

Alex Sastre-Rivera
Curriculum Vitae

Fifth Year PhD Candidate
Department of Comparative Literature
Emory University
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EDUCATION

- | | |
|------|---|
| 2026 | Ph.D. Comparative Literature, Emory University, anticipated. |
| 2023 | M.A. Comparative Literature, Emory University |
| 2020 | B.A. English Literature, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus
Certificate: Women and Gender Studies |

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Sastre-Rivera, A. *pequeñas catástrofes*. Isabella, PR, [La Impresora](#), Mar 2021.

Sastre-Rivera, A. *Maleza*. Completed poetry manuscript. Submitted to [Semipermeable](#) editorial.

Peer reviewed publications

Sastre-Rivera, A. "In A Land Far, Far Away." *Detours: A Decolonial Guide to Puerto Rico*, Duke University Press, Durham, NC. Abstract accepted. Submission awaiting approval.

Sastre-Rivera, A. "The Negotiations of a Puerto Rican in (Trans)It: The Journey Through In-Between Spaces in *Lo Terciario* by Raquel Salas Rivera." *Distancing as Infinite Entanglements: Healing, Intersectionality and Interstices in the Languages, Literatures and Cultures of the Greater Caribbean and Beyond*, vol 2, 2021, pp. 327-338. Print.

Sastre-Rivera, A. "Christian Doctrine, Homosexuality, and Trauma in H. Nigel Thomas' *Return to Arcadia*." *Negotiating Crosswinds: Trans-Linguality, Trans-Culturality and Trans-Identification in the Greater Caribbean*, vol. 2, 2020, pp. 261–268. Print.

Digital Projects

Ruta de La Revolución de 1950, May 2021. [Open Tour](#).

Our Queer Caribbean: CPLT 202 Class [Low-Bridge Archive](#).

Public Writing

Sastre-Rivera, A. "La Labor De Nombrar La Nostalgia: sobre *La Distancia es un Lugar* de Amanda Hernandez." *Low-Fi Ardentia- Revista De Poesía*, 28 Apr. 2020, <https://lowfiardentia.com/2020/04/28/la-labor-de-nombrar-la-nostalgia-sobre-la-distancia-es-un-lugar-de-amanda-hernandez/>

Sastre-Rivera, A. "Lo Absurdo de Ser Una Colonia En El Siglo XXI: La Exploración Del Valor En lo terciario/the tertiary *De Raquel Salas Rivera*." *Cruce: Crítica Sociocultural Contemporánea*, 10 May 2019, pp. 43–47. https://issuu.com/revistacruce/docs/ser_colonia_10_mayo/42

Poetry Publications

Sastre-Rivera, A. "En las Ruinas del Tiempo Había un Niño." *Antología de Poesía del Gozo*. Editorial Cundeamor. San Juan, PR. Selected for publication. Expected Publication Spring 2025.

Sastre-Rivera, A. "el perdón", "nada cambió", "me lo dicen los sueños", "poema no tan joven #14", "poema no tan joven #24". *Aunque Llueve, Truene o Relapaguee: Antología de Poesía Puertorriqueña de Poetas Nacidos entre el 1995-2000*. Editorial Pulpo, San Juan, PR. Selected for publication. Expected Publication Fall 2025.

Sastre-Rivera, A. "poema no tan joven #23". South Central Los Angeles, CA. *Sin Cesar*. Feb. 24, 2024

Sastre-Rivera, A. "poema no tan joven #1", "poema no tan joven #14", "poema no tan joven #24". San Juan, PR. *Distropika*. Dec. 3, 2023.

Sastre-Rivera, A. "guía para dejar un país sin techo." East Lansing, MI. *Taller Electric Marronage*, Jun. 17, 2021.

Sastre-Rivera, A. "lo simple, no siempre es tan sencillo," "a nadie le gustan las despedidas," "las cosas pasajeras". *Revista Cinosargo*. Arica, Chile. Aug. 8, 2021.

Sastre-Rivera, A. "Lo que Necesito un 20 de Septiembre de 2018.", "Old Songs", "Sunkissed." Mayagüez, PR, *Sábanas Literary Magazine*, vol. 5, Nov. 2018.

Sastre-Rivera, A. "Spring Cleaning." Río Piedras, PR, *Her Campus at UPR*, Jun. 4, 2018.

Sastre-Rivera, A. "Recollect", "Inner Voices", "Currents." *Tongvas Literary magazine*, vol. 17. (Selected for Publication)

AWARDS

Fall 2024

Puerto Rican Studies Association Graduate Workshop,
University of Santa Cruz, California | \$700

Spring 2023	Laney Award for Inclusive Excellence in Graduate Education, Emory University
Spring 2022	Ford Foundation Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Honorable Mention
Spring 2020	Deans of the Humanities Award, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus \$500

FELLOWSHIPS AND FUNDING

August 2020-Present	Centennial Scholars Fellowship \$8,000 Emory University
Fall 2024	Graduate Studies Enhancement \$1,500 Mellon Mays Graduate Initiatives Program, funded by the Social Science Research Council
Fall 2023	Laney Graduate Student Council Research Grant \$250 Emory University
Fall 2023	Predoctoral Research Development Grant \$3,000 Mellon Mays Graduate Initiatives Program, funded by the Social Science Research Council
Spring 2023	Laney Graduate Student Council Research Grant \$250 Emory University
Fall 2022	Mini Pedagogy Grant \$300 Emory University
Fall 2022	Graduate Studies Enhancement \$2,500 Mellon Mays Graduate Initiatives Program, funded by the Social Science Research Council
Summer 2019	Endowment Fund Scholarship for General Undergraduate Research \$1,000 University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus
Summer 2019	Research Fellow \$500 Undergraduate Initiative for Research and Creative Activity (iINAS) University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus
Summer 2018	Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship \$15,000 + Travel Funds

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Sastre-Rivera, A. “The Island of Her Body”: Extractivism and Consumption in Nicole Dennis Benn’s *Here Comes the Sun*.” Modern Language Association, New Orleansm LA, January 9th-12th.

- Sastre-Rivera, A. "Vivimos en un Estado Libre Desasociado: Mourning Subjects and Displaced Senses in Chuwi's "Judy Nelson" and "Navidades en Cataño." *Puerto Rican Studies Association*, Santa Cruz, CA, August 23rd-25th, 2024.
- Sastre-Rivera, A. "Visiting La Perla." *Latin American Studies Association*, Bogotá, Colombia, June 12th-16th, 2024.
- Sastre-Rivera, A. "'Inside this House': Broken Homes and Houses that Remain in Nicole Dennis Benn's *Here Comes the Sun*." *Caribbean Philosophical Association*, Michigan, Oct. 2023.
- Sastre-Rivera, A. "Saturated Lens and Vaporwave Nostalgia in Bad Bunny's 'Estamos Bien.'" *Puerto Rican Studies Association*, Holyoke, Oct. 2022.
- Sastre-Rivera, A. "Narrating Queerness Under Colonialism in Contemporary Puerto Rican Poetry and Short Stories from 2010 to the Present." *El Coloquio del otro Lao* '. Mayagüez, PR. Mar. 3, 2020.
- Sastre-Rivera, A. "Narrating Queerness Under Colonialism in Contemporary Puerto Rican Poetry and Short Stories from 2010 to the Present." *Caribbean Without Borders*, San Juan, PR, Mar. 4th, 2020.
- Sastre-Rivera, A. "A Study of Colonial Trauma in Nigel Thomas' *Return to Arcadia* and Shani Mooto's *Cereus Blooms at Night*." *MMUF Southeast Regional Undergraduate Conference*, Houston, TX, Nov. 9, 2019.
- Sastre-Rivera, A. "The Absurdity of being a Colony in the XXI Century: An Exploration of worth in *lo terciario/the tertiary* by Raquel Salas Rivera" *Jornada de Literatura y Cultura del Programa de Literatura Compara*, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, Apr. 24, 2019.
- Sastre-Rivera, A. "Christianity and Sexual Trauma in Nigel H Thomas' *Return to Arcadia*." *National Associations of African American Studies & Affiliates 2019 National Conference*, Dallas, TX. Fe. 14, 2019.
- Sastre-Rivera, A. "Christianity and sexual trauma in Nigel H Thomas' *Return to Arcadia*." *21st Annual Islands in Between Conference*, Oranjestad, Aruba, Nov. 17, 2018.
- Sastre-Rivera, A. "Colonial Trauma, Queer Sexuality, and postcolonial narrative witnessing: Nigel Thomas' *Spirits in the Dark*." *MMUF Southeast Regional Undergraduate Conference*. Durham, NC, Nov. 3, 2018.
- Sastre-Rivera, A. "Christianity and sexual trauma in Nigel H Thomas' *Return to Arcadia*" *5to Encuentro de Investigación Subgraduada*, San Juan, PR, Sep. 14, 2017.
- Sastre-Rivera, A. "Return to Arcadia: Christianity, Shame and Sexuality." *Williams College MMUF & ADRF Summer Colloquium*, Williamstown, MA, Nov. 20th, 2017.

INVITED LECTURES, PANELS, LITERARY EVENTS, AND INTERVIEWS

- Invited Lecturer**, "Latinx, Cuir Americas, and the poetry of Roque Salas Rivera," Undergraduate Course: ENSL 311, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA. Hybrid meeting.
- Invited Artist**, "Writing Grief: A Conversation with Poet Alex Sastre-Rivera," Lighthouse Writers Workshop Course Writing Grief, Zoom, Feb. 14, 2024.
- Invited Artist**, "Lectura de Poesía: Aunque Lluve, Truene o Relampaguee I," Librería y Editorial Pulpo, Santurce, PR, Jul. 13 2023.

Invited Lecturer, “Building Blocks: Concept that Scaffold Our Research- Consumption" Global and Postcolonial Studies, Emory University, Mar. 23, 2023.

Invited Poetry Workshop Leader, “Poetry Workshop,” Centro Latinx, Emory University, Atlanta, GA. Oct. 5, 2023.

Invited Artist, “Writing Grief: A Conversation with Poet Alex Sastre-Rivera," Lighthouse Writers Workshop Course Writing Grief, Zoom, Aug. 28, 2023.

Invited Poetry Workshop Leader, “Taller de Poema Ecfrástico,” Hermanas del Agua, Zoom. Aug. 9, 2023.

Invited Poetry Workshop Leader, “El Poema Epistolar” Hermanas del Agua, Zoom. Dec 7, 2022.

Invited Co-Panelist, “Pedagogy Workshop: Care, Ethics, Civic Consciousness, and the Communication Classroom,” Writing Program, Emory University, Nov. 30, 2022.

Invited Co-Panelist, “Educational Panel: Island Intellect” Emory ACES (Association for Caribbean Educators and Students), Emory University, Nov. 10, 2022.

Invited Lecturer, ““Are you at peace with yourself?”: Historical Trauma, the Plantation and Forgetting in Return to Arcadia by H. Nigel Thomas,” Graduate Seminar: ENGL 6489, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, Oct. 21, 2022.

Interviewee, “Episodio 108| Pequeñas Catástrofes.” *Essah’s Way* (podcast) with Dr. Essah Díaz, Soundcloud. 18 oct. 2022.

Invited Artist, “Lectura de Poesía: Las Islas que Van Quedando,” Department of Global Languages and Cultures, Spellman University, Atlanta, GA, Sept. 23 2022.

Invited Artists “Viernes Cuir: Noche de Poesía y Presentación del Poemario pequeñas catástrofes” Tiendita Ágape, Arecibo, PR, Jul. 23. 2022.

Invited Poetry Workshop Leader, “Taller de Poesía: Este Cuerpo es un País,” Hermanas del Agua, Zoom. Jul. 6, 2022.

Interviewee, “Les Verdaderos Poetas de la IUPI: La Poesía como forma de procesar, recordar, entender y visibilizar”, COPURevista, May. 18, 2022.

Invited Poetry Workshop Leader, “Creative Writing Workshop” English Majors Association at the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, Zoom. Feb. 25, 2022.

Invited Presenter, “Contact Between Cultures: On Transculturation, Creolization, and Colonialism,” Comparative Literature Graduate Colloquium, Emory University, Feb. 12, 2022.

Invited Artist, “Llegan los Reges con Poesía,” Puerto Rican Literature Project in Collaboration with Arte Público Press and the University of Houston, Zoom, Jan. 6, 2022.

Invited Artists, “Small Catastrophes: A Poetry Reading + Discussion Forum” Comparative Literature Seminar Series, Department of Comparative Literature, Emory University, October 2021.

Invited Poetry Workshop Leader, “Taller de Escritura” Hermanas del Agua, Zoom. Aug. 31, 2021.

Invited Artist, “Día de la Insurgencia Cultural Recital Poético del Caribe: Cuba, Republica Dominicana, y Puerto Rico.” Letras Salvajes, Zoom. Aug. 26, 2021.

Invited Artist, “Este borde no es una frontera: Serie de maratón de lectura de poesía.” Puerto Rican Literature Project in collaboration with En Compañía and La Casa de les Contrafuertes, San Juan, PR. Jul. 31, 2021.

Invited Artist, “Pare: Lectura de Poesía.” Detenidos: Poesía + Música, Taller Tambuyé, San Juan, PR. Jul. 19, 2021.

Co-Coordinator with Karlié Rodríguez, Mariely Vélez Pérez, and Dorcas Liz Pérez, “Friendo y comiendo: bohemia literaria | Virtual Event, “La Isla,” Jul. 2021

Invited Artist, “Solidarities: Poetics in Relation” Taller Electric Marronage, Digital Solidarities Lab. Zoom, 17 jun. 2021.

Co-coordinator with Karlié Rodríguez and Mariely Vélez Pérez, “Sábado de gloria: bohemia literaria” | Virtual Event, “La Isla,” April 2021

Co-coordinator with Alex Sastre Rivera and Mariely Vélez Pérez, “A falta de pan: bohemia pándemica” | Virtual Event, “La Isla,” December 2020.

Invited Co-Panelist, “Discussing Graduate School,” 2020 MMUF Southeast Regional Undergraduate Conference, Zoom, Nov. 7, 2020.

Interviewee, “Incertidumbre ante el comienzo de estudios graduados durante la pandemia”. Pulso Estudiantil, San Juan, PR. Jun. 10, 2020.

Invited Presenter, “Colonial Space, Colonized Bodies and Religions: A Study of Colonial Trauma in Nigel Thomas’ *Return to Arcadia* and Shani Mooto’s *Cereus Blooms at Night*” MUSE Scholars Program, Michigan State University, Feb. 26, 2019.

EMPLOYMENT

Fall 2024-Spring 2025 Visiting Scholar, English Department at Michigan State University

Fall 2022-Spring 2024 Graduate Assistant, Emory University’s Centro Latinx

Fall 2021-Spring 2023 Graduate Mentor, Emory University’s Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Spring 2024 CPLT 201 Reading Comparatively: “Thinking Through Islands”
Instructor on Record

Fall 2023	CPLT 202 Literatures, Medias, Genre: “The Queer Caribbean” Instructor on Record
Fall 2022	CPLT 202 Literatures, Medias, Genre: “Our Queer Caribbean” Instructor on Record
Fall 2021	CPLT 101 Rhetorical Composition and Critical Reading “We Live Where You Vacation” Instructor on Record Supervisor: Kathleen Leuschen

UNIVERSITY SERVICE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Summer 2024- present	Graduate Representative, Latin American Studies Association- Puerto Rico subsection
August 2023- present	Co-Host with Karlié Rodríguez, Libros Colaos Podcast Spotify
Fall 2022-Current	President, Caribbean Studies Working Group, Emory University
Fall 2022-Spring 2023	President, Comparative Literature Seminar Series, Department of Comparative Literature, Emory University
Fall 2022	Coordinator, Comparative Literature Colloquium, Department of Comparative Literature, Emory University
Summer 2020-Summer 2021	Co-founder, La Isla: Event Coordination and Writer Outreach, Puerto Rico
Fall 2021-Spring 2022	Vice President, Comparative Literature Seminar Series, Department of Comparative Literature, Emory University
Fall 2020-Spring 2021	Event Organizer, Comparative Literature Seminar Series, Department of Comparative Literature, Emory University
Spring 2016-Fall 2021	Co-founder and Project Manager, Fractal Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico
Fall 2019-Spring 2020	President, English Majors Association, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus
Fall 2018-Spring 2019	Media Manager, English Majors Association, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus
Spring 2018	Editorial Staff, <i>Tongvas Literary Magazine</i> , University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus
Fall 2017-Spring 2018	Contributor, <i>Her Campus at UPR</i> , University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Latin American Studies Association
Modern Languages Association
Puerto Rican Studies Association

LANGUAGES

| Native Speaker
Spanish & English

| Reading Proficiency
French & Portugues

REFERENCES

Dr. Valérie Loichot
Samuel Candler Dobbs
Professor of French and
English
Chair, Department of
French and Italian at
Emory University
vloicho@emory.edu

Dr. Sean Meighoo
Associated Professor,
Department of Comparative
Literature at Emory
University
sean.meighoo@emory.edu

Dr. Zorimar Rivera Montes
Assistant Professor of
English and Spanish at
Tulane University
zriveramontes@tulane.edu