

FEDERICO PÉREZ FERNÁNDEZ

Honors 204, Portland State University,
1632 SW 12th Ave, Portland, OR 97201
(617) 821-7561 – fedperez@pdx.edu

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Harvard University
Social Anthropology (2014)
- M.A. University of Chicago
Social Sciences (2006)
- B.A. Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia (2000)
Philosophy

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2021- Associate Professor of Urban Anthropology
Portland State University, University Honors College
- 2015-2021 Assistant Professor of Urban Anthropology
Portland State University, University Honors College
- 2014-2015 Postdoctoral College Fellow
Harvard University, Department of Anthropology

PUBLICATIONS

Book

- Under Review *Urbanism as Warfare: Planning, (In)security, and the Remaking of Downtown Bogotá.* (Cornell University Press. Expertise: Cultures and Technologies of Knowledge Series.)

Articles and book chapters

- 2023 “The Archaeology of Decay: Ruinous Knowledge and the Violence of Urban Planning.” *American Anthropologist* 125(3): 505-518
- 2020 “‘The Miracle of Density’: The Socio-material Epistemics of Urban Densification.” *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 44(4): 617-635.
- 2020 “Materializing (In)securities: Urban Terrain, Paperwork, and Housing in Downtown Bogotá.” *Anthropological Quarterly* 93(1): 1491-1522.
- 2020 “An Anatomy of Failure: Planning After the Fact in Contemporary Bogotá.” In *Life Among Urban Planners: Practices, Professionalism, and Expertise in the Making of the City.* J. Mack and M. Herzfeld, eds. Philadelphia, PA: University of Pennsylvania Press.

- 2016 “Excavating Legal Landscapes: Juridical Archaeology and the Politics of Bureaucratic Materiality in Bogotá, Colombia.” *Cultural Anthropology* 31(2): 215-243. [OA online version.](#)
*Reprinted as “Excavando paisajes legales: la arqueología jurídica y la política de la materialidad burocrática.” Translated by Claudia Abello and Federico Pérez. In *Etnografías burocráticas: una nueva mirada a la construcción del estado en Colombia*. I. Jaramillo Sierra and L. Buchely Ibarra, eds. Bogotá: Ediciones Uniandes.
- 2015 “La Renovación Urbana en Contexto [Urban Renewal in Context].” In *De la Renovación a la Revitalización: Desafíos para Bogotá [From Renewal to Revitalization: Challenges for Bogotá]*. Bogotá: Alcaldía Mayor de Bogotá y Secretaría Distrital de Planeación.
- 2010 “Laboratorios de Reconstrucción Urbana: Hacia una Antropología de la Política Urbana en Colombia [Laboratories of Urban Reconstruction: Toward an Anthropology of Urban Policy in Colombia].” *Antípoda No.10 (Antropología de la Política Pública)*, Enero – Junio 2010: 51-84. [OA online versión.](#)

Essays and reviews

- 2020 “Bogotá’s Urban Development Conflicts: Insecurity & Memory in the City,” *Items, Layered Metropolis series, Social Science Research Council.* [Online Version.](#)
- 2020 *For the War Yet to Come: Planning Beirut’s Frontiers* by Hiba Bou Akar. Palo Alto, CA: Stanford University Press. *Society and Space.* [Invited review forum.](#)
- 2016 *Endangered City: the politics of security and risk in Bogotá* by Austin Zeiderman. Durham, NC: Duke University Press. *Anthropological Quarterly* 89(4): 1227-1237.
- 2015 “Post-Conflict Urbanism and The Logics of Warfare in Colombia.” *Fieldsights, Hot Spots, Cultural Anthropology*, April 30, 2015. [Online Version.](#)
- 2013 “Peopling Space: Contemporary Redevelopment in Bogotá.” *openDemocracy (Cities in Conflict)*, 4 March 2013. [Online Version.](#)
- 2012 “Bogotá: Up Against the City.” *The Caravan: A Journal of Politics and Culture*. October 2012. [Online Version.](#)

Co-authored book

- 2009 *Bogotá, del deterioro a la construcción [Bogotá, from Decay to Construction 1995-2007]*, co-authored with Alicia Eugenia Silva, Francisco Ruiz and Tomás Martín. Bogotá: Universidad del Rosario.

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

- 2022 Portland State University – Faculty Development Grant
- 2020 American Council of Learned Societies – Fellowship
- 2016 Portland State University – Faculty Development Grant
- 2013 Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University – Dissertation Completion Grant
- 2012 Social Science Research Council and Open Society Foundations – Drugs, Security, and Democracy Fellowship
- 2011 Inter-American Foundation – Grassroots Development Fellowship
- 2011 The Wenner-Gren Foundation – Dissertation Grant
- 2011 David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies – Research Grant
- 2010 Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Summer – Research Grant
- 2010 David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies – Research Grant
- 2009 Weatherhead Center for International Affairs – Graduate Student Fellowship
- 2009 Harvard University Graduate Society – Pre-Dissertation Fellowship

AWARDS

- 2015 Certificate of Excellence in Teaching – Derek Bok Center, Harvard University
- 2015 Star Family Certificate of Excellence in Advising, Harvard University
- 2011 Certificate of Distinction in Teaching – Derek Bok Center, Harvard University
- 2006 University of Chicago, Earl S. and Esther Johnson Prize for M.A. thesis

INVITED LECTURES

- 2019 “Terrains of Urban Knowledge,” Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico City, April 25.
- 2019 “Materializing (In)securities: Urban Terrain, Paperwork, and Housing in Bogotá.” Colegio de México, Mexico City, April 25.
- 2018 “Materializing (In)securities: Urban Terrain, Paperwork, and Housing in Bogotá.” Department of Anthropology, Reed College, Portland, OR, September 2018.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2021 “Retrofit: Flyover Cities and Cable Car Visions.” American Anthropological Association, Washington D.C. (virtual panel).

- 2019 “Urban Conspiracies and Techno-Legal Temporalities: The “Archaeology of Decay” in Downtown Bogotá.” American Anthropological Association, Vancouver, B.C., November.
- 2018 “Flyover Cities: Aerial Cable Cars and the Politics of Infrastructural and Technological Aesthetics in Urban Latin America.” American Anthropological Association, San Jose, November.
- 2017 ““The Miracle of Density’: The Politics of Urban Design and Densification in Bogotá.” American Anthropological Association, Washington D.C., November.
- 2016 “The Infrastructure of Infrastructure: Cable-Car Networks and the Dream of Infrastructure,” Latin American Studies Association, New York City, May.
- 2015 “Excavating Legal Landscapes: Juridical Archaeology and the Politics of Bureaucratic Materiality in Bogotá, Colombia,” American Anthropological Association, Denver, November.
- 2015 “Urbanism as Warfare: The Architecture of Urban Sovereignty in Bogotá, Colombia,” Johns Hopkins University, Latin American Studies Conference, Baltimore, April.
- 2015 “Urbanism and Failure,” Association of American Geographers, Chicago, April.
- 2014 “Urbanism as Warfare: Planning, Property, and Displacement in Bogotá,” Anthropology Day, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University, September.
- 2013 “The Art of Approximation: Planning Failures in Bogotá.” American Anthropological Association, Chicago, November.
- 2013 “The Unmaking and Remaking of Downtown Bogotá.” Latin American Studies Association, Washington D.C., May.
- 2012 “Redevelopment Struggles in Contemporary Bogotá.” American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, November.
- 2012 “Urban Space in Contemporary Bogotá: policy artifacts and assemblages.” ISA Forum of Sociology, Buenos Aires, August.
- 2012 “An Ethnography of Failure: making planning work Bogotá.” Latin American Studies Association, San Francisco, May.
- 2011 “The praxis of socio-spatial justice: Contemporary policymaking and planning in Bogotá (Colombia).” Research Committee 21, Amsterdam, Netherlands, July.
- 2010 “Reassembling Urban Visions and Landscapes: Contemporary Planning in Bogotá, Colombia.” American Anthropological Association, New Orleans, November.
- 2009 “Laboratories of Urban Reconstruction: Citizen Culture and Social Urbanism in Bogotá and Medellín, Colombia.” City Futures in a Globalizing World, Madrid, Spain, July.

CONFERENCE AND PANEL ORGANIZATION

- 2016 Co-organizer of the panel, “Military Urbanisms: Planning, Expertise, and Everyday Spaces,” American Anthropological Association, Minneapolis, November.
- 2013 Co-organizer of the panel, “Urbanism and Failure,” American Anthropological Association, Chicago, November.
- 2013 Co-organizer of the panel, “Cities in Transition: The Politics of Urban Transformation in Latin America,” Latin American Studies Association, Washington D.C., May.
- 2012 Co-organizer of the International Conference, “Renewing Urban Renewal: Policies, Conflicts, and Innovations,” Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá.
- 2009 Co-organizer of the Mellon Graduate Student Conference, “Objects of Knowledge, Objects of Exchange: Contours of Interdisciplinarity,” Humanities Center – Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, May.

TEACHING

Courses

- 2015- Portland State University
Undergraduate seminars:
Cities of the Global South
Latin American Cities
Planners, Bureaucrats, and Experts
Urban Infrastructure, Technology, and Materiality
Unruly Topographies
- Honors core courses:*
The Global City I-III (First-year sequence)
Urban Social Sciences: Urban Ethnography Lab
Honors Thesis Continuation Course
- 2014-2015 Harvard University
Undergraduate/graduate seminars:
Cities of the Global South
Latin American Cities
Planners, Bureaucrats, and Experts

Thesis and Dissertation Advising

- 2023- Sebastián Ramírez Crespo, Ph.D. dissertation, Colegio de México.
“Ethnography of Urban Planning in Mexico City.”
- 2020 Josie Allison, B.A. Honors Thesis, Portland State University.
“Greening Inequality: How Urban Sustainable Development Fails Under Neoliberalism.”
- 2019 Diadira J. Pedro-Xuncax, B.A. Honors Thesis, Portland State University.

“Portland Oregon’s “Right to Return” Policy & its Relation to Urban Renewal: A Community Psychology Approach.”

2017 Katrina Edelen, B.A. Honors Thesis, Portland State University.

“The Emergence of Portland's ‘Unique’ Homelessness: Does the City's Pattern of Compassion Suggest a New Perspective on Poverty?”

2015 Anneli Tostar, B.A. Thesis, Harvard University, Department of Anthropology.

“Bodies in the Street: Social Mobility and Spatial Segregation in São Paulo, Brazil.”

2011 Rosana Galavis, B.A. Thesis, Harvard University, Department of Anthropology.

“Unraveling Lei 10.639: What Incorporating Afro-Brazilian History and Culture into The National Curriculum Reveals about The State, Society and Schooling in Brazil.”

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2015- Journal manuscript reviewer:

Anthropological Quarterly; Built Environment; Bulletin of Latin American Research; Comparative Studies in Society and History; Cultural Anthropology; Geoforum; International Journal of Urban and Regional Research; Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology; Journal of Legal Anthropology; Planning Perspectives; Political and Legal Anthropology Review; Environment and Planning D: Society and Space; Urban Geography; Urban Studies.

UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE SERVICE

2020- University Research Committee, Portland State University.

2019- Research Advisory Council, Portland State University.

2019- Study Abroad Committee, Portland State University, Honors College.

2018-2019 Search Committee, Assistant Professor of Urban Geography, Portland State University, Honors College.

2017- Curriculum Committee, Portland State University, Honors College.

2017- Faculty Advisor, Honors Community Fellows, Portland State University, Honors College.

2015- Governance Committee, Portland State University, Honors College.

PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2001-2004 United Nations Development Program, Bogotá City Government, Communications and Research Advising to the Chief of Staff and Mayor, Bogotá, Colombia.

2000-2001 Researcher, Center for Sociocultural and International Studies, Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia. Project: Citizen Security in the Colombian Municipality.

LANGUAGES

Spanish (Native), English (Fluent), Portuguese (Intermediate)

AFFILIATIONS

American Anthropological Association

Latin American Studies Association

Association of American Geographers

International Sociological Association (Research Committee on Sociology of Urban and Regional Development)