Miren E. Antón Lobato, Ph.D

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**Academic Appointments**

2023. Howard University, Department of World Languages and Cultures, Spanish Lecturer

**Education**

2023. PhD., Hispanic Literatures and Cultures. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2017. M.A., Hispanic Literatures and Cultures. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2015. B.A., Modern Languages, Major in English Studies. University of Deusto

**Research Interests**

* 20th and 21st Century Spanish and Latin American Literature and Film
* Transatlantic Internet Culture
* Digital and New Media Studies Queer Theory and Cultural Identity
* Feminist Cultural Analysis

**Current Research Project**

Current Research Project: I am actively engaged in preparing my dissertation, "Queer Heterotopias: Online and Offline Communities and Civic Engagement in Chile and Spain," for publication. This work dissects the role of heterotopia in contemporary cultural expressions, centering on queer identities within Spanish and Latin American literature, derivative works, and digital platforms. The next phase involves distilling the research into a series of articles, with the aim to enrich scholarly dialogues on queer spatiality and digital cultural landscapes in transatlantic contexts.

**Dissertation**

*Queer Heterotopias: Civic Crisis in Online and Offline Communities in Spain and Chile*.

Queer Heterotopias: Online and Offline Communities and Civic Engagement in Chile and Spain" examines LGBTQ+ representations through Foucault's heterotopia concept, analyzing literature, fanfictions, and digital media to explore how queer spaces challenge traditional norms and foster community resilience. This interdisciplinary approach combines cultural, gender, and queer theories with digital media studies to offer a nuanced understanding of transnational LGBTQ+ identities.

Committee: Eduardo Ledesma (advisor), Mariselle Meléndez, Xiomara Cervantes, Anna Torres-Cacoullos

**Publications**

Utopías Digitales: Identidad Queer, Amor Heterotópico y Subversión Heteronormativas. In progress.

**Teaching Experience**

* SPAN 003 “Spanish III,” Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Howard University
* SPAN 001 “Spanish I,” Fall 2023, Howard University
* SPAN 050 “Oral Communication I,” Fall 2023, Howard University
* SPAN 326 “Hispanic Online Media: Contemporary Social Movements and Internet Culture in Spain and Latin America,” Spring 2022
* SPAN 248 “Latin American Diaspora through Film: Beyond Braceros, Narcos and Latin Lovers,” Fall 2021, Fall 2020\*\*
* SPAN 141 “Introduction to Spanish Grammar,” Summer 2021
* SPAN 228 “Composition in Spanish.,” Spring 2021\*\*, Spring 2020\*, Summer 2020\*, Fall 2019\*\*, Spring 2019\*\*, Fall 2018\*
* SPAN 200 “Readings in Hispanic Texts,” Spring 2020\*\*
* SPAN 142 “Spanish in the Professions,” Fall 2019\*\*, Summer 2018, Spring 2018\*\*, Fall 2017\*\*, Spring 2017\*\*, Fall 2016\*\*
* SPAN 208 “Oral Spanish,” Spring 2018\*\*
* SPAN 122 “Intensive Elementary Spanish,” Spring 2016\*, Fall 2015\*

\*List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent; \*\* List of Teachers Ranked as Outstanding

**Conference Presentations**

“Beyond Machismo: Tradition and Modernity in Gender Performativity and Representation in Mexico”. Southwest Popular/American Culture Association (SWPACA) Summer Salon Conference. June 2024.

“The Regina George Challenge: Queering American Blockbusters Against Stigmatyping”. Association for Computers and the Humanities (ACH). July 2021

“Fandom Without Borders: The Liminal Spaces for Identity Construction Online”. Digital Frontiers Conference in Austin. November 2019

“It Gets Better on YouTube: Digital, and Visual Rhetoric, and Performance of LGBTQ+ Identities Online”. MLA Conference in Chicago. January 2019

“El México Más Bárbaro: Sexualidad y Violencia del Horror Artaudiano en México Bárbaro”. LASA Conference in Barcelona. May 2018

**Fellowships and Awards**

2024. Howard University Junior Faculty Writing and Creative Works Summer Academy (competitive summer program for professional advancement)

2022. SLCL Dissertation Completion Fellowship (competitive yearlong funding)

2021. Marianne A. Ferber Graduate Award in Gender and Women Studies

2019. Digital Frontiers Conference Travel Award

2018. Spanish and Portuguese Travel Award

2014. Erasmus Grant, European Union

2014. International Mobility Grant, Basque Government.

**Academic Service**

### 2023-25. Technology Committee – Member, Howard University

### 2023-25. Admissions Committee – Member, Howard University

### 2021-22. Study Abroad Committee – Member, University of Illinois, at Urbana-Champaign

2020-21. Policy and Development Committee - Member, University of Illinois, at Urbana-Champaign

### 2020. Spanish Association at UIUC - Founding Member, University of Illinois, at Urbana-Champaign

### 2017-18. Spanish and Portuguese Graduate Organization- Secretary, University of Illinois, at Urbana-Champaign

2016-17. Graduate and Employee Organization - Steward, University of Illinois, at Urbana-Champaign

**Professional Organizations**

2021-22. Association for Computers and the Humanities

2018-19. Modern Languages Association

2017-18. Latin American Studies Association

**Languages**

Spanish - Native

Basque -Native

English - Advanced

Portuguese – Intermediate