

Taree Vargas

Curriculum Vitae

415.601.1663 - tareemiller@gmail.com - tareevargas.com

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Visual Anthropology, Sensory Ethnography, Embodied Communication, Phenomenology, Qualia, Material Culture, Social and Cultural Identity, Co-culture, Counter Culture, Urban Ethnography

EDUCATION

California State University, Long Beach Spring 2015 – Fall 2016

BA, Anthropology

Los Angeles City College Spring 2012- Fall 2014

General Education, Anthropology Major

East Los Angeles City College Fall 2013

General Education, Anthropology Major

FIELD EXPERIENCE

Ethnographic Film “Insiders” 2017

Anthropology and film, under tutelage of Dr. Steven Rousso-Schindler, California State University, Long Beach. Ethnographic research on the phenomenology of selective mutism culminating in a short auto-ethnographic film utilizing impressionistic visual and storytelling methods to create a sensory representation approximating the experiential quality of this aspect of life from a first person perspective and evoking the experience of the termed “disorder” for viewers.

Ethnographic Virtual Reality Film “Lucretia” 2016

Ethnography New Media, under tutelage of Dr. Wilson, California State University, Long Beach. Director of an immersive virtual reality ethnographic film on the intersectional experiences of Lucretia, a migrant from Oaxaca, Mexico who, as a personal chef, expresses her multidimensional identity through food.

Ethnographic Virtual Reality Film “Perceptions” 2016

Ethnography New Media, under tutelage of Dr. Wilson, California State University, Long Beach. Assistant Director of an ethnographic research project that simulates the experience of losing the sense of sight in collaboration with Anthony Vasquez, a person who has experienced slowly losing his sight from the age of five.

Ethnographic Film “Belongings” 2015

Ethnographic Film Production, under tutelage of Dr. Steven Rousso-Schindler, California State University, Long Beach. Ethnographic research centering on themes of meaning embedding and the construction of identity as it relates to material culture to the conceptualization and directing of the resulting film

Ethnographic Study of Bike Polo Culture 2013

Cultural Anthropology, Visual Anthropology Under tutelage of Dr. Brian Bartelt, Los Angeles City College. Engage in participant observation, interview and employ visual elicitation to ascertain the relevance of the material culture of the group to its social cohesion with emphasis on the transition from the use of self-made gear to the use of manufacturer produced gear. Study has so far resulted in two short ethnographic films and three academic papers

Ethnographic Film “How is this Passover Different?” 2014

Assist USC Visual Anthropology Masters Student Shirin Raban in collecting visual data of a kindergarten class practicing for Passover diner in order to ascertain the particular practice of Passover among Jewish immigrants in the United States.

Cemetery Survey 2013

Archaeology 101, under tutelage of Dr. Julienne Bernard, East Los Angeles City College. Conduct a surface survey using random sampling of a section of a cemetery in Boyle Heights to ascertain diachronic information on the population buried there.

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Editor, California State University, Long Beach

Edit footage for a short applied ethnographic film about the experiences of California State University, Long Beach students who are undocumented. This project is used for training purposes by a program for CSULB professors who are interested in becoming allies to students who are undocumented. This was a volunteer position

Editor, Long Beach Immigrant Rights Coalition 2018

Edit footage for a short applied ethnographic film about why Long Beach residents believe that Long Beach should become a sanctuary city. This project was used by the non-profit organization, Long Beach Immigrant Rights Coalition to successfully convince Long Beach lawmakers to implement stronger protections for immigrants there. This was a volunteer position

Junior Media Production Specialist, Research Foundation at California State University Long Beach

February 2017- Present

Interview Professors leading research labs as Mentors in the BUILD Program, film interviews, edit interviews to produce promotional videos of interest to prospective student researchers, act as organizational lead, provide training to new team members

Junior Producer, California State University, Long Beach Anthropology Department of Anthropology

August 2016

Collaborate with Dr. Wilson on a special project to produce a short animated informational film entitled "What is Anthropology" for the purpose of educating prospective students on the Anthropology Major at California State University, Long Beach

Student Technician, Research Foundation at California State University Long Beach

January 2016- August 2016

Interview Professors leading research labs as Mentors in the BUILD Program, film interviews, edit interviews to produce promotional videos of interest to prospective student researchers

Image Analyst, Tagpics.net

July 2013- Present

Identify images sent in to the app TapTapSee to assist vision-impaired customers, identify and categorize consumer products sent in to the app CamFind by customers, provide feedback to superiors in order to improve user experience

WORK PRESENTED

Visual Anthropology Showcase 2017

Screening of my short ethnographic film "Insiders," utilizing impressionistic visual and storytelling techniques to express the phenomenological aspects of a social anxiety disorder known as selective mutism

Southwestern Anthropological Association Annual Conference 2017

Screening of my short ethnographic film "Insiders," utilizing impressionistic visual and storytelling techniques to express the phenomenological aspects of a social anxiety disorder known as selective mutism

World Anthropology Day at California State University, Long Beach 2017 Poster presentation on research entitled, "Verbal/Embodied Parallels and Cooperative Meaning Generation"

Southwestern Anthropological Association Annual Conference 2016

Screening of my short ethnographic film "Belongings," centering on themes of meaning embedding and the construction of identity as it relates to material culture with an emphasis on embodied communication in this context

Southwestern Anthropological Association Annual Conference 2016

Poster presentation on research entitled, "Verbal/Embodied Parallels and Cooperative Meaning Generation"

114th American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting 2015

Paper entitled, "Intersubjectivity and Embodied Communication" for a panel on embodied communication

California State University Long Beach Anthropology Graduate Student Association Symposium Fall 2015
Screening of my short ethnographic film "Belongings," centering on themes of meaning embedding and the construction of identity as it relates to material culture

Visual Anthropology Showcase 2015

Screening of my short ethnographic film "Belongings," centering on themes of meaning embedding and the construction of identity as it relates to material culture

Project Accessible Hollywood (PAH) Fest Hollywood 2013

Screening of my short Ethnographic film "10 cents a Shot" on the subject of the material culture of the Hardcourt Bike Polo community

HONORS & AWARDS

Distinguished Leadership Award 2017

California State University, Long Beach - Department of Anthropology

President's List Spring 2016

California State University, Long Beach

Dean's List Fall 2015

California State University, Long Beach

President's List Spring 2015

California State University, Long Beach

Dean's Honor Fall 2014

Los Angeles City College

President's Honor Spring 2013

Los Angeles City College

Dean's Honor Spring 2013

Los Angeles City College

Dean's Honor Fall 2012

Los Angeles City College

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL & ACADEMIC SOCIETIES

American Anthropological Association (AAA)

Biological Anthropology Developing Investigators Troop (BANDIT)

National Association of Student Anthropologists (NASA)

Southwestern Anthropological Association (SWAA)

California State University Long Beach Anthropology Student Association

President Fall 2015- Spring 2016, Secretary Fall 2017

Los Angeles City College Anthropology Club

President Fall 2014, Treasurer Spring 2014, Secretary Fall 2013

Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society (PKP)

March 2016- Present