

José-Juan López-Portillo *Curriculum Vitae*

Personal Information

Name: José-Juan López-Portillo
Place and date of birth: [REDACTED]
Nationality: [REDACTED]
Current Address: [REDACTED]
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Current Employment

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at McGill University's *Institute for the Public Life of Arts and Ideas* (IPLAI): 'Early Modern Conversions: Religions, Cultures, Cognitive Ecologies' (<http://earlymodernconversions.com/>)

Research groups: 'Cities as Theatres of Conversion' and 'Conversion of Space and Spaces of Conversion'

Chair: Education and Public Exchange Committee

Member: Outreach Committee

Education

Queen Mary, University of London:

Ph.D. awarded 31 May 2012 for the dissertation: '*Another Jerusalem*': *Political Legitimacy and Courtly Government in the Kingdom of New Spain 1535-1568*

Supervisor: Prof. Felipe Fernández-Armesto

Examiners: Dr. Fernando Cervantes (Bristol University); Prof. Francisco Bethencourt (King's College, London); Prof. James Dunkerley (Queen Mary, University of London)

The bulk of my research was carried out at the *Archivo General de Indias* in Seville with the cooperation of the *Escuela de Estudios Hispano-Americanos*. I also worked in the *Archivo General de la Nación* in Mexico City.

New College, University of Oxford:

B.A. First-class Honours degree in the Final Honour Schools of Ancient and Modern History (2003); M.A. Oxon (2013)

Languages

Fluent in English, Spanish, Italian and French
Reading Latin

Teaching, Lecturing and Analogous Experiences

McGill teaching (January-April, 2015): Designed, taught and examined Hispanic Civilization 2 (HISP-226): Hispanic history and culture from 1700 to the present for c. 120 students

University of Oxford: External tutor for 'Spanish Empire' and 'Conquest and Colonization: Spain and America in the Sixteenth Century' at Pembroke College, University of Oxford (January-June, 2013)

Tufts University: Teaching assistant to Prof. Fernández-Armesto for the undergraduate course 'World History: 1500 to the present', (September-December 2006)

Global History Seminar at the Institute of Historical Research, University of London: Representative of Queen Mary, University of London, on the steering committee (2012-June 2013)

Organiser and chair: Joint AHA-CLAH panel for 127th annual meeting, entitled: "'The First Modern State?' Tradition, Innovation, and Extemporization in the Government of Spain's Early Modern Empire" (held 3-6 of January 2013)

Independent Lecturer: 'Moctezuma's Empire,' French Institute in London (December 2009)

Panel member: British Museum debate on *Moctezuma: Aztec Ruler*, (November 2009)

Other Work Experience: Assistant researcher in organisation of the Conference on Energy Security at the Centre for Mexican Studies affiliated to Oxford University (2008)

Researcher for conference on '25th anniversary of the nationalisation of the banks in Mexico' organised by C.E.E.Y. (2007)

Helped organise and run Asia Pacific Technology Network conferences, Bristol/ London, (2004/2005)

Publications

Spain and the Atlantic frontier of Medieval Europe, (a volume in the VARIORUM/ASHGATE series *The Expansion of Latin Europe, 1000-1500*); edited with an Introduction (October, 2013)

'The Americas in World History', *Berkshire Encyclopaedia of World History* (Berkshire Publishing Group, 2009)

Edited the entry, 'Christopher Columbus,' *World Book Encyclopaedia*, (2006)

'Christopher Columbus' in *Seventy Great Journeys in History*, Robin Hanbury-Tenison ed., (Thames and Hudson, 2005)

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In preparation:

Another Jerusalem: Political Legitimacy and Courtly Government in Early New Spain. (adapted from my dissertation); completion anticipated April, 2015

Chapter in forthcoming volume: *Performing Conversion: Urbanism, Theatre, and the Transformation of the Early Modern World*

Commissioned:

I.B. Tauris Publishers: *The Spanish Empire* (co-authored with F. Fernández-Armesto, 2017)

Journalism:

'Myths and Moctezuma,' *The Guardian Newspaper*, (November 2009)

Future Research

Imperial history underscores my academic interests, which are broad and interdisciplinary. In future research I aim to investigate how identities change in imperial contexts and how 'cultural incommensurability' could be overcome during Europe's global expansion in the Early Modern period. I hope to explore these themes when I come to write a monograph I have been preparing on the largely unknown career of Hernando de Tapia. Tapia was an Amerindian interpreter who was active both in Spain and Mesoamerica during the reign of Charles V. He married a Spanish noblewoman and their descendants occupied important roles in both the indigenous and Spanish ambits of New Spain. Tapia's services to Christianity and the Habsburg Monarchy were considered important enough to merit his inclusion in the pontifical chivalric order of the Golden Spur, amongst other grants and honours that he received from Charles V and the viceregal administration in Mexico City.

In future research I aim to study the relationship between imperial government and the smaller polities it encompassed, such as City-States in the Early Modern Period and how their approach compared to Hellenistic and Roman Empires of the Ancient World. I retain from my PhD a particular interest in 'courtly government' and the civic rituals that arose from its practices.