

Sebastián Gil-Riaño

May 2023

History and Sociology of Science Department, University of Pennsylvania

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2016 Assistant Professor, Department of History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania.
- 2014 Postdoctoral Fellow, Race and Ethnicity in the Global South (ARC Laureate Research Project), History Department and Centre for Values, Ethics and the Law in Medicine, University of Sydney.

EDUCATION

- 2014 Ph.D., History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, University of Toronto.
- 2007 M.A., History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, University of Toronto.
- 2005 B.A. (Combined Honours), History of Science and Technology and Philosophy, University of King's College (Halifax, NS).

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- 2023 *The Remnants of Race Science: UNESCO and Economic Development in the Global South*. New York: Columbia University Press, forthcoming.

Journal Articles and Book Chapters (Peer Reviewed)

- 2023 "Unsettling Antiracism: Salvage Ethnography and the Capture of Aché Children." In *Troubling Encounters in the History of the Human Sciences*. Edited by Adam Warren, Julia Rodriguez, and Stephen Casper. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming.
- "Locating the Child in Racial Science: Scenes from Latin America," co-authored with Julia Rodriguez. In *Ordering the Human: Global Science and Racial Reason*. Edited by Dorothy Roberts, Eram Alam, and Natalia Shibley. Columbia University Press, forthcoming.
- 2022 "Introduction: Race Science in the Latin World," co-authored with Sarah Walsh, *History of Science* 60, no. 1 (March 2022): 4-17, <https://doi.org/10.1177/00732753211053517>.

- “Risky Migrations: Race, Latin Eugenics, and Cold War Development in the International Labor Organization’s Puno–Tambopata Project in Peru, 1930–60.” *History of Science*, August 22, 2021.
- 2021 “Becoming an Area Expert During the Cold War: Americanism and Lusotropicalismo in the Transnational Career of Anthropologist Charles Wagley, 1939–1971,” in *Cold War Social and Behavioral Sciences in Transnational Contexts*, Mark Solovey and Christian Daye, Eds, (Palgrave, UK: 2021).
- 2020 “[A Roundtable Discussion on Collecting Demographics Data](#),” *Isis* 111, no. 2 (June 2020): 310-353.
- 2018 “Locating Antiracist Science: Rerouting the UNESCO Race Statements through the Southern Hemisphere,” *British Journal for the History of Science* 51(2), 281-303.
- 2017 “Focus Review Essay: Redemptive Ancestries: Human Population Genetics, Sex and Antiracism,” *Social History of Medicine* 30, no. 2 (2017): 448-454.
- 2016 “Developing Constipation: Dietary Fibre, Western Disease, and Industrial Carbohydrates,” co-authored with Sarah E. Tracy, in *Global Food History* 2, no.2 (2016): 179-209.
- “Sociology,” in *A Companion to the History of American Science*, eds. Georgina M. Montgomery and Mark A. Largent (West Sussex: Wiley-Blackwell, 2016), 263-275.
- “Perturbed by “race”: Antiracism, Science, and Education in UNESCO during the Cold War,” in *UNESCO Without Borders: Educational Campaigns for International Understanding*, eds. Aigul Kulnazarova and Christian Ydesen (Routledge Press, 2016), 203-219.

Peer Reviewed Articles in Preparation

- 2023 “Tout à fait unique: Alfred Métraux, Te Rangi Hiroa, and the Southern Oceanic Roots of Postwar Antiracism,” *Historical Studies in the Natural Sciences*, revise and resubmit.

Reviews and online publications

- 2018 Gabriel N. Mendes. *Under the strain of color: Harlem's Lafargue clinic and the promise of an antiracist psychiatry*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2015. 196 pp.. *J. Hist. Behav. Sci.*, 54: 62-63. doi:10.1002/jhbs.21878

- “Report on HSS sponsored panel - "The Emergence of Racial Modernities in the Global South" - at the AHA meeting,” with Sarah Walsh, History of Science Society Newsletter, April 2018.
- 2016 “Racial Conceptions in the Twentieth-Century: Comparisons, Connections and Circulations in the Portuguese-Speaking Global South [workshop],” with Sarah Walsh in *History of Anthropology Newsletter* 40 (2016): <http://histanthro.org/racial-conceptions-in-the-twentieth-century/>
- 2010 Pierre Saint-Arnaud, translated by Peter Feldstein. *African American Pioneers of Sociology: A Critical History in Scientia Canadensis: Canadian Journal of the History of Science, Technology and Medicine*. Vol. 33, No 1, p.142-144, 2010
- 2009 “Editor’s Introduction: Epistemic Boundaries,” with Vivien Hamilton in *Spontaneous Generations: A Journal for the History and Philosophy of Science*, Vol 3, No 1 (2009)

PUBLIC OUTREACH

- 2021 “The Science of Racism,” Episode 05 of “The Missing Pages” video series produced by SciXchange Centre at the Faculty of Science at Ryerson University, Toronto, ON. <https://youtu.be/F0MrdNa1jAs>
- 2020 “Sebastián Gil-Riaño on Race and Science,” in *Perspectives on “Race Science” and Scientific Racism*, Podcast Series produced by the Consortium for the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine, Philadelphia, USA. <https://www.chstm.org/video/101#17082>
- 2018 Video interview with *Atrévete (I Dare You)* interview series focusing on LatinX Philadelphians for online channel Philly Cam. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fwmh14DmAcY&ab_channel=PhillyCAM

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 “Stolen Evidence: Indigenous Children and Epidemic Histories of the Americas during the Cold War, 1950-1967,” **Mellon Sawyer Seminar on “Race, Empire, and the Environments of Biomedicine”**, University of California, Santa Cruz, May 31.
- 2023 “Roundtable: Ethical Practices in Teaching” **Dunfey/Sidore Symposium 2023, “The Ethics of Encounter: Research, Communities, and Repair,”** University of New Hampshire, Mar 31.

- 2022 “The Remnants of Race: Anti-Racist Science and Economic Development in the Global South,” **EE Just Biomedical Society (Biomedical PhD student group for underrepresented minorities in science at the University of Pennsylvania)**, Mar 25.
- “Tout à fait unique: Alfred Métraux, Te Rangi Hiroa, and the Southern Oceanic Roots of Postwar Antiracism,” **Lees Seminar, Department of History, Rutgers University-Camden**, Feb 18.
- 2021 “Racial Dilemmas in the Global South: Brazilian Race Relations and Economic Development in the 1950s,” **Colloquium Series for Program in the History of Science & Medicine at Yale University**, Feb 1.
- “Southern Racial Dilemmas: Brazilian Race Relations and Economic Development in the 1950s,” **New York History of Science Lecture Series**, Jan 27.
- 2020 “Recalling Anti-Racism and Reckoning with Race in Development Studies,” The Politics of Race in the History of Science, Workshop at **U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign**, Mar 27, *cancelled due to coronavirus*
- “The Remnants of Race: Anti-Racist Science and Economic Development in the Global South,” Annenberg Seminar in History, **University of Pennsylvania**, Feb 25.
- 2019 “Anti-Revolutionary Anti-Racism,” *Panel: On Science and Revolutions*, Department of History, **Brown University**, Oct 23.
- “Conquering the Tropics: Area Studies, Modernization, and Lusotropicalism in the Work of Charles Wagley,” *Workshop: Cold War Social and Behavioral Sciences: International and Transnational Entanglements*, **University of Toronto**, May 22.
- “Decolonial Lessons from Aché Children,” *Workshop: Postcolonial Tensions*, **Harvard University**, April 12.
- 2018 “Campesinos Sin Tierra: Guerra Fria, Raza, y Indigeneidad en el Programa Andino de la OIT,” **Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico (UNAM)**, October 5.
- “Redención de la Raza?: Ciencia Anti-Racista en el Sur Global,” Instituto de Investigaciones Filosóficas, **Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico (UNAM)**, October 3.
- “Dismantling Primitive Life: UNESCO’s Anti-Racism Campaigns and Latin American Modernization, 1949-1962,” History Department, **University of Delaware**, April 17.
- Panelist. “Diversity and the Disciplines,” *Diverse Disciplines, Inclusive Institutions Symposium*, **University of Virginia**, March 16.

- 2017 "Re-locating Anti-Racist Science: the UNESCO Race Statements and Economic Development in the Global South," Nathan and Jeanette Miller Center for Historical Studies, **University of Maryland**, October 4.
- 2016 "From Anthropometry to Applied Anthropology: persuasion in the work of Ernest Beaglehole and Alfred Métraux," *Southern Oceanic Topologies and Genealogies: Genetic Explorations of the Pacific and Australasia Workshop*, **University of Sydney**, Sydney, NSW.
- 2015 "Inclusionary Exclusion: Anti-Racist Science and International Development during the Global Cold War," *HSS Workshop*: Department of History and Sociology of Science, **University of Pennsylvania**, December 9.
- "Towards a Global History of Antiracism in Science: Revisiting the UNESCO Statements on Race," Department of History and Philosophy of Science, **Cambridge University**, UK, January 12.
- 2012 "Race in the Amazon: the Role of the Human Sciences in UNESCO's International Institute of the Hylean Amazon, 1945-1950." **Middlebury College**, Vermont, January 26
- 2011 "A Challenge of the First Order": Cultural Change, Anti-Racism, and Anthropology in UNESCO's Early Years," Historicizing Knowledge about Human Biological Diversity in the 20th Century Seminar Series, **Max Planck Institute for the History of Science**, Berlin, Germany, October 19
- 2010 "Anti-racism and Cultural Change: the Anthropologist as steward of modernity in the 1950s," *History of Postwar Social Science Workshop*, **London School of Economics**, London, UK, December.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Conferences and Workshops Organized

- 2022 Wolf Humanities Center Manuscript Workshop, "The Remnants of Race Science," University of Pennsylvania, April 29.
- 2019 "Collaborative Pedagogies in Global Histories of Science", University of Pennsylvania, October 11 and 12th. Co-organizer.
- 2018 "Ethics, Settler Colonialism, and Indigeneity in the History of the Human Sciences," Simpson Center for the Humanities, University of Washington, November 4. Co-organizer.

Conference Panels Organized

- 2018 “Globalizing the Human Sciences in Latin America: Tensions and Possibilities”, **History of Science Society**, Seattle, WA.
- 2015 “Racial Science in the Latin World,” **History of Science Society**, San Francisco, CA.
- 2008 “Race, Politics, and Science in the Twentieth Century,” **Cheiron: International Society for the Social and Behavioral Sciences 40th Annual**, Toronto, ON.

Presentations

- 2021 “Nomadic Fields: The Erasure of Violence in the Aché Fieldwork of Pierre Clastres and Carleton Gajdusek,” **Social Studies of Science (45)**, Tkaronto (virtual meeting).
- “Nomadic Fields: The Erasure of Violence in the Aché Fieldwork of Pierre Clastres and Carleton Gajdusek,” **What is a Field? Workshop**, UPenn.
- 2020 Reflections for Roundtable on “Settler Colonialism and Postcolonialism in the History of Science and Technology,” **History of Science Society and Society for the History of Technology**, joint virtual meeting.
- Reflections for Roundtable on “What Do We Do about the Future of Scholarship? Demography, Diversity, and the Transformation of the History of Science,” **History of Science Society and Society for the History of Technology**, joint virtual meeting.
- 2018 “Indigenising the Retreat of Race Science: Alfred Métraux and the Polynesian Roots of UNESCO’s Antiracism Campaign”, **History of Science Society -Philosophy of Science Association**, Seattle, Washington.
- “Amazonian Surveys: Race, Modernization, and the Tropics in the Work of Charles Wagley” **Brazilian Studies Association**, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. [paper read by colleague]
- “Conquering the Tropics: Area Studies, Modernization, and Lustropicalism in the Work of Charles Wagley”, **International Sociological Association – World Congress of Sociology**, Toronto, ON.
- "Tout a fait unique: Alfred Metraux, Te Rangi Hiroa, and the Southern Oceanic Roots of Postwar Antiracism", **Society for French Historical Studies**, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- “Objectivity, Race, and Cold War Social Science: Race Relations in World Perspective”, **American Historical Association**, Washington, D.C.
- 2017 “Statement vs. Practice: Antiracism Discourse in the History of Science”, Roundtable: Diversifying the Profession: Perspectives on Diversity, Inclusivity, and Equity in the History of Science, **History of Science Society**, Toronto, ON.

- “Pomp and Circumstance: Alfred Métraux, Anti-Racism, and Economic Development in the Andes”, **Latin American Studies Association**, Lima, Peru.
- 2016 “Portable Expertise and Colonial Governmentality: Using STS Tools to Understand the Demise of Racial Science”, **American Anthropological Association**, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2015 “Latinizing Modernization: Neo-Lamarckism and the Human Sciences in the Andean Indian Mission during the 1950s,” **History of Science Society**, San Francisco, CA
- “Antiracist Science”, Racialized Practices in the Global South Roundtable, **Australian Historical Association**, University of Sydney, Sydney, NSW.
- 2013 “Dare to Observe: Ethnography and Antiracism in French Anthropology, 1930-1950,” **Society for French Historical Studies**, Boston, MA.
- 2012 “Race, Caste, and Class: Analogical Reasoning in the Human Sciences of the Mid-Twentieth Century,” **3-Society (History of Science Society, Canadian Society for the History of Philosophy of Science and Society, British Society for the History of Science)**, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2010 “A Brazilian Dilemma: race relations and modernization in the UNESCO-sponsored studies of the 1950s,” **The History of Science and Medicine in Cold War Latin America Workshop**, Toronto, ON.
- “Anti-Racism, Culture, and Modernization: examining the role of Anthropologists at UNESCO in the 1950s,” **Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science**, Montreal, QC.
- “An Early Ontology for International Development: UNESCO and Anthropology in the 1950s,” **Graduate History Symposium**, Toronto, ON.
- 2009 “The Many Lives of Alfred Métraux: An Anthropologist at UNESCO, 1945–1963” *The 25th Boulder Conference on the History and Philosophy of Science*, Boulder, CO.
- 2008 “Otto Klineberg, Race, and UNESCO’s Interventionist Ethos.” **Cheiron: International Society for the Social and Behavioral Sciences**, Toronto, ON.

Discussant and Panels Chaired

- 2022 Moderator for “History of Science: The State of the Field” Roundtable for Celebrating 50+2 years of Scholarship Department of the History and Sociology of Science, UPenn, October 8th.
- 2019 Commentator for “Collaborative Pedagogies in the Global Histories of Science” closing panel, UPenn, October 12th.

- Respondent for “Iberian Empire Logistics and the Racialization of Circulation”, talk given by Prof. Daniel Nemser, Department of Hispanic and Portuguese Studies, UPenn, April 24th.
- 2018 Commentator, Penn Program on Race, Science, and Society Symposium, Ordering The Human: Global Science And Racial Reason, April 12.
- 2016 Commentary on “‘An Immense Mosaic’: Race-Mixing and Creating the Genetic Nation in 1960s Brazil”, by Rosanna Dent and Ricardo Ventura Santos, **Racial Conceptions in the Twentieth-Century: Comparisons, Connections and Circulations in the Portuguese-Speaking Global South**, Rio de Janeiro, April 6.
- 2015 Commentary on “Battling Minds: Conservatives, Progressives, and UNESCO in Postwar America” by Randle Hart.” *Unesco Without Borders: The Global Impact of International Understanding and Better History Textbooks*. Book Workshop. Department of Culture and Global Studies. Aalborg University, June 17.
- 2014 Commentary on “Consilience, Historicity, and the Species Problem” by Marc Ereshefsky, Book launch workshop for *Evolutionary Biology: Conceptual, Ethical, and Religious Issues*, University of Toronto, April 22.
- 2010 Commentary on “The Rise and Fall of Wartime Social Science: Harvard’s Refugee Interview Project, 1950-1954” by David Engerman. *The Construction of Social Science in Cold War America: Between Geo-Politics and Sites of Knowledge Production*, Workshop, University of Toronto, May 21.
- 2008 Matters of Life and Death: A Workshop Concerning how Life is Managed, Commodified, and Objectified.” University of Toronto, March 4.

CAMPUS TALKS

University of Pennsylvania

- 2023 Panelist for “What’s at stake in decolonizing science?” Roundtable discussion, History and Sociology of Science Department Workshop, March 13.
- Commentator on “Termination and the Origins of Reservation Industrialization, 1946-1961,” by Sam Schirvar. Graduate Student Work-in-Progress Group, History and Sociology of Science Department, Feb 13.
- 2022 Commentator on "Entangled spaces of care: Indian nation and the production of medical expertise in northeast India," by Ngamlieni Lal Kipgen. Graduate Student Work-in-Progress Group, History and Sociology of Science Department, Dec 5.

Speaker at “The Philosophy of Race and the Afterlives of Slavery,” Faculty-led presentation and conversation with the School of Arts and Sciences Board of Advisors, Mar 18.

2021 Speaker and co-organizer of Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop Roundtable on “Diversity and Teaching When Disciplines Burn,” Mar 29.

2018 Speaker at “Teaching Race” Roundtable. Penn Teach-In. March 19.

Guest lecture: “The Social Construction of Race and the Rise of Anti-Racism in Science” for Lauder Institute Course, “Global and Regional Analysis.” March, 13.

2016 “Latinizing Modernization? Neo-Lamarckism and the Human Sciences in the Andean Indian Mission during the 1950s.” Latin American Studies Internal Seminar Series.

University of Sydney

2015 “Relocating Anti-Racism: Rerouting the UNESCO Statements on Race through the Southern Hemisphere” History and Philosophy of Science Seminar.

“World History.” Women in the Age of Internationalism Research Day, History Department.

“Locating Racial prejudice: Comparative Race Relations Studies in the US and Brazil, 1930-1960.” Guest lecture for History 2609: African-American History And Culture, 1865-Present.

2014 “Rerouting UNESCO’s Statements on Race: a Genealogy for International Development?,” Center for Values, Ethics, and the Law in Medicine Conversation series.

“Antiracist science and Indigenismo: a Genealogy for International Development?” Spotlight on Race and Ethnicity in the Global South, History Department.

University of Toronto

2013 “Opening Provocation” for *Technoscience Salon 2013-14* on the theme of “Critical Itineraries of Technoscience,” September 26.

2012 “Race, Caste, and Democracy: the Race-as-Caste Analogy in the US and Brazil and its Effect on Conceptualizations of Racism,” *Latin American Studies Graduate Student Workshop*, University of Toronto, April 27

TEACHING

University of Pennsylvania, July 2016 - Present.
Spring 2023

- STSC 2296: Technologies of Self and Society

Fall 2022

- STSC-HSOC 3279: Nutritional Modernities: Food, Science, and Health in Global Context
- STSC-HSOC 352: Medical Mestizaje: Health and Development in Latin America

Spring 2022

- HSS 506: Readings in Race and Science (graduate seminar)
- STSC-HSOC 357 Indigenous Science: Indigeneity in Health, Science, and Technology.

Fall 2021

- STSC-HSOC 352: Medical Mestizaje: Health and Development in Latin America
- STSC-HSOC 219: Race, Science, and Globalization

Spring 2021

- STSC 289-301 Technologies of Self and Society
- STSC-HSOC 219: Race, Science, and Globalization

Spring 2019

- STSC 289-301 Technologies of Self and Society
- HSSC 688-301 Research Seminar in History of Human Sciences

Fall 2018

- STSC-HSOC 219: Race, Science, and Globalization
- STSC-HSOC 352: Medical Mestizaje: Health and Development in Latin America

Spring 2018

- STSC-HSOC 209: Race and Gender in Global Science
- STSC-HSOC 338: Hybrid Science: Nature, Health, and Society in Latin American History

Fall 2017

- STSC 123: Darwin's Legacy
- HSS 506: Readings in Race and Science (graduate seminar)

Spring 2017

- STSC-HSOC 209: Race and Gender in Global Science
- STSC-HSOC 338: Hybrid Science: Nature, Health, and Society in Latin American History

Fall 2016

- STSC 018: Imported Futures: Technoscience in the Global South

University of Sydney, July 2014 - June 2016.

- Graduate Seminar: Social Sciences and History.

University of Toronto, 2011-2014.

- History 202: Gender, Race and Science
- History and Philosophy of Science 211: Scientific Revolutions II

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

School of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Pennsylvania

2021-Ongoing

- Curriculum Committee Member

History and Sociology of Science Department, University of Pennsylvania

2022-2023

- Associate Professor, Target of Opportunity Hire, Search Committee Consultant
- Science, Technology and Society Majors Dinner
- PhD and MA Admissions Committee
- Science Beyond the West Working Group Coordinator

2021-2022

- Weekly Departmental Workshop Organizer
- Assistant Professor in History of Information Science, Search Committee Consultant
- Assistant Professor in History of Science in Modern Japan, Search Committee Consultant
- PhD and MA Admissions Committee

2020-2021

- Weekly Departmental Workshop Organizer
- Associate Director for Undergraduate Studies, Search Committee Consultant
- Assistant Professor in Sexuality Studies, Search Committee Consultant
- PhD and MA Admissions Committee

2019-2020

- Graduate Student Spanish Language Examiner
- Science Beyond the West Working Group Coordinator

2018-2019

- Associate Professor in History of Science, Search Committee Consultant
- PhD and MA Admissions Committee
- Graduate Student Spanish Language Examiner

2017-2018

- PhD and MA Admissions Committee
- Graduate Student Spanish Language Examiner

2016-2017

- Assistant Professor in Environmental Humanities, Search Committee Consultant
- PhD and MA Admissions Committee
- Graduate Student Spanish Language Examiner

PhD Student Advising, University of Pennsylvania

Exp 2023

- Jing Sun, History Department, Committee Member.

Exp 2024

- Taylor Dysart, Department of History and Sociology of Science. Co-Chair of Dissertation Committee and Qualifying Exams Committee Member.

Exp 2025

- Gabriela Noles Cotito, Department of Africana Studies, Qualifying Exams Committee Member.

Exp 2026

- Brigid Prial, Department of History and Sociology of Science. Qualifying Exams Committee Member.

Undergraduate Advising, University of Pennsylvania

Spring 2021 Karen Kim (Africana Studies), Senior Capstone advisor

Riepe College House, Faculty Fellow, University of Pennsylvania

2021 Member of Search Committee for House Coordinator

2021 Virtual and in-person programming for “Living Cultures” Program Community

2020 Coordinator of “Living Cultures” Program Community

2019 Coordinator for “Living Cultures” Program Community

2018 Appointed as Faculty Fellow

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Elected Positions

- Nominating Committee, History of Science Society, since May 2023.

Editorial and Advisory Boards

- Advisory Board, “Culture as a tool: building scientifically informed discourses around race and ethnicity,” *Applied Working Group funded by the Cultural Evolution Society*, 2022-2023.
- Editorial Board Member, *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences*, since 2020.
- Advisory Board, *History of Anthropology Newsletter*, since 2016.
- Steering Committee Member, Red de Estudios de Ciencias y Saberes en Latinoamérica y el Caribe (RECSLAC), NSF Funded Project, since 2021.

Prize Award Committees

- Committee Member for FHHS/JHBS John C. Burnham Early Career Award, 2020
- Latin American and Latino Studies Nancy Fariss Graduate Paper Award Committee, University of Pennsylvania, 2018

Manuscript and Application Reviewer

- Doctoral and Postdoctoral Fellowship Applications reviewer for the Consortium for History of Science, Technology and Medicine.
- Manuscript reviewer for *British Journal for the History of Science*; *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*; *História, Ciências, Saúde – Manguinhos*; *Food, Culture, and Society*; MIT Press.

LANGUAGES

- Fully bilingual in English and Spanish
- French (excellent speaking skills, good reading comprehension, and basic writing)

- Portuguese (good reading comprehension)