

## NELESI RODRIGUEZ

Ph.D. Candidate

English Department – University of Pittsburgh

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### EDUCATION

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**2023** Ph.D., Critical and Cultural Studies, English Department, University of Pittsburgh (expected)

Composition, Literacy, and Pedagogy Track

Graduate Certificate in Gender, Sexuality, and Women Studies

Dissertation title: *Contact Composition: Enacting a Movement-Inflected Composition Pedagogy*

**2016** M.A., Department of Media Studies, The New School

**2010** B.A., Communication Studies Department, Universidad Católica Andrés Bello (UCAB), Caracas-Venezuela

Audiovisual Arts Track

Cum laude special distinction

### AREAS OF INTEREST

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Critical Pedagogies, Embodiment and Movement in Rhetoric, Feminist Theories, Qualitative Methods, Interdisciplinarity

### FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

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#### National and International Fellowships

**2022** Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship (\$43,000)

**2021** Dance On, Organizing with Artists for Change Professional Development Fellowship. Dance Exchange

**2014** Fulbright Foreign Student Program Fellowship (\$70,000)

#### Internal Fellowships and Grants

**2021** Lillian B. Lawler Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh (\$24,456)

**2021** Andrew Mellon Predoctoral Dissertation Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh (\$24,456 – declined)

**2020-** Research and Development Grants, English Department, University

- 2022** of Pittsburgh
- 2021** A&S PBC Online Conference Grant. Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences, University of Pittsburgh
- 2018** A&S PBC Travel Grant. Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences, University of Pittsburgh
- 2014-** Dean Merit Scholarship. School of Media Studies, The New School
- 2015** (more than \$16,000 total)

## AWARDS AND HONORS

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- 2022** Winner. Composition Graduate Writing Awards. English Department, University of Pittsburgh
- 2016** Graduation Speaker Award, New School for Public Engagement, The New School
- 2016** Winner. Robert Youngson Award. School of Media Studies, The New School
- 2014** First Prize Creative Response. Writing Award, Vera List Center, The New School

## PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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Awanjo, A., Harris, T.; Holding, C.; Lane, S.; **Rodriguez, N.**; Saito, N.; Scott, K.; & Shirazi, T. (forthcoming) "Student Writing About Student Writing," *Inventing the Discipline: Student Writing in Composition Studies*, Peter Moe and Stacey Waite eds., Parlor Press.

**Rodriguez, N.** (2018) "The Question of the Subject in Times of the Quantified Self." *Spectator*, vol. 38, no. 1, pp. 44–50.

Manwelyan, E, and **Rodriguez, N.** (2017) "Of Vessels, Conduits, and Instruments: Reflections from the Bodies as Media Working Group," co-authored with Eugenia Manwelyan. *INMATERIAL. Design, Arts & Society*, vol. 2, no. 3, pp. 91–115.

## IN PROGRESS

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**Rodriguez, N.** "On How We Come to Know Our Worlds: What Can Dance and English Composition Learn from Each Other?" Preparing for submission to *Peitho*, the peer-reviewed journal of the Coalition of Feminist Scholars in the History of Rhetoric and Composition (draft available upon request).

**Rodriguez, N.** “Dodging Potholes While Bombing Downhill on Crutches or Periperformativity in Bill Shannon’s Work.” Preparing for submission to *Text and Performance* (draft available upon request).

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Teaching

- 2018-2021** Instructor of Record. Seminar in Composition. English Department, University of Pittsburgh (Online and In Person)
- 2020** Instructor of Record. Written Professional Communication. English Department, University of Pittsburgh (Online, asynchronous)
- 2017-2018** Instructor of Record. Integrative Seminars I and II, Parsons School of Design, The New School
- 2016** Teaching Assistant. Introduction to Visual Culture (undergraduate course taught by Dr. Rory O’Dea). Parsons School of Design, The New School
- 2015** Teaching Assistant. Media Theory (undergraduate course taught by Dr. Eugene Thacker). School of Media Studies, The New School

### Mentoring and Tutoring

- 2022** Writing Center Tutor. University of Pittsburgh (Summer)
- 2021-2022** Peer Graduate Instructor Mentor. English Department, University of Pittsburgh (Service)
- 2021** Writing Tutor. University of Pittsburgh’s Prison Education Project (Service)
- 2019-2021** Graduate Instructor Mentor. Writing Pedagogy. English Department, University of Pittsburgh

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- 2022** Archival Exhibition Co-Curator. [\*A Century of Mobilizing for Reproductive Care\*](#). Archives and Special Collections. Hillman Library, University of Pittsburgh

- 2016-2017** Coordinator. [The New School Collaboratory](#). The New School Responsibilities: Researched and developed programming and resources in line with a university-wide initiative to sustain and enhance the social and educational impact of academic collaborations with communities.
- 2014-2016** Research Assistant to Professor Nitin Sawhney  
**Project:** Guatemala Después, curatorial research project between The New School (School of Media Studies & Sheila C. Johnson Design Center) and Ciudad de la Imaginación. The project used interdisciplinary and transnational perspectives to explore the ways in which political and social realities in contemporary Guatemala have affected its artistic and cultural production in the aftermath of the “inner armed conflict” (1970-1996).  
**Responsibilities:** Develop educational resources (in English and Spanish) in conversation with participating artists.

## CONFERENCES

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- Rodriguez, N.** (2021) “Moving Communities: Migration, Creative Practices, Self-determination, and Amplification.” 4<sup>th</sup> Conference On Community Writing. Online.
- Rodriguez, N.** (2021) “Shifting Grounds, Grounding Composition: Sacar y Echar Raíces as a Case Study about Migrant Compositions.” *We Are All Writing Teachers: Returning to a Common Place*. 71<sup>st</sup> Conference on College Composition and Communication. Online.
- Rodriguez, N.** (2020) “Composing Home in Movement: Using Creative and Social Practices for Collective Meaning-Making.” *Rhetoric/Hospitality*. 19th Biennial Conference of the Rhetoric Society of America. Portland, Oregon (Conference canceled due to COVID–19 pandemic).
- Rodriguez, N.** (2019) “On City Arteries, Teardrop Shapes, and Flattened Turf: Using Mapping in Composition Studies,” *Performance Rhetoric, Performance Composition*. 70<sup>th</sup> Conference on College Composition and Communication. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- Rodriguez, N.** (2018) “Dodging Potholes While Bombing Downhill on Crutches: Periperformative Pedagogies in Bill Shannon's Work.” *Practicing, Training, (Re)Thinking, and Questioning Emancipatory Pedagogies – Current Discussions and Debates*. ESPE Paris, Sorbonne University. Paris, France.

**Rodriguez, N., and Vargas, V. (2018)** “Moving Together: Migration, Periperformativity and Collaboration.” *The Between: Couple Forms, Performing Together*. Department of Performance Studies, NYU. NYC, New York.

**Rodriguez, N. (2018)** “Making Space for Others: Disability, Subjectivity, and Acknowledgement in Adrienne Asch and Fernand Deligny,” *Breaking Through: Textures and Aesthetics of Rupture*—English Student Association Graduate Conference. The Graduate Center, CUNY. NYC, New York.

**Rodriguez, N. (2016)** “The Question of the Subject in Times of the Quantified Self.” *First Forum Graduate Conference: Subjected to Play: Locating the Subject in the Promise of Play*. USC, Los Angeles.

## WORKSHOPS

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**Rodriguez, N. (2022)** “Thinking in/about/through Relation: Prepositions in Writing and Movement,” Writing Center, University of Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh, PA.

Peiu, T., and **Rodriguez, N. (2019)** “Is ‘There’ Necessarily Not ‘Here’? A Study of Home,” co-facilitated with Toma Peiu at *Imagined Borders, Epistemic Freedoms: The Challenge of Social Imaginaries in Media, Art, Religion, and Decoloniality*. UC Boulder, CO.

The New School Collaboratory and **Rodriguez, N. (2019)** “21<sup>st</sup> Century Manifesto-Making: Community Partnerships and Belonging in Higher Education,” co-facilitated with The New School Collaboratory at *Mighty Dreams: Designing Fostering and Belonging in America*. 20<sup>th</sup> Imagining America National Gathering. University of New Mexico. Albuquerque, NM.

**Rodriguez, N., and Vargas, V. (2019 and 2017)** “Mapping the City with the Body,” (2<sup>nd</sup> iteration) co-facilitated with performer and educator Vanessa Vargas. Pioneer Works, NYC.

Resonalia and **Rodriguez, N. (2019)** “Uprootings/Regroundings: Exploring Venezuelan Experiences of Migration Through Movement and Creative Practices.” ONG Caracas, Venezuela.

**Rodriguez, N. (2018, roundtable moderator)** “New Spaces for Civic Action.” *1st New School Collaboratory Symposium*. The New School. NYC, NY.

**Rodriguez, N. (2018)** “Cartographic Bodies” for Arch 4408: *Special Topics in Architecture, Culture and Society –Body, Space and the In Between*, a course taught by Visiting Lecturer Danica Selem. Cornell University. Ithaca, NY.

The New School Collaboratory and **Rodriguez, N.** (2017) “Approaches to Multimedia Documentation of Engaged Learning and Public Scholarship” co-facilitated with The New School Collaboratory at *Imagining America National Gathering*. UC Davis, CA.

**Rodriguez, N.** (2017) “Other lessons, Other Readings: A Working Group on Alternative Pedagogies, Community, and Civic Engagement.” Organización Nelson Garrido. Caracas, Venezuela.

## SERVICE

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**2021-2022** TA/TF Peer Mentor. English Department. University of Pittsburgh

**2020-2022** Advisory Board, Graduate Student Representative. Humanities Engage Initiative at the University of Pittsburgh

**2021** Writing Tutor. University of Pittsburgh’s Prison Education Project

**2020** Jury Member. Koloc Awards, which recognizes exceptional work by students in Workshop in Composition and ESL Workshop in Composition. English Department, University of Pittsburgh

## LANGUAGE SKILLS

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Spanish: First Language, fluent

Portuguese: Intermediate

French: Basic