JULIA A. MENDOZA

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, CA

Associate Professor of Law (July 2022-present)

Anti-Racism Center Scholar in Residence (January 2022–June 2022)

Courses Taught: Criminal Law; Critical Race Theory; Police & Prison Abolition

Scholarly Focus: History, Race & The Law, Policing, Prisons, Education

Service Work: 2025-2025: Appointments Committee; Public Interest Committee

2024-2025: Public Interest Committee; Student Conduct Committee 2023-2024: Dean Search Committee; Equity and Inclusion Committee

2022-2023: Public Interest Committee; U.S. World News Rankings Committee

Stanford Law School, Stanford, CA

Thomas C. Grey Fellow & Lecturer in Law (2018–present)

Courses Taught: Legal Research & Writing; Transnational Federal Litigation

Scholarly Focus: History, Race & The Law, Education

Activities: Advisor for Stanford Latinx Law Students Association & Women of Color Collective

EDUCATION

New York University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, New York, NY

Ph.D., American Studies (2021)

Scholarly Focus: History, ethnography, carceral studies, education

Dissertation: The South Side is Everywhere: The History of the School-to-Prison Pipeline in Stockton, California

New York University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, New York, NY

M.A., American Studies (2019)

Scholarly Focus: History, ethnography, carceral studies, education

Columbia University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, New York, NY

M.A., Human Rights (2010)

Scholarly Focus: Immigration, criminal justice, sociology of science Thesis: DNA and the Criminalization of Communities of Color

University of California, Davis School of Law, Davis, CA

J.D. (2008)

Certificates: Public Service Law Program & Pro Bono Law Program

Activities: Recruitment and Retention Co-Chair, La Raza Law Students Association

Student Representative, Immigration Law Counsel

University of California, Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA

B.A. in American Studies and Politics (2003)

Awards: Graduated with Honors in both majors

Study Abroad: University of Michoacán, Morelia, Mexico (Summer 2002)

TEACHING & RESEARCH INTERESTS

Primary: Criminal Law, Critical Race Theory, Police and Prison Abolition

Secondary: Civil Rights History, Race & the Law, Latinos & the Law

BOOK PROJECT

The Miseducation of the Barrio (Under contract with Stanford University Press for publication in 2028)

My book manuscript employs historical archival methods and ethnography to explore the connection between the history of school desegregation and the school-to-carceral nexus in the Central Valley. Although education scholars have made a historical connection between these two histories in broad brushstrokes, my project aims to test and deepen this analysis by focusing on how legal and educational policies on a federal, state, and local level unfolded in the Central Valley from the 1940s onward. Drawing from a range of material, including newspaper archives, court decisions, legal filings, legislative history, and attorney general reports, I detail how school desegregation efforts in the Central Valley created the bedrock for the school-to-carceral nexus.

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Considering Collective Reparations, forthcoming in the UC DAVIS LAW REVIEW (2026)

The Language of Mass Incarceration and Organized Abandonment, 21 STANFORD JOURNAL OF CIVIL RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES 43 (2025)

Writing for Abolitionist Futures, 75 STANFORD LAW REVIEW ONLINE (2023) (Invited Symposium Contribution)

On Top of Prison Row: A Topographical History of Carcerality in California, 66 UCLA LAW REVIEW 1619 (2019)

Immigration Policy and Immigration Flows: A Comparative Analysis of Immigration Law in the U.S. and Argentina, 3 MODERN AMERICAN 46 (2007) (co-authored with Adela de la Torre)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Racial Reforging (Work in Progress)

Policing the Urban Fringe (Work in Progress)

The Organized Abandonment of the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (co-author with Ali Rubinfeld) (Work in Progress)

PREVIOUS TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Stanford Law School, Stanford, California

Lecturer-in-Law & Thomas C. Grey Fellow (Aug. 2018–Jan. 2021)

New York University, New York, New York

Instructor in the American Studies Department & Prison Education Project (Sep. 2015–May 2018)

Columbia Law School, New York, New York

Teaching Assistant for Professor Patricia J. Williams (Sep. 2008–May 2010; Sep. 2012–May 2018)

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

ACLU of Northern California, San Francisco, CA

Racial Justice Project Legal Fellow (April 2011–August 2012)

Developed advocacy campaigns and researched (1) felon disenfranchisement (2) educational equity (3) school policing

UC Davis School of Law Civil Rights Clinic, Davis, CA

Law Clerk (Summer 2007) / Clinic Student (Sep. 2006–May 2008)

Provided legal representation to indigent clients in Civil Rights actions

UC Davis School of Law Immigration Clinic, Davis, CA

Clinic Student (Sep. 2005–May 2008)

Provided legal representation to immigrants facing deportation

California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation, Sacramento, CA

Legal Intern (Sep. 2005–May 2008)

Provided direct services to immigrants applying for citizenship

California Rural Legal Assistance, Santa Cruz, CA

Legal Intern (Jun. 2003-Sep. 2003)

Provided direct services related to housing discrimination

AWARDS

Alumni of the Month, UC Davis King Hall School of Law (2023)

Dean's Dissertation Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Science, New York University (2017) Summer Research Grant, Department of Social and Cultural Analysis, New York University (2016) Summer Research Grant, Department of Social and Cultural Analysis, New York University (2015)

Global Research Initiative Fellowship, Provost Office, New York University (2013)

Summer Fellowship Award, New York University Opportunity Fellowship Program (2012)

MacCracken Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Science, New York University (2012-2017)

Outstanding Community Service Award, California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation, Inc. (2008)

Martin Luther King Jr. Service Award Nominee, UC Davis King Hall School of Law (2008)

Advocate of the Year Award, California Rural Legal Assistance (2007)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Racial Reforging

Graciela Olivárez Latinas in the Legal Academy

Boston University School of Law, Boston, Massachusetts (July 22, 2025)

Considering Collective Reparations

CULP Colloquium

Harvard Law School, Boston, Massachusetts (June 2, 2025)

Writing on Race, Inequality, and the Law Yale Law School, New Haven, Connecticut (September 10, 2024)

The Language of Mass Incarceration and Organized Abandonment CULP Colloquium Harvard Law School, Boston, Massachusetts (May 29, 2024)

The Language of Mass Incarceration and Organized Abandonment Thomas C. Grey Fellows Forum Stanford Law School, Palo Alto, California (May 24, 2024)

Policing the Urban Fringe Graciela Olivárez Latinas in the Legal Academy UC Berkeley Law School, Berkeley, California (May 21-22, 2024)

Graciela Olivárez Latinas in the Legal Academy Stanford Law School, Palo Alto, California (May 30, 2023)

CULP Colloquium

Duke Law School, Raleigh, North Carolina (May 15, 2023)

Book Review Symposium: The Fight to Save the Town Stanford Law School, Palo Alto, California (November 11, 2022)

The Fight to Save the Town CSPAN, Los Angeles, California (August 8, 2022)

Community-Based Research
Stanford University, Palo Alto, California (April 27, 2021)

Abolition 101 Stanford Law School, Palo Alto, California (November 9, 2020)

Police-Free Schools: A Movement Lawyering Perspective Stanford Law School, Palo Alto, California (October 26, 2020)

Give Me Back My Child: The Local History of the School to Prison Pipeline in Stockton California Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Washington, District of Columbia (June 1, 2019)

On Top of Prison Row: An Examination of the School-to-Prison Pipeline in Stockton, California People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference, American University Washington College of Law, Washington, District of Columbia (March 23, 2019)

Policing Latinx Communities

UCLA Law Review Symposium: Latinx Communities, Race, and the Criminal Justice System, UCLA School of Law, Los Angeles, California (February 8, 2019)

Caucus Critical Prison Studies: Carceral Globalization and Circuits of Resistance Annual American Studies Association Conference, Toronto, Canada (October 9, 2015)

The Intersection of Higher Education and the Criminal Justice Systems

Beyond the Bars Conference, Columbia University, New York, New York (March 8, 2014)

The Barrio at War: Militarization in Latina/o Communities

Latina/o Studies Association Biennial Conference, Chicago, Illinois (July 18, 2014)

Why Prison Education? Why Now?

Abolish/Reform: Rethinking Education and Incarceration Conference, New York University, New York, New York (April 5, 2013)

Racial Justice Project: Schools for All Campaign

ACLU of Northern California Lobby Day, Sacramento, California (April 15, 2012)

SELECTED RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Patricia J. Williams, Professor of Law, Columbia University School of Law

Research Associate (Sep. 2008–Jun. 2018)

• Conducted research in the following areas: (1) critical race theory, (2) feminist jurisprudence, (3) science & the law

Anna Deavere Smith, Professor of Arts, New York University Tisch School of the Arts

Research Consultant for "Notes from The Field" Play & HBO Documentary (Jan. 2014–Aug. 2014)

□ Conducted research in the following areas: (1) school-to-prison pipeline, (2) mass incarceration, (3) educational equity

Troy Duster, Professor of Sociology, New York University

Research Assistant (October 2009–August 2012)

• Conducted research in the following areas: (1) DNA and the criminal justice system, (2) sociology of science & law, (3) race and ethnicity

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Prison University Project, Marin, California

Instructor (Sep. 2011–Dec. 2018)

Taught English classes at San Quentin State Prison

Stockton Education Equity Committee, Stockton, California

Organizer/Instructor (June. 2015–Aug. 2017)

- Organized alongside other community members for educational equity in Stockton
- □ Taught History and Creative Writing classes in a summer youth program

PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE WORK

Graciela Olivárez Latinas in the Legal Academy, Steering Committee Member (2024-2026)

LANGUAGE, Spanish, proficient