

CLAS Events - Easter Term 2025

Wednesday 7 May - 5:00pm | Talk

Room SG2 - Ground Floor, Alison Richard Building

From the Centre to the Margins: Decolonial Intersectionality

[Mara Viveros Vigoya](#) (Simón Bolívar Professor – CLAS)

Chair: [Juliana Santos De Carvalho](#) (University of Cambridge)

Abstract: In this talk, I will reflect on the two-way trajectory of intersectionality as a theoretical, methodological, and political perspective. From its coining by Kimberlé Crenshaw in 1991 to its academic popularization following the 2001 World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance in South Africa, the concept has evolved significantly. Over the past decade, as feminism has expanded as a mass political movement, the notion of the margin has been redefined. In this new conjuncture, Latin American feminist thought has become more explicitly linked to critiques of racism, driven in part by the rapid circulation and growing acceptance of the intersectional perspective.

Mara Viveros Vigoya (Simón Bolívar Professor CLAS) has a PhD in Anthropology from EHESS (Paris). She is tenured professor at the Faculty of Human Sciences at Universidad Nacional de Colombia, teaching in the Department of Anthropology (1998-2017) and the School of Gender Studies. She is co-founder of the School and has been its director three times.

She has been a visiting professor at the University of Paris' I' Institut des Hautes Études de l'Amérique Latine (IHEAL) (Simón Bolívar Professorship 2000-2001), École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (2010), Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana de México (2013), Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Argentina (2016), and The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland (2017). Between September 2014 and July 2015 she completed a postdoctoral fellowship as member at the School of Social Science at Princeton's Institute for Advanced Study. She was President of the Latin American Studies Association from 2019 to 2020.

Throughout her career as a researcher and lecturer, she has been guided by the theoretical, political, and ethical dimensions of critical feminism. Her research has focussed on the intersections of gender, sexuality, class, and race and ethnicity in the social and cultural dynamics of Latin American societies. Her current interests include Black middle classes in Colombia; anti-racist ideologies, practices, and cultures in Latin America; and the study of men and masculinities from a feminist perspective. As translator into Spanish of Aimé

Césaire's work, she has recently become interested in the unsung contributions of women to the Négritude movement.

She is the author of a number of academic books including *De quebradores y Cumplidores* (CES/UNAL/Fundación Ford/Profamilia, 2012), *Les Couleurs de la masculinité. Expériences intersectionnelles et pratiques de pouvoir en Amérique Latine* (La Découverte, 2018) and *Breaking the Boundaries of the Colombian Socio-Racial Order: Black Middle Classes through an Intersectional Lens* (Lexington, 2024). She is the editor of the book *Black Feminism: teoría crítica, violencias y racismo. Conversaciones entre Angela Davis y Gina Dent* (UNAL, 2019).



Recent publication:

Book "Una sociología sin fronteras. Exploraciones sobre género y trabajo. Textos reunidos de Luz Gabriela Arango (1991-2018)".

You will find attached the final version of the volume that has already been shared in open access in CLACSO's Virtual Library and Latin American Library at the following link: <https://libreria.clacso.org/publicacion.php?p=4094&c=36>