
UC SANTA BARBARA
Social Sciences

Global Migration: Engaging Inequalities, Affirming Communities
A Clustered Area of Excellence Recruitment Initiative in the Social Sciences

University of California Santa Barbara
May 2020

The Global Migration area of excellence is intended to foster publicly facing research and pedagogy, which can advance our frontiers of understanding, stimulate public dialogue, and propose concrete actions on this topic of critical contemporary importance. The topic acquires greater centrality given UC Santa Barbara's distinctive designations as a Hispanic-Serving Institution and Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution, enriched enormously by a student body, faculty and staff with deep ties to immigrant communities. These ties, in turn, become a mandate for our University to take assertive leadership in developing research-driven societal policies and practices toward immigration that are humane, historically contextualized, and attentive to the principles of intersectional justice.

We can now announce with great enthusiasm the results of this effort. In the past two hiring cycles, we have recruited nine stellar faculty members, all of whom work in this Global Migration field, broadly defined. Their departmental affiliations, and principal research interests, are listed below. They will form part of the Global Migration Initiative, currently under the direction of Professor John S.W. Park (Asian American Studies), and coordinated by Amanda Pinheiro de Oliveira, graduate student, Global Studies. More information on the Initiative can be found [here](#).

In the fall of 2020, these nine newly recruited faculty members will meet for a one-day workshop, to exchange ideas, and begin conversations toward collaborative research, public programming, undergraduate teaching and graduate training in their respective areas of expertise. The Dean's office, with generous contributions from the offices of the Vice Chancellor for Research and the Executive Vice Chancellor, will provide seed funding for select collaborative research ideas, and the Dean's office will provide separate support for graduate student training

initiatives. We fully expect that this fresh collective energy will enliven, critically scrutinize and transform existing approaches to this field, and in so doing, lay the groundwork for a newly conceived center for Global Migration studies at UC Santa Barbara.

1. **Anthropology / Sahana Ghosh** (*Pending Final Signature*)
(sahanagee@gmail.com) / Ph.D., Yale University

Dr. Ghosh is a social anthropologist who uses ethnography and feminist approaches to locate, analyze, and narrate how uneven geographies of movement come about in and through the lives of those whose mobilities are constructed as threats at different scales. Broadly, her research concerns borders, the mobility of people and goods, trans/national security assemblages, and gender and geo/politics with a focus on contemporary South Asia.

2. **Sociology / Yader Lanuza**
(yaders@gmail.com) / Ph.D. Sociology, UC Irvine

Dr. Lanuza's work examines the causes and consequences of ethno-racial and immigration status on inequality in education, family, and the criminal justice system outcomes. He uses a range of quantitative and qualitative methodologies to highlight how immigration, social class, and culture interact to generate racial/ethnic inequalities in American society.

3. **Global Studies / Vladimir Hamed-Troyansky**
(vladimir.hamed-troyansky@furman.edu) / M.Sc. in Islamic and Middle East Studies, University of Edinburgh, M.A. and Ph.D., Stanford University

Spent a year as post-doctoral fellow at the Harriman Institute for Russian, Eurasian, and East European Studies at Columbia University. He specialized in Muslim migration from the Russian to the Ottoman Empire in the mid-19th to the early 20th Century.

4. **Feminist Studies / Debanuj DasGupta** (*Pending Final Signature*)
PhD in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, The Ohio State University

Dr. DasGupta's research focuses on the politics of transgender asylum and detention in the United States, analyzing immigration policy, the

impact of detention on racialized trans bodies, and the anti-detention movement that mobilizes trauma in the interests of social justice. A second project, based on ethnographic fieldwork across South Asia, explores the ways that transgender concepts and transgender bodies move across national borders and challenge national and transnational policies and policing.

5. **Political Sciences / Daniel Masterson**
(dmasters@stanford.edu) / Ph.D., Yale University

Dr. Masterson's research focuses primarily on Syrian refugees and the relationship between humanitarian aid to refugees and violence against them. He has worked extensively with the U.N. and humanitarian NGOs to evaluate programs of assistance with refugees. Other work looks at self-organization within refugee camps and the role of diversity in improving outcomes. In the 2020-2021 academic year, he will be teaching courses on the Middle East and migration politics/policy.

6. **Sociology / Jean Beaman**
(jbeaman@ucsb.edu) / Ph.D. Sociology, Northwestern University

Dr. Beaman's research interests lie at the intersections of race and ethnicity, urban sociology, international migration, and the sociology of culture. Drawing on a range of qualitative methods, including ethnography, in-depth interviewing, content analysis, and archival methodology, her research focuses on the relationships between race, ethnicity, and marginalization of minority populations within and across France and the United States.

7. **Anthropology / Raquel Pacheco**
(rapacheco@ucsb.edu) / Ph.D. UC San Diego

Dr. Pacheco's research concerns how Nahua and Teenek peoples of the Huasteca region in Mexico engage with migration, wage labor and government efforts to promote modern gender roles. She does this through a historical analysis of the nexus between settler colonialism, political economy, feminism, development, and the transformations of the Mexican state since 1960. Her ethnography focuses on the contradictions between the local and state efforts directed at harmonizing and modernizing the indigenous family in the Huasteca

region, and the domestic labor niche to which Nahuas and Teeneks are sidelined in the urban center of Monterrey, Nuevo Leon.

8. **Chicano/a Studies / San Juanita Garcia**
(juanita_garcia@ucsb.edu). UT Austin, Sociology

Dr. Garcia's research focuses on deportation regimes and vicarious illegality. Her dissertation examined how the fear of deportation spilled over and impacted the mental health of Mexican-origin women who may have been U.S. citizens and/or permanent residents. She is also focused on a new project that examines older undocumented immigrants and their mental and physical health. Dr. Garcia has been funded by the American Sociological Association Minority Fellowship Program, Ford Foundation, and the National Science Foundation Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences. Her single-authored and collaborative work appears in *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*, *Race & Social Problems*, *Journal of Family Issues*, *Sociology Compass*, *Psychiatric Services*, *Health Expectations*, and *Transnational Social Review*.

9. **Chicano/a Studies / Daina Sanchez**
(dainasanchez@ucsb.edu) / Ph.D. Anthropology UC Irvine

Dr. Sanchez's research focuses on transnational migration and community formation, especially on indigenous immigrants from Oaxaca. She also examines immigrant indigenous youth, native ethnography, and critical Latinx indigenities. Her most recent co-authored publication is "Words Hurt: Political Rhetoric, Emotions/Affect, and Psychological Well-being among Mexican-Origin Youth," *Social Science and Medicine*.