

# UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND COLLEGE PARK

## Commencement Exercises For

## The School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

*East Asian Languages and Cultures  
French and Italian  
Germanic Studies  
Middle Eastern Studies  
Russian  
Second Language Acquisition  
Spanish and Portuguese*



*Sunday, May 19, 2013*

*5:00 p.m.*

*Grand Ballroom, Stamp Student Union*

### SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURES, AND CULTURES SPRING 2013 GRADUATES

#### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY *French*

Erica Maria Cefalo  
Raluca Romaniuc  
*German*  
Uche Onyedi Okafor  
Susanne Nicole Van Leuven

#### *Second Language Acquisition*

Goretti Prieto Botana  
Natalia Romanova

#### *Spanish*

Hilkka Marja Booker  
María Elena Campero  
Rocío Flor Gordon  
Rebeca Moreno Orama  
Óscar O. Santos-Sopena

#### MASTER OF ARTS *French*

Shannon Marie Mauro  
Outra Nayeck  
Hannah Wegmann  
*Spanish*  
Lina J. Morales Chacana

#### *Bachelor of Arts*

Abrom, May Amber	JAPN	Glusberg, Ivan	ECON SPAN	O'Connor, Alexander Sebastian	ROML BSCI
Aguilar, Gabriela M.	SPAN	Gordon, Carolyn Marchand	CHIN ECON	Okano, Robert	JAPN
Ajali, Milad	BSCI ARAB	Gran, Alexander Borden	HIST RUSS	Osborne, Taylor	JAPN ENGL
An, Young Soo	ECON JAPN	Guansing, Jasmine Pangilinan	COMM SPAN	Oyegunle, Akinola Iyánu Kehinde	FREN
Arguello, Gabriela Mercedes	SPAN	Guevara, Hector Ali	SPAN	Padder, Sajeela	PHYS ARAB
Austin, Benjamin James	GERM	Hamric, Emily L.	GVPT SPAN	Park, Grace Yeahyon*	GVPT JAPN
Bailey, Nicholas English	ROML	Harris, Alisha Renee	THET SPAN	Parker, Maureen Kathryn	ARAB
Barry, Pamela Marie	ROML	Harry, Lauren Henrietta	BSCI SPAN	Parker-Vaughan, Sebastian Alexander	ARAB
Bays, Rachel Annette	CHIN	Hernandez, Dulce Alejandra	SPAN	Peissner, Rachel M.	BSCI SPAN
Bean, Alicia Marie	SPAN	Hiltz, Sarah Elizabeth	LING ARAB	Portney, Alexandra Sivan	RUSS CCJS
Berger, Terri Antoinette	JAPN	Hise, Danielle M.	RUSS	Quesinberry, Jack Thomas	BSCI GERM
Bollinger, Elizabeth Elsie	FREN	Holzman, Samantha Malkah	BSCI FREN	Ramirez, Kelly	SPAN
Bonner, Alisha M.	JAPN LING	Ibrahim, Dina	GVPT ARAB	Ramirez, Rebekah Victoria	SPAN
Brock, William Tyler	ANTH SPAN	Jean, Donald	SPAN	Ratterman, Shane Zachary*	CHIN
Burke, Tonya Y.	SPAN ARAB	Jenkins, Sara Justina	SPAN	Reynolds, Sarah Katherine	FREN
Butoi-Varga, Stefania	ROML CCJS	Jordan, Alanna R.	BMGT PERS	Richeson, Isaac N.	JAPN
Butts, Kevin Austin***++	ARAB SPAN	Kalsi, Richa***	BSCI SPAN	Roberts, Elizabeth Ruth	RUSS
Casillas, Catherine R.	BSCI SPAN	Kasanje, Sankara Akili*	ROML	Robertson, John Rolfe	CHIN
Castro Marquez, Tamara Claudina	GVPT SPAN	Kiernan, Charlotte Miller	EDUC SPAN	Rose, Gabriella Maria	LING FREN
Cember, Abigail Talya Jordan	BSCI RUSS	Kinney, John Ken Absher	JAPN	Ross, Kathryn E.	JAPN
Chavoshisamarin, Jessica Warner	PERS	Klucina, Nicole D.	ARAB PERS	Ru, George	BSCI SPAN
Chen, Gary K.	PHYS CHIN	Kozlowski, Nicole Marie	GVPT SPAN	Salvatore, René M.	JOUR SPAN
Coccoli, Andrew A.	MUSC ROML	Kravis, Hannah Sara*	BMGT JAPN	Santini, Michael C.	SPAN AMST
Coleman, Andre	SPAN	Kruger, Providence Marie	COMM SPAN	Schulz, Christopher Alejandro	HIST SPAN
Coleman, Brandon Joseph	RUSS	Kunze, Stephen William	GERM	Shackelford, Kyle Thomas	SPAN
Crow, John-Paul	ARAB	Kurgansky, Nicholas Andrew*	BMGT FREN	Shimel, Christine Noelle	BMGT SPAN
Cycan, Kelsey E.	ENGL SPAN	Kusmierz, Anna	CERE RUSS	Shin, Jennifer J.	ARTT JAPN
Dacquisto, Elizabeth Lynn	RUSS	LaBonte, Anna Yukie Hawkins	RUSS COMM	Sobansky, Edward Robert	RUSS
Danganan, Sean M.	CCJS GERM	Lambert, Tatiana Anastasia	PERS	Stahman, Maxwell	GVPT GERM
Dao, Alexander	JAPN	Latif, Saffiya Z.	ARAB	Stevens, Karla Vivian	HIST GERM
Davis, Jennifer Michelle	JOUR SPAN	Leas, Stephen Jackson	MUSC SPAN	Straney, Sarah Elizabeth*	RUSS HIST
Dize, Nathan Hobson*	ENGL FREN	Lee, Min Ji	JAPN	Sullivan, Lisa Maria**	ARAB
Dodgen, Danielle Leigh	PSYC SPAN	Legerwood, Racquel Ann Marie	CHIN GVPT	Sutter, Claire Eleonora	CHIN
Douglas, Taylor Marie*	BSCI SPAN	Letourneau, Shawn Lee	CERE ARAB	Swaminathan, Rajna Krishnan***	FREN
Duhaime, Audrey Michele	LING ARAB	Lewis, Melinda Lynette	JAPN	Sweeney, Grace Lynn	SPAN COMM
Edmunds, Deanna Christine	GERM	Liles, Damien Xavier	CHIN RUSS	Szczypinski, Christopher E.	GVPT SPAN
Elbalghiti, Maryam Yasmin**	ARAB	Lim, Andrew	CHEM SPAN	Tarabishi, Omar Wahby	ARAB
Elsamanoudi, Sarah Ibrahim	PERS	Liu, Haohan	CHIN	Tartanian, Holly M.	ARAB
Elza, Ryan Neil	ANTH ITAL	Lopez, Amalia M.	SPAN	Taylor, Jessica Lm	JAPN
Encarnación, Maya	JAPN	Lykke, Kristina K**	ENGL JAPN	Ten Hagen, Katherine Elizabeth	ENGL ROML
Evangelista, Ashley Victoria	CHIN PHIL	MacArthur, Jillian Marie	CHIN SPAN	Tyler-Richards, Renita L.	ROML
Feldman, Lauren Sydney**	BMGT SPAN	Mann, Kelly Rachel**	BMGT JAPN	Valivullah, Zaheer McClung*	BSCI SPAN
Fetterolf, Landon Arick	GERM	Marcinik, John-David	JAPN	Virta, Caitlin Rebecca**	FREN EDUC
Findeisen, Douglas Kyle	CHEM SPAN	Maslyn, James Phillip	CHIN	Weikel, Dana Renee	SPAN
Fisher, Laura Nicole	SPAN	Mayer, Elana Anne*	HIST SPAN	Wiedecker, Carlyn Ariel	PERS
Flook, Alexie Tyler	COMM FREN	Mayer, Rachel Shoshannah	GVPT ARAB	Wilke, Kimberly Ann	PERS
Floyd, Kathryn Kennedy	GVPT ARAB	Miller, Nathan Daniel	SPAN	Wolf, Allison Elizabeth	THET SPAN
Forbes, Christopher Lincoln Dwayne	ARAB	Minneman, Sarah Kathryn	MUSC GERM	Won, Ji Young	CHIN COMM
Fox, Alisha Nichole	JAPN ENGL	Moreland, Christopher M.	RUSS	Wong, Jason Chun Yu***	ENSP GERM
Freiert, Evan Livingston	JAPN	Mrohs, Caroline Patricia	NFSC SPAN	Wong, Julia Jian-Pei	CLAS FREN
Fuentes, Emily J.	SPAN	Munoz, Mathew Ramon	RUSS	Woolsey, Sarah Elizabeth	ENSP SPAN
Gates, Kevin Thomas	GVPT SPAN	Myers, Annelise M.	ANSC GERM	Yi, Min Sung	SPAN
Gaylor, Mary Rose*	BSCI SPAN	Myre, Ian Robert	CERE RUSS	Yoon, Kate Wonmi*	JOUR FREN
Gil, Lindsay A.	BSCI SPAN	Nemchinova, Anna L.	FREN	Yuwen, Anna W.	AMST GERM
Glossner, Andrew James	RUSS CERE	Noble, Kathleen Rebecca	CHIN RUSS		

Academic Honors: \* Cum Laude, \*\* Magna Cum Laude, \*\*\* Summa Cum Laude  
++ Completed HONR Thesis

*Disclaimer:* The list of degree candidates in this program is tentative and is based on the anticipated successful completion of work undertaken during the Spring 2013 semester. This document should not be taken as an official record that degrees have in fact been awarded.

*Dear Graduates, Parents, Relatives, and Friends,*

*On behalf of the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, I welcome you to this milestone event. My colleagues and I look forward every semester to honoring the achievements of our graduates, and to conferring the degrees that their talents and tenacity have earned them. We have been entrusted with the intellectual care and development of these young scholars, and we feel a special bond with them – both intellectual and personal. We salute their commitment to fostering understanding of cultures other than their own and, in some cases, to deepening their understanding of their own heritage.*

*Graduates, we wish you all success as you move forward into the next phase of your lives. I invite you to stay in touch with your professors and mentors and especially to share with us news of your future achievements. I speak for all the faculty and staff of the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures in offering my congratulations to you and to those who have supported you throughout the years of your study. Do come back and bring us your stories.*

*With best wishes,*



*Carol Mossman,  
Director  
School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures*



**PROCESSIONAL**

Faculty, Graduates, & Platform Party

**PRESIDING & WELCOME**

Dr. Gabriele Strauch  
Associate Director for Academic Affairs

**INTRODUCTION OF KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**

**Richa Kalsi**

Bachelor of Science: Cell Biology and Genetics  
Bachelor of Arts: Spanish

**Stefania Butoi Varga**

Bachelor of Arts: Romance Languages  
Bachelor of Science: Criminology and Criminal Justice

**PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES**

***Middle Eastern Studies***

Dr. Ali Reza Abasi (Persian)  
Ms. Dinah Hefnawy (Arabic)

***Russian***

Dr. Elizabeth Papazian, Chair

***Second Language Acquisition***

Dr. Robert De Keyser  
Dr. Kira Gor

***Spanish and Portuguese***

Dr. Juan Carlos Quintero-Herencia, Chair  
Dr. Laura Demaria  
Ms. Karen Krausen  
Dr. Roberta Lavine  
Dr. Eyda M. Merediz  
Dr. Ana Patricia Rodríguez

***East Asian Languages and Cultures***

Dr. Robert Ramsey, Chair  
Dr. Minglang Zhou (Chinese)  
Mr. Carlos Pimentel (Japanese)

***French and Italian***

Dr. Caroline Eades, Chair  
Ms. Stefania Amodeo (Italian)  
Dr. Sarah Benharrech (French)  
Dr. Joseph Brami (French)  
Dr. Karen Casebier (French)  
Ms. Margherita Morando (Italian)  
Dr. Mel Scullen (French)

***Germanic Studies***

Dr. Rose-Marie Oster, Chair  
Dr. Elke Frederiksen  
Dr. Gabriele Strauch

**School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures  
Reception – The Language House (St. Mary's Hall)**

PROFILE OF DOCTORATE RECIPIENTS  
School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures  
Spring 2013

Name: Hilkka Marja Booker, Ph.D.  
Title of Dissertation: “OUR LADIES: THIRD SPACE IDENTITIES IN CHICANA ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS, 1970 – 2000”  
Directed By: Professor Ana Patricia Rodríguez  
Department of Spanish & Portuguese

Hilkka Marja Booker’s dissertation examines a corpus of poetry, narrative, and visual artwork produced between 1970 and 2000 by Chicana (Mexican American) feminist artists. Drawing from Borderlands thinking and “theories in the flesh” of Gloria Anzaldúa, Cherrie Moraga and other early Chicana feminist theorists, the dissertation offers close readings of the poetry of Lorna Dee Cervantes, Alma Villanueva, and Pat Mora; the photographic autobiography of Norma Cantú; and the visual artwork of Ester Hernández, Yolanda Lopez, and Alma Lopez, all inspired by the iconography of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the patron of the Americas. Seed texts to this day, these works have shaped Chicana subjectivities, voices, and discourses as well as a Chicana artistic landscape of everyday experiences, mestiza consciousness, and notions of hybridity, third space, and in betweenness.

Name: Goretti Prieto Botana, Ph.D.  
Title of Dissertation: “THE ROLE OF TASK-ESSENTIALNESS AND EXPLICIT INFORMATION IN PROCESSING INSTRUCTION”  
Directed By: Professor Robert DeKeyser  
Second Language Acquisition

Goretti Prieto Botana’s dissertation investigates the role that grammatical explanations and task-essential practice (activities that make it a must to process the linguistic unit being taught) play in the learning of Spanish, in particular the ser/estar distinction and object-verb-subject clauses. She tested the effects of these two factors by conducting a study with four experimental groups that received treatments consisting of (1) grammatical explanations only, (2) task-essential practice only (3) both grammatical explanations and task-essential practice and, finally, (4) no grammatical explanations and practice that was not task-essential. Her results showed that the groups receiving grammatical explanation in their treatment scored statistically higher in all three exit tests and that the gains obtained by these groups were more durable. Although the group who received task-essential practice only also showed some improvement, its scores after treatment were statistically higher only for some of the exit tasks and the gains were more likely to have disappeared after three weeks.

Name: María Elena Campero, Ph.D.  
Title of Dissertation: “ESTÁ EN LLAMAS EL JARDÍN NATAL: LA POÉTICA DE MAROSA DI GIORGIO”  
TRANSLATION: “THE CHILDHOOD GARDEN IS ON FIRE: THE POETICS OF MAROSA DI GIORGIO”  
Directed By: Professor Jorge Aguilar Mora  
Department of Spanish & Portuguese

In the works of Marosa di Giorgio (1932-2004), the experience of Uruguayan countryside of her early years leaves an indelible trace that becomes the core of a peculiar literature. María Elena Campero examines how the presence of the city arises in the horizon as the final cause responsible for the disappearance of her beloved childhood space. She also shows how di Giorgio re-signifies shocks and brightness, both related to the city, and places them in her family’s farm in order to transform the rural landscape into a territory that does not bear exclusively the economic value imposed by the city. Then, she analyzes the wild and incredible erotic encounters that take place in nature and she argues that the eroticism proposed by di Giorgio is of peculiar divine nature. Finally, Campero explores how otherness and metamorphoses intertwine as a key force of di Giorgio’s universe and writing style.

Name: Erica Maria Cefalo, Ph.D.  
Title of Dissertation: “REDEFINING RELIGION THROUGH LITERATURE IN NINETEENTH CENTURY FRANCE”  
Directed By: Professor Joseph Brami  
Department of French & Italian

Erica Cefalo’s dissertation, Redefining Religion through Literature in Nineteenth Century France, examines essays, poetry and fiction in order to trace the evolution of spiritual ideas in French literature from before the 1789 Revolution to the first decades of the Third Republic. Her work shows a steady movement in ideology from the traditional clerical definition of religion to a more individualistic notion of conscience-based spirituality. This new spirituality increasingly considered humanity itself as sacred and eternal, replacing Catholic doctrine with republican values such as justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity. Each chapter details religious themes in a particular work with a focus on the text’s contribution to the process of redefining the role of religion in society. The range of authors includes Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Mme de Staël, Henri de Saint-Simon, George Sand, Victor Hugo, and Emile Zola, among others.

Name: Rocío Flor Gordon, Ph.D.  
Title of Dissertation: “NARRATIVAS DE LA SUSPENSIÓN: UNA MIRADA CONTEMPORÁNEA DESDE EL CINE Y LA LITERATURA ARGENTINOS.”  
TRANSLATION: “NARRATIVES IN SUSPENSE: A CONTEMPORARY APPROACH TO ARGENTINE CINEMA AND LITERATURE”  
Directed By: Professor Laura Demaria  
Department of Spanish & Portuguese

Rocío Flor Gordon’s dissertation focuses on the theoretical and philosophical concepts of narration, experience, and the contemporary. In this study, she analyzes works of Argentinean writers and filmmakers from the last two decades. The dissertation examines how being contemporary is not only a condition of the present, but also a critical confrontation with our own time. Through the concept of narrativa she argues that seemingly plotless texts can still narrate experience even though experience can no longer be grasped as elaborated by Walter Benjamin and Giorgio Agamben. As Gordon understands it, suspensión refers to the possibility of narrating experience, in spite of the inherently ephemeral and fleeting nature of human experience in the present age. Suspensión is related to a way of narrating experiences without following a storyline because these narratives do not progress towards an end. Gordon explores how the selected works “suspend” the linear plot by opposing the rapid pace of the technological and information era. They narrate instead through duration, which She defines as a narrative that lingers in images; through inertia, a narrative that progresses following automated characters and moves forward through disjointed situations, and through pause, a narrative that emphasizes inactivity and passivity. In the context of entrenched neoliberalism and globalization, She proposes these are three different aesthetics that show the sense of emptiness and lack of shock within our contemporary society, shedding light on the shadows and obscurities of the present.

Name: Natalia Romanova, Ph.D.  
Title of Dissertation: “MECHANISMS UNDERLYING LEXICAL ACCESS IN NATIVE AND SECOND LANGUAGE PROCESSING OF GENDER AND NUMBER AGREEMENT”  
Directed By: Professor Kira Gor  
Second Language Acquisition

Natalia Romanova’s research interests involve cognitive aspects of second language acquisition, with a primary focus on acquisition and processing of morphology. Her dissertation investigates second language learners’ ability to process grammatical information and cognitive mechanisms of attention and memory involved in real-time processing. She found that while native participants invoked both automatic and strategic attentional mechanisms in real time, advanced nonnative participants exhibited delayed activation of morphosyntactic information and relied on strategic mechanisms. These differences in the dynamics of lexical activation may have a cascading effect on language processing, including processing of grammar, which may have repercussions for language testing and important implications for the theory of second language processing.

Name: Uche Onyedi Okafor, Ph.D.  
Title of Dissertation: “MAPPING GERMANY’S COLONIAL DISCOURSE: FANTASY, REALITY AND DILEMMA”  
Directed By: Professor Elke P. Frederiksen  
Department of Germanic Studies

Uche Okafor’s project is a study of Germany’s colonial discourse from the 18th to the end of the 19th century when Germany acquired colonies, mostly in East and Southwest Africa. The focus and original contribution of the dissertation is the discussion of the conflictual relationship between the fantasy of a so-called model or humane colonialism as imagined in literary and non-literary texts around 1800 and the harsh reality of colonial inhumanity in the late 19th century.

Name: Rebeca Moreno Orama, Ph.D.  
Title of Dissertation: “ESCRITURA, DERECHO Y ESCLAVITUD: FRANCISCO JOSÉ DE JACA ANTE EL NOMOS COLONIAL”  
TRANSLATION: “WRITING, SLAVERY & THE LAW: FRANCISCO JOSÉ DE JACA BEFORE THE NOMOS COLONIAL”  
Directed By: Professor Eyda Merediz  
Department of Spanish & Portuguese

Rebeca Moreno Orama’s dissertation concentrates on the relationship between law, literature, and slavery in the Hispanic Caribbean of the Early Modern Period. The analysis is based on two letters and a treatise, Resolución sobre la libertad de los negros y sus originarios, en estado de paganos y después ya cristianos (1681), that were written by Capuchin friar Francisco José de Jaca, while he was serving as a missionary in the Caribbean region. His writings set the stage for a discussion of how Spanish hegemonic legal thinking is challenged and redefined from an alternative transatlantic narrative. The concept of nomos colonial that is introduced denotes the symbolic normative space originated by the legal justifications of the Spanish conquest and colonization. Through the exploration of the nomos colonial, the project focuses on how the rhetoric of law served simultaneously as a discursive practice of imperial domination and of cultural resistance. By reclaiming the aesthetic and conceptual originality of Francisco José de Jaca, a neglected author who demonstrated the illegality of Amerindian and African slavery, her dissertation reveals the epistemological shift produced to (re)accommodate the colonial subjects within the nomos colonial. Ultimately, it serves to reconsider some foundational fictions of the Caribbean world Amerindian legal status, slavery, and Black subjectivity by underscoring the relevance of an intellectual whose discourse was constructed from the tension between the Spanish legal tradition and the colonial experience.

Name: Raluca Romaniuc, Ph.D.  
Title of Dissertation: “AN ETHICS OF THE IRREPARABLE: READING EMIL CIORAN”  
Directed By: Professor Joseph Brami  
Department of French & Italian

Raluca Romaniuc’s dissertation deals with the theme of exile in the works of Emil Cioran (1911-1995), a Romanian-born French writer and philosopher. The thesis examines his multifaceted experience of exile, from the linguistic estrangement to an acute awareness of the quintessential, metaphysical exile. Torn between spaces and languages, Cioran develops a writing that illustrates his keen perception of displacement, which he translates into his paradoxical, fragmentary style. Raluca’s analysis of Cioran’s philosophical, self-reflective essays suggests that his experience of exile determines his personal ethics, which draws its strength from the notion of the irreparable, a concept central to Cioran’s discursive universe. Thus exile, evolving from the external, contingent experience, takes on the characteristics of a literary topos, the writer exiling himself into writing.

Name: Òscar O. Santos-Sopena Ph.D.  
Title of Dissertation: “SOÑADORES LITERARIOS: DE BERNAT METGE A FRANCISCO DE QUEVEDO. ‘EL SUEÑO’ Y SU APORTACIÓN AL RELATO HISTÓRICO-CULTURAL DE DOS ÉPOCAS”  
TRANSLATION: “LITERARY DREAMERS: ‘THE DREAM’ AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE CULTURAL-HISTORICAL NARRATIVE OF TWO EPOCHS.”  
Directed By: Professor Hernán Sanchez De Pinillos  
Department of Spanish & Portuguese

Òscar O. Santos-Sopena’s dissertation explores the intersection of culture, religion, and literary theory in the work of two Iberian Peninsular authors: Bernat Metge (Barcelona, ca. 1340/46-1413) and Francisco de Quevedo y Villegas (Madrid, 1580 - Villanueva de los Infantes, 1645). Both works represent excellent examples of the use of the dream motif from the Medieval to the Baroque period. This dissertation seeks to illuminate the cultural, historical, and literary influences of Catalan and Castilian literatures, which are not always taken into account despite the fact that Catalan Humanism preceded the development of Castilian Humanism since the 14th century. Santos-Sopena examines how Italian Humanism came to the Iberian Peninsula through the Crown of Aragon’s connections to Southern France, Italy, Corsica, and Sardinia. He argues that this cross-pollination of humanisms from the Mediterranean world served as a bridge between the different civilizations and cultures since the time of the Catalan prehumanist Ramon Llull (Palma de Mallorca, 1232 - Tunis, 1316). This study proves the existence of Catalan Humanism and its importance for Spanish literature, and will lead to a better understanding of European Humanism.

Name: Susanne Nicole Van Leuven, Ph.D.  
Title of Dissertation: “ARISTOCRATIC WOMEN WRITERS IN AUSTRIA AND GERMANY: A ‘SONDER-WEG’ [DIFFERENT PATH] OF 19TH CENTURY WOMEN’S EMANCIPATION?”  
Directed By: Professor Elke P. Frederiksen  
Department of Germanic Studies

Susanne Nicole Van Leuven’s study focuses on selected writings by Empress Elisabeth of Austria (1835-1898), Baroness Bertha von Suttner (1843-1914) and Countess Frieda von Bülow (1847-1909). The methodological paradigms of Cultural Studies, Gender Studies as well as Postcolonial Studies are being used in order to investigate the concepts of ‘space’, ‘territory’, ‘oppression’, and ‘conquest’, which defined these 19th century white upper-class women as colonized in their own patriarchal settings. Her dissertation is the first to establish a triangular relationship between the concepts of social class, gender and authorship in the lives of female aristocratic pioneers with the goal of contributing to the scholarship on women’s literary history, which, thus far, has ignored the(her-)story of female aristocrats.

#### PROFILE OF RECIPIENT of MA with THESIS

Name: Lina J. Morales Chacana, M.A. with Thesis  
Title of Thesis: “HACIA UN TEATRO HISPANOAMERICANO TRANSFRONTERIZO: EXPANDIENDO LAS FRONTERAS LINGÜÍSTICAS Y ESPACIO-TEMPORALES SITIO WEB BILINGÜE (INGLÉS-ESPAÑOL) WWW.HISPANICTHEATRE.ORG”  
TRANSLATION: “TOWARDS CROSS-BORDERHISPANIC THEATER: BREAKING BARRIERS OF LANGUAGE, SPACE, AND TIME. BILINGUAL WEBSITE (ENGLISH-SPANISH)”  
Directed By: Professor Sandra Messinger Cypess  
Department of Spanish & Portuguese

The need for critical reflection and dissemination of cross-border Hispanic theatre is the main focus of this research. Through this work Lina Morales Chacana explores the influence of the paradigm shift from modernity to postmodernity in Western and Hispanic drama. She also delves into the impact of the new systems of representation of history and interdisciplinary studies on Hispanic theatre. In addition, She addresses the interconnections between history and literature, which have modified dramatic narrative processes and techniques as well as the construction of characters. In conclusion she presents a bilingual (Spanish-English) web site, www.hispanictheatre.org, devoted to cross-border Hispanic theater. This is a type of theatre that, in essence, reconstructs history, revises canons, problematizes discourses, establishes relationships between local and global issues, and takes into account the audience context; it is a transmedia creation produced by collaborative efforts, and is committed to breaking barriers of language, space, and time.