporal decontextualization. *Revista de la Conducta de la Universidad Veracruzana.*

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Lead Instructor:** Designed curriculum and course content, developed online learning platform,

planned lessons, developed exams and assessments, graded assignments, held office hours

**Geography Department, Sonoma State University**

*Course:* Introduction to World Regional Geography (Fall 2017)

*Topics:* globalization, diversity, capitalism, neoliberalism, colonialism, development, disparity, environmental justice, political ecology, social inequality, gender

**School of Education, UC Davis**

*Course:* Children's Material Lives (four quarters)

*Topics:* childhood, rights, migration, gender, race and ethnicity, commercialization, child labor and slavery, colonialism, violence, war and trauma

**Department of Spanish & Portuguese, UC Davis**

*Courses:* Spanish 1, 2, 3 (Basic levels) (seven quarters)

*Topics:* Grammar, culture, history, geography

**Teaching Assistant:** Facilitated class discussion, assisted online learning platform, graded assignments, held office hours

**Department of Human Development, UC Davis**

*Courses:* Infancy and Early Childhood (one quarter); Human Sexuality (four quarters); Emotionally Disturbed Children (one quarter)

*Topics:* human sexuality, sex, gender, sexuality, sex, culture, development, socialization, ability, education, mental health,

**Department of Chicano Studies, UC Davis**

*Courses:* Introduction to Chicano Studies (one quarter); Psychological Perspectives on Chicano/Latino Family (one quarter)

*Topics:* race, racism, racial state, ethnicity, nation, migration, class, labor, social movement, activism, militarization, policing, state violence gender, family, patriarchy, machismo

**Graduate Student Reader:** Attended periodically course lectures, read course readings, graded students' homework assignments and exams, provided feedback

**Department of Chicano Studies, UC Davis**

*Courses:* Chicanas in Politics and Public Policy (one quarter)

*Topics:* race, gender, class, sexuality, reproduction, rights, public policy, state violence, xenophobia

**Department of Asian-Asian-American Studies, UC Davis**

*Courses:* Asian American Youth (one quarter)

*Topics:* race, pan-ethnicity, diaspora, migration, class, youth, social movement, activism

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING**

Feminist Pedagogy, UC Davis	2017
Certificate for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, UC Davis	2014
Teaching Methodology, Spanish Department, UC Davis	2012
Feminist Teaching Practices, UC Davis	2011

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Graduate Outreach Coordinator**, Women’s Resources and Research Center, UC Davis (2015 - 2018)

Promote gender equity via advising. Develop programs and provide educational outreach to graduate students and student parents on topics such as non-binary gender identities and sexualities, sexual and reproductive health, childcare, and so on.

**Program Coordinator**, Yolo Family Resource Services, Davis, Woodland and Knights Landing, California (2012 - 2013)

Supported Latina women and youth groups from working-class and agricultural backgrounds in developing programs and accessing local resources and services.

**Graduate Outreach McNair Scholars Program**, UC Davis (2012)

Recruited students to the McNair program. Provided academic advising to undergraduate students. Supported students own research, presentations, and graduate school applications.

**Manuel Crespo Monares Elementary School**, Guadalajara, Mexico. (2006- 2007)

Developed a program oriented to teachers and parents to aid children who presented disruptive or aggressive behavior, and low academic performance.

**Josefina Ortiz Elementary School**, Guadalajara, Mexico. (2005)

Developed and coordinated an assistance program for student's parents on parenting issues, child development, sexual education, prevention and treatment of child misbehavior, aggression, and domestic violence.

**Boarding School Beatriz Hernández**, Guadalajara, Mexico. (2004)

Interviewed girls from abusive family backgrounds and their parents as part of psychological therapeutic assessment and treatment.

## **ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS**

(2018) What makes pesticides ‘toxic’? Caring for vulnerable bodies and desirable ecologies in California’s agriculture. *Rethinking Science and Public Participation Colloquium*. University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland.

- (2018) Slow Violence of California's Agriculture and the Gendered Ethics of Everyday Caring. *Feminist Research Institute and Feminist Research Symposium*, UC Davis.
- (2018) Temporalities of Toxic Exposure: Vulnerability to Pesticides in California's Central Coast. *California Geographical Society*, Sacramento, CA.
- (2018) Temporalities of Toxic Exposure: Vulnerability of Pesticides in Agricultural California. *Swedish Anthropological Conference*, Uppsala, Sweden.
- (2017) The Everydayness of Living Environmentalism in Struggles against Pesticides in California. *American Association of Geographers*, Boston, MA.
- (2016) Toward a Feminist Political Ecology of Children's Vulnerability to Toxic Agricultural Environments through Parent's Experiences. *American Association of Geographers*, San Francisco, CA.
- (2012) Taking on a Critical Look at the Intersection between the State of Jalisco and the Family through Jalisco DIF System. Paper presented at the Second *Feminist Theory Meets X: Graduate Student Symposium*, UC Davis.
- (2011) Students' Perceptions of High School Size and their Relation to their Size-Related Experiences. Poster presented at the SRCD Biennial Meeting in Montreal, Canada. Co-presented with N. Sadler, N., DeBaum, A., & Nishina, A.
- (2008) Cognitive development of deaf children interacting with hearing mothers. Poster presented at the XXIX International Congress of Psychology, Berlin, Germany. Co-presented with C. Quintana.
- (2008) Interactions between Deaf children and Hearing mothers and Language Development. Poster presented at the 20th Biennial Meeting of the International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development, Wurzburg, Germany. Co-presented with C. Quintana, C., and J. Salcedo.

### **GUEST SPEAKER & COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS**

- (2018) Toxic Brains: Pesticide Exposure and Disability among Central Coast's Latino children. *American Studies: Cultural Geography*. UC Davis undergraduate course.
- (2018) Toxic Learning: Chemical Violence in California's Agricultural Landscapes. *Geography: Cultural Geography*. California State University Sacramento undergraduate course.
- (2017) Public Engaged Scholarship. *Cultural Studies Colloquium*, UC Davis, graduate colloquium.
- (2017) Save Brains! The Toxic Ecologies of Learning and Teaching. *Education: Children's*

*Material Learning*, UC Davis undergraduate course.

(2017) Gender and Environmental Justice. *Community and Regional Development: Community Development Perspectives on Environmental Justice*. UC Davis undergraduate course.

(2017) Building Bridges. *Graduate Diversity Network Journal Club*. UC Davis graduate workshop.

(2017) Gender and Invisible Landscapes of California Agriculture. *American Studies: Environmental Justice*. UC Davis undergraduate course.

(2016) Decolonizing the Classroom: Radical Pedagogy for TAs. UC Davis graduate workshop.

(2016) *El Desarrollo de los niños en medios ambientes tóxicos* (Child Development in Toxic environments). *Chuparrosa: Grupo de Padres de Apoyo*. Mary Chapa Elementary School. Greenfield, CA.

(2015) *¿Qué es la vulnerabilidad en el desarrollo de los niños y qué tiene que ver con el espacio?* (What is vulnerability in child development and how does it relate to space?) Padres para Padres. West Sacramento Public Library. Sacramento, CA.

(2015) Privilege. *Graduate Ally Training*. UC Davis graduate workshop

(2015) Hopes, Dreams, and Fears: Mapping Out Your Pathway to Graduate School. *Graduate Academic Achievement and Advancement Program*. UC Davis undergraduate workshop.

(2011) Parenting Practices for an Unauthorized Mexican Migrant Woman. *Education: Children's Material Learning*, UC Davis undergraduate course.

## **DIVERSITY TRAINING**

Environmental Justice Department of Pesticide Regulation Pesticide Enforcement, Santa Maria, CA	2017
UNDOCU Ally Training, UC Davis	2015, 2016, 2017
Safe Zone Allyship Training, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersexual, and Asexual Resource Center, UC Davis	2015, 2016, 2017
Recruitment Advisory Board, Women's Resources and Research Center, UC Davis	2016
Child and Family Care Administrative Advisory Committee, UC Davis	2015 - 2018

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

<b>Member</b> , Geography Graduate Group Admissions Committee, UC Davis	2018
<b>Mentor</b> , Research Training & Mentorship Program, UC Davis	2016 - 2017

<b>Member,</b> Community Advisory Board for Survey for Farm working Women and Sexual Assault, Western Center for Agricultural Health and Safety, UC Davis	2016
<b>Member,</b> Recruitment Advisory Board, Women’s Resources and Research Center, UC Davis	2016
<b>Member,</b> Child and Family Care Administrative Advisory Committee, UC Davis	2015 - 2018
<b>Member,</b> Campus Climate Response Team, UC Davis	2015 - 2016
<b>Organizer,</b> Geography Graduate Group Speaker Series, UC Davis	2014 - 2015
<b>Mentor,</b> Graduate Academic Achievement & Advocacy Program M.E.N.T.O.R., UC Davis	2015 - 2016
<b>Mentor,</b> Student Retention and Recruitment Center Mentor Program, UC Davis	2011 - 2012

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**Volunteer,** Agriculture and Land-based Training Association, Salinas, CA (2017, 2018)  
Volunteered as environmental educator in the Environmental Education Program for children from Salinas’ underserved public elementary schools.

**Board Member,** Urban Arts Collaborative, Salinas, CA (2017)  
Advisory Board member for award winning non-profit that merges food justice and environmental justice with California.

**Volunteer member,** Safe Ag Safe Schools, Salinas and Watsonville, CA (2017 - 2018)  
Organizing, translating, tabling, and community outreach.

**Volunteer,** Chuparrosa Parent Support Group, Greenfield, CA (2016 - 2017)  
Volunteer as Assistant to the Director, supported organizing the conference

**Member,** *Lideres Campesinas*, Central Valley and Central Coast, CA (2015-2016)  
Volunteered supporting farmworking activist women organize and do community outreach around sexual assault, domestic violence, and pesticide exposure.

**Volunteer,** Mujeres Ecologistas La Huizachera, Instituto Mexicano para el Desarrollo Comunitario (IMDEC), Guadalajara, Mexico (2015)  
Built community garden structures with local and sustainable materials for migrant squatting settlers impacted by the contamination of the Santiago River in the Guadalajara metropolitan periphery.

**Volunteer,** UC Davis Tutoring Program, Knights Landing, CA (2011)  
Provided academic tutoring to grade school children of Latino farmworkers.

**Volunteer,** Los Pinos Boarding School AC, Guadalajara, Mexico. (2004)  
Collaborated in a project towards developing pro-social skills in boys with aggressive behavior.

**AFFILIATIONS**

American Association of Geographers

California Geographical Society

American Studies Association

Feminist Research Institute Radical Mycology Study Group