

DR. CLAUDIA FONSECA ALFARO

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PROFILE

Postcolonial and feminist urban scholar with expertise in Latin America

Research interests

smart cities, infrastructure, Export Processing Zones (EPZs), comparative urbanism, production of space, everyday life, global South, racial capitalism

Language Skills

Spanish (Native) | English (Fluent) | Swedish (Intermediate)

EDUCATION

PhD in Urban Studies | February 2018

Department of Urban Studies, Malmö University, Sweden

MSc in Environmental Studies and Sustainability Science | June 2010

Lund University Centre for Sustainability Studies (LUCSUS), Lund University, Sweden

BS Biotechnology Engineering | December 2007

Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM), Mexico

WORK EXPERIENCE

Postdoctoral Fellow | Malmö University, Institute for Urban Research | January 2020 to present

Research Assistant | Malmö University, Institute for Urban Research | March to December 2019

PhD Student Lecturer | Malmö University, Department of Urban Studies | February 2013 to February 2018

Social and Environmental Sustainability Analyst | Levi Strauss & Co. | March 2011 to February 2012

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed articles

Fonseca Alfaro C (2021) Feminist Lefebvre? Understanding Capitalist Urbanization through the Global Intimate. *ACME: An International Journal for Critical Geographies* 20(4). Available at: <https://acme-journal.org/index.php/acme/article/view/1891>.

Fonseca Alfaro C (2020) The production of maquiladora space in Motul, Mexico: from henequen municipality to industrial city. *Articulo - Journal of Urban Research* 21. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4000/articulo.4577>.

Peer-reviewed book

Fonseca Alfaro C (Accepted for publication) *Producing Mayaland: Colonial Legacies, Urbanization, and the Unfolding of Global Capitalism*, Wiley.

Peer-reviewed edited volume

Fonseca Alfaro C (2022) Planetary urbanization and maquiladoras in Motul, Yucatán. Unveiling abstract space in the Ex-City. In: Reis N and Lukas M (eds), *Beyond the Megacity: New Dimensions of Peripheral Urbanization in Latin America*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Book review

Celik Ö, **Fonseca Alfaro C**, Kadioglu D, et al. (2021) Helga Leitner, Jamie Peck and Eric Sheppard (eds.) 2020: Urban Studies Inside/Out: Theory, Method, Practice. London: Sage. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*. DOI: 10.1080/00346768200000024.

Encyclopedia article

Fonseca Alfaro C, Melgaco L and Baeten G (Under review) Understanding smart cities through a critical lens. *Palgrave Encyclopedia of Urban and Regional Futures*.

Popular science

Fonseca Alfaro C (2021). Finding the secondary or overlooked city? Some methodological reflections from a postcolonial urban scholar. In: Neves Alves S and Ruszczyk H (eds), *Theorizing from the overlooked city: Generating a research agenda & network on small/secondary cities*, digital magazine. https://93e76a9d-000c-45df-b30c-cce5dbe0e070.filesusr.com/ugd/7cb1c8_ae7c1cea778d4f5eac9354008e37e6be.pdf

Fonseca Alfaro C (2019) Las Maquiladoras En Yucatán: Una Mirada Al Pasado. La Voz de Motul. Yucatán.

Doctoral dissertation (monograph)

Fonseca Alfaro C (2018) The Land of the Magical Maya: Colonial Legacies, Urbanization, and the Unfolding of Global Capitalism. Malmö University.

RESEARCH EXPERTISE

Awards and Distinctions

2018 Best Doctoral Thesis | Malmö University | 50,000 SEK (4,965 €)

2008 CONACYT Fellow | Mexican Science and Technology Council

Research Funding (as main applicant)

2019 | Swedish Research Council for Sustainable Development (FORMAS) | *Smart Cities in the Global South: Contributing to Cosmopolitan Urban Studies* | 2.1 million SEK (208,557 €)

2015 | Swedish Society for Anthropology and Geography | Fieldwork PhD Project | 40,000 SEK (3,973 €)

Research Funding (as co-applicant)

2020 | Malmö University's Special Call for Research Related to COVID-19 | *Public Health, Epidemics and Urban Planning: Reinstating the Connection* | 700,000 SEK (69,519 €)

2020 | Institute for Urban Research | *Dislocating Urban Studies: Rethinking Theory, Shifting Practice* | 100,000 SEK (9,931 €)

Reviewer

2022 | Revista Invi | Instituto de la Vivienda, Universidad de Chile

2022 | Book Chapter | Territorios y Desarrollo en Latinoamérica: Debates Actuales y Perspectivas Futuras desde una Óptica de la Región | Universidad de Costa Rica

2021 | Culture Unbound. Journal of Current Cultural Research

2020 | Space and Culture

2020 | Urban Planning

2019 | Emotion, Space and Society (EMOSPA)

2019 | Book Chapter | Beyond Housing Displacement: Conceptual and Methodological Issues | Routledge

Scientific Committee

2021 | Theme: Urban-Rural Development | The Baltic University Programme Symposium

2020 | Theme 4: Urban-Rural Development | The Baltic University Programme Symposium

Participation in Conferences

2021 RC21 Conference. Online. Session organizer: *Racial capitalism, everyday life and the city*

2021 RC21 Conference. Online. Session: *The Paradox of Mega Urban Projects: Imaginaries, Practices and Experiences*

2019 Beyond Smart Cities Today Symposium. Centre for BOLD Cities. Rotterdam. Session: *Rethinking smart city scholarship*

2019 RGS-IBG. London. Session: *Natural Slaves: Labour, Race, and Infrastructure*

2019 Nordic Geographers Meeting. Trondheim. Session: *Struggling with the planetary turn*

2018 Global Challenges: Borders, Populism, and the Postcolonial Condition. Växjö. Linnaeus University Centre for Concurrences in Colonial and Postcolonial Studies. Session: *Colonial Legacies*

2018 AAG. New Orleans. Session: *Urbanism and Marginality in the Global South II*

2017 Nordic Geographers Meeting. Stockholm. Session: *Women in geography: is there a disciplinary glass ceiling?*

2017 9th Conference of the Nordic Latin American Research Network. Gothenburg. Session: *Development models*

2016 RGS-IBG. London. Session: *Emergent urban spaces: A planetary perspective*

2016 AAG. San Francisco. Session: *Peri-urban spaces in the neoliberal Americas 1*

TEACHING

Lund University | Department of Human Geography | Master's in Human Ecology

Course: Theory of Science II

Lund University | Faculty of Social Sciences | Graduate School

Course: Critical Feminist Perspectives in Social Theory

Malmö University | Department of Urban Studies | Free-standing PhD Course

Course: Dislocating Urban Studies: Rethinking Theory, Shifting Practice

Malmö University | Department of Urban Studies | Migration, Urbanisation and Societal Change (MUSA) Doctoral Program

Course: MUSA Introduction Course

Malmö University | Department of Urban Studies | Master's in Urban Studies

Courses: The Urban Question, Catching Urbanity (Methods course), Making Urban Studies (Creative Methods course), Research Internship (2 mentees), Thesis Supervision (5 successful MA thesis advisees)

Malmö University | School of Arts and Communication | Master's in Communication for Development

Courses: Communication and Development Cooperation; Culture and Media Analysis; Media, Globalization and Development; Degree Project (Thesis Supervision)

PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

2021 | Collaborative Learning in Digital Learning Environments (HP621A), 5 ECTS credits, Malmö University

2021 | Educating for Critical Thinking (HP622E), 5 ECTS credits, Malmö University

2016 | Supporting the Learning of Others (MAH0207), 5 ECTS credits, Malmö University

PUBLIC OUTREACH

2020 | Lecture high school students, *Globalization and urbanization*, Öckerö seglande gymnasieskola

2018 | Interview, *Myten om mayafolket används för att locka investeringar till Mexikos exportindustri*,
Communication Department, Malmö University

INVITED TALKS

2020 | PhD Workshop, *Stress and Time Management*, Malmö University

2018 | Career Planning Workshop, *Life after a PhD*, Malmö University

2018 | Woman in Academia: Perspectives from Swedish Early-Career Women Academics, Karlstad University

2018 | LUCSUS Seminar on Urban Environmental Justice, Lund University

2017 | Development Research Day, Lund University

LEADERSHIP ROLES AND ORGANIZATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Organization: Seminar Series, Workshops and Conferences

(Forthcoming) 2022 | **Beyond Smart Cities Today: Power, Justice and Resistance.** Conference organizer (with Carina Listerborn, Maja de Neergaard, Adriana de la Peña, Fredrik Torisson). Institute for Urban Research, Malmö University

2021 | **Dislocating Urban Studies: Rethinking Theory, Shifting Practice.** Workshop organizer (with Özlem Çelik, Defne Kadioglu, and Lorena Melgaço). Institute for Urban Research, Malmö University in collaboration with University of Helsinki

2019-2020 | **Brown Bag Seminars.** Seminar series organizer. Institute for Urban Research, Malmö University

2018 | **Gendered and Racialized Bodies: Doing Decolonial Geography in/from the Margins.** Workshop organizer (with Srilata Sircar). Malmö University in collaboration with Lund University

2013-2014 | **Seminars in Urban Studies.** Seminar series organizer (with Malin Mc Glinn). Department of Urban Studies, Malmö University

Membership in Research Boards or Collegia

2019 - present | **Board Member.** IUR Executive Board, Institute for Urban Research, Malmö University

2016-2017 | **Chairperson, Doctoral Collegium.** Faculty of Culture and Society, Malmö University

2015 | **Board Member.** Communications Officer. Doctoral Student Union, Malmö University