Molly F. Todd

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Professional Experience

2024- Current	**Assistant Teaching Professor,** Sociology and International Affairs, The University of Colorado Boulder; Affiliations: Latin American and Latinx Studies Center, Women and Gender Studies
2018-2023	Instructor, Political Science, Virginia Tech
2017	Instructor, Modern Languages, University of Colorado Denver

Education

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 Studies, International Relations, Feminist and Collaborative Methods, Performance Studies, Nationality and Identity, Militarization,
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

Languages: English (native), Spanish (fluent), Portuguese (intermediate)

Peer-Reviewed Academic Publications

Todd, Molly F. 2025. "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 dis-place-ment 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. 2025. (forthcoming) "Introduction to 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.

Teaching Experience

University of Colorado Boulder- Assistant Teaching Professor of Sociology and International Affairs

International Affairs:

IAFS1000 Global Issues and International Affairs
IAFS3000 Global Society
IAFS3000 Local and Global Engagement

IAFS4500 The Post-Cold War World: Migration and Refugees
IAFS4800 Honors Seminar in International Relations
IAFS4810 Honors Seminar in International Affairs II

Sociology:

SOCY/WGS 1016 Intro to Sex, Gender, and Society
SOCY3046 Topics in Sex and Gender- Border, Migration, and Refugee Studies
SOCY3012 Gender and Development
SOCY/WGS 3161 Global Perspectives on Race and Ethnicity

Virginia Tech- Instructor

PSCI 1018 Comparative Politics
PSCI1048 Introduction to World Politics
PSCI4000 Foreign Policy and Diplomacy
PSCI3000 Theoretical Approaches to Global Order

University of Colorado Denver- Instructor

Beginning Spanish I
Beginning Spanish II

Junta de Andalucía

English as a Second Language Instructor: 2012-2015

Service & Community Engagement

2024-Current	Director, Honors Program, International Affairs, CU Boulder
2025	Producer, *Maré from the Inside* Exhibition at CU Boulder (Sept. 2025)
2025	Collaborator *Heroic Legacies: Indigenous Creative Works in the Americas*, CU Boulder (Spring 2025)
2024-Current	Member, IAFS Executive & Faculty Committees
2024-Current	Member, IAFS Merit Committee
2024-Current	Member, Honors Council
2022	Producer, *The Frontera Project* residency at Virginia Tech Performances, community workshops, and classroom visits
2022	Community Change Collaborative (CCC), President, Virginia Tech
2021-2022	Exhibition collaborator, *Maré from the Inside* residency at Virginia Tech
2020-2022	Mozaiko Advisory Board Member, Cranwell International Center, Virginia Tech
2021	Co-organizer, *The Frontera Project Zoom Edition: Expressions and experiences at the U.S.-Mexico Border*
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

Grants & Fellowships

2025 RIO Arts & Humanities Grant, CU Boulder
2025 Imagining Just & Sustainable Futures- Event Support
2025 Deans SSCI divisional grant, CU Boulder– support for *Maré from the Inside* residency
2025 Center for Asian Studies Professional Development grant
2025 Dean's Research & Development Fund, CU Boulder
2024 Arts & Sciences Fund, CU Boulder
2023 Cunningham Dissertation Fellowship, Virginia Tech
2022 Grant writer for collaborative (NEH) National Endowment for the Humanities, Social Science Research Council grant 'Converging Displacements,' with the Center for Migration, Refugee, and Displacement Studies at Virginia Tech
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– Dissertation Research
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

Invited Talks

2025 Post-Election: The future of U.S. immigration policy, invited talk for IAFS at CU Boulder
2025 Reflections on pedagogy, invited talk for SOCY graduate students at CU Boulder

Conference Presentations

2025 "Storytelling and performance as world politics: Imagining border/lands otherwise with *The Frontera Project*" International Studies Association- Huatulco. Huatulco, MX.

2024 "Multisensorial Performance and storytelling at the U.S./Mexico Border", 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

Research Assistantships

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

2023	Advanced certification with Every Campus a Refuge (ECAR); participation in the training “Creating inclusive communities together: transforming higher education through refugee integration”

Media Activities

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

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 Andalucia
Málaga, Spain

Additional Awards

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