

# Amanda Marie Martínez

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## Academic Appointment

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- 2023-2025 Carolina Postdoctoral Program for Faculty Diversity Fellowship, Department of American Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2022-2023 Postdoctoral Fellow, James Weldon Johnson Institute for the Study of Race and Difference, Emory University

## Education

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- 2022 Ph.D. in History, University of California, Los Angeles
- 2018 M.A. in History, University of California, Los Angeles
- 2012 B.A. in History, University of California, Berkeley

## Publications

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### Book Manuscript

*Gone Country: How Nashville Transformed a Music Genre into a Lifestyle Brand* (manuscript under review with UNC Press)

### Peer-Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters

- forthcoming* “‘I Fell in Love in the Back of a Cop Car’: The Evolution of the Country Prison Song,” *The Oxford Handbook of Pop Music*
- 2021 "Suburban Cowboy: Country Music, Punk, and the Struggle Over Space in Orange County, 1978-1981," *California History*, Vol. 98, No. 1, February (Spring) 2021
- *Winner of California History's Richard J. Orsi Prize for the best article published in its journal in 2021*
- 2020 “Redneck Chic: Race and the Country Music Industry in the 1970s,” *Journal of Popular Music Studies: Uncharted Country Special Issue*, Vol. 32, Issue 2, June 2020
- *Special issue the winner of Ruth A. Solie Award, given annually by American Musicological Society for a collection of musicological essays of exceptional merit*

## Public Writing

- 2024 “Beyoncé is Getting Played On Country Radio. Could Her Success Help Other Black women?,” NPR (February 17, 2024)
- 2023 “Jason Aldean's 'Small Town' is Part of a Long Legacy with a Very Dark Side,” NPR (July 22, 2023)
- 2022 “Personifying a Country Ideal, Loretta Lynn Tackled Sexism Through a Complicated Lens,” NPR (October 9, 2022)
- 2021 “Why Do We Need Dolly to Be a Saint?” NPR (August 20, 2021)
- 2021 “As Country Music Faces a Racial Reckoning, a New Question: Where Are the Latino Artists?” *Los Angeles Times* (June 28, 2021)
- 2021 “The Crossroads Facing Country Music After Morgan Wallen’s Use of a Racist Slur,” *Washington Post*, “Made by History” Series (February 17, 2021)

## Book Reviews

- forthcoming* Review of *Black Country Music: Listening for Revolutions*, by Francesca T. Royster. *Journal of Popular Music Studies* (June 2024)
- 2020 Review of *The Devil’s Music: How Christians Inspired, Condemned, and Embraced Rock ‘N’ Roll*, by Randall J. Stephens. *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* Vol. 118, No. 1 (Winter 2020): Appalachia Special Issue.

## Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

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- 2023-2024 University of California President’s Postdoctoral Fellowship (alternate)
- 2022-2023 James Weldon Johnson Institute for the Study of Race and Difference Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Emory University
- 2021-2022 Diversity Dissertation Fellowship, Middle Tennessee State University
- 2020-2021 Doris G. Quinn Foundation Fellowship
- 2020 OAH Mellon Foundation Graduate Student Travel Grant
- 2019 Wilson Library Dissertation Research Fellowship, UNC–Chapel Hill
- 2019 Department of History Research Travel Stipend, UCLA
- 2019 Graduate Division Doctoral Student Travel Grant, UCLA
- 2019 AHA Council Annual Meeting Travel Grant
- 2018 Department of History Research Travel Stipend, UCLA
- 2016 The Herman and Celia Wise Fellowship, UCLA
- 2015-2020 Department of History Fellowship, UCLA
- 2015-2017 Graduate Dean’s Scholar Award, UCLA

## Presentations

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### Conferences and Workshops

- 2024 “Thank you, Country Radio”: The Rise of Country Radio Seminar & the Country Radio Broadcasters Association, Organization of American Historians Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana
- 2023 Hagley Works in Progress Seminar on the History of Race and Business in the United States, Hagley Library, Wilmington, Delaware.
- 2023 “Constructing Communities on the Radio,” American Studies Association Conference, Montreal, Québec, Canada.
- 2022 “Sound Studies Caucus: Musicality of Place, Locality of Sound: Musicking as Placemaking in the Changing City” (Panelist and Session Organizer), American Studies Association Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 2022 “Exploring New Directions in Latinx History: Music Cultures” (Panelist and Session Organizer), Organization of American Historians Conference, Boston, Massachusetts.
- 2021 “When New York City Went Country: Race and the Country Music Audience in the 1970s” (Panelist and Session Organizer), Urban History Association Conference, Detroit, Michigan. (cancelled due to coronavirus)
- 2020 “Redneck Chic and the Racial Contradictions of Country Music in the 1970s,” Organization of American Historians Conference, Washington, D.C. (cancelled due to coronavirus)
- 2020 “Suburban Struggle: Conflict Between Punks and Urban Cowboys in Early 1980s Costa Mesa, California,” Museum of Pop Culture Music Conference, online presentation.
- 2019 “‘Billy Sherrill’s Imaginary 40-year-old Housewife’: Women’s Role as Country Music’s Most Coveted Listeners,” Southern Historical Association Conference, Louisville, Kentucky.
- 2019 “The Rise of Urban Cowboy: Gender, Race, and the Country Music Craze at the Dawn of the Reagan Era, 1978-1982 ,” LA History & Metro Studies Group, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California
- 2019 “The Country Audience and the Fragility of Country’s Whiteness in the 1970s,” International Country Music Conference, Nashville, Tennessee.
- 2019 “Rethinking Country’s Mid-Eighties Death Sentence,” (Panelist and Session Organizer) Museum of Pop Culture Music Conference, Seattle, Washington.
- 2018 “Night Out Music for Stay-at-Homes: Privatized Vice and the Consumption of Racial Otherness in Postwar Suburban Music Listening,” Museum of Pop Culture Music Conference, Seattle, Washington.

### Invited Panels, Talks, and Guest Lectures

- 2024 “The Industry is Playing the People Cheap: Race and the Country Music Business,” Tennessee 101: The History of Tennessee Music webinar series, Tennessee Historical Society.

- 2023 “Race, Class, and the Country Music Business in the 1990s,” James Weldon Johnson Institute Colloquium, Emory University.
- 2021 “Country Music, Who *Are* You?,” panelist, International Association for the Study of Popular Music Conference, online presentation.
- 2021 “South Gotta Change: Southern Music in the Age of Transformation,” panelist, Museum of Pop Culture Music Conference, online presentation.
- 2021 “Race, Class, and Gender,” panelist, Old-Time Music in the 21st Century Un-Conference, The Center for Popular Music, Middle Tennessee State University, online presentation.
- 2020 “Black Country in America’s Mainstream: A Conversation,” panelist, Country Soul Songbook Summit, online presentation.
- 2019 “‘Redneck Chic’: Race and the Country Music Audience, 1969-1978,” Wilson Library Research Forum, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- 2018 “The Sounds of Whiteness: Race and Country Music,” HIST M151C, “Understanding Whiteness in American History and Culture,” Professor Eric Avila, University of California, Los Angeles.
- 2018 “Mass Culture in the Gilded Age,” HIST 13B, “History of the U.S. and Its Colonial Origins: 19th Century,” Professor Stephen Aron, University of California, Los Angeles.
- 2017 “The Roots of Contemporary U.S. Conservatism,” HIST 13C, “History of the U.S. and Its Colonial Origins: 20th Century,” Professor Peter Hudson, University of California, Los Angeles.

### **Teaching and Research Interests**

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Race and Ethnicity; Cultural History; History of Capitalism; Business and Labor History; Political History and U.S. Conservatism; Twentieth Century U.S. History; Popular Culture; Popular Music Studies; Urban/Suburban History; Gender and Sexuality

### **Teaching Experience**

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#### *Courses Taught at Emory College*

Spring 2023 Instructor of Record, Buying Power: History of Race and Marketing in the 20th Century U.S.

#### *Courses Taught at Middle Tennessee State University:*

Spring 2022 Instructor of Record, From Old Time Music to Old Town Road: Race and the Country Music Industry From the 1920s to the Present

Fall 2021 Instructor of Record, History of Country Music (online)

#### *Courses Taught at University of California, Los Angeles:*

Fall 2020 Teaching Fellow, History of Inequality: The Era of Neoliberalism (online)

Summer 2020 Teaching Fellow, History of the United States: 20th Century (online)

Spring 2018 Teaching Associate, Understanding Whiteness in American History and Culture

Winter 2018 Teaching Associate, History of the United States: 19th Century  
 Fall 2017 Teaching Associate, History of the United States: Colonial Origins  
 Spring 2017 Teaching Assistant, History of the United States: 20th Century  
 Winter 2017 Teaching Assistant, Civil War and Reconstruction  
 Fall 2016 Teaching Assistant, Intro to Western Civilization, 1715-Present

### Research Assistantships

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*Department of History, University of California, Los Angeles*

2016 Assistant to Professor Eric Avila for research on *American Cultural History: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2018).

### Public Engagement/Media Interviews

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2023 “How Racism Became a Marketing Tool for Country Music,” It’s Been a Minute podcast, NPR (August 1, 2023)  
 2023 “Jason Aldean’s Culture War Hit,” Popcast podcast, *New York Times* (July 28, 2023)  
 2022 *For Love & Country: Country Music Has Always Been Black Music*, Amazon Prime Video, featured historian (April 2022)  
 2022 “Country Music Almanac 2022: Learn the Past, Know the Present,” *Nashville Scene* (January 20, 2022)  
 2021 Vox’s *Explained* (Netflix series), “Country Music,” featured historian (October 8, 2021)  
 2021 “Diversity in Country Music,” From Nashville: Music Talks with Hunter Kelley, 92nd Street Y programming (May 19, 2021)  
 2021 Color Me Country with Rissi Palmer podcast, Apple Music (February 28, 2021)  
 2021 “El Country (También) es Negro,” *El Periódico* (Barcelona) (February 21, 2021)  
 2021 “Morgan Wallen and Racism in Country Music,” The Ringer Music Show podcast (February 9, 2021)  
 2021 “How the Wives of Country Music Stars Created Their Own Powerful — Sometimes Controversial — Instagram Empires,” *Washington Post* (February 1, 2021)  
 2020 “Country Music’s Reckoning: Black Women Forge Their Own Path in Whitewashed Industry,” NBC News (October 15, 2020)  
 2020 “The Mavericks Are Back, This Time ‘En Español,’” NPR (August 21, 2020)  
 2020 “Why Haven’t We Had a Black Woman Country Star?” *Nashville Scene* (August 6, 2020)  
 2020 “Country Music Reckons with Racial Stereotypes and Its Future,” Associated Press (June 26, 2020)

## **Professional Service**

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### **Manuscript Review**

*Interdisciplinary Humanities*

### **Pop Conference**

2022 Conference Committee Member

## **Professional Affiliations**

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American Studies Association

Organization of American Historians

Southern Historical Association

## **References**

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Professor Eric Avila

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Professor Robin D.G. Kelley

Department of History

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Professor George Lipsitz

Department of Black Studies

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[glipsitz@blackstudies.ucsb.edu](mailto:glipsitz@blackstudies.ucsb.edu)