

MIKAEL WOLFE

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EDUCATION

- 2009 Ph.D., Latin American History
 The University of Chicago
- 1999 M.A., International History (major East Asia, minor Middle East)
 The University of Chicago
- 1995 B.A., East Asian Studies
 Columbia University

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2012—Present Assistant Professor of History
 Stanford University
- 2010-2012 Mellon Visiting Assistant Professor of Environmental History
 University of California Los Angeles
- 2009-2010 Visiting Fellow, Center for US-Mexican Studies
 University of California San Diego
- Spring 2009 Visiting Fellow, Kellogg Institute for International Studies
 University of Notre Dame

RESEARCH

PUBLICATIONS

“Watering the Revolution: An Environmental and Technological History of Agrarian Reform in La Laguna, Mexico.” Book manuscript under contract, Duke University Press, expected publication in 2016.

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles, Book Chapters, and Working Paper

“El Agua de la Revolución: The Historical Evolution and Devolution of a Socio-Environmental Right in Mexico,” in José Galindo Rodríguez, ed. *Mexico in Focus: Political, Environmental and Social Issues* (New York: Nova Science Publishers, 2015).

“Crisis del agua subterránea en México. Dinámica histórica: recursos, lucro y conocimiento en La Laguna, 1930-1970,” Trans. by Maria Eugenia Vázquez-Semadini, in *Revista de Historia*

Iberoamericana, Vol. 7, No. 2, 2014. Invited submission to Special Dossier on Environmental History and Latin America.

“The Historical Dynamics of Mexico’s Groundwater Crisis in La Laguna: Knowledge, Power and Profit, 1930s to 1960s,” *Mexican Studies/Estudios Mexicanos*, Vol. 29, Issue 1, Winter 2013, pp. 3-35. Recipient of Honorable Mention, Latin American Studies Association Mexico Section Best Social Science Essay in 2013.

“Considering the Alternatives: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Agriculture, Water and Migration in Mexico under State Developmentalism and Neoliberalism,” *Mexican Studies/Estudios Mexicanos*, Vol. 29, Issue 1, Winter 2013, pp. 1-2. Introduction to interdisciplinary special issue of four articles under my coordination.

“The Sociolegal Redesignation of Ejido Land Use, 1856-1912,” in Matthew Butler and Antonio Escobar-Ohlmstede, ed. *Mexico in Transition: New perspectives on Mexican Agrarian History, Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries* (Mexico City and Austin, Texas: University of Texas-Austin and Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social-Guadalajara, 2013), pp. 291-318.

“Bringing the Revolution to the Dam Site: How Technology, Labor and Nature Converged in the Microcosm of a Company Town in 1930s and 40s Mexico,” *Journal of the Southwest*, Volume 53, Number 1, Spring 2011, pp. 1-31.

“Mining Water for the Revolution: Marte R. Gómez and the Business of Agrarian Reform in ‘La Laguna, México,’” #371, *The Kellogg Institute Working Papers*, University of Notre Dame Press, July 2010.

Translations (Spanish to English)

Maria-Eugenia Vázquez-Semadini, “From the Sea to Politics: Masonry in New Spain/Mexico, 1816-23,” Special Issue UCLA – Grand Lodge of California, June 2013, *Revista de Estudios Históricos de la Masonería*, Universidad de Costa Rica

ONGOING WORKS

Second Book Project

“The Climate of Revolution: The Case of Mexico.” To be submitted to Oxford University Press, 2018.

Articles in Development

“Tlaxcalan Viticulture and the Laguna’s Modern Cotton ‘Miracle’: Economy and Agro-Ecology in Late Colonial and Postcolonial Mexico.” To be submitted to *Hispanic American Historical Review*, Fall 2015.

“Knowing Nature (especially Water) by Engineering it: A Brief History of Mexican técnicos.”
To be submitted to *Environmental History*, Summer 2015.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

“Conflicto por un cambio de régimen de aguas en La Laguna: la ‘construcción social’ de la primera gran presa en el río Nazas, 1900-1936” in *Buenaval Journal of the Universidad Iberoamericana-Laguna*, June 2006, pp. 1-37.

Book Reviews

“Christopher Boyer, ed., *A Land Between Waters: Environmental Histories of Modern Mexico*,” *Environment and History* (August 2013).

“Ismael García-Colon, *Land Reform in Puerto Rico: Modernizing the Colonial State, 1941-1969*,” *Hispanic American Historical Review* (August 2011).

“Rosalva Roseta López, ed., *Agua, Poder Urbano, y Metabolismo Social*,” *Hispanic American Historical Review* (August 2011).

RESEARCH GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

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| 2015 | Recipient of Stanford University Center for Latin American Studies Faculty Conference Grant to hold two-day workshop “Environmental Histories of Latin America: Sources and Resources for Teaching and Research.” |
| 2014 | Honorable Mention, Latin American Studies Association Mexico Section Best Social Science Essay Prize in 2013 for “The Historical Dynamics of Mexico’s Groundwater Crisis in La Laguna: Knowledge, Resources and Profit, 1930s-1960s.” |
| 2010 | Rachel Carson Center Fellowship, Munich, Germany, (Declined) |
| 2009 | University of Chicago’s Center for Teaching and Learning’s Graduate Student Teaching Award for Excellence in Course Design for “US Intervention and Regime Change in Latin America” |
| 2006-2007 | Quinn Family Foundation Dissertation Year Fellowship, University of Chicago Department of History |
| 2005-2006 | Fulbright-García Robles Fellowship in Mexico |
| 2001 | Korea Foundation Fellowship (Declined) |
| 1998-2002 | University of Chicago Graduate Fellowship |

INVITED PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

- 2015 “Knowing Nature (especially water) through Technoscientific Labor: A Brief History of Developmentalist Técnicos in Mexico and their ‘Incidental Conservationism.’” University of Chicago Latin American History Workshop, June 4.
- 2015 “What Made the Mexican Revolution Unsustainable?” Center for Latin American Studies Lecture Series, Stanford University, March 6.
- 2015 “Water for the Revolution: An Envirotech History of Agrarian Reform in ‘La Laguna’, Mexico.” Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of History, January 25
- 2014 “Watering the Mexican Revolution: ‘Técnicos,’ Land Reform, and the Environment.” University of California San Diego Department of History, February 10.
- 2013 “Climate and Revolution in Twentieth Century Mexico: Preliminary Ideas and Research on La Laguna, 1907-1913.” Junior Faculty Research Group Workshop, Stanford University, June 3
- 2013 “La Agroecología del Agua de la Revolución en La Laguna,” Coloquio “Las ecologías de la ciudad y el campo: La historia ambiental de México.” Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas (IIH) of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), April 25.
- 2013 “The Tlaxcalan Viticultural Roots of Mexico’s Modern Cotton ‘Miracle’ in La Laguna: Agroecology and Regional Identity Formation.” University of California Berkeley Latin American History Workshop, April 19.
- 2013 “A Brief History of U.S. Intervention in Guatemala,” Stanford Business School Social Innovation Program Orientation for social mission to Guatemala, February 13.
- 2011 “The Meandering Meanings of Mexico’s Nineteenth Century Ejido: Social and Environmental Implications,” University of California Santa Barbara Latin American Studies Program, November 15.
- 2011 “The Historical Uses and Meanings of the Mexican Ejido in the Nineteenth Century and their social and environmental implications,” Colloquium “Repensar la Revolución: tierra, sociedad y agrarismo antes y después de la Revolución de 1910,” Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social, Guadalajara, México, May 12.

- 2010 “Was the Mexican Revolution Ecologically Sustainable?” UCLA Center for Mexican Studies, Department of History and the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, November 18.
- 2009 “Environment and Revolution in Twentieth Century Mexico: A Historical Case Study of Agrarian Reform and Its Implications for the New Left in Latin America Today,” Kellogg Center for International Studies, University of Notre Dame, March 3.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY (SELECTED)

Self-Organized Workshops/Symposiums/Panels

- 2015 “Drought and Revolution in Northern Mexico: 1907-1911,” presented to workshop “Environmental Histories of Latin America: Sources and Resources for Teaching and Research” that I organized to bring sixteen leading environmental historians of Latin America to Stanford. April 23-25.
- 2013 “The Mestizo Technopolitics of Water Control and Land Reform in Mexico: Parallels with Spain, 1900-1940,” International Water History Conference, Montpellier, France, June 26.
- 2011 “Dams, Pumps and (Manmade?) Drought: A Mexican Story or Two,” presented to Faculty Symposium “The Future of Environmental History: What the Past Teaches us about the Future of the Environment” that I organized, UCLA Department of History, October 27.
- 2010 “Water Apartheid and the New White Gold of Dairy: Ground and Surface Water in ‘LALA’guna, Mexico, 1920s to the present,” presented to “Mexico’s Other National Security Crisis: Food and Water Sustainability” that I co-organized, Center for US-Mexican Studies, UCSD Workshop, April 15-16.

Papers Presented

- 2013 “Pacifying a Rebellious Waterscape: Climate, Technology, and Revolution in La Laguna, Mexico, 1907–27.” American Historical Association and Conference on Latin American History Meeting in New Orleans, January 5.
- 2011 “‘Técnicos! Técnicos!’: A Social History of Mexican Hydraulic Engineers and Agronomists as Intermediaries among State, Society, and Nature,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting in Boston, January 3.
- 2010 “El Agua de la Revolución: La Reforma Agraria Cárdenista y el Conocimiento eco-técnico en La Laguna,” Conference of Mexican Historians of the US, Canada and Mexico, Queretaro, México, October 29.

- 2010 “Mexicanizing Groundwater Pumping Technologies, 1920s to 1960s,” Society of the History of Technology, Tacoma, Washington, September 30.
- 2010 “Water, the Green Revolution, and the re-engineering of agrarian reform in Mexico: The case of La Laguna, 1946-1976,” American Society of Environmental History, Portland, Oregon, March 13.
- 2010 “Dam(M/N)ing the Agrarian Reform: The Politics of Irrigation, Public Works and State Formation in La Laguna, México, 1936-1946,” AHA Meeting at San Diego, January 4.

DISCUSSANT

- 2015 For panel, “Development and Nature,” at the Graduate Student Symposium on Infrastructure and Building the Modern State in Latin America, Center for Latin American Studies, Stanford University, May 1.
- 2012 For panel, “Challenging the System: Indians and the Struggle for Resources in Colonial and Postcolonial Mexico,” at the Southeast Council on Latin American Studies, University of Florida, Gainesville, March 29.
- 2011 UCLA History Graduate Student Association Conference, October 8.
- 2011 For paper, “Global Trade, Contracts and Poverty Alleviation in Indigenous Communities: Cochineal in Mexico” presented by Alberto Díaz Cayeros to Space and Place in Latin American History Conference, Center for US-Mexican Studies, University of California, San Diego, May 20.

TEACHING

COURSES OFFERED

Undergraduate history courses, Stanford University, 2012-Present

- Human Society and Environmental Change (cross listed with Earth Systems), Fall 2015
- Mexico since 1876: History of a Failed State? Winter 2015
- The Ethical Challenges of Climate Change (cross-listed with, and core requirement for, The Program in Science, Technology, and Society), Winter 2015
- Latin American Movies of Revolution, Spring 2014/ 2015
- U.S. Intervention and Regime Change in Twentieth Century Latin America (cross-listed with International Relations), Spring/Fall 2013, Spring 2015
- The Great Divergence: East Asian and Latin American Development in Historical Perspective (cross-listed with East Asian Studies), Winter 2013/Spring 2016

Undergraduate history courses, UCLA, 2010-2012

- Comparative Historical Development of East Asia and Latin America, Spring 2012

- The Making of Modern Mexico: History of a Failed State? Winter 2011

Undergraduate courses, University of Chicago, 2007-2008

- U.S. Intervention and Regime Change in Latin America (cross-listed with International Studies and Latin American Studies), Spring 2008
- B.A. Thesis Colloquium for Latin American Studies. Fall and Winter 2007-2008

Graduate Courses, Stanford University, 2012-Present

- Water in World History, Fall 2015
- Environmental History of Latin America (cross-listed with, and required masters seminar for, Latin American Studies), Fall 2013
- Environment, Technology and Revolution in World History (cross-listed with The Program in Science, Technology, and Society), Spring 2013

Graduate Courses, UCLA, 2011

- Environment, Technology and Revolution in World History, Department of History, UCLA, Fall 2011
- Environmental Historiography of Latin America, UCLA, Spring 2011

Graduate Courses, El Colegio de México, Mexico City, 2002-2004

- Modern Korean History, Spring 2002 and Spring 2004

NEW COURSES PREPARED TO TEACH

- The Rise of Modern Latin America (Undergraduate survey)
- World History since 1500 (Undergraduate survey)

SERVICE

TO THE PROFESSION

2014	Referee, journal <i>Antipode: A Radical Journal of Geography</i>
2013	Book reviewer, <i>Environment and History</i>
2011-2013	Referee, journal <i>Mexican Studies</i>
2012	Revisions contributor and reviewer, “Honduras,” “Nicaragua,” and “Guatemala” entries, <i>Worldmark Encyclopedia of the Nations</i> (13 th edition)
2010	Book reviewer, <i>Hispanic American Historical Review</i>

TO STANFORD UNIVERSITY

- 2013-Present Dissertation committee member (two students); oral examination committee (two); undergraduate honors thesis adviser (three), History Department
- 2014-2015 Undergraduate Studies Curriculum Committee, History Department
- 2014 Successful application for nomination of Tinker Visiting Fellow in Latin American Studies, María-Eugenia Vázquez-Semadini, to teach late colonial/early national Mexican history course
- 2014 History Selection Committee for Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship of Scholars in the Humanities
- 2013-2014 Fellow, “Conversations Revolving Around the Teaching of Ethical Reasoning,” Stanford Dean’s Initiative for New Undergraduate “Ways of Thinking/Doing” Curriculum
- 2013-2014 Historical Conversations Committee, History Department
- 2012-2013 Undergraduate Studies Curriculum Committee, History Department

TO THE PUBLIC

- 2014 Research profiled by the *Stanford Report* for news story “Stanford Historian unearths greed-drenched origins of Mexico’s groundwater crisis,” October 17. Available online: <http://news.stanford.edu/news/2014/october/mexico-water-crisis-101714.html>
- 2014 Organizer of public lecture “New Perspectives on the American Revolution: The View from George Washington, Cuba” by Elena Schneider co-sponsored by the Center for Latin American Studies, the Department of History, and the Humanities Center at Stanford University, October 9.
- 2013 Interviewed by Southern California Public Radio for story “Mexican state of Guanajuato suffering poor water quality, erosion issues,” December 19. Available online: <http://www.scpr.org/programs/take-two/2013/12/19/35199/mexican-state-of-guanajuato-suffering-poor-water-q/>
- 2013 Organizer of public lecture “The Pueblo Revolt of 1680: A Religious Insurrection or a Slave Rebellion?” by Andrés Resendez co-sponsored by the Center for Latin American Studies, The Chicano/a Studies Department, the Department of History, and the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies at Stanford University, November 13.

- 2013 Organizer of public lecture “The Kims’ Three Bodies: Dynastic Succession and its Antecedents in the DPRK” by Bruce Cumings co-sponsored by the History Department, Center for East Asian Studies, Center for Korean Studies, and the East Asian Languages and Cultures Department at Stanford University, February 14
- 2011 Organizer of public lecture “Imaginary Communities: Indians and Campesinos in Mexican Social Thought,” UCLA, October 6, by Emilio Kourí as recipient of University of California, Los Angeles Latin American Institute grant for inviting outside speakers

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Historical Association
The Conference on Latin American History
Latin American Studies Association
American Society for Environmental History
Climate History Network

LANGUAGES

Spanish: fluent speaking, reading and writing
French: bilingual
Portuguese: reading knowledge
Japanese: proficient speaking, reading and basic writing
Korean: basic reading

REFERENCES

Emilio Kourí, Professor of History, Romance Languages and Literatures, and the College
The University of Chicago
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Chicago, IL 60637
(773) 834-4769
kouri@uchicago.edu

Zephyr Frank, Professor of Latin American History
Department of History
Stanford University
450 Serra Mall
Building 200
Stanford, CA 94305
(607) 723-9520
zfrank@stanford.edu

Claudio Lomnitz, Campbell Family Professor of Anthropology
Department of Anthropology
Columbia University
955 Schermerhorn Extension
Amsterdam Ave, MC 5523
New York, NY 10027
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