

## Jorge Felipe-Gonzalez, Ph.D.

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### Academic Appointments

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- Assistant Professor, Department of History, The University of Texas at San Antonio, 2020-Present.
- Research/Teaching Assistant, Michigan State University, 2014-2019.
- Assistant Editor, Digital Humanities Project at H-Net, Michigan State University, 2016-2018.
- Researcher, Fernando Ortiz Foundation, Havana, Cuba, 2010-2013.
- Assistant Professor, University of Havana, Cuba, 2007-2010.

### Education

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Ph.D. in History, Michigan State University, 2019.

Dissertation Title: *Foundation and Growth of the Cuban-based Transatlantic Slave Trade, 1790-1820.*

Committee: Walter Hawthorne and David Eltis (advisors), David Wheat, Laura Fair, Dean Rehberger.

Fields: Atlantic History, African History, Digital Humanities.

B.A. in History *summa cum laude*, University of Havana, Cuba, 2007

### Research Interests

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Atlantic Slave Trade; Human Trafficking; Global History of Technology and Commerce; Digital Humanities; Comparative Slavery; African Diaspora; Quantitative History.

### Publications

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Books and Manuscripts in Progress:

- *The Cuban Slave Trade: An Atlantic History*, scheduled for submission to Cambridge University Press, December 2025.
- *El comercio de esclavizados a Cuba a través de sus documentos*, (Coauthored with Marial Iglesias Utset and Maria del Carmen Barcia), scheduled for submission, Editorial Icaria, Spain, Fall 2026.

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters:

- 2024 “Una aproximación demográfica a la historia de la migración forzosa de africanos a América. El caso de Cuba” with Marial Iglesias Utset, *África en Cuba. Legados de la diáspora*, Leida Fernández and Marial Iglesias Utset (eds), (Madrid: Editorial Doce Calles, 2024), 309-354.

- 2022 “Demography of the Transatlantic Slave Trade,” *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of African History*, 2024.
- “The Transatlantic Slave Trade and the Foundation of the Kingdom of Galinhas in Southern Sierra Leone, 1790–1820,” *Journal of African History* (2021): 1–23.
- “Reassessing the Slave Trade to Cuba, 1790–1820,” in *From the Galleons to the Highlands*, ed. Borucki et al. (UNM Press, 2020), 201–22.
- Co-author with David Eltis, “The Rise and Fall of the Cuban Slave Trade,” in *From the Galleons to the Highlands*, ed. Borucki et al. (UNM Press, 2020), 177–200.
- Co-author with J. Cole, G. Cole, and B. Lawrance, “The Amistad Saga: A Transatlantic Dialogue,” *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Latin American History* (2021).
- “Digital Resources for the Study of Slavery and the Slave Trade in Latin America,” *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Latin American History* (2020).
- Co-authored with Andrew Barsom, “The Baptismal Record Database for Slave Societies (BARDSS),” *Journal of Global Slavery* 1 (2016): 137–63.

#### Public-Facing Writing:

- “I Watched Cuba Crumble from the Inside,” *The Atlantic*, July 31, 2021.
- “Black Lives Matter Misses the Point about Cuba,” *The Atlantic*, July 17, 2021.
- Co-author with Henry Louis Gates Jr. and David Eltis, “The Constitution and the Slave Trade,” *The New York Review of Books*, April 7, 2022.
- “Afro-Cuban History is Integral to Hispanic Heritage. This is Why?” in *Latinos Unidos*, 2021.

#### Book Reviews:

- *New West Indian Guide* (2024), review of Jill Flanders Crosby and JT Torres’ *Entangled Histories of Cuba and West Africa*. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2021.
- *Business History* (2023), review of Alejandro García-Montón’s *Genoese Entrepreneurship and the Asiento Slave Trade*, New York: Routledge, 2022.
- *Colonial Latin American Review* (2022), review of Evelyn P. Jennings’ *Constructing the Spanish Empire in Havana*, Baton Rouge: Louisiana University Press, 2020.
- *African Studies Review* (2021), review of Henry Lovejoy’s *Prieto: Yorùbá Kingship in Colonial Cuba*, Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2019.

### Fellowships and Grants

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- Research Fellow, Académie Des Beaux-Arts, Paris, France, Spring 2026.
- Research Fellow, Hutchins Center for African & African American Research, Harvard University, 2023-2024.
- Australian Research Council Discovery Grant (Co-PI), “Trans-Pacific Slave Trade Database,” 2023–Present (\$247,000).
- Curricular Innovation in the Post-Pandemic Digital Age, University of Texas System, 2021 (\$8,000).
- Díaz-Ayala Research Travel Grant, Cuban Research Institute, FIU, 2022 (\$2,000).
- Mellon Fellow, Hutchins Center for African & African American Research, Harvard University, 2019-2020.
- Goizueta Foundation Fellow, Cuban Heritage Collection, University of Miami, 2018-2019.

- Humanities Without Walls Fellowship, 2017 (\$15,000).
- Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, 2016–2017 (\$10,000).
- Lydia Cabrera Award, Cuban Heritage Collection, 2015 (\$5,000).
- Cultural Heritage Informatics Fellowship, MSU, 2015 (\$3,000).
- Grant, International Seminar on the History of the Atlantic World, Harvard University, 2013.
- Research Fellow, Iberoamericanische Institute, Berlin, 2010.

## Teaching Experience

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*University of Texas at San Antonio*

Graduate Courses:

- HIS 6913: Digital History: Teaching and Researching the Transatlantic Slave Trade in the Digital Age.
- HIS 6413: U.S. History: The United States and the Transatlantic Slave Trade.
- HIS 5003: Introduction to History: Theories and Methods.

Undergraduate Courses:

- HIS 3313: History U.S./Latin American Relations.
- HIS 3313: History U.S./Latin American Relations in the Age of ChatGPT
- HIS 3793: Caribbean History.
- HIS 4603: Slavery and its Legacy in the Digital Age.
- HIS 3363: History of Cuba.

*Michigan State University (as a TA)*

- HIS 3365: The Vietnam War.
- IAH 203: Latin American and the World: Culture, Nationalism, and State Formation in the Modern Period.

*The University of Havana*

- Historical Methods.
- Cuban Culture.
- Cuban History.

## Digital Humanities Projects

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- SlaveVoyagesGPT, (2023-Present)
- Pacific People Trade Database with Emma Christopher, Emma Thomas, et. Al, 2023.
- Editor, *Transatlantic and Intra-American Slave Trade Databases* (2014–Present).
- Research Assistant and Editor, *People of the Atlantic Slave Trade (PAST)* (2019–Present).
- Co-author, *Baptismal Record Database for Slave Societies (BARDSS)*.
- Host, *Talking with Historians of Slavery* (Podcast, launched 2021).
- Director, *The Seed of Texas* (Interactive DH project on Bexar County history).

## Conferences and Invited Lectures

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2025

“The Intra-American Slave Trade to Cuba,” University Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, June 2025.  
“AI and the Future of Slave Voyages,” The Hutchins Center for African and African American Research, Harvard University, April 2025.

2024

“AI as a Research Assistant for Humanists,” Public History in the Digital Age Workshop, UT, San Antonio, October 2024.  
“Before 1619: The World of Atlantic Slavery and the Slave Trade,” The Hutchins Center for African & African American Research, Harvard University, April 2024.  
“Cuba and the Intra-American Slave Trade: Routes, Demography, and Sources,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, January 2024.

2023

“The Demography of the Cuban Slave Trade: A Reassessment,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, January 2023.

2022

“Amistad: Facts and Fictions of Slavery in Film,” Connecticut Old State House, September 2022.  
“Cuba and the Establishment of an African Kingdom,” Department of History, University of Connecticut, September 2022.  
“The Cuban Background of the Amistad,” Discovery Amistad Institute, April 2022.  
“U.S. Merchants and the Foundation of the Cuban Slave Trade,” Florida International University, May 2022.

2019

“The Scandinavian Trans-Atlantic and Intra-American Slave Trade,” University of Bergen, Denmark, October 2019.  
“Foundation and Growth of the Cuban-based Transatlantic Slave Trade, 1790–1820,” Harvard University, October 2019.  
“Reassessing the Slave Trade to Cuba, 1790–1820,” New Directions in Cuban Studies Conference, Cuban Heritage Collection, University of Miami, October 2019.

2018

“Cuba and Gallinas: The Foundation and Development of an Atlantic Slave Trading Circuit,” Workshop on the Transnational Networks of the Illegal Slave Trade, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, May 2018.  
“The Intra-American Slave Trade to Cuba, 1790–1808,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Washington, January 2018.  
“The Foundation of Slave-Trading Networks between Cuba and Upper Guinea, 1808–20,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Washington, January 2018.

2017

Chair, “The Slave Trade, the Spanish Empire, and Foreign Powers in the Atlantic World,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Denver, January 2017.  
“The Havana–Gallinas Slave Trade Route,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Denver, January 2017.

2016

“Cuba and the Inter-American Slave Trade,” Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting, St. Pete Beach, November 2016.  
“BARDSS: Baptismal Record Database for Slave Societies,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, January 2016.

2015

“From Baltimore to Gallinas: The U.S. Slave Trader Jacob Faber and King Siaka’s War,” African Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Diego, November 2015.

“Slave Biographies: The Atlantic Database Network, BARDSS,” Workshop on Digital Humanities and the History of Slavery, Vanderbilt University, October 2015.

“The Slave Trade to Cuba in the 19th Century: New Research from Cuba,” Roundtable, Harvard University, October 2015.

“Cuba and the United States in the Atlantic Slave Trade,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New York City, January 2015.

2013

“Cuba and the U.S.: Slave Trader Connections, 1789-1808,” LACAS, Binghamton University, November 2013.

“Database Huellas de Esclavos,” International Seminar on Atlantic Slave Databases, Michigan State University, November 2013.

“Cuba and the United States: The Slave Trade in the Age of Amistad,” in *Rising Up: Hale Woodruff’s Murals at Talladega College*, New York University, October 2013.

2011

“Conexiones entre África y Cuba en la trata legal e ilegal de esclavos en el siglo XIX,” IV Seminario Internacional Cuba y el Sistema de Plantación, Fundación Antonio Núñez Jiménez, Havana, October 2011.

## Service and Professional Engagement

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- Member, Search Committee, Digital Humanities TT Position, UTSA.
- Member Search Committee, Postdoctoral Fellow European History, UTSA.
- Member Graduate Committee, UTSA.
- Member, Tenure and Promotion Committee, UTSA.
- Advisory Board, Cuban Heritage Collection.
- Advisory Board, Project España Esclavista, University Pompeu Frabra, Barcelona.
- Advisory Board, Digital Humanities Initiatives, UTSA.
- Editor, *Journal of Slavery and Data Preservation*.
- 2015-Present, Project co-director with Marial Iglesias Utset, “Cuba and the United States in the Atlantic Slave Trade,” Hutchins Center for African & African American Research, Harvard University.
- 2010-2013, General Coordinators, working group “Cuban Slavery and the Atlantic Slave Trade,” led by Maria del Carmen Barcia.

## Languages

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- Spanish (native),
- Portuguese (intermediate),
- French (reading),
- German (reading).

## References

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- Dr. Emma Christopher, Associate Professor, University of New South Wales, Australia - [e.christopher@unsw.edu.au](mailto:e.christopher@unsw.edu.au)
- Dr. David Eltis, Robert W. Woodruff Professor Emeritus of History, Emory University - [deltis@emory.edu](mailto:deltis@emory.edu)
- Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Alphonse Fletcher University Professor and the director of the Hutchins Center for African & African American Research at Harvard University, [hlg@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:hlg@fas.harvard.edu)