

Rafael David Nieto-Bello

Graduate Student, History Department, The University of Texas at Austin
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EDUCATION

BA, History. Department of History. Universidad de Los Andes. Bogota, Colombia. 2012-2017.

BA, Political Science. Department of Political Science. Universidad de Los Andes. Bogota, Colombia. 2012-2018.

Minor, Philosophy. Department of Philosophy. Universidad de Los Andes. Bogota, Colombia. 2013-2017.

Minor, German Language and Culture. Department of Languages and Cultures. Universidad de Los Andes. Bogota, Colombia. 2013-2017.

PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2020: Editorial Assistant and Mapmaker. Editing, assisting in the final phases of research, and remaking some maps for the book (in the process of publishing): *The Machines of Empire and the Kingdom of God: Reflections on science, technology, and religion in the Atlantic world of the 16th century*, written by Mauricio Nieto Olarte, and expected to be published by Amsterdam University Press.

2020: Researcher and Assistant of the Dean Office. Analysis of Academic and Research Interests of the Faculty of the School of Social Sciences of the Universidad de Los Andes. Network and cartographic analysis of common and interdisciplinary interests at the School. Data analysis about participation, wellbeing, and academic concerns of undergraduate and graduate students.

2018-2019: Cataloguer-Researcher. Cataloging, analysis, and indexation of historical documents. Banco de la República – Biblioteca Luis Ángel Arango: The most important cultural public institution of Colombia, funded by the country's central bank.

- Collection Casa de Moneda: About the birth of the republican State after the Independence processes, the public finances, and the monetary regime of Colombia, Ecuador, and Venezuela, in the early 19th century.
- Collection Walter Engel: About the writings of an Austrian critic and historian of Colombian contemporary Art, with some German documents.
- Collection Esmeralda Arboleda: About the first Colombian lady senator, suffragist, politician, and feminist intellectual of the 20th century.
- Collection Carmela Jaramillo: About the history of Contemporary Colombian Art through news-press.
- Collection Acción Cultural Popular ACPO: About a large radio-education organization in rural areas in Colombia during the 20th century.

2018-present: Leader of the Project Geistesflug. Research Students' Hotbed of Political Thought, Universidad de Los Andes. Creation of a relational and cartographic database of social scientists, humanists, and intellectuals of Latin American and their trajectories between the 16th and the 20th centuries.

2019: Transcription of interviews. Part of the Thesis project of Angela Serrano, Sociology Ph.D. candidate, University of Madison-Wisconsin, about oil palm plantations in the Magdalena Medio region of Colombia.

2019: Assistant of the Academic Office. Colfuturo (Colombian institution which promotes graduate studies for Colombian professionals abroad). Supporting applicants' selection process to funding and scholarships and analyzing the rankings of graduate programs worldwide in diverse areas.

2018: Cataloguer-Researcher. Cataloging, research, and analysis on the archives and documental repositories of Fundación Grupo Social (one of the largest non-profit entrepreneurial groups of Colombia, which owes banks, insurances, and building companies). Supporting the creation of the institutional and entrepreneurial history of that company between 1911 and 2011.

2017: Research project entitled "For the good governance and profit of the Indians: an ethnohistory of knowledge based on the Relaciones Geográficas and government letters of the Gobernación de Santa Marta (1574-1585)", funded by the

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Colombian Institute of Anthropology and History (ICANH). Archive research in the Archivo General de Indias in Seville and the Real Academia de la Historia, in Madrid, Spain.

2017: Undergraduate paper Political Science entitled “Science and Empire in the Hispanic Conquest of the New World: The challenge of Standardization in Navigation and the Relaciones Geográficas de Indias (16th century)”, co-written with Prof. Mauricio Nieto.

2017: Undergraduate thesis in History entitled “Descriptions for the good governance and profit of the land, neighbors, and Indians: Knowing the provinces of Santa Marta based on the Relaciones Geográficas de Indias (1577-1582)”, supervised by Prof. Mauricio Nieto.

2016-2017: Founding member of Menocchio, History students’ journal of the Universidad de Los Andes. Leading the revision of academic contents and coordinating the peer-review. Supporting the style revision and creating editorial content and academic papers.

2014-2017: Teaching Assistant. Supporting professors in the assessment, planning classes, tutorials of students, and teaching some topics in the following classes: History of the Ancient World, Colombia 20th Century, History of the Middle Age, History of the United States, and History of the Medieval Art. Universidad de Los Andes.

Funding and Awards:

2019: Presenter of the paper “The experience of imperial statehood from locality: Pacification and Good Government in the Gobernación de Santa Marta during Lope de Orozco’s mandate (1576-1585)”. Symposium of Conceptual History and Political Languages. 19th Colombian Congress of History. Armenia, Colombia.

2019: Selected as a member of the Hotbed of Talents of Colfuturo, supporting Colombian professionals with academic excellence in applications to graduate programs abroad.

2017: GPA of 4.45/5.0.

2017: Graduation Rankings: 2nd/8 in History and 6th/45 in Political Science.

2017: Highest grades in the monographs of both bachelor programs (5.0/5.0).

2017: Deserving of the Research Stipendium of the Colombian Institute of Anthropology and History, in the modality of Young Researchers with the project “For the good governance and profit of the Indians: an ethnohistory of knowledge based on the Relaciones Geográficas and government letters of the Gobernación de Santa Marta (1574-1585)”. Archive research in the Archivo General de Indias in Seville and the Real Academia de la Historia, in Madrid, Spain.

2016: Best national score in the reference group of Humanities in the State Exam “Mejor Saber PRO.”

Publications

- Review: “Reviving *The Death of Nature*: Female presences in the configuration of the Early Modern cosmos.” *IHS Climate in Context - Book Roundtable on The Death of Nature: Women, Ecology and the Scientific Revolution, Carolyn Merchant (1980)*. Not Even Past. The University of Texas at Austin. Austin TX, EE.UU., 2020.
- Paper: “Thinking poverty from the catholic Hispanic American intellectuality of the 19th century: Brief approach based on the texts of Echavarría, González, and Caro”. *Menocchio, History students’ journal of the Universidad de Los Andes*. Bogotá, Colombia, 2017. (Original text in Spanish)
- Paper: “Ideas, intellectuality, and intellectuals: Intellectual history from its contributions, problems, and difficulties.” *Artificios. Colombian students’ journal of History*. Bogotá, Colombia, 2015. (Original text in Spanish)

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Research Interests

- Intellectual History of Political Thought and Social Knowledge during the Early Modern Times in Hispanic America, and in the 20th Century in Colombia and Latin America.
- Archival corpus of *Relaciones Geográficas de Indias* (16th century) as an imperial project of comprehension of nature and peoples of the New World, co-created by peninsular government, local Hispanic officials, and indigenous peoples. Research on the Caribbean and the Northern Andean Region.
- Creation of original thought, networks, circulation of political thinkers and texts, and resignifications of Western thought in Latin America.
- Enthusiastic about understanding the influence of Hispanic-Arabic medieval intellectual traditions over the Early Modern World.

Other Skills

- Design of qualitative and relational databases, dynamic tables in Excel, and Actor-network systems (Gephi and Palladio).
- Design of Archival and Library metadata catalogs and databases.
- ArcGIS (Geographical Information Systems).
- Adobe Premiere for video editing.
- Paleography of Spanish texts from the 16th to 20th centuries.
- Languages: Native speaker of Spanish. Fluent English speaker (IELTS overall 7.5). Basic German.