

César Cabezas

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Areas of Specialization Philosophy of Race, Latin American Philosophy, Social and Political Philosophy

Areas of Competence Africana Philosophy, Ethics

POSITIONS HELD

2022 – present **Temple University**, Philadelphia, PA
Assistant Professor of Philosophy

2020 – 2022 **Temple University**, Philadelphia, PA
ACLS Postdoctoral Fellow

EDUCATION

2014 – 2020 **Columbia University**, New York, NY
Ph.D in Philosophy
Dissertation Committee: Robert Gooding-Williams, Axel Honneth, Michele Moody-Adams, Fred Neuhouser, and Tommie Shelby

2010 – 2014 **Grinnell College**, Grinnell, IA
B.A. in Philosophy, with honors

PUBLICATIONS

“Is Conceptual Inflation a Problem for a Theory of Institutional Racism?”, *Ethics* 134, no. 2 (2024): 179-213,
<https://doi.org/10.1086/727273>.

“Is Affirmative Action Racist? Reflections toward a Theory of Institutional Racism,” *Journal of Social Philosophy* 54, no. 2 (2023): 218–35, <https://doi.org/10.1111/josp.12467>.

“Racism: A Moral or Explanatory Concept?”, *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 24, no. 3 (July 2021): 651-659.
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10677-021-10175-7>

FORTHCOMING

“Mariátegui’s Indo-American Socialism and the Problem of Privileged Solidarity,” forthcoming in *Radical Philosophy Review*.

“Mariátegui’s Analysis of the Indian Problem as a Decolonial Philosophical Project,” forthcoming in *The Bloomsbury Handbook of American Philosophies*, edited by Terrance MacMullan and Sergio Gallegos-Ordorica.

UNDER REVIEW

“Is Anti-Racism Moralistic?”

“Mariátegui and the Failed Promise of a “*Mestizaje* Otherwise””

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

2023-2024	Faculty Fellowship, Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics, Harvard University
2020-2022	American Council of Learned Societies Postdoctoral Fellowship
2020	Columbia Summer Teaching Fellowship (awarded for syllabus design)
2019-2020	Columbia Core Curriculum Preceptorship in Contemporary Civilization
2019	Columbia Summer Teaching Fellowship (awarded for syllabus design)
2018-2019	Columbia Dissertation Fellowship
2018	Columbia Summer Teaching Fellowship (awarded for syllabus design)
2017-2018	Lead Teaching Fellowship, Columbia Center for Teaching and Learning
2017	North American Society for Social Philosophy Best Graduate Student Paper Award. Later published as “Is Affirmative Action Racist?”
2015-2016	Benjamin Wolstein Fellowship, Columbia University
2014-2015	Dean’s Fellowship, Columbia University

PRESENTATIONS

TALKS

(* = invited)

March 2025	“A Critical Model of the Politics of Recognition: The Case of Indigenous Struggles in Bolivia”, Workshop on Recognition and Reparations, Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne.
November 2024	“How is Racism Systemic?”, PPE Society 8 th Annual Meeting 2023.
October 2024	“Mariátegui’s Indo-American Socialism and the Problem of Racialized Solidarity”, 16th Biennial Conference of the Radical Philosophy Association.
April 2024	*“Mariátegui and the Failed Promise of a “ <i>Mestizaje</i> Otherwise””, 2024 Social Philosophy Workshop, Bard College.
March 2024	“Mariátegui and the Failed Promise of a “ <i>Mestizaje</i> Otherwise””, Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy 51 st Annual Meeting.
March 2024	*“Mariátegui’s Indo-American Socialism and the Problem of Racialized Solidarity”, UC San Diego.
February 2024	*“Mariátegui’s Indo-American Socialism and the Problem of Racialized Solidarity”, Central APA.
January 2024	*“Is Anti-Racism Moralistic?”, Safra Center for Ethics, Harvard University.
January 2024	*“Is Anti-Racism Moralistic?”, MIT.
January 2024	“Is Anti-Racism Moralistic?”, Eastern APA.
November 2023	*“Is Anti-Racism Moralistic?”, Harvard University (Psychology Department).
November 2023	*“Is Anti-Racism Moralistic?”, Boston University.
November 2023	“The Role of Positional Interests in Structural Explanations of Oppression”, PPE Society 7 th Annual Meeting 2023.
October 2023	*“Is Anti-Racism Moralistic?”, Northeastern University.
November 2022	*“Racism as an Explanatory Concept”, Bard College.
October 2022	“Mariátegui’s Decolonial Journey and the Problem of Racialized Solidarity”, Caribbean Philosophical Association 20 th Annual Meeting, Michigan State University.
July 2022	“Racism as an Explanatory Concept”, North American Society for Social Philosophy, Neumann University.

March 2022	“Positional Interests and Structural Explanations of Oppression”, Critical Social Ontology Workshop, St. Louis University.
February 2022	*“Is Conceptual Inflation a Problem for Theories of Institutional Racism”, Workshop on Social Ontologies of Oppression, Solidarity, and Care, University of Illinois Chicago.
February 2022	*“Racism as an Explanatory Concept”, Ohio State University.
January 2022	*“Racism as an Explanatory Concept”, University of Chicago.
March 2021	*“Institutional Racism and Conceptual Inflation”, Temple University.
November 2020	“Structural Racism as a Diagnostic Tool”, MAP Conference on Philosophy of Race, University of Pennsylvania.
February 2020	*“The Role of Positional Interests in Explaining Durable Racial Inequality”, Virginia Tech.
January 2020	*“The Role of Positional Interests in Explaining Durable Racial Inequality”, Temple University.
April 2019	"What is Structural Racism?", Pacific APA.
October 2018	“What is Structural Racism?”, Understanding Oppression Conference, Georgetown University.
October 2018	“The Role of Positional Interests in Structural Explanations of Oppression”, Critical Social Ontology Workshop, St. Louis University.
August 2018	“The Role of Positional Interests in Structural Explanations of Oppression”, Social Ontology Conference, Tufts University.
April 2018	“Racism, Structural Explanation, and Durable Racial Inequality”, 3 rd Latinx Philosophy Conference, Rutgers University.
October 2017	“(Structural) Racism as an Explanatory Concept", Bias in Context Conference #4, University of Utah.
June 2017	“On the Connection Between Racist Ideology and Institutional Racism”, North American Society for Social Philosophy, Loyola University Chicago.

- April 2017 “On the Connection Between Racist Ideology and Institutional Racism”, 2nd Latinx Philosophy Conference, Rutgers University.
- April 2017 “On the Connection Between Racist Ideology and Institutional Racism”, Inclusive Philosophies Graduate Student Conference, Purdue University.
- June 2016 “Quijano on Hermeneutical Injustice in a Colonial Context”, Caribbean Philosophical Association 13th Annual Meeting, University of Connecticut.

COMMENTS

- January 2026 Book Symposium on Paul Gombert’s *Anti-Racism as Communism*, Eastern APA.
- April 2024 On Robin Zheng’s “Walking Side by Side: A (Meta-)Strategy for Change”, 5th Annual Moral and Political Philosophy Workshop, Dartmouth College.
- March 2024 Book Symposium on Lionel McPherson’s *The Afterlife of Race: An Informed Philosophical Search*, Pacific APA.
- April 2023 On Darien Pollock’s “‘The Streets’ is not a Metaphor: Contestation and the Margins of Discourse”, 2023 Social Philosophy Workshop, Harvard University.
- January 2021 Book Symposium on Alberto Urquidez’s *(Re-)Defining Racism: A Philosophical Analysis*, Eastern APA.
- October 2019 On Sofia Ortiz-Hinojosa’s “Sor Juana's La Respuesta”, New Narratives in Philosophy Symposium, Columbia University.
- September 2019 On Charles Mills’s “Black Radical Kantianism”, New York German Idealism Workshop, Columbia University.
- January 2019 On Annette Martín’s “What is White Ignorance?”, Eastern APA.
- May 2016 On Alexander Livingston’s “Reconstructing Civil Disobedience: Pragmatism and Making Problems Public”, Transformations of Civil Disobedience Conference, Barnard College.
- May 2016 On Erin Pineda’s “Civil Disobedience, Civil Rights, and American Exceptionalism”, Transformations of Civil Disobedience Conference, Barnard College.

April 2015	On Jorge Montiel's "South-to-South Relations in Dussel's 'Transmodern' Rationality", 1st Latinx Philosophers Conference, Columbia University.
April 2015	On Ben Laurence's "Two Conceptions of Ideal Theory", Columbia Pragmatism Colloquium, Columbia University.

TEACHING

Temple University

Graduate	The Concept of Racism Structural Injustice
Undergraduate	GenEd: Philosophy of the Human Contemporary Social Philosophy Philosophy of Race and Racism Latin American and Latinx Philosophy Indigenous Philosophies of the Americas

ADVISING

Temple University

Raciel Cuevas: Dissertation committee (PhD, ongoing)
Meryl Lumba: Dissertation committee (PhD, 2025)
James Taplin: Dissertation committee (PhD, 2024)
Shaun Poust: Dissertation committee, (PhD, dismissed)
Lucas Jackson: Liberal arts undergraduate research award mentor (Spring 2026)
Josiah Weigel: Undergraduate honors thesis (Fall 2024)
Brianna Cadet: Undergraduate honors thesis (Spring 2022)

ACADEMIC CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

Spring 2026	Symposium on Indigenous Philosophy across the Americas, Temple University and University of Pennsylvania
Spring 2023	Co-organizer, 2 nd Social Philosophy Workshop, Harvard University
Spring 2023	Organizer, 7 th Latinx Philosophy Conference, Temple University
Spring 2022	Organizer, 6 th Latinx Philosophy Conference, Temple University
Spring 2020	Co-organizer, 2 nd NY-area MAP Conference: The Social and the Individual
Spring 2019	Co-organizer, NY-MAPWorks Workshop Series #2

October 2018	Co-organizer, 1 st NY-area MAP Conference: Oppression and Resistance
Spring 2018	Co-organizer, NY-MAPWorks Workshop Series #1
April 2015	Co-organizer, 1 st Latinx Philosophy Conference, Columbia University

OTHER PROFESSION-WIDE SERVICE

2024-present	Latinx Philosophy Conference Series Steering Committee
2022-present	Referee for Ergo, Journal of Applied Philosophy, Journal of the APA, Nous, Pacific Philosophical Quarterly, Social Theory and Practice
2014-2020	Organizer, MAP (Minorities and Philosophy) chapter at Columbia University

LANGUAGES

Spanish (native speaker), French (advanced speaking, reading and writing), German (intermediate reading and writing)

REFERENCES

Robert Gooding-Williams

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Axel Honneth

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