

# Ómar Vargas

## Curriculum Vitae

Assistant Professor of Spanish  
Department of Modern Languages & Literatures  
University of Miami  
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**Date:** May 1, 2020

### EDUCATION

Ph.D. Iberian and Latin American Literature, The University of Texas at Austin, May 2012.

Dissertation: “Silogísticas del sobresalto: resonancias científicas en la obra de José Lezama Lima”

Dissertation Committee:

Dr. César A. Salgado (Chair)  
Dr. Lili Litvak  
Dr. Jossianna Arroyo-Martínez  
Dr. Enrique Fierro  
Dr. Sonia Roncador

M.A. Latin American Literature, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá, Colombia, December 2002.

Thesis: “Elementos fractales en *José Trigo* de Fernando del Paso”

Thesis Committee:

Dr. José Alejandro Rodríguez (Chair)  
Dr. Cristo Rafael Figueroa  
Dr. Blanca Inés Gómez de González

B.A., Mathematics, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá, Colombia, December 1986.

### ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

*University of Miami* (2012-Present)  
Assistant Professor of Spanish, Fall 2015-Present  
Lecturer, Fall 2014-Spring 2015  
Visiting Assisting Professor, Fall 2012-Spring 2014.

## Academic employment (continued)

University of Texas at Austin (Fall 2005-Spring 2012)  
Assistant Instructor of Spanish.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Book Manuscript

*Cantidades hechizadas y silogísticas del sobresalto: la secreta ciencia de José Lezama Lima*.  
Purdue University Press as Volume 83 of the Purdue Studies in Romance Literatures series.  
Forthcoming, August 2021.

### Essays in Peer-Reviewed Journals

“Fractalismo mágico: Gabriel García Márquez, Eréndira, el hombrecito de arena y el sueño de los cuartos infinitos” (Scheduled for publication in the first issue (Spring 2021) of the *Symposium Journal in Modern Literature*).

“Fabling about Infinity. The Arithmetization of Writing in Salvador Elizondo’s *Grünewalda, o una fábula del infinito*”. *Latin American Research Review Journal*.  
(Tentatively scheduled for publication in the journal *Latin American Research Review*, volume 56, number 2, 2021).

“Remedios in the Sky with Diamonds. Gabriel García Márquez and the Beatles in Their Own Write.” (Scheduled for publication in the Fall 2020 issue of the journal *Latin American Literary Review*).

“The Physicist and His Ghosts: The Scientific Writing of Ernesto Sabato.” *Journal Ciberletras*, Number 44, August 2020, pp. 66-85.  
<https://www.lehman.cuny.edu/ciberletras/documents/0.5.PHYSICIST-SABATO-VARGAS.pdf>

“El extraño comportamiento de las palabras en el infinito: un encuentro entre la teoría fractal, la teoría de conjuntos y “El Aleph” de Jorge Luis Borges.” *Variaciones Borges*, no. 42, 2016, pp. 139-59.

“Poesía del conocimiento y conocimiento a través de la poesía: Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz y el Sistema poético de conocimiento poético del mundo de José Lezama Lima”. *Revista Revolución y Cultura* Número 2, Abril-Mayo-Junio, 2015, Época V, 23-27. La Habana, Cuba.

“La cantidad sexuada: coloquio de José Lezama Lima con los números.” *Nueva Revista del Pacífico*. no. 60, 2014, pp. 62-79,  
<http://www.nuevarevistadelpacifico.cl/index.php/NRP/article/view/9>.

“Lezama y la entrada de Einstein en La Habana.” *La Habana elegante*. No 51 (Primavera-Verano 2012), [http://www.habanaelegante.com/Spring\\_Summer\\_2012/Invitation\\_Vargas.html](http://www.habanaelegante.com/Spring_Summer_2012/Invitation_Vargas.html)

### Non-Peer Reviewed Publications

Book Review of *El libro y la vida. Ensayos críticos sobre la obra de Héctor Abad Faciolince*. Catalina Quesada y Kristine Vanden Berghe (eds.). Presses Universitaires de Liège-Universidad EAFIT. Revista de Crítica Literaria Latinoamericana, Año XLV, Número 89, Primer semestre de 2019, pp. 340-2 .

“Ernesto Sábato en Colombia: Burgos Cantor, García Márquez y la metafísica de la esperanza,” *El Espectador*, <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/cultura/ernesto-sabato-en-colombia-burgos-cantor-garcia-marquez-y-la-metafisica-de-la-esperanza-i-articulo-829451>. December 15, 2018.

“Sábato en Colombia: El Espectador y los lunautas,” *El Espectador*, <https://www.elespectador.com/noticias/cultura/sabato-en-colombia-el-espectador-y-los-lunautas-ii-articulo-829454>. December 15, 2018.

“El beatle de Aracata”, *Revista Aleph* No 170, Julio/Septiembre de 2014, Manizales, Colombia.

“Ciencia y descubrimiento en la ficción literaria latinoamericana”, Blog, December 2013, [literaturayciencia.weebly.com](http://literaturayciencia.weebly.com) [Electronic Resource]

“La muerte de Lezama”, *Revista Aleph* No 162, Julio/Septiembre de 2012, año XLVI, Manizales, Colombia.

“Posibles imágenes de Lezama”. Round table with Professor Cesar A. Salgado as part of the celebration of the centennial of José Lezama Lima. Participants: Cesar A. Salgado, Ingrid Robyn and Omar Vargas. *Pterodáctilo* 9, Fall 2010. [Electronic Resource]

### CONFERENCES

“El escritor y sus fantasmas: la escritura científica de Ernesto Sábato”, paper delivered online at the *XXVI Congreso Internacional de Literatura y Estudios Hispánicos*, Sevilla, June 17-19, 2020.

“Rebeca Buendía, Patient Zero of the Insomnia Plague.” Paper delivered online at the “Plague Literature in the Time of Corona Virus: An Online Symposium for the Quarantined”, May 8, 2020.

“The Arithmetization of Writing in Salvador Elizondo.” Paper delivered at the 2019 *MMLA Conference*, Chicago, November 16, 2019.

## CONFERENCES (continued)

“Etching *One Hundred Years of Solitude*: Gabriel García Márquez Through the Hands of Pedro Villalba Ospina”. Paper delivered at the exhibition “Etching *One Hundred Years of Solitude*”. Kislak Center at the University of Miami, Otto G. Richter Library, Miami, November 20, 2018.

“Remedios in the Sky with Diamonds”. Paper delivered at the exhibition “One Hundred Years of Solitude Turns 50”. FIU College of Communication, Architecture and The Arts, Miami, May 11, 2018.

“El extraño comportamiento de las palabras en el infinito”. Graduate Seminar taught to students of the Master of Literary and Musical Studies program, at the Instituto Mexicano Norteamericano de Relaciones Culturales de Nuevo León A.C., Monterrey, Nuevo León, México, March 22-24, 2017.

“La cantidad sexuada: el esquema pitagórico de Lezama. Paper delivered at the Coloquio Internacional “Pensamientos en La Habana. A cincuenta años de *Paradiso*.” Havana, Cuba, November 16-18, 2016.

“Poesía del conocimiento y conocimiento a través de la poesía: Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz y el sistema poético de conocimiento del mundo de José Lezama Lima”. Paper delivered at the Coloquio internacional “La educación de las mujeres en la historia y la cultura de la América Latina y el Caribe” Havana, Cuba, February 23-27, 2015.

Chair of the panel “Virgilio Piñera: el hombre y el artista” as part of the conference “Sexual and Cultural Politics in Virgilio Piñera’s Theatre.” Miami, September 2012.

“La poesía al auxilio.” Paper delivered at the MALAS conference 2011 as part of the panel “(Dis)continuidades: discursos culturales y rupturas epistemológicas.” Oklahoma, November 2011

“Joyce y Lezama ante el tribunal de la ciencia”. Paper delivered at the 19th Colloquium on Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literatures and Linguistics: “Reversing the Fall of Babel: Fragmented Unities in Hispanic and Lusophone Literatures and Linguistics.” Presented by the Graduate Student Organization of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of Texas at Austin, February 2011

“José Lezama Lima y la teoría de las paralelas: la imagen de un ajedrez riemanniano.” Paper delivered at the First Annual Texas A&M Department of Hispanic Studies Graduate Student Symposium: “The languages of Resistance: In homage of centenaries of Julio Herrera y Reissig, Miguel Hernández and José Lezama Lima”, November 2010.

“Muerte de Lezama.” Paper accepted to be delivered at the Coloquio internacional “A partir de la poesía: la era Lezama,” Instituto de Literatura y Lingüística, Havana, Cuba. November 2010.

### **CONFERENCES (continued)**

“Tiempo protometafórico: Riemann y Einstein en José Lezama Lima.” Special guest at the opening of *Cátedra abierta: Narrativas caribeñas contemporáneas*, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá, Colombia, August 2010.

“El viajero inmóvil.” Round table concerning the screening of the 2008 film based on “Paradiso” by Cuban director Tomás Piard. With Prof. César Salgado, Ingrid Robyn and Omar Vargas. University of Texas at Austin, Austin, May 2010.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida. Modern Languages and Literatures Department.**

#### Graduate courses

SPA 736 “Science and Discovery in Latin-American Narrative Fiction.” Fall 2017.

#### Independent Study

SPA 692 “Encuentros entre la ciencia y la literatura iberoamericana.” Spring 2016.

MLL 792 “The Romantic view on Science and Technology.” Spring 2020.

#### Dissertation supervision

Committee member, Doctoral candidates.

- Carlos Gámez Pérez (Spanish), Fall 2016 - Summer 2017. UM. Dissertation topic: “On Sciences and Letters: Techno-scientific Thinking and Culture in Spain (1959-2016).”

Qualifying and Breadth Exams committees, Doctoral candidates.

- Qualifying Exam committee member, doctoral candidate, Carlos Gámez Pérez, Spring 2016.
- Breadth Exam committee member, doctoral candidate, Ruming Yang, Spring 2019.
- General graduate advisor, doctoral candidate Francesca Battista, Fall 2019-Present.

#### Advanced Pedagogical Training

Co-teacher, Ph.D. student Elena Bonmatí. Modern Languages and Literatures, University of Miami. Teaching of upper division undergraduate course. Interpreting Literary and Cultural Texts in Spanish, Fall 2019.

Co-teacher, Ph.D. student Carlos Gámez-Pérez. Modern Languages and Literatures, University of Miami. Teaching of upper division undergraduate course. Interpreting Literary and Cultural Texts in Spanish, Fall 2016.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE (continued)

Mentorship, Ph.D. student Lilianne Lugo. Modern Languages and Literatures, University of Miami. Teaching of upper division undergraduate course. Interpreting Literary and Cultural Texts in Spanish, Spring 2019.

### Undergraduate honors theses supervision and research projects

- Director, Fiona Collins, Undergraduate Honors Thesis in Spanish. Thesis topic: “La flecha del tiempo: la construcción de una realidad narrativa en los cuentos de Alberto Fuguet y Julio Cortázar.” December 2016.
- Committee member, María José Buchanan Carrillo. Universidad de Monterrey, Monterrey, Nuevo León, México. Thesis topic: “Los múltiples laberintos de *Paradiso* y algunos hilos de Ariadna.” Spring 2017.
- Committee member, Pablo Antonio Morales López, Nínive María Vargas Reina. Universidad de Monterrey, Monterrey, Nuevo León, México. Thesis topic: “Oppiano Licario como personaje de ciencia ficción: una nueva lectura en *Paradiso*.” Spring 2017.

### Undergraduate courses

SPA 501 “Capstone: Space-Time in Latin-American Narrative Fiction” (Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Spring 2018)

SPA 446 “Cultural Debates: Public Speaking on Societal Issues” (Spring 2014)

SPA 394 “Spanish Internship”

- Spring 2018: Alexander Clark
- Spring 2019: Gemma St. Louis

SPA 354 “Producción literaria latinoamericana del siglo XIX” (Fall 2012)

SPA 343 “Interpreting Literary and Cultural Texts in Spanish for Heritage/Native Speakers” (Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2014)

SPA 322 “García Márquez y los Beatles: El Boom y la Beatlemania” (Fall 2019)

SPA 321 “Ciencia y descubrimiento en la ficción literaria latinoamericana” (Fall 2013)

MLL 792 “The Romantic view on Science and Technology” (Spring 2020)

MLL 321 “Science and Discovery in Latin-American and English Modern Narrative Fiction” (Fall 2016) (taught in English)

SPA 307 “Interpreting Literary and Cultural Texts in Spanish for Heritage/Native Speakers” (Spring 2019)

SPA 303 “Civilización y cultura de América Latina” (Fall 2012)

SPA 301 “Interpreting Literary and Cultural Texts in Spanish” (Spring 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2020)

SPA 244 “Advanced Spanish for Heritage Learners” (Spring 2014, Spring 2015)

SPA 243 “Intermediate Spanish for Heritage Learners Spanish 244, Advanced Spanish for Heritage Learners” (Spring 2019)

SPA 214 “Advance Spanish” (Spring 2015)

SPA 212 “Intermediate Spanish II” (Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Spring 2015)  
SPA 208 “Advanced Spanish for Heritage Learners” (Spring 2020)  
SPA 203 “Advanced Spanish” (Fall 2015)

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE (continued)**

**The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas. Fall 2005-Spring 2012 Assistant Instructor of Spanish. Department of Spanish and Portuguese**

Spanish 506 - First Year Spanish I  
Spanish 507- First Year Spanish II  
Spanish 508K - Alternative First Year Spanish II  
Spanish 312K - Second Year Spanish I- Oral Expression, Reading, and Composition  
Spanish 312L - Second Year Spanish II- Oral Expression, Reading, and Composition  
Spanish 611D - Second Year Spanish II-Oral Expression, Reading, and Composition

### **Mathematics Instructor, Bogotá, Colombia.**

Anglo Colombian School, Bilingual Instructor of Mathematics. 1989-2005.  
Gimnasio de los Cerros, Bilingual Instructor of Mathematics. 1987-1989.

### **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

#### **University Committee and Administrative Responsibilities:**

Transfer and Equivalency Advisor (Fall 2014-Spring 2016)  
Sigma Delta Pi, Spanish Honor Society. Advisor (Fall 2015-Spring 2018)  
Search Committee, Assistant Professor in Comparative Cultural Studies, Spring 2019  
MLL Representative to the Arts and Science College Council (Fall 2019-present)  
Job Placement Officer for MLL Graduate Students (Fall 2019-present)  
Graduate Students Committee (Fall 2019-present)  
“La hora del café.” Weekly Spanish conversation meeting. (Fall 2015-Spring 2018)

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

MLA (Modern Language Association)  
LASA (Latin American Studies Association)  
MMLA (Midwest Modern Language Association)

### **LANGUAGES**

Spanish (native)  
English (advanced proficiency)  
Portuguese (reading proficiency)

