

Dennis Aguirre
University of Northern Colorado
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Education

PhD, The University of Texas at El Paso, 2017.
Area of Study: History
Dissertation/Thesis Title: ¡Grito!: Cultural Nationalism and the Chicana/o Insurgency in New Mexico, 1968-1979

MA, The University of Texas at El Paso, 2012.
Area of Study: History

BA, The University of New Mexico, 2006.
Area of Study: History

RESEARCH, SCHOLARSHIP, AND CREATIVE WORKS

Publications

Non-juried

Book Chapter

Aguirre, D. "Constructing Chicana/o Consciousness in New Mexico: La Academia de la Nueva Raza, 1969-1978". *Legacies of the Chicano Movement*.

Artistic and Professional Performances & Exhibits

Aguirre, D., "'El Movimiento: The Chicano Movement in Northern Colorado,' Exhibit Reception," University of Northern Colorado, Michener Library and Mexican American Studies, Greeley, Colorado, USA. (September 15, 2017).

Professional Presentations

Invited

Non-juried

Aguirre, D., Legacies of the Chicano Movement, 7th Blair Legacy Series Symposium, "'La Academia de la Nueva Raza and the Chicana/o Movement in New Mexico, 1969-1978'," The Diane D. Blair Center of Southern Politics & Society, University of Arkansas. (November 1, 2017).

Aguirre, D., "'Honoring the Legacy of Dr. Mario T. Garcia: A Graduate Student Roundtable Discussion of Chicana/o Movement History,'" University of Texas at El Paso. (October 2016).

Aguirre, D., UTEP Department of History Seminar Series, "'Political Theater and the Construction Chicana/o Leadership in New Mexico: Las Gorras Negras (the Black

Berets), and the Insurgency in New Mexico, 1969-1974.”, " Department of History, The University of Texas at El Paso. (April 2016).

Not Invited

Juried

Aguirre, D., American Historical Association, 132nd Annual Meeting, ""Che in New Mexico: Third World Anticolonial Nationalism, Las Gorras Negras, and the Chicana/o Insurgency, 1969–74", " American Historical Association, Washington D.C. (January 4, 2018).

Aguirre, D., Western History Association 54th Annual Conference, ""Venceremos!: Las Gorras Negras (The Black Berets) and the Chicana/o Movement in New Mexico, 1969-1974.”, " Western History Association, Newport Beach, California. (October 2014).

Aguirre, D., The Sal Castro Memorial Conference on the Emerging Historiography of the Chicano Movement, ""Chicana/o Leadership in New Mexico: Las Gorras Negras (the Black Berets), 1969-1974.”, " University of California, Santa Barbara. (February 2014).

Aguirre, D., Pacific Coast Branch American Historical Association 104th Annual Meeting, ""Constructing Chicana/o Consciousness in New Mexico: La Academia de la Nueva Raza, 1969-1978.”, " Pacific Coast Branch American Historical Association, Seattle, Washington. (August 2011).

Research in Progress

"¡Grito!: Cultural Nationalism and the Chicana/o Insurgency in New Mexico, 1968-1979" (On-Going).

My forthcoming manuscript is one of the first to examine the development of Chicana/o movement practices in the “Land of Enchantment.” While others have cast the Chicana/o movement’s criticisms and actions against federal, state, and local governments as a struggle to gain greater rights for Mexican Americans, I argue that the insurgency was not exclusively a strategy of resistance to subjugation. Instead, I believe the Chicana/o movement was a conversation that activists attempted to have with their own communities to convince ethnic Mexicans to think about themselves in profoundly new ways. Focusing on four prominent organizations in various parts of the state— El Grito del Norte (an alternative newspaper), La Academia de la Nueva Raza (a community educational organization), Las Gorras Negras, also known as the Black Berets (a self-help paramilitary group), and Chicanos Unidos Para Justicia (a collective that established an alternative school)—my investigation demonstrates that cultural nationalism was utilized as a social practice that channeled individual identities into a generalized Chicana/o community. While Chicana/o activists struggled to forge a collective cultural identity for ethnic Mexicans in the United States, my study also illustrates that the Chicana/o movement should not be identified solely as a local articulation of cultural nationalism. Instead, I demonstrate that Chicana/o activists participated in a global dialogue between various exponents of a “Third World” anti-colonial network that rarely occurred in previous eras. My exploration thus illuminates a process that called for a redefined identity that was local, national, and international in scope. This study, then, makes clear the fact that the Chicana/o insurgency in New Mexico was a multifaceted process of cultural remaking that enhances our vision of this movement in particular, other social movements, both nationally and internationally, and more broadly contributes to our understanding Chicana/o, U.S., Borderlands, and Global history. This study is based on a variety of sources including the papers of organizations, mainstream and movement newspapers, interviews with participants, census data, photographs, and other ephemera

like posters, pamphlets and flyers.

""Searching for the Chicana/o Movement: A Historiography"" (On-Going).
Historiographical essay on the Chicana/o Movement that highlights a crucial, yet often neglected, element of the insurgency, namely self-development.

TEACHING

Teaching Experience

University of Northern Colorado

Courses Taught:

MAS 100, Introduction to Mexican American Studies, 4 courses. 3.00 credit hours.

MAS 346, Chicana/o Theory, 1 course. 3.00 credit hours.

SERVICE

University Service

Committee Member, Hewitt Institute for History and Social Science Education, Faculty Governing Board. (August 2017 - Present).

Committee Member, Liberal Arts Council (LAC), Core Curriculum Committee Area 7 & 8 International and Multicultural Studies. (August 2017 - Present).

Program Service

Committee Member, Mexican American Studies Steering Committee. (August 2017 - Present).

Professional Service

Conference-Related, American Historical Association. (January 6, 2018).

DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ATTENDED

Workshop, ""Chicanos and Homeland Politics: Continuing the Search for a Homeland", " The Diane D. Blair Center of Southern Politics & Society, Fayetteville, Arkansas, USA. (November 2, 2017).

Workshop, ""A Social Science/Political Science Critique of the Chicana/o Movement and its Legacies", " The Diane D. Blair Center of Southern Politics & Society, Fayetteville, Arkansas, USA. (November 1, 2017).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Historical Association. (August 2017 - Present).