

Francisco J. Pelaez-Diaz

Curriculum Vitae

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Princeton Junction, NJ 08550

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CURRENT POSITION

Assistant Teaching Professor in Latinx Studies and Ministries, Drew University Theological School (January 2022-Present)

COURSES TAUGHT

- Migration and Crisis: Theological Approaches to Migration
- Making Theology and Practicing Religion *Latinamente*
- Theology, Race, and Public Policy
- Liberation Theologies
- Transforming Theologies (team taught)
- TREC Arizona-Mexico Border
- Immigration Politics and the Church in the United States

EDUCATION

Princeton Theological Seminary Ph.D. Religion and Society Dissertation: <i>Migrants as Crucified People: A Concept from Ignacio Ellacuría for a Theology of Migration</i> . Committee: M. Taylor (chair); R. Barreto; A. Adogame.	Princeton, NJ May, 2022
Princeton Theological Seminary Master of Theology (Christian Ethics)	Princeton, NJ 2013
Latin American Biblical University Master of Theology courses (Systematic Theology)	San Jose, Costa Rica 1997-1998
Presbyterian Theological Seminary of Mexico Bachelor of Theology	Mexico City, Mexico 1988-1992
National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) Philosophy courses	Mexico City, Mexico 1990-1992

PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapter: "Central American Migration as the Way of the Cross: Ignacio Ellacuría's 'Crucified Peoples' as a Theological Reframing of the Migrant Experience" in *Migration and Public Discourse in World Christianity*, edited by Afeosemimo

Adogame, Raimundo César Barreto, and Wanderley Pereira da Rosa.
Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2019.

Report: "You Belong Here." New York, N.Y: Auburn Seminary, Winter 2020.

<https://auburnseminary.org/report/you-belong-here/>. Authors: Chris Alexander, Francisco J. Peláez-Díaz, Erica M. Ramirez, Christian Scharen, and Mary Laurel True.

Online Chapter: "*La Santa Muerte – Saint Death*" in Bloomsbury Academic/Bloomsbury Religion in North America/Latin American Religions in North America. London: Bloomsbury, 2023.

Book Chapter: Pelaez-Diaz, Francisco. "La Santa Muerte – Saint Death." In *Latin American and US Latino Religions in North America: An Introduction*, edited by Lloyd Daniel Barba, 228–34. Bloomsbury Religion in North America. London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2024.

Blog Entry: "The Parable of the 'Talents' Is a Parable of 'Courageous Denunciation,'" Political Theology Network, November 9, 2020, <https://politicaltheology.com/the-parable-of-the-talents-is-a-parable-of-courageous-denunciation/>.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Graduate Instructor, Princeton Theological Seminary

- Migration and Crisis: Theological Approaches to Migration, Spring 2020

Teaching Assistant, Princeton Theological Seminary

- The Liberation Theology of Gustavo Gutiérrez, Dr. Mark L. Taylor, Fall 2020
- The Liberation Theology of Gustavo Gutiérrez, Dr. Mark L. Taylor, Spring 2018
- Reinhold Niebuhr and Martin Luther King Jr., Dr. W. Stacy Johnson, Spring 2017
- The Liberation Theology of Gustavo Gutiérrez, Dr. Mark L. Taylor, Spring 2016
- Ecumenism in the Light of World Christianity, Dr. Raimundo C. Barreto, Fall 2015
- Empire and Capital: Theological Considerations, Dr. Mark L. Taylor, Spring 2015

Professor, Biblical Central School for Missionaries of the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico

- Calvinist Thought, 2000-2004
- Introduction to Philosophy and Philosophical Schools, 2000-2004
- Homiletics, 2000-2004
- Thesis Research, 2000-2004
- Theology of Evangelism, 1992-1996
- Introduction to the Bible, 1992-1996
- Introduction to Theology, 1992-1996
- Systematic Theology, 1992-1996

Professor, Presbyterian Theological Seminary of Mexico

- Systematic Theology, 2000-2002
- Thesis Seminar, 2000-2002
- Research Methodology, 2000-2002

Professor, Theological Education by Extension Program of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary of Mexico

- Systematic Theology 1992-1996, 1998-1999

ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS

- Forum for Theological Exploration/Doctoral Fellowship, 2018-2019
- Hispanic Theological Initiative/Lilly Dissertation Fellowship, 2017-2018
- Hispanic Theological Initiative/Luce Dissertation Fellowship, 2016-2017
- Merit Tuition Scholarship, 2013-2018, Princeton Theological Seminary
- Doctoral Fellowship, 2013-2018, Princeton Theological Seminary

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

- “Central American Caravans as The Way of the Cross: Religious Roots of the Migrant Caravans to the U.S.”
Paper presented at the Mid-Atlantic Region of the American Academy of Religion, New Brunswick, New Jersey, February 28, 2019
- Moderator of the panel: “Central American Migrants and ‘La Bestia’: Imminent Dangers and Government Responses.”
Part of the *Herencia* Lecture Series “Reaping What We Sow: Roots of Central American Migration,” Princeton Theological Seminary, October 5, 2018
- “Breaking Boundaries: Central American Migration to the U.S. through Mexico as the Way of the Cross.”
Paper presented at the Conference “Migration, Exile, and Pilgrimage in the History of Missions and World Christianity” organized by the Yale-Edinburgh Group on the History of the Missionary Movement and World Christianity, Yale University, June 30, 2017
- “El culto a la Santa Muerte: ¿un caso de conversión?” [“Devotion to Saint Death: A Case of Religious Conversion?”]
Paper presented at the 2016 RIFREM Conference (RIFREM: *Red de Investigadores del Fenómeno Religioso en México*/Network of Researchers of the Religious Phenomenon in Mexico), Universidad Autónoma de Tlaxcala, Mexico, June 3, 2016
- “The Crucified People at the U.S.-Mexico Border.”
Paper presented at the Annual Princeton Theological Seminary Graduate Student Conference 2016 “The Life of the Mind: Worship and Learning,” Princeton Theological Seminary, February 20, 2016
- “An Abstract: Latin@ Ministry in the Context of the Church Today!”

Panel Presentation for the *Herencia* Lectures Series “The Legacy of John Mackay: Contributions and Impact,” Princeton Theological Seminary, September 24, 2013

- “Immigration: Modern Implications in North America.”
Presentation for the program “Ministry in Our Midst” organized by the student organization Community Action Network, Princeton Theological Seminary, November 7, 2013

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE AND POSITIONS (Selected)

Professional Development

Certificate in Digital Pedagogy
Princeton Theological Seminary
June 1-August 10, 2020

Certification, “Cultural Competence: Serving Culturally Diverse Students”
Rev. Dr. Victor Aloyo, Jr. and Rev. Eric Law
Princeton Theological Seminary
Fall 2013-Spring 2014

Course “Foundations for Teaching”
Princeton Theological Seminary
2013-2015

Workshops “Fundamental Skills for Building Inclusive Community” and “Models and Processes for Community Transformation”
Kaleidoscope Institute East
Trinity Conference Center, W. Cornwall, CT
June 13-18, 2010

Conference workshops “Emerging Grace: Leadership for ‘Emerging Generation’” and “Leadership and Community Building in a Multicultural Context”
11th National Multicultural Church Conference, PC(USA)
May 26-30, 2010

“Dayton Dialogue on Race Relations’ Honest Conversation About Race and Racism”
Dayton Dialogue on Race Relations (DDRR) and
City of Dayton Human Relations Council
May 7, 2010

Workshop “Training on Ohio Civil Rights Laws, Protected Areas and Theories of Discrimination”
Ohio Civil Rights Commission
April 4, 2010

DART’s Summer Orientation Workshop
Direct Action Research Training Center, Inc.
June 19-23, 2007

Institutional Service:

- Appointed Representative: Faculty Advisory Committee on Diversity
Princeton Theological Seminary
January 2016-March 2017
- Appointed Representative: Religion and Society Committee
Princeton Theological Seminary
September 2014-March 2017
- Appointed Representative: Seminary Council on Institutional Diversity
Princeton Theological Seminary
September 2014-November 2015

Professional

- American Academy of Religion, Member 2014-present
- Religion and Resettlement Project, Consultant Office of Religious Life
Princeton University
May-September 2019
- Copy Editor *Perspectivas* (Journal of the Hispanic Theological Initiative)
August 2015-present
- Professor and Faculty Team Leader to reform the school curriculum
Biblical Central School for Missionaries,
National Presbyterian Church of Mexico
Mexico City
2003
- Academic Dean and Professor Presbyterian Theological Seminary of Mexico
Mexico City
2000-2002
- Interim Academic Dean Presbyterian Theological Seminary of Mexico
Mexico City
1999-2000
- Theological Education by Extension Program Director and Professor
Presbyterian Theological Seminary of Mexico
Mexico City
1992-1996
1998-1999
- Professor Biblical Central School for Missionaries

National Presbyterian Church of Mexico
Mexico City
1992-1996

Community Involvement

- Board member, Latin American Legal Defense & Education Fund (LALDEF), Trenton/Princeton, New Jersey, 2013-2019
- Special Assistant to the Dayton City Manager for Welcome Dayton, 2012 (June-August)
- Steering Committee member, Welcome Dayton Initiative, 2010-2012
- Board member, Greater Dayton Christian Connections (GDCC), Dayton, OH, 2006-2012
- Board member, Human Relations Council of the City of Dayton, Dayton, OH, 2008-2012
- Board member and co-chair of the Community Education Committee, Montgomery County Reentry Policy Board, Dayton, OH, 2010-2012
- Member and Vice-President in 2012, Latino Connection, Dayton, OH, 2006-2012
- Member, Leaders for Equality and Action in Dayton (LEAD), Dayton, OH, 2006-2012
- Member, Latino and Immigrant Rights Advocates, Dayton, OH, 2009-2012
- Member, Montgomery County Immigration Council, Dayton, OH, 2010-2012
- Member, Ethnic and Cultural Diversity Caucus (Part of the National Conference for Community and Justice of Greater Dayton), Dayton, OH, 2006-2012
- Co-Founder, Interfaith Group for Humane Immigration Reform, Dayton, OH, 2009-2012

Ecclesial

- Ordination, Berea Presbytery, National Presbyterian Church of Mexico, Mexico City, October 9, 1999
- Member at Large, Presbytery of the Miami Valley, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Dayton, OH, 2012-present
- Hispanic Missionary Pastor, College Hill Community Presbyterian Church, Dayton, OH, 2006-2012
- Convener, Multicultural Network of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley (PCUSA), Dayton, OH, 2008-2012
- Moderator, Hispanic Caucus of the Cabinet on Ethnic Church Affairs of the Synod of the Covenant, (PCUSA), 2010-2012
- Co-coordinator and teacher, Hispanic Institute for Lay Pastors of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley (PCUSA), Dayton, OH, Sep. 2006-August 2007
- Co-designer and teacher of Homiletics of the Spanish Language Lay Education/Commissioned Lay Pastors Diploma School at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY, 2010-2011
- Solo Pastor, Emanuel Presbyterian Church, Mexico City, 2005-2006
- Missionary, PCUSA Reconciliation and Mission Exchange Program, Dayton, OH, 2004-2005

- Co-Pastor, El Divino Redentor (The Divine Redeemer) Presbyterian Church, Puebla, Mexico, 2003
- Associate and Youth Pastor, Puerta de Salvación Presbyterian Church, Mexico City, 2001-2002
- Committee on Preparation for Ministry Chair, Berea Presbytery, National Presbyterian Church of Mexico, Mexico City, 2000-2001
- Solo Pastor, Berea Presbyterian Church, Toluca, Mexico, 2000-2001

LANGUAGES

Spanish, English

Portuguese (reading knowledge)