

## Molly F. Todd

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(720)771-1259

### Education

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- 2018-2023     **Ph.D.** ASPECT (Alliance for Social, Political, Ethical, and Cultural Thought). Virginia Tech, Blacksburg. **Degree conferred:** Dec. 14, 2023.
- Dissertation: Borders, Art, and Imagination: *Journeys with ‘The Frontera Project’ and ‘Mare from the Inside’*
- Research areas: Border/lands, Americas, Art/Performance, Feminist and Collaborative Methods, Nationality and Identity, Militarization, International Relations
- 2016-2018     **MA**, Social Science: International Studies  
University of Colorado Denver, Denver  
Thesis– “The Economized Immigrant: Biopolitics at the U.S.-Mexico Border”
- 2007-2012     **BA**, International Studies & Spanish Education, Magna cum laude  
Humboldt State University, Arcata
- 2009            Universidad Tecnológica Equinoccial  
Quito, Ecuador

### Teaching Experience

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#### University of Colorado Boulder- Teaching Assistant Professor

##### International Affairs:

IAFS3000 Global Society: Spring 2024  
IAFS3000 Local and Global Engagement: Spring 2024  
IAFS4500 The Post-Cold War World: Migration and Refugees, Fall 2024  
IAFS4800 Honors Seminar in International Relations, Fall 2024

##### Sociology:

SOCY1016 Intro to Sex, Gender, and Society: Spring 2024  
SOCY3161 Global Perspectives on Race and Ethnicity: Spring 2024, Summer 2024, Fall 2024  
SOCY3046 Topics in Sex and Gender- Border, Migration, and Refugee Studies, Fall 2024

#### Virginia Tech- Instructor

##### Political Science:

Foreign Policy and Diplomacy: Fall 2022  
Theoretical Approaches to Global Order: Spring 2021; Fall 2021



Introduction to World Politics: Spring, Summer 2021; Fall, Summer 2020; Spring 2019; Fall 2018

Comparative Politics: Spring 2020; Fall 2019

**University of Colorado Denver- Instructor**

Beginning Spanish I: Fall 2017

Beginning Spanish II: Spring 2018

**Junta de Andalucía**

ESL Instructor: 2012-2015

**Academic Publications**

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**Todd, Molly F.** 2025. (Forthcoming) “Border/lands of belonging in Disney-Pixar’s *Coco*” in *Animation in Mexico, 2006-2022: Box Office, Web Shorts, and Streaming*. New York: SUNY Press.

**Todd, Molly F.** 2025. (Forthcoming) “Remapping displacement through art on the move: Encounters with Maré from the Inside,” in *The Critical Displacement Studies Reader*. Blacksburg: VT Publishing.

Rebecca Hester, **Molly F. Todd**, Katrina Powell, Brett Shadle, and Lois Nguyen (eds.). 2025. (forthcoming) *The Critical and Interdisciplinary Displacement Studies Reader*. Blacksburg: VT Publishing.

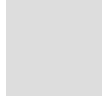
Rebecca Hester, **Molly F. Todd**, Katrina Powell, Brett Shadle, and Lois Nguyen (eds.). 2025. (forthcoming) “Introduction: Critical and Interdisciplinary perspectives to displacement” in *The Critical and Interdisciplinary Displacement Studies Reader*. Blacksburg: VT Publishing.

Guerra, Vanessa, Desirée Poets, Max Stephenson, and **Molly F. Todd**. 2024. “The contributions of community-led newspapers to the resilience of Rio’s Maré and Rocinha favelas during the COVID-19 pandemic,” in *Journal of Urban Affairs*.

**Todd, Molly F.** 2023. *Borders, Art, and Imagination: Journeys with ‘The Frontera Project’ and ‘Mare from the Inside’*. PhD Dissertation, Virginia Tech.

Poets, Desirée, Cathy Grimes, Max Stephenson, Neda Moayerian, and **Molly Todd**. 2023. “Community Newspapers, Community Capacity, and Agency during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Evidence from a Brazilian Favela” in *World Development Perspectives*.

**Todd, Molly F.**, Cathy Grimes, Desirée Poets, and Max Stephenson. 2022. “Reflections on a Cross-Border Collaborative Research Effort During COVID-19.” *Community Change Journal*. Blacksburg: Virginia Tech Publishing.



**Todd, Molly F.** 2021. “Family Constellations and Affective Bonds in *Maré from the Inside*.” In *Maré from the Inside: Art, Culture, and Politics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*, edited by Nicholas Barnes, Desiree Poets, and Max O. Stephenson Jr. Blacksburg: Virginia Tech Publishing.

**Todd, Molly F.** 2020. Review of “Infrastructures of Race: Concentration and Biopolitics in Colonial Mexico.” *New Political Science* 42 (3): 465–68. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07393148.2020.1809798>.

**Todd, Molly F.** 2018. *The Economized Immigrant: Biopolitics at the U.S.-Mexico Border*. MA thesis, University of Colorado Denver.

### Service & Community Engagement

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2024	Director, Honors Program, International Affairs, CU Boulder
2024	Member, IAFS Executive & Faculty Committees
2022	Producer, <a href="#">The Frontera Project</a> residency at Virginia Tech Performances, community workshops, and classroom visits
2022	Community Change Collaborative (CCC), President, Virginia Tech
2021-2022	Exhibition collaborator, <a href="#">Maré from the Inside</a> residency at Virginia Tech
2020-2022	Mozaiko Advisory Board Member, Cranwell International Center, Virginia Tech
2021	Co-organizer, <a href="#">The Frontera Project Zoom Edition: Expressions and experiences at the U.S.-Mexico Border</a>
2020, 2021	ASPECT Conference Planning Committee member
2021	Co-organizer, “Art, Creative Practice, and Social Transformation” a virtual talk by Sage Crump at Virginia Tech
2020-2021	Community Change Collaborative, treasurer, Virginia Tech
2020	Co-organizer, “Rio de Janeiro & Appalachia in Dialogue: Arts, Public Health, and Community Organizing” at Virginia Tech
2020	Co-organizer, “Creating Art is Community Building” Virtual Public Talk with Lily Yeh at Virginia Tech, sponsored by the CCC

- 2016-2018 MHMSS Student Union Representative, University of Colorado Denver
- 2012-2015 Volunteer Service with CCAA Women's Basketball, Humboldt State University

### **Grants & Fellowships**

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- 2023 Cunningham Dissertation Fellowship
- 2022 Grant writer and funded GRA through the (NEH) National Endowment for the Humanities, Social Science Research Council grant 'Converging Displacements,' with the Center for Migration, Refugee, and Displacement Studies
- 2022 Graduate Research and Development Program (GRDP) Grant at Virginia Tech
- 2020 Center for Peace Studies and Violence Prevention Graduate Research on Violence Program Grant
- 2020 Moss Arts Center Women & Minority Artist and Scholars Lecture Series Grant
- 2019 Center for the Humanities Co-Sponsorship Grant, Virginia Tech
- 2018-2023 Department of Political Science Travel Grants

### **Research Assistantships**

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- 2021-2023 Research Assistant for Dr. Katrina Powell  
Center for Refugee, Migrant, and Displacement Studies  
\*Supported by the SSRC grant 'Converging Displacements'  
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg
- 2019-2021 Research Assistant for Dr. Audrey Reeves  
Department of Political Science  
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg
- 2020 Graduate Assistant  
Cranwell International Center  
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg

### **Certifications**

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- 2023 Advanced certification with Every Campus a Refuge (ECAR); participation in the

training “Creating inclusive communities together: transforming higher education through refugee integration”

## Conference Presentations

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2024 “Storytelling in/as World Politics: Imagining border/land(scapes) otherwise with *The Frontera Project*” Latin American Studies Association (LASA)

“Interdisciplinary conversations on Border/lands methodologies,” panel LASA

“Encounters with *Maré from the Inside*: performing through borders of North and South” International Studies Association. San Francisco, CA

2023 “Insider-Outsider Critique: Favela-based Researchers, their collaborators, and aspirational dynamics of Citational Justice,” Panelist, LASA annual conference, Vancouver, B.C.

“Artistic learning at the borders of Global North and South: encounters with *Maré from the Inside*,” Presenter, LASA annual conference, Vancouver, B.C.

“Borders, Art, and Imagination: Journeys with *Maré from the Inside* and *The Frontera Project*” AAG Annual Conference. Denver, CO.

2022 “*The Frontera Project* and the many-storied Tijuana border/landscape.” ASPECT Graduate Conference. Blacksburg, VA.

“Art as borderscaping: learning with artistic collaborations” International Studies Association. Nashville, TN.

2021 “Community newspapers and creative production amidst the COVID-19 pandemic: exploring social resilience in the Maré and Rocinha favelas of Rio de Janeiro” American Association of Geographers (AAG) Conference, *Virtual*

“Borders and Bordering: Mapping scenarios of discovery in the Americas” ASPECT Conference at Virginia Tech, *Virtual Conference*

“Performance and the borders of the decolonial imagination” Entangled Ontologies, Decoloniality and Decolonization Symposium at Virginia Tech, *Virtual Conference*

2020 “Crossing, Inhabiting, Shifting Borders: The Power of the Decolonial Imagination.” Western political Science Association, *Virtual Conference*

“The (Un)making of Borders: Border Art and the Decolonial Imagination.” International

Studies Association Northeast, *Virtual Conference*

“Hegemonic Sensations or sensing otherwise? Encountering borders in Disney-Pixar’s *Coco*.” Latin American Studies Association, Guadalajara *Virtual Conference*

“Border(scaping)/Art in the Americas: From Fandango to Favela”  
American Association of Geographers, Denver *Virtual Conference*

2019 “Reading regimes of affect and neoliberal subjectivities in Disney-Pixar’s *Coco*”  
International Studies Association Northeast, Rhode Island

“Constructions of ‘the Other,’ Colonial Mexico, and U.S. immigrant detention centers”  
Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Atlanta

“It’s not a bed of marigolds: Media representations of the border crossing experience”  
ASPECT Graduate Conference, Blacksburg

2018 “The Economized Immigrant and the biopolitical confines of border rhetoric”  
International Studies Association South, Ashland

“To Let Die: *Biopolitics on the U.S.-Mexico Border*.”  
ASPECT Graduate Conference, Blacksburg

2017 “Acting out Activism” Workshop design and facilitation  
Co-Leads Conference, Denver

“The Biopolitical Exploitation of Humans in Capitalism.”  
Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World, Estes Park

## Media Activities

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2021 Interview with Ramón Verdugo and Jessica Bauman  
*Trustees without Borders* Podcast  
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg

2021 Interview with Sage Crump  
*Trustees without Borders* Podcast  
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg

2020 Interview with Alia Malek  
*Trustees without Borders* Podcast  
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg



Interview with Andreza Jorge and Henrique Gomez de Silva  
*Trustees without Borders* Podcast  
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg

2019 Interview with Alexander Wendt  
*Trustees without Borders* Podcast  
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg

2018 “Much More than Just Security,” book review.  
*Dósis*, Winter/Spring 2018 issue.  
Reference: <https://medhumdosis.com/>

### **Additional Employment**

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2017-2018 Study Abroad Administrative Assistant  
University of Colorado Denver, Denver

2015 Education Intern & Assistant for Americas Latino EcoFestival (ALEF)  
Boulder, CO

2012-2015 Cultural Ambassador & ESL instructor  
Junta de Andalucía  
Málaga, Spain

### **Additional Awards**

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2009-2012 California Collegiate Athletic Association All-Academic Award(s)  
Humboldt State University, Arcata

2011 Athletic Scholarship- Women’s basketball  
Humboldt State University, Arcata

2007 Clark Scholarship, Humboldt State University, Arcata