

CHELSEA BURNS

University of Texas at Austin
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PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

- 2019–present Assistant Professor of Music Theory, Butler School of Music (University of Texas at Austin)
- 2017–2019 Assistant Professor of Music Theory, Eastman School of Music (University of Rochester)
- 2016–17 Preceptor of Music, Harvard University

EDUCATION

- 2016 PhD, Theory and History of Music
University of Chicago
Dissertation: “Listening for Modern Latin America: Identity and Representation in Concert Music, 1920–1940”
- 2003 Bachelor of Music, Piano Performance, University of North Carolina–Greensboro

PUBLICATIONS

- 2021 “‘Musique Cannibale’: The Evolving Sound of Indigeneity in Heitor Villa-Lobos’s *Tres poemas indigenas*.” *Music Theory Spectrum* 43, no. 1.
- 2020 “The Racial Limitations of Country-Soul Crossover in Bobby Womack’s *BW Goes C&W*, 1976.” Special issue of *Journal of Popular Music Studies* “Uncharted Country,” 32, no. 2, 112–130.
- 2019 “‘Together Again,’ But We Keep On Crying: Buck Owens, Tom Brumley, and the Pedal Steel.” *Music Theory Online* 25, no. 2.
- 2012 Review of *Analytical and Cross-Cultural Studies in World Music*, eds. Michael Tenzer and John Roeder (New York: Oxford University Press, 2011) in *Music Theory Online*, 18, no. 4.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2020 Summer Research Assignment
College of Fine Arts, University of Texas at Austin
- 2018 Music Theory Special Research Fund
Theory Department, Eastman School of Music

2015–16	ACLS/Mellon Dissertation Completion Fellowship
2014–15	Claire Dux Swift Dissertation Award Music Department, University of Chicago
2010–14	Title VI Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Academic-Year Fellowship Funded by the US Department of Education
2012, 2013	Wadmond Summer Research Stipend Music Department, University of Chicago
2012	Title VI Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Summer Fellowship Funded by the US Department of Education
2012	Cathy Heifetz Memorial Award Music Department, University of Chicago

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2019–present University of Texas at Austin

Music Theory III and IV (sophomore theory, core undergraduate sequence)
Foundations of Music Theory (PhD and master's tonal theory pro-seminar)
Reading Latin American Modernisms (graduate seminar)
Analyzing Popular Music (upper-level undergraduate course)

2017–2019 Eastman School of Music (University of Rochester)

Music Theory III (fall sophomore theory, core undergraduate sequence)
Survey of Analytical Techniques (tonal/post-tonal theory for master's
performance majors)
Theory Pedagogy Apprenticeship (for master's students in theory pedagogy)
Topics in Tonal Literature and Analysis (for doctoral performance majors)

2016–17 Harvard University

Music Theory (2-semester core undergraduate sequence)
What Is Musical Form?
Country Music Studies

2014–15 Truman College (City Colleges of Chicago)

Class Piano (taught 2x)
Introduction to Music (taught 2x)

2011–15 University of Chicago

Instructor of Record
Music Theory Fundamentals
Introduction to Music Analysis and Criticism (taught 4x)

Course Assistant
Music in Mexico and Cuba, 1920–1945
Music Video
Harmony and Voice-Leading (3-quarter core theory sequence)

PRESENTATIONS/TALKS

Conference Presentations

- 2020 “Global Modernisms in Ethnomusicology” Roundtable. Society for Ethnomusicology national conference (SEM), held online.
- 2020 “The Racial Limitations of Country-Soul Crossover in Bobby Womack’s *BW Goes C&W*, 1976.” International Country Music Conference (ICMC), Nashville. Conference canceled due to COVID-19.
- 2020 “Country Music, Who *Are* You?” Invited panel participant. International Association for the Study of Popular Music–United States Chapter conference (IASPM-US), Ann Arbor. Conference canceled due to COVID-19.
- 2019 “Resolving Chords to Resolve Anxieties.” Part of proposed panel, *Corralling the Chorus: Moving Away from SATB Writing in the Undergraduate Music Theory Curriculum*. Society for Music Theory (SMT) annual conference, Columbus.
- 2019 “Race, Dialect, and Regionalism in Oscar Lorenzo Fernández and Waldemar Henrique’s settings of ‘Essa Negra Fulô.’” Society for American Music (SAM) annual conference, New Orleans.
- 2018 “‘Musique Cannibale’: The Evolving Sound of Indigeneity in Heitor Villa-Lobos’s *Tres poemas indígenas*.” American Musicological Society (AMS) annual conference, San Antonio.
- 2018 Declined. “A Fiddle Made of Bones: Variation and Definition in Murder Ballads.” Society for Music Theory (SMT) annual conference, San Antonio.
- 2017 “Boston Bluegrass: Institutional Traces in the Urban Scene.” Bluegrass Symposium at the International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA) annual conference and festival, Raleigh.
- 2015 “*Música Popular* and the Invention of National Art Music in Brazil.” Society for Music Theory (SMT) annual conference, Louisville.
- 2015 “‘Together Again,’ But We Keep on Crying: Buck Owens, Tom Brumley, and the Pedal Steel, 1964.” Society for American Music (SAM) annual conference, Sacramento.
- 2014 “Revueltas’s String Quartets and the Politics of Ambivalence.” Latin American Studies Association (LASA) annual conference, Chicago.
- 2013 “Neither Folkloric, nor Serious, nor Transcendental: Ambivalence in the Music of Silvestre Revueltas.” American Musicological Society Midwest Chapter (AMS–Midwest) fall conference, Evanston.

- 2013 “Modernist Negotiations: Brazilian Art Music between the Two World Wars.” Latin American Studies Association (LASA) annual conference, Washington, DC.
- 2013 “Carlos Chávez’s *H.P.* and the International Musical Imagination.” *Transcending Borders: Latin American Music and its Projection onto the World Stage*, International Symposium on Latin American Music, Virginia Tech University.
- 2012 “Children’s Songs and Brazilian Dolls: Villa-Lobos’s Racial Politics.” *Between Indifference and Engagement: Music and Politics*, Stony Brook University Graduate Symposium.

Invited Talks

- 2018 “Heitor Villa-Lobos’s *Chôros No. 4* and the ‘Uplift’ of *Música Popular* in Brazil.” Joint colloquium for St. Olaf and Carleton Colleges, Northfield, Minnesota. Funded by the Mellon Foundation.
- 2018 “Exoticist and Nationalist Avant Gardes in Twentieth-Century Spain and South America.” Pre-concert lecture for the Cantata Singers at the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Cambridge, Massachusetts.
- 2018 “First Years as Faculty.” Panel discussion for graduate students in the humanities and social sciences at the University of Chicago.

Campus and Departmental Talks

- 2018 “‘Musique Cannibale’: The Evolving Sound of Indigeneity in Heitor Villa-Lobos’s *Tres poemas indígenas*.” Music Theory Colloquium, Eastman School of Music.
- 2015 “‘Way Down South in Dixie’: Langston Hughes and Blackness in the American South as Interpreted by Carlos Chávez and Silvestre Revueltas.” Talk given at Music History/Theory Workshop, University of Chicago.
- 2012 “Heitor Villa-Lobos’s *A Prole do Bebê No. 1*: Toward an Analytical Approach of *Modernismo* Music.” Talk given at Music History/Theory Workshop, University of Chicago.

Respondent/Discussant/Chair

- 2018 Chair and joint organizer for panel, “Theorizing the Roots of Recorded Popular Music.” Society for Music Theory (SMT) annual conference, San Antonio.
- 2017 Respondent/Discussant for several papers submitted to Transnational Musical Modernities workshop, Cervantes Observatorio at Harvard University.
- 2017 Respondent/Chair for session, “Vernacular Culture and the Power of Celebrity.” Black Lives Matter conference, Harvard University Music Department.
- 2015 Respondent, “Reviving Pergolesi in Stravinsky’s *Pulcinella*.” Talk given by Sarah Iker at Music History/Theory Workshop, University of Chicago.
- 2014 Respondent, “Ernst Kurth on Form and *Erformung*.” Talk given by Daphne Tan at Music History/Theory Workshop, University of Chicago.

2013 Respondent, “Christ as a *Vihuela*, and the Limits of Imitation: José de Cáseda’s *Villancico Qué Música Divina*, c. 1700.” Talk given by Andrew Cashner at Music History/Theory Workshop, University of Chicago.

SERVICE

Professional

Society for Music Theory (SMT)

2020	Committee on Race and Ethnicity, Faculty Mentor to Graduate Student
2018–present	Editorial Board, <i>Music Theory Spectrum</i>
2014–16	Student Member, Development Committee

Music Theory Society of New York State (MTSNYS)

2020–21	Chair, Program Committee
2018–20	Board Member
2017–18	Program Committee

Society for American Music (SAM)

2020–present	Chair, McCulloh Fellowship Committee
2018–20	McCulloh Fellowship Committee
2017–present	Chair, Latin American Interest Group

Peer Reviews for:

Americas: A Hemispheric Music Journal
Journal of the American Musicological Society
Latin American Music Review / Revista de Música Latinoamericana
Music Theory Spectrum

Advising

Butler School of Music, University of Texas at Austin

2019–20	Master’s Thesis in Music Theory: Dalton Dudley, Shania Twain’s <i>Now</i>
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Eastman School of Music

2018–19	DMA Lecture Recital: Bernardo Marcondes, Brazilian choro
2017–18	DMA Lecture Recital: Erika Izaguirre, mariachi trumpet
2017–18	Bachelor’s Honors Project: Willa Finck, old-time fiddle

University/Departmental

University-Wide, University of Texas at Austin

2020–present	Transportation Committee
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Butler School of Music, University of Texas at Austin

2020–present	Executive Committee
2019–present	Board Member, Center for American Music
2019–2020	Rainwater Innovation Grant Committee

Eastman Theory Department

2018–19	Ad hoc committee to develop BM program in Popular Music
2017–19	PhD Admissions Committee
2017–19	Award 39 Committee (DMA TA assignments in theory dept.)
2017–19	Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Eastman School of Music

2018–19	Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Inclusion Student–Faculty Alliance
2017–19	Diversity Committee
2017–19	DMA Orals Exams: Thomas Viloteau, guitar; Eric Laprade, conducting; Rosy Moore, harp

Student Service at University of Chicago

2013–14	Co-Chair, Faculty–Student Teaching Forum
2013–14	Student Coordinator, Music History/Theory Workshop
2011–14	Co-Chair, Music Department Guest Colloquium Committee
2011–12	President, Graduate Music Society

LANGUAGES

Portuguese (proficient)
Spanish (proficient)
German (elementary)

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

American Musicological Society
Latin American Studies Association
Music Theory Society of New York State
Society for American Music
Society for Music Theory

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

2007–11	Piano Faculty Sherwood Conservatory at Columbia College Chicago
2003–08	Curriculum Developer Kindermusik International

LIST OF REFERENCES

Steven Rings (dissertation advisor)

Associate Professor
Department of Music
University of Chicago
773.702.8577
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Suzannah Clark

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Department of Music
Harvard University
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Alejandro L. Madrid

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