

VANESSA E. MARTINEZ

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Anthropology
University of Massachusetts
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Assistant Professor
Anthropology/Sociology
Holyoke Community College
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Cultural anthropology, medical anthropology, and applied anthropology, racial health disparities, health care access and public policy, community Based Participatory Action Research & Community Engagement, Critical Medical Anthropology and Critical Race Theory; United States and the larger Latino & Black Diaspora

EDUCATION

- Ph.D 2012 University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA. Major: Anthropology.
Enrolled Fall 2002. ABD: May 2009. Anticipated Graduation: May 2013.
Dissertation: Conversations with the Community: Evaluating Researcher-Community Collaborations and Promoting a Grassroots Health Research Model.
- M.A. 2002 Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA. Major: Applied Medical Anthropology.
- B.S. 2000 Columbus State University, Columbus, GA. Major: Sociology. Minor: Anthropology.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS AND GRANTS

- 2011 Latino Educational Excellence Award. Deval L. Patrick Massachusetts Governor's recognition for contributions to Educational Excellence. Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration. Boston, Massachusetts.
- 2010 Elaine Marieb Faculty Chair for Teaching Excellence Award Nominee. Holyoke Community College.
- 2009/2010 Student Affairs ECSA (Engage, Connect, Serve, Achieve) Grant. Body Politics Project. Women of Color Leadership Network. UMASS.
- 2009/2010 Town of Amherst Cultural Council Grant. Body Politics Project. Women of Color Leadership Network. UMASS.
- 2007 Service Learning Faculty Fellow. Holyoke Community College.
- 2006 Research Grant, Center for Latin American, Caribbean and Latino Studies. UMASS.
- 2002/2003 Diversity Fellowship. UMASS.
- 2003 Travel Grant. Graduate School. UMASS.
- 2003 Travel Grant. Center for Latino, Caribbean, and Latino Studies. UMASS.

PUBLICATIONS

- 2012 (Forthcoming) “Engaging Students as Critical Thinkers: Classroom Observations from a Boricua Anthropologist,” *Student Anthropologist: The Journal of the National Association of Student Anthropologists*. (1st authored)
- 2012 (Forthcoming) “Book Review of Labor and Legality: An Ethnography of a Mexican Immigrant Network,” by Ruth Gomberg-Munoz. For the *Student Anthropologist: The Journal of the National Association of Student Anthropologists*. (1st authored)
- 2012 “Cooking Healthy Program,” Public Health Education and Health Promotion Section Newsletter. *American Public Health Association*. Early Winter 2012/ pg. 15-16. (1st authored)
- 2009 “National Conference of Puerto Rican women,” *Latinos and Latinas in US History and Culture: An Encyclopedia*. M.E. Sharpe, Inc. October 2009 (1st authored)
- 2008 “Accessible Education: Laying the Foundation for Free Higher Education,” *The Other Forum: Explorations in Teaching & Learning*. Holyoke Community College In-house press. 2008: 25-40 (1st authored)
- 2005 “The Multicultural Context of Linguistic Mediation in Health Care Provision,” *Practicing Anthropology journal*. 27(3): 33-36 (1st authored)

ACADEMIC/TEACHING POSITIONS

- 2010- present Assistant Professor in Anthropology and Sociology. Social Science Division. Holyoke Community College.
- 2011 Instructor in ANTH 104: Culture, Society & People. Residential Academic Program. University of Massachusetts.
- 2010 Instructor in ANTH 205: Inequality & Oppression. Anthropology Department. Division of Continuing & Professional Education. University of Massachusetts.
- 2010 Teaching Assistant in ANTH 270: Native North American Indian. Anthropology Department. University of Massachusetts.
- 2009/2010 Teaching Assistant for Body Politics. Women of Color Leadership Network. University of Massachusetts.
- 2009 Instructor in POWER UP! for College Success Program. Psychology Department. University of Massachusetts.
- 2008/2009 Instructor in AFROAM 170 & 171: Introduction to the Minority Experience in American Life and Culture. Afro-American Department. University of Massachusetts.
- 2008 Instructor in United States & Caribbean History. Upward Bound TRIO program. Holyoke Community College & Amherst College.
- 2008 Instructor in CSD 114: Cultural Diversity. Social Science Division. Holyoke Community College.
- 2006-2010 Fulltime Instructor in Anthropology and Sociology. Social Science Division. Holyoke Community College.
- 2006 RAP Instructor in ANTH 104: Culture, Society and People. Anthropology Department. University of Massachusetts.

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- 2005 RAP Instructor in ANTH 104: Culture, Society and People. Anthropology Department. University of Massachusetts.
- 2005 Teaching Assistant in ANTH 104: Culture, Society and People. Anthropology Department. University of Massachusetts.
- 2004 Teaching Assistant in ANTH 102: Archaeology & Prehistory. Anthropology Department. University of Massachusetts.
- 2004 Anthropology Department. Teaching Assistant in ANTH 104: Culture, Society and People. University of Massachusetts.
- 2003 Teaching Assistant in ANTH 104: Culture, Society and People. Anthropology Department. University of Massachusetts.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2012 (Upcoming) HCC Delegate. Summer Institute for Faculty Curriculum Development. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies. University of Notre Dame. Notre Dame, IN
- 2012 (Upcoming) Participant. Spiraling into Oneness. c-Integral's weekend residential retreat for agents of social change working for a better world. Plainfield, Massachusetts.
- 2011/2012 Participant. Leadership Institute for Political and Public Impact. Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts. Holyoke, Massachusetts.
- 2005 Interviewer. Massachusetts Department of Mental Retardation.
- 2005 Research Assistant in Peer Sexual Health Education and Social Norms Campaign. Health Education Department. Mount Holyoke College.
- 2002 Medical Interpreter Intern. Patient Advocacy & Interpreting. Grady Hospital. Atlanta, Georgia.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2011 Poster Presenter. *Road to Recovery Springfield: A Pilot Contingency Management Program for a Novel Harm Reduction and HIV Transmission Reduction Tool*. Community Health & Research: Making the Connections Conference. Worcester, Massachusetts. (1st authored)
- 2011 Co-facilitator. *Understanding Power, Interrupting Privilege, & Self Preservation*. 2011 Reproductive Justice Conference. Amherst, Massachusetts. (1st authored)
- 2009 Keynote Speaker. *Access to College is for Some People: The Myths of Equality for All*. Presented at the Expanding Access to Higher Education Statewide Conference. Framingham, Massachusetts. (1st authored)
- 2009 Co-Facilitator. *Teaching Race in the Face of White Denial: A Practical Guide for Instructors*. Hawaii International Conference for Social Sciences. Waikiki, Hawaii. (1st authored)
- 2008 Co-Facilitator. *Interpreting whiteness and college faculty self-reflection: Unpacking a toolkit for liberation using social justice education and*

- critical race theory*. White Privilege Conference. Springfield, Massachusetts. (2nd authored)
- 2007 Co-facilitator. *Naming It: Critical Pedagogies on Race, Racism and Whiteness*. American Anthropological Association. Washington D.C. (1st authored)
- 2008 Panel Organizer & Chair. Organized and chaired panel titled *Confronting Oppression: Towards an Anthropology of Social Justice*. Northeast Anthropological Association Conference. Amherst, Massachusetts. (1st authored)
- 2007 Panel Participant. *Our Inalienable Right to [Health] Care: Blacks, Ideological Whiteness and the United States Health Care System*. Association for the Study of African American Life and History. Charlotte, North Carolina. (1st authored)
- 2007 Panel Co-Chair & Participant. Panel titled *Lifting the Veil: The Intersection of Pedagogy & Whiteness in the University Classroom*. Co-presented paper with Julie Skogsbergh titled “What are You & Why do You Care? Reflections on Working toward Social Change as ‘Racially’ Ambiguous Women”. Society for Applied Anthropology Conference. Tampa, Florida. (2nd authored)
- 2006 Panel Chair & Participant. *Healthcare and Politics* Panel. Presented paper titled “The Health Care System as White Public Space: The Cases of TB and AIDS”. Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference. Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas. (1st authored)
- 2006 Panel Participant. *Public Anthropology Roundtable: Ethics, Power and Participation*. Graduate Association for the Anthropology of Europe Third Annual Conference. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts. (1st authored)
- 2003 Panel Participant. “Te puedo ayudar? An anthropologist as a medical interpreter”. Society for Applied Anthropology. Portland, Oregon. (1st authored)
- 2002 Panel Participant. “Emic and Etic Explanations of Infant Deaths”. Society for Applied Anthropology. Atlanta, Georgia. (1st authored)

OTHER PRESENTATIONS

- 2012 Co-facilitator. *First Year Experience Student Welcome Event*. Holyoke Community College Campus Event.
- 2010 Panel Participant. *Education is a right, not a privilege*. Holyoke Community College Campus Dialogue.
- 2009 Co-Facilitator. *Advise from TAs to TAs*. Social & Behavioral Sciences, University of Massachusetts. Amherst, Massachusetts.
- 2008 Panel Participant. *Negotiating Access Barriers to Higher Education*. PHENOM Summit @ UMASS Boston. Boston, Massachusetts.
- 2006 Co-Facilitator. *The ‘N...’ word: Black Identity in the United States*. Facilitation held in John Q. Adams Dormitory. University of Massachusetts. Amherst, Massachusetts.
- 2006 Invited Lecturer. *Historical and Contemporary Examples of Bio-cultural*

- Interactions*. Presented in Introduction to Biological Anthropology course. Anthropology Department. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts.
- 2005 Invited Lecturer. *Asking Questions of the Discipline: Can Cultural and Biological Anthropology work together?* Presented in Introduction to Biological Anthropology course. Anthropology Department. University of Massachusetts. Amherst, Massachusetts.
- 2005 Invited Lecturer. *Cultural Competency and Linguistic Mediation in Health Care*. Presented in Medical Anthropology course. Anthropology Department. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts.
- 2005 Invited Lecturer. *Linguistic Mediation as Fieldwork*. Presented in Qualitative Research Methods for Public Policy and Administration course. Public Policy and Administration Department. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts.
- 2005 Invited Lecturer. “Race, Whiteness and the Census”. Presented in Culture, Society and People course. Anthropology Department. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts.
- 2005 Panel Participant. *Whiteness in Health Care Access for People of Color*. Panel titled Racial Health Disparities: Racism, health care practice, and Cultural Competency. University Health Services Staff Day. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts.
- 2004 Invited lecture. *Whiteness theory in Women’s Health*. Presented in Women’s Health course. School of Public Health. University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Amherst, Massachusetts.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- 2012-2013 Participant. Quantitative Reasoning Module Creation Team member. Holyoke Community College. Goal of this team to effectively add quantitative reasoning into introductory level college courses.
- 2012 Conference Participant. PodCamp Western Mass 4 (2012) Conference. Holyoke Community College. Conference focused on social media and online networking.
- 2011–present Committee Member. First Year Experience. Holyoke Community College. Goal of this committee is to develop and implement two FYE critical thinking and student success seminar courses: a one-credit model and a three-credit model.
- 2011 Co-Organizer & Faculty Advisor. Student Speak Out on Debt Crisis. SAAVE (Students for Affordable, Accessible & Valuable Education) student organization. Holyoke Community College.
- 2011 Conference Participant. Learning Communities & the First Year Student: 11th Annual ACLC Retreat. Part of FYE initiative.
- 2011 Conference Participant. The Second Annual New England Conference for Student Success. University of Massachusetts. Amherst, Massachusetts. Part of FYE initiative.

- 2011 Faculty Advisor. Sociology Internships. Holyoke Community College. Supervisor to two student interns working on separate projects – the creation of a campus-run public higher education student organization and student research on a community based healthy eating project.
- 2011 Faculty Mentor. Honors Colloquium titled *And Justice for All*. Holyoke Community College. Supported and mentored student whose research discussed the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission as an example of restorative justice.
- 2010-present Committee Member. Long Range Planning. Holyoke Community College. Represent the Social Science Division on this committee designed to set the long term priorities of the college and discuss strategies to meet the needs and mission of the campus community.
- 2010 Faculty Mentor. Honors Colloquium titled *Philosophy of Sustainability*. Holyoke Community College. Supported and acted as a resource for a student whose research is focused on the impact of the Walmart corporation and its capitalistic business practices on working class families across the globe.
- 2006-present Faculty Advisor. Liberal Arts Program & Sociology Major. Holyoke Community College. Advisor to students regarding courses that they need to take to fulfill graduation requirements for the Liberal Arts Program.
- 2008- present Faculty Advisor. Students United for Social Justice student-run club. Holyoke Community College. Actively campaigning for a more social justice focused student government organization. The club continues to be actively participating in various activities including PHENOM, POWERSHIFT (environmental activism), Free Speech & Civil Discourse events, & the [Social] Justice Slam.
- 2007/2008 Faculty Mentor. Honors Colloquium titled *Race: The Power of an Illusion*. Holyoke Community College. Supported and acted as a resource for four students working on different projects related to race in the Honors class. Student projects looked at 1) race in the popular media, 2) the historical and contemporary manifestations of race in the legal system, 3) the definition of white privilege through a postmodern class analysis, and 4) the prison system as a modern day plantation.
- 2007-present Faculty Advisor. Anthropology & Sociology Club. Holyoke Community College.
- 2007-2008 Union Representative. Massachusetts Community College Council. Holyoke Community College. Served as union representative for the Social Sciences Division.
- 2006-2007 New Faculty Teaching Seminar. Holyoke Community College. Collaborated with new and more experienced faculty members on a variety of pedagogical styles and methodologies.

ACTIVISM & COMMUNITY ORGANIZING

- 2012 Organizer. Cooking Healthy program. Sponsored by Universal Community Voices Eliminating Disparities (UCVED). Springfield, Massachusetts.
- 2012 Policy Training Participant. Earned Paid Sick Time: Making Policy Work for Families. Sponsored by MotherWoman organization. Held at Holyoke Community College.
- 2010-present Board Member. UCVED. Springfield, Massachusetts.
- 2009-present Round-table discussant. Springfield Health Disparities Project. Springfield, Massachusetts.
- 2009 Speaker. *Reforming Commodity Medicine: What might Health Equity Look Like?* International Socialist Organization. Holyoke Community College. Holyoke, Massachusetts.
- 2008-2009 Co-coordinator. Access to Education Committee. PHENOM (Public Higher Education Network of Massachusetts). Framingham, Massachusetts.
- 2008 Organizer & Participant. *Jam for Justice*. Fundraiser for Jason Vassell legal fees. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts.
- 2008 Presenter. *Reciprocity, Collaboration, & Community*. MA Campus Compact (MACC) Fall Alternative Break. Holyoke, Massachusetts.
- 2008 Community Participant. *Holyoke Campus-Community Partnership Project Meeting*. Holyoke, Massachusetts.
- 2008 Presenter. *The History of Holyoke: Cultural Competency, Educational Opportunities and Health Inequalities*. Holyoke Bound: An Orientation to the City of Holyoke. Holyoke, Massachusetts.
- 2007 Community Organizer & Participant. Amherst & Holyoke, Massachusetts. Co-organized the *Hip Hop Pioneer Homage Tour* for December 2007. Brought several Pioneers of the Hip Hop movement from the 1970s to speak about the origins and commodification of hip hop by the music industry at Holyoke Community College for the Hip Hop Pioneer Homage Tour.

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

- Spanish (native speaker)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Anthropological Association
- Society for Applied Anthropology
- Northeastern Anthropological Association
- American Public Health Association
- Interest Group for the Anthropology of Public Policy
- Society for Medical Anthropology
- National Association of Student Anthropologists
- Association for the Study of African American Life & History