

Curriculum Vitae
Rebecca Dufendach

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EDUCATION

- PhD** University of California Los Angeles, Department of History **2010-17**
Latin American History
Dissertation: Nahua and Spanish Concepts of Health and Illness in Colonial Mexico, 1519-1615
Adviser: Kevin Terraciano
Norris Hundley Dissertation Prize
- MA** Northeastern University, Department of History **2008**
Latin American History
Thesis: “Injecting Modernity: Regulating Hygiene in Porfirian Oaxaca, Mexico”
Adviser: Laura Frader
Ruth B. Sullivan Research Award
- BA** Northeastern University, History and Education **2006**
summa cum laude

PUBLICATIONS

“Threefold Manuscripts: The Nine Texts of the Florentine Codex” (*Colonial Latin American Review*, forthcoming 2023, vol. 33, issue 2)

“Altered Folios, Alternative Histories in the Florentine Codex” with Jeanette Peterson (*Estudios de Cultura Náhuatl*, vol. 64, July-December 2022)

“The Dis-ease of the Conquest for Nahua Communities: Filth, Fright, and the First Epidemic” in *Indigenous Visions and Voices: Book XII of the Florentine Codex* (Getty Publications, forthcoming 2022)

“As if his heart died”: A Reinterpretation of Moteuczoma’s Cowardice in the Conquest History of the Florentine Codex” (*Ethnohistory*, vol. 66, issue 4, 2019)
Editor of Special Issue

“Tepahtihquetl pan ce pilaltepetzin./ A Village Healer” by Sabina Cruz de la Cruz, translation from Nahuatl to English by Rebecca Dufendach (*Ethnohistory*, vol. 66, issue 4, 2019)

Book Reviews

Jennifer Scheper Hughes. *The Church of the Dead: The Epidemic of 1576 and the Birth of Christianity in the Americas*. New York: New York University Press, 2021. (*Hispanic American Historical Review*, vol. 102.3, August 2022)

Lori Boornazian Diel. *The Codex Mexicanus: A Guide to Life in Late Sixteenth-Century New Spain*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2018. (*Ethnohistory*. vol. 68, issue 4, 557-8)

Book Manuscripts

“Surviving Colonial Mexico: Nahuas, Spaniards and Epidemics” in progress with University of Colorado Press, fall 2025

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Professor**, non-tenure track, Stevenson University **2021-2022**
Ancient Mesoamerica through the Colonial Period, US History, 1877 to Present
- Seminar Instructor**, UCLA **2015-2016**
Atlantic Exchanges: Peoples, Goods, and Pathogens in the Early Modern Period
- Adjunct Faculty**, Irvine Valley College **2015-2016**
United States History, Colonial Origins to 1877
- Teaching Associate**, UCLA **2012-13**
Poverty and Health in Latin America: Mesoamerican Healers
- Teaching Assistant**, UCLA **2011-12**
Colonial Latin America, 1492-1800
Modern Latin America, 1800-2000
Mystics, Heretics and Witches in the Western Tradition 1000 – 1700
- Course Reader**, UCLA **2011**
The Making of Modern Mexico, 1900-2001
- Teacher, History**, Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, México City Campus, MX **2009-10**
- Teacher, English**, Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, Laguna Campus, MX **2008-09**

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Research Specialist**, Getty Research Institute **2017-2021**
Digital Florentine Codex Initiative, construction of FMP database for over 4,000 term records, production of trilingual entries (English, Spanish, and Classical Nahuatl) for the Getty Vocabularies
https://www.getty.edu/research/scholars/research_projects/index.html#florentine
- Digital Humanities Website Designer**, NEH Funded Project **2018-present**
Passion Plays of Eighteenth-Century Mexico: Nahua and Spanish Festival Performances under the Eye of the Inquisition, Director: Louise Burkhart
construction of Omeka website to host translations and research
<https://passionplaysofeighteenthcenturymexico.omeka.net/>
- Founder and Creator**, New Work in Ethnohistory Podcast **2018-present**
Director, audio editor, content research, and host for podcast episodes featuring interviews with the authors of new research in the field of ethnohistory
<https://www.rebeccadufendach.com/episodes>

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Contagious Connections: Epidemic Disease in the Vast Early Americas Omohundro Institute, William & Mary and Colonial Williamsburg	2022
Department of History, UCLA Laura Kinsey Teaching Prize	2015-2016
Department of History, UCLA Robert N. Burr Writing Fellowship	2015-2016
Center for Medieval and Renaissance, UCLA Research Fellowship	2014-2015
Center for 17th and 18th Century Studies, UCLA Travel Grant	2014
Ahmanson Graduate Student Research Support Grant, UCLA History of Medicine Research Grant	2014
International Institute, UCLA Doctoral Research Travel Grant	2013

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Threefold Interactions: The Writers of the Florentine Codex” American Society for Ethnohistory, Digital Conference	2021
“Passion Plays of Eighteenth Century Mexico: Digital Project” Humanidades digitales y textos alfabéticos en lenguas indígenas coloquio	2021
“Folios alterados, historia de la conquista alterada: un estudio material del libro XII del Códice Florentino” Nahuatl Conference at UCLA	2021
Alteraciones materiales del libro 12 del Códice Florentino Universidad Veracruzana Webinar Arqueología	2020
“Hidden Histories: The Material Alterations of the Florentine Codex” Getty Research Institute, New Research Lecture, Virtual Event	2020
“As if his heart died”: A Reinterpretation of Moteuczoma’s Cowardice in the Conquest History of the Florentine Codex” Symposium: 1519, The Arrival of Strangers: Indigenous Art and Voices following the Spanish Conquest of Mesoamerica, Los Angeles, CA	2019
“Altered Folios, Altered Conquest History: A Material Study of Book XII of the Florentine Codex” American Society for Ethnohistory,	2019

State College, PA

- “Moteuczoma Xocoyotzin Transformed in the “Three Texts” of the Florentine Codex” Comite International d’Histoire de l’Art Congress, Florence, Italy **2019**
- “Spanish and Nahua Dialogues on Disease in Colonial Mexico” Congreso de Americanistas, Salamanca, Spain **2018**
- “The Nine Texts of the *Florentine Codex*” American Historical Association, Denver, CO **2017**
- “Fright, Filth, and Illness in Book XII of the *Florentine Codex*” American Society for Ethnohistory, Nashville, TN **2016**
- "The Five Texts of the *Florentine Codex*" Panel Organizer, Presenter American Society for Ethnohistory, Las Vegas, NV **2015**
- "Epidemics and Nahua Communities: Disease in the *Relaciones Geográficas*" Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies, Tucson, AZ **2015**
- “*Cocoliztli*: Visual and Textual Depictions of Illness in Sixteenth-Century Mexico” Panel Organizer, Presenter American Society for Ethnohistory, Indianapolis, IN **2014**
- "Contract for Land of Sale in Azcapotzalco, 1739" Northeastern Nahuatl Group Annual Meeting, Yale University, CT **2014**
- “De manera que el Buen Medico: Sahagún’s description of Epidemics in the *Florentine Codex*” Panel Organizer, Presenter American Society for Ethnohistory, New Orleans, LA **2013**
- “Nahua Concepts of Health and the Body in 16th Century Mexico” Pacific Coast Council on Latin American Studies, California State University, Los Angeles, CA **2012**
- “Disease in the *Florentine Codex*” American Society for Ethnohistory, Pasadena, CA **2011**

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

- Book Reviewer for *Ethnohistory*, *Hispanic American Historical Review* **2020**
- Peer Review for “Textuality and Editorial Thought in Latin America” **2020**

Spring 2021 issue of Textual Cultures: Texts, Contexts, Interpretation.	
History Graduate Student Association, Vice President	2012-13
UCLA Graduate Student History Conference, Committee Chair	2012-13
UCLA Historical Journal Editor	2012, 2013
Volume 23, Issue 1 and Volume 24, Issue 1	
UCLA Graduate Student History Conference, Organizer	2011-12

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Society for Ethnohistory, American Historical Association: Council on Latin American History, Latin American Studies Association

LANGUAGES

Spanish, fluent in speaking, reading, and writing
 Classical Nahuatl, intermediate reading, and writing
 Modern Eastern Huastecan Nahuatl, intermediate speaking, reading, and writing
 Latin, intermediate reading and writing
 Tlacolula Valley Zapotec, elementary speaking, reading, and writing

RELATED MEDIA

Website, www.rebeccadufendach.com

Getty Research Institute Video Recording of Paper for Symposium: 1519, The Arrival of Strangers: Indigenous Art and Voices following the Spanish Conquest of Mesoamerica [Talk beginning at 28:00 minutes](#)

Dumbarton Oaks Digital Exhibition Research Collaboration **2021**
 Colonial Epidemics and Mesoamerican Medicine in Sixteenth-Century Mexico
 Creator: Felipe Ledesma-Núñez, a digital exhibition that explores epidemics and medicine through documents penned by Indigenous scholars and artists during the sixteenth century, at the height of societal collapse, and reflects on the colonial origins of health inequality in the Americas.
<https://www.doaks.org/resources/online-exhibits/epidemics>

Podcast interview for The Plague Archives, July 2020

<https://twitter.com/archivesplague>

“[How a vital record of Mexican Indigenous life was created under quarantine](#)”
 interview with Rebecca Dufendach by Carolina Miranda, *Los Angeles Times*.
 March 26, 2020

"[The Nahuatl Reading Group Research and Presentations](#)" by Rebecca Dufendach, UCLA Center for 17th- & 18th-Century Studies
 William Andrews Clark Memorial Library, No. 62, Fall 2015

Review by Rebecca Dufendach of: *Diseased Relations: Epidemics, Public Health, and State-Building in Yucatán, Mexico, 1847-1924*

by Heather McCrea, University of New Mexico Press, 2010
UCLA Historical Journal, Vol. 23, no. 1, 2012

[“Trying out indigenous languages”](#) by Esmeralda Bermudez. *Los Angeles Times*.
Oct. 11, 2010