

Raúl Pérez

Department of Sociology
University of California, Irvine
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Education

Ph.D., Sociology, University of California, Irvine. Expected May 2015

Chicano/Latino Studies Graduate Emphasis

Dissertation: "Navigating the Hurlline: Race in American Stand-up Comedy from Civil Rights to Color-Blindness"

Committee: David John Frank, Ann Hironaka, Belinda Robnett-Olsen, Jacob Avery

M.A., Sociology, University of California, Irvine. 2009

Thesis: "Learning to Make Racism Funny: The Reification of Race through Humor."

B.A., with Honors, Sociology, University of California, Irvine. 2007

Minor, Philosophy

Rome, Education Abroad Program, University of California. 2006

A.A., with Honors, Cerritos Community College. 2004

Research and Teaching Interests

Race and Ethnicity, Culture, Inequality, Humor, Law and Society, General Sociology, Theory, Methods

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Articles:

Pérez, R. (2013) "Learning to Make Racism Funny in the 'Color-Blind' Era: Stand-Up Comedy Students, Performance Strategies, and the (Re)Production of Racist Jokes in Public." *Discourse & Society*, 24(4), 478-503.

*Featured in TIME: <http://newsfeed.time.com/2013/06/12/how-to-tell-race-related-jokes-in-a-post-racial-society/>

*Featured in THE GRIO: <http://thegrio.com/2013/06/20/why-racist-jokes-are-no-laughing-matter/>

Pérez, R. (Forthcoming) "Brownface Minstrelsy: 'José Jiménez,' the Civil Rights Movement, and the Legacy of Racist Comedy." *Ethnicities*.

Pérez, R. and Greene, V. (In Preparation) "Debating Rape Jokes vs. Rape Culture: Framing, Ideology, and Oligosemy in Misogynistic Comedy." *Social Semiotics*. Special Issue on Gender, Humour, and Social Structure. Eds. Weaver, S., Mora, R., and Morgan, K.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters:

Pérez, R. (Accepted) "Rhetoric of Racial Ridicule in an Era of Racial Protest: Don Rickles, the 'Equal Opportunity Offender' Strategy, and the Civil Rights Movement." *Standing Up, Speaking Up: Stand-Up Comedy and the Rhetoric of Social Change*, Eds. Schmitt, C.R and Meier, M.R.

Book Reviews:

Pérez, R. (Forthcoming) Review of Gillota, D. (2013). *Ethnic Humor in Multiethnic America*. Rutgers University Press. For *Ethnic and Racial Studies*.

Pérez, R. (Forthcoming) Review of Weaver, S. (2011) *The Rhetoric of Racist Humour: US, UK and Global Race Joking*. Ashgate Publishing. For *Studies in American Humor*.

Pérez, R. (In Preparation) Review of Friedman, S. (2014) *Comedy and Distinction: The Cultural Currency of a 'Good' Sense of Humour*. Routledge. For *Cultural Sociology*.

Reference Essays:

Pérez, R. (Forthcoming) "Ethnic and Racial Stereotypes." *Encyclopedia of Diversity and Social Justice*. Ed. Thompson, S. Roman & Littlefield.

Papers in Progress

Pérez, R. "Regulating Funny: Race, Law, and the Sense of Humor." Accepted paper for the 2014 *American Sociological Association's* Annual Conference. San Francisco, CA.

Pérez, R. and Ward G. "Uses of Hard and Soft-Law to Regulate Racial Abuse: A Comparative-International Study of Two Culture Industries." Funded by UCI's *Center in Law, Society & Culture*.

Pérez, R. "Re-emergence of Racial Humor in 'post-racial' America." Accepted paper for the 2014 *American Studies Association's* Annual Conference. Los Angeles, CA.

Pérez, R. "Class Clowns: Humor and Class Politics during Economic Crisis." Accepted paper for the 2014 *How Class Works* Annual Conference. SUNY Stony Brook, NY.

Fellowships/Grants

2014-15	Graduate Dean's Dissertation Fellowship, UC Irvine	\$30,000
2014	Associate Dean's Fellowship, UC Irvine	\$10,000
2014	Public Impact Fellowship, UC Irvine	\$1,000
2014	Working Class Studies Association, Young Scholars Award	\$300
2014	DECADE Student Travel Grant, UC Irvine	\$850
2013-14	Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship	Honorable Mention
2013-14	Center in Law, Society and Culture, UC Irvine	\$1,400
2008-14	Summer Research Fellowship, UC Irvine Sociology	\$10,300
2013	Associate Dean's Fellowship, UC Irvine	\$10,000
2013	DECADE Student Travel Grant, UC Irvine	\$750
2012-13	University of California Center for New Racial Studies	\$3,210
2009-10	Faculty Mentor Program Fellowship, UC Irvine	\$30,000
2005-07	Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, UC Irvine	\$2,800

Teaching Experience

Instructor

University of California, Irvine, Department of Sociology:

2014 Social Problems
2012-14 Introductory Sociology
2010-11 Comedy and Society

Saddleback College, Department of Sociology:

2014-15 Introduction to Sociology

California State University, Fullerton, Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies:

2011-12 Communication Skills

Teaching Assistant

University of California, Irvine, School of Social Sciences:

2007-14 Sociology of Globalization
 Race, Ethnicity and Nationalism
 Ethnic and Immigrant America
 Sociological Theory
 Vietnam War
 Socio-Cultural Anthropology
 Indian North America
 Afro-Latin Music
 Film and Latino Community

Selected Conference Presentations

“Class Clowns: Humor and Class Politics during Economic Crisis.” *How Class Works*. SUNY Stony Brook, NY, 2014.

“The Last Nail in the Coffin?: ‘José Jiménez,’ the Civil Rights Movement, and the Legacy of Racial Masquerade.” *American Sociological Association*. New York, NY, 2013.

“Stand-Up Comedy and the Color-Vividness of Race: From the Civil-Rights Period to the Era of Color-Blindness” *University of California Center for New Racial Studies*. Annual Conference. Irvine, CA, 2013.

“José Jiménez,” The Pop-Cultural Politics of (anti)Immigration, and the Legacy of (anti)Mexican-ness in Stand-Up Comedy in the USA.” *XVIII Annual Juan Bruce-Novoa Conference*. Irvine, CA, 2012.

“Stand-Up Comedy and the Reification of Race.” *American Sociological Association*. Atlanta, GA, 2010.

“The Sociology of Stand-Up Comedy: Strategic Ways to Perform Race.” *Pacific Sociological Association*. Oakland, CA, 2010.

“Naturalizing Racial Stereotypes: An Ethnographic Study of a Stand-up Comedy School.” *Popular Culture Association*. St. Louis, MO, 2010.

“Learning to Make Racism Funny: The Reification of Race through Humor.” *Society for the Study of Social Problems*. San Francisco, CA, 2009.

“Stand-Up Comedy and Society.” *Pacific Sociological Association*. San Diego, CA, 2009.

“What’s so Funny? Humor and Inequality in American Society.” *Undergraduate Research Symposium*. University of California, Irvine, 2006.

Invited Presentations

Guest Lecturer, University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Chicana/o Studies:

2014 Political Humor and Social Control CCS 258
2013 Humor as Power CCS 171

Professional Development/Service

2013- Reviewer: *Cultural Sociology, Discourse & Society, Ethnic and Racial Studies, Ethnicities, Studies in American Humor*

- 2013 Interpretive Methods Grant Proposal Development Workshop. UC Irvine
2010- Race Research Workshop, Department of Sociology. UC Irvine

University/Community Service

- 2013-15 Treasurer, Chican@/Latin@ Grad Student Collective (CLGSC)
2013 Graduate Student Mentor (GSM), UC Irvine Graduate Division
2013 Volunteer, California Forum for Diversity in Graduate Education, UC Irvine
2010-12 Co-Chair, Worker-Student Alliance (WSA)
2007-08 Undergraduate Outreach, Sociology Graduate Student Association (SGSA)
2004-07 Tutor, Irvine Art and Music, Irvine, CA
1997-04 Teaching Assistant/ Tutor, LAUSD, South Central Los Angeles, CA

Awards

- 2014 Outstanding Research Award, UC Irvine Department of Sociology
2014 Young Scholars Award, Working Class Studies Association Annual Conference
2007 Honors in Sociology, UC Irvine Department of Sociology
2007 Order of Merit for Academic Excellence, UC Irvine School of Social Sciences
2007 Phi Beta Kappa, UC Irvine
2007 Malinowski Paper Prize, Best Ethnographic Research Paper, UC Irvine Anthropology

Memberships

American Humor Studies Association
American Sociological Association
American Studies Association
Pacific Sociological Association
Popular Culture Association
Society for the Study of Social Problems
University of California Center for New Racial Studies
Working Class Studies Association

References

Jacob Avery, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of California, Irvine, 4109 Social Science Plaza A, Irvine, CA 92697. averyj@uci.edu

David John Frank, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Sociology, University of California, Irvine, 4107 Social Science Plaza A, Irvine, CA 92697. frankd@uci.edu

Ann Hironaka, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of California, Irvine, 3139 Social Science Plaza A, Irvine, CA 92697. hironaka@uci.edu

Belinda Robnett-Olsen, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Sociology, University of California, Irvine, 4297 Social Sciences Plaza B, Irvine, CA 92697. brobnett@uci.edu