

# Marcos Emilio Pérez

Assistant Professor  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
Washington and Lee University

225 Newcomb Hall  
Lexington, Virginia 24450  
[mperez@wlu.edu](mailto:mperez@wlu.edu)

---

## Primary Fields of Interest

Political Sociology, Social Movements, Community Organizing, Social Stratification, Urban Sociology, Qualitative Methods, Ethnography, Latin American Studies.

---

## Previous positions

Colby College (2016-2018)  
- Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Sociology

---

## Education

University of Texas at Austin (2016)  
- PhD in Sociology.  
*Dissertation*: “Commitment and Disengagement in a Poor People’s Movement”.  
*Committee*: Javier Auyero (chair), Michael Young, Bryan Roberts, Mounira Charrad, Henry Dietz.  
- Graduate Fellow, Urban Ethnography Lab.

University of Texas at Austin (2011)  
- M.A. in Sociology.

Torcuato Di Tella University (Buenos Aires, Argentina) (2006)  
- B.A. in Political Science and Government.

---

## Publications

Peer-reviewed articles:

Perez, Marcos (2018). “Life Histories and Political Commitment in a Poor People's Movement”. *Qualitative Sociology*. 41(1): 89-109.

Perez, Marcos (2018). “Institutional Strengthening in a Receding Movement: The Trajectory of *Piquetero* Organizations between 2003 and 2015”. *Latin American Research Review*. 53(2): 287–302.

Pérez, Marcos (2018). “Becoming a Piquetero: Working Class Routines and the Development of Activist Dispositions”. *Mobilization: An International Quarterly*. 23(2): 237-253.

Book chapters:

Perez, Marcos (2015). "Manuel: The Luxury of Defending Yourself". In Auyero, Javier *Et Al. Invisible in Austin. Life and Labor in an American City*. Austin: University of Texas Press.

Policy briefs and scholarly blogs:

Perez, Marcos (2018). "Why do people participate in political life, despite personal costs?" *Research Briefs*, Scholars Strategy Network.

Perez, Marcos (2018). "Government alliances, policy transformations and the trajectory of contemporary South American grassroots organizations". *Panoramas*, University Center for International Studies, University of Pittsburgh.

Perez, Marcos (2018). "Grassroots Mobilization in South America Today: Weakened Allies, Emboldened Opponents, and the Challenge of Sustaining Influence. *Mobilizing Ideas*, Center for the Study of Social Movements, University of Notre Dame.

Perez, Marcos (2017). "Political Participation and Working Class Routines in the Piquetero Movement". *Mobilizing Ideas*, Center for the Study of Social Movements, University of Notre Dame.

Perez, Marcos (2016). "A Turning Tide? Grassroots Movements and a New Political Context in South America". *Mobilizing Ideas*, Center for the Study of Social Movements, University of Notre Dame.

Book manuscript in preparation

Perez, Marcos. "Proletarian Lives. Daily Routines and Political Commitment among Unemployed Argentineans".

Article manuscripts in preparation:

Perez, Marcos. "Lost Momentum: Social Movement Grievances and Economic Recovery in post- 2002 Argentina".

Perez, Marcos. "Identity, Empowerment and Repression: Community Organizing in Contemporary Jujuy, Argentina"

---

**Selected Fellowships and Awards**

**2019**

Best Journal Article Award, Labor Studies Section, Latin American Studies Association.

**2016**

Mayer Zald Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award, Collective Behavior and Social Movement section, American Sociological Association.

**2014**

Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, National Science Foundation (Award ID: 1406244).

Graduate Excellence Award, Department of Sociology, University of Texas at Austin.

**2013**

Argentinean Studies Program award, LLILAS, University of Texas at Austin.

Pre-Doctoral Grant, Department of Sociology, University of Texas at Austin.

Urban Ethnography Lab Summer Grant, Department of Sociology, University of Texas at Austin.

Pass with Honors, Comprehensive Examinations, Department of Sociology, University of Texas at Austin.

**2012**

Lozano Long Summer Field Research Grant, LLILAS, University of Texas at Austin.

**2011**

Tinker Summer Research Fellowship, LLILAS, University of Texas at Austin.

**2010**

Sociology Summer Fellowship, Department of Sociology, University of Texas at Austin.

**2009**

First Year Support Fellowship, Department of Sociology, University of Texas at Austin.

---

**Selected Professional Presentations and Conference Participation.**

**2020**

(Forthcoming) “Resistance Through Innovation: New forms of Work and Organization in Latin America” Session Organizer (With Katherine Sobering), 115th Annual Meeting, American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA.

**2019**

(Forthcoming) “New Perspectives on Activism and Political Participation”. Session organizer, Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, New York, NY.

(Forthcoming) “Working Class Nostalgia and Progressive Mobilization in Latin America”. States of Exception? 2019 Mini-Conference, New York, NY.

“De la Línea de Ensamblaje al Corte de Ruta”. Invited talk, Department of Political Science and Government, Torcuato Di Tella University. Buenos Aires, Argentina.

“A threatened neoliberal order: conflict, repression and hegemony in contemporary Argentina”. Latin American Studies Association 2019 Congress, Boston, MA.

“The High Price of Mobilization: Empowerment, Hegemony and Repression in Contemporary Jujuy, Argentina”. 55<sup>th</sup> Society for Latin American Studies Conference, Leicester, UK.

**2018**

“Grassroots movements in post-kirchnerist Argentina: the experience of piquetero organizations in Buenos Aires and Jujuy”. Latin American Studies Association 2018 Congress, Barcelona, Spain.

**2017**

“Mobilization and Narratives of Resistance in Today’s America”. Session organizer, Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, Montreal, Canada.

“Animosidad ajena y construcción política: reflexiones sobre la experiencia de la Tupac Amaru”. Invited Talk, School of Philosophy and Letters, University of Buenos Aires. Buenos Aires, Argentina.

“Convertirse en Piquetero: Reconstrucción y desarrollo de rutinas proletarias”. Invited Talk, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, National University of Jujuy. San Salvador de Jujuy, Argentina.

“Community organizing after the good jobs are gone: Latin American social movements and the global politics of blue-collar decline”. Mobilization Conference on Social Movements. San Diego State University. San Diego, CA.

“Personal backgrounds, activist experiences, and the process of becoming an activist”. Young Scholars in Social Movements Mini-Conference, Center for the Study of Social Movements, University of Notre Dame. South Bend, IN.

**2016**

“Becoming a Piquetero: Past, Novel and Current Routines in the Development of Activist Dispositions”. 111<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, American Sociological Association. Seattle, WA.

“Past, Novel and Current Routines in the Development of Activist Dispositions”. 21<sup>st</sup> Alternative Futures and Popular Protest Conference, Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester, UK.

**2015**

“What about my Parents? Three Dilemmas of a Community-Based Campus organization” Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems. Chicago, IL.

**2014**

“Compañeros de Fierro. Trayectorias de Activistas en el Movimiento Piquetero”. Invited talk, Department of Political Science and Government, Torcuato Di Tella University. Buenos Aires, Argentina.

**2013**

“Iron Fellows: Commitment and Disengagement in the Unemployed Workers Movement in Argentina” 108th Annual Meeting, American Sociological Association. New York, NY.

“Resistance to Quit: how destitute, cynical and disempowered workers overcome barriers to participation” Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems. New York, NY.

“Social Movement Participation: recruitment, sustainment and disengagement” Power and Justice in The Contemporary World Mini-Conference (ASA and ISA). New York, NY.

**2011**

“Improving Opportunities for the Few at the Top: Pro-market Economic Policies and the Regressive Redistribution of Income”. 106th Annual Meeting, American Sociological Association. Las Vegas, NV.

“Grievances Matter: Unemployment and the trajectory of the piquetero movement”. ILASSA XXXI Conference, The University of Texas at Austin. Austin, TX.

**2010**

"Grievances Matter: Unemployment and the trajectory of the piquetero movement". LAGO Conference, Stone Center for Latin American Studies, Tulane University. New Orleans, LA.

"Pro-market economic policies and income inequality: evidence from developed and developing countries". 105th Annual Meeting, American Sociological Association. Atlanta, GA.

**2007**

"Arreglos institucionales y Endemia: Prevención y Control del Vector de la Enfermedad de Chagas en la Provincia de Santiago del Estero" (with Ignacio Llovet and Graciela Dinardi). 7th Sociology Conference, University of Buenos Aires. Buenos Aires, Argentina.

**Research Experience****2019**

- Post-Dissertation Fieldwork, Phase II (4 weeks in Buenos Aires and San Salvador de Jujuy, Argentina).

**2017**

- Post-Dissertation Fieldwork, Phase I (4 weeks in Buenos Aires and San Salvador de Jujuy, Argentina).

**2014**

- Visiting Scholar, Gino Germani Research Institute, University of Buenos Aires.
- Dissertation Fieldwork, Phase II (12 months in Buenos Aires and San Salvador de Jujuy, Argentina).

**2013**

- Dissertation Fieldwork, Phase I (10 weeks in Buenos Aires, Argentina).

**2012**

- Pre-Dissertation Fieldwork, Phase II (8 weeks in Buenos Aires, Argentina).

**2011**

- Pre-Dissertation Fieldwork, Phase I (5 weeks in Buenos Aires, Argentina).

**2007 - 2008**

- Research assistant of Dr. Ignacio Llovet, researcher at the Center for the Study of State and Society (CEDES).

**2006**

- External consultant, Project "La política social necesaria. La visión de los actores" – Torcuato Di Tella University / World Bank.

**Teaching Experience****2018 -**

- Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Washington and Lee University.
- Courses:
  - o Revolutions and Revolutionaries (Fall 2018, Fall 2019).
  - o Poverty and Marginality in the Americas (Fall 2018, Fall 2019).
  - o Introduction to Sociology (Winter 2019)
  - o Poverty and Human Capability: A Research Seminar (Winter 2019)

### **2016 - 2018**

- Post-Doctoral Fellow, Colby College, Department of Sociology.
- Courses:
  - o Urban Sociology in a Global Context (Spring 2017, Spring 2018).
  - o Revolutions and Revolutionaries (Fall 2016, Fall 2017).
  - o Capital Punishment in America (Fall 2016, Fall 2017).

### **2015 – 2016**

- Assistant Instructor, University of Texas at Austin, Department of Sociology.
- Courses:
  - o Capital Punishment in America (Spring 2015, Spring 2016).
  - o Sociology of Health and Illness (Summer 2015, Summer 2016).
- Inclusive Classrooms Leadership Certificate, Graduate School, University of Texas at Austin.

### **2013**

- Teaching Certificate in First-Year Interdisciplinary Instruction, School of Undergraduate Studies, University of Texas at Austin.

### **2009 - 2013**

- Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin, Department of Sociology.
- Courses:
  - o Life and Death Decisions.
  - o Introduction to the Study of Society.
  - o Social Scientific Imagination.
  - o The Family.
  - o Introduction to Social Statistics.
  - o Globalization.
  - o Race and Social Policy in the United States.

---

### **Professional Service**

- Reviewer, *Social Problems*, *Feminist Studies*, *Politica y Gobierno*, *Latin American Research Review*, *Latin American Politics and Society*, *American Sociological Review*, *Sociological Forum*.
- Contributing Editor, *Mobilizing Ideas* blog, Collective Behavior and Social Movements Section, American Sociological Association.
- Contributor, *Panoramas* blog, Latin American Research Review, Latin American Studies Association.
- Committee Member, 2017 Mayer Zald Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award, Collective Behavior and Social Movements Section, American Sociological Association.
- Session presider, 112<sup>th</sup> and 114<sup>th</sup> Annual Meetings, American Sociological Association.

---

### **Languages**

- Spanish
- English

---

**Software skills**

- SPSS
- Stata
- NVivo
- Atlas.ti

---

**Professional Membership**

- American Sociological Association.
- Society for the Study of Social Problems.
- Latin American Studies Association.
- Scholars Strategy Network.