

Keitlyn Alcantara

Indiana University-Bloomington
Department of Anthropology, Arch Annex
kalcant@iu.edu
www.keitlynalcantara.com

Research Interests: *Food Sovereignty, Decolonial Anthropology, Community-based research, Bioarchaeology, Late Postclassic Mexico, Colonial Latin America, Foodways, Immigration, Latinx Diaspora*

Academic Appointment

2020-Present **Indiana University**, Bloomington (Bloomington, IN)
Assistant Professor, Anthropology

Education:

2013–2020 **Vanderbilt University** | Ph.D. | Anthropology (Bioarchaeology)
Dissertation Committee: Tiffany Tung (Chair), William Fowler, Carwil Bjork-James, Edward Wright-Rios.

2013–2019 **Vanderbilt University** | Graduate Certificate | Center for Latin American Studies

2016–2017 **Vanderbilt University** | Graduate Certificate | College Teaching

2012–2013 **George Washington University** | Graduate Certificate | Forensic Science

2010–2011 **The University of Chicago** | M.A. | Social Science (Bioarchaeology)
Faculty Advisor: Maria Cecilia Lozada, *Preceptor:* Rebecca Graff

2005–2008 **The University of Washington** | B.A. | Anthropology (Archaeology)

Early Career Grants/Awards:

2021-2022 **Indiana Studies Research Award: Racial Justice in Indiana.** Awarded for the “Restorative Foodways Project”. Platform: An Arts and Humanities Research Laboratory, with support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

2021 **Global Community Engaged Learning Course Development Institute.** Indiana University, Bloomington, IN.

Doctoral Grants/Awards:

2020 **Professional Development Grant.** Vanderbilt University Department of Anthropology

2019 **Engaged Anthropology Grant.** Gr-EAG-150 “Food and Resistance in Ancient and Contemporary Tlaxcala”. Wenner Gren Foundation.

2019 **Orgullo Hispano Award.** Conexión Américas. Nashville, TN.

2019 **Thomas Marchione Food as a Human Right Student Award.** Society for the Anthropology of Food and Nutrition.

2019 **Southern Foodways Alliance Writing Workshop.** Southern Foodways Alliance. Taylor, Mississippi.

- 2019 **Graduate Student Summer Residency.** “Objects and Places in an Inquiry-based Classroom: Teaching, learning and research in the humanities.” National Humanities Center. Research Triangle Park, NC.
- 2019 **The OpEd Project Scholarship.** Vanderbilt University Margaret Cuningghim Women’s Center.
- 2019 **Russell G. Hamilton Graduate Leadership Institute Dissertation Enhancement Grant.** Vanderbilt University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Nashville, TN.
- 2019 **Russell G. Hamilton Graduate Leadership Institute Travel Grant.** Vanderbilt University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Nashville, TN.
- 2019 **Publicly Active Graduate Education (PAGE) Co-Directorship and National Advisory Board Member.** Imagining America.
- 2018 **Publicly Active Graduate Education Fellowship.** Imagining America.
- 2018 **Award for Engaged Anthropology.** Vanderbilt University Department of Anthropology
- 2018 **Department Research Grant.** Vanderbilt University Department of Anthropology.
- 2017 **Public Scholar Fellowship** The Curb Center for Art, Enterprise, and Public Policy. Vanderbilt University.
- 2017 **Dissertation Fieldwork Grant.** The Wenner-Gren Foundation.
- 2017 **Summer Research Award.** Vanderbilt University Department of Anthropology.
- 2017 **Summer Research Award.** Vanderbilt University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.
- 2016 **Fulbright-García Robles Research Grant,** Mexico. Fulbright.
- 2015 **Summer Research Award.** Vanderbilt University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.
- 2014 **Field Research Grant** Vanderbilt University Center for Latin American Studies. Nashville, TN.
- 2013–2018 **Provost Graduate Fellowship.** Vanderbilt University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Nashville, TN.
- 2013 **Anthropology Alliance Summer Fieldwork Internship.** The Field Museum. Chicago, IL.
- 2011 **Minority Intern Scholarship.** Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History. Washington, DC.

Publications:

Peer Reviewed Publications:

- 2021 Carballo, David M. **K. Alcantara**, A. López Corral. Archaeological Perspectives on the Spanish-Aztec War on its Quincentennial. *The SAA Archaeological Record* Vo. 21, Num. 3, p. 19-28.

- 2020 Bravo-López, M., V. Villas-Islas, C. Rocha-Arriaga, A. Villaseñor-Altamirano, A. Guzmán Solís, M. Sandoval-Velasco, **K. Alcántara**, J. Gomez-Valdez, A. Herrera, E. Mejía, A. Meraz-Moreno, M. Moreno-Cabrera, A. Moreno-Estrada, M. Nieves Colon, J. Olvera, J. Pérez-Pérez, K. Højholt-Iversen, S. Rasmussen, K. Sandoval-Mendoza, J. Wesp, G. Zepeda, M. Ávila-Arcos. "Paleogenomic insights into the red complex bacteria *Tannerella forsythia* in Pre-Hispanic and Colonial individuals from Mexico." *Philosophical Transactions B*, 375(1812):20190580
- 2013 Ubelaker, DH, I Pap and **KE Alcántara-Russell**. "Skeletal Evidence for Morbidity and Mortality in Samples from Northeastern Hungary Dating from the 10th Century A.D." *Anthropologie*, XLIX/2:171-183.
- 2012 Ubelaker, DH and **KE Alcántara-Russell**. "Post-Conquest Demographic Collapse." In: Oxford Bibliographies Online: Latin American Studies.

Book Chapters

- 2020 **Alcantara, K.** Antropología Física en Contextos Arqueológicos. In: *Aportes a la Comprensión del Comportamiento Humano*, Verónica Reyes-Meza, J. Martín Castro-Manzano, Luis Villaseñor-Pineda (Eds.). Colección: Ética y Sociedad, Editorial Aula de Humanidades: Tlaxcala, Mexico.

Publications in Process:

- 2021 (expected) López Corral, A., **K. Alcantara**, R. Santacruz Cano. "Identidad Guerrera en Tlaxcala Posclásico Tardío". *In Preparation*.
- 2021 (expected) Alcantara, K. "Wrinkled Time: A Model for A Bioarchaeology of the Present". *In preparation*.

Book Reviews

- 2021 (In Press) Alcantara, K. 2021. Review Essay: Not Lost But Found- Rebuilding Relations and Reclaiming Indigenous Food Systems. *Nature and Culture* Vol. 16, Issue 3: 110-118.
- 2020 Alcantara, K. 2020. Review of *Bioarchaeology of Pre-Columbian Mesoamerica: An Interdisciplinary Approach*, Edited by Cathy Willermet and Andrea Cucina. *Hispanic American Historical Review*. Vol. 100 no. 1.

Dissertation & Theses

- 2020 Alcantara, K. Diets of Sovereignty: Bioarchaeology in Tlaxcallan. Ph.D. Dissertation, Department of Anthropology, Vanderbilt University.

- 2011 Alcantara-Russell, K. Renditions of Remains: The implications of an archaeologically reconstructed identity, a case study in Mexico. M.A. Thesis, Master of Arts Program in Social Sciences, University of Chicago.

Technical Reports

- 2018 Alcantara, K. Informe de análisis de paleodieta de los entierros de Tepeticpac, Tlaxcala, Operación 3 y 13. INAH Tlaxcala.
- 2017 Alcantara, K. Proyecto “Una dieta de soberanía: Bioarqueología en Cholula y Tlaxcallan Posclásica. Informe del análisis de laboratorio de los entierros de Cholula”. Dirección de Antropología Física, INAH.
- 2017 Alcantara, K. Proyecto Arqueológico Tepeticpac, Informe de la cuarta temporada de campo: Análisis de entierros. INAH Tlaxcala.

Popular Media Publications

- 2021 Alcantara, K. “In Search of Wholeness: How the Healing Garden Began”. June 18, 2021. <https://www.healinggardeniub.com/post/in-search-of-wholeness-how-the-healing-garden-began>
- 2020 Alcantara, K. “Tamaleando en Tennessee”. Bitter Southerner. July 21, 2020. <https://bittersoutherner.com/2020/tamaleando-en-tennessee>
- 2019 Alcantara, K. “Betwixt and Between the Sexes in Bioarchaeology”. Queer Archaeology. February 3, 2019. <https://queerarchaeology.com/2019/02/03/betwixt-and-between-the-sexes-in-bioarchaeology/>
- 2018 Alcantara, K. “Seasoning with Defiance: Cooking as Community Building”. September 27, 2018. PAGE Blog Salon. <https://imaginingamerica.org/2018/09/27/seasoning-with-defiance-cooking-as-community-building/>

Conferences and Presentations:

- 2021
- 2020 **Alcantara, K.** La Comida Como Resistencia: Integrando El Pasado y El Presente. Hablando de Huesos: Conversaciones en Tiempo de Pandemia. Bioarqueología Mexico, Dec. 2nd 2020.
- 2020 **Alcantara, K.** Recipes of Belonging: Adapting What Our Ancestors Gave Us. Indigenous Archaeology & Community Engaged Research in the Americas. Boston University, Nov. 13th, 2020.
- 2020 **Alcantara, K.,** D. Sung, Mali Collins, I. Soto. Publicly Active Graduate Education. Symposium on Community Engagement: Transforming Graduate Education in the Humanities. UC Merced, Sept. 11, 2020.
- 2019 **Alcantara, KE** and Romo D. El Mundo Zurdo: Food, Belonging and Community. 20th annual National Gathering of Imagining America. Albuquerque, NM, October 18-20, 2019.

- 2019 **Alcantara, KE** and Carpenter L. (Forum moderators). Building Foundations for Sustained Community Archaeology. 84th Annual Meeting for the Society of American Archaeology. Albuquerque, NM, April 10-14, 2019.
- 2019 **Alcantara, KE**. Ingredients for Resistance: Foodways in Prehispanic and Colonial Tlaxcallan. 84th Annual Meeting for the Society of American Archaeology. Albuquerque, NM, April 10-14, 2019.
- 2018 **Alcantara KE**. Bodies in Resistance: Bioarchaeology as a tool of public engagement with Nashville Latinx youth. 117th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. San Jose, CA, November 14-18, 2018.
- 2018 **Alcantara, KE**. The Meals that Bind. Imagining America National Gathering, Chicago IL Oct 19-21.
- 2018 **Alcantara KE**. Conquering Aztecs and Resisting Tlaxcaltecas: The Body as a site of Creating and Challenging State Narratives. 84th annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Washington, D.C., April 11-15, 2018.
- 2017 **Alcantara KE**. 'Eating locally' in Tlaxcallan: the impacts of political economy on Postclassic diets. 82nd annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Vancouver, BC, March 29- April 2, 2017.
- 2016 **Alcantara KE**. Dieta y Resistencia: El Caso de Tlaxcala. 1er Coloquio de Bioarqueología. November 29- December 1st, 2016. Museo del Templo Mayor, Mexico City, Mexico.
- 2016 **Alcantara KE**. Ser Tlaxcalteca en el Posclásico. Diplomado en Antropología e Historia de Tlaxcala. INAH, Tlaxcala, Mexico.
- 2016 **Alcantara KE**, Fargher LF, Lopez Corral A, Millhauser JK, Heredia Espinoza V. Burial Distribution as a Reflection of Social Organization in Late Postclassic Tlaxcallan. 81st Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Orlando, FL, April 6-10, 2016.

Research Experience:

- 2017-2020 **Lab Dissertation Project Director**. "Diets of Sovereignty" Dissertation Research. Vanderbilt University Bioarchaeology and Isotope Research Laboratory. Nashville, TN.
- 2016-2017 **Bioarchaeology Lab Director**. Proyecto Arqueológico Tepeticpac. INAH Tlaxcala, Tlaxcala, Mexico.
- 2015-present **Lab Assistant**. Vanderbilt University Bioarchaeology and Isotope Research Laboratory. Nashville, TN.
- 2015-2016 **Editorial Assistant**. Dr. William R. Fowler, Editor, *Ancient Mesoamerica*. Nashville, TN.
- 2011-2013 **Contract Research Assistant**. Dr. Douglas H. Ubelaker, Department of Physical Anthropology, Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History. Washington, D.C.

Teaching

Fall 2021	ANTH A107 "Becoming Human" . Indiana University – Bloomington, Department of Anthropology.
	ANTH A525 "Community Based Research" . Indiana University-Bloomington, Department of Anthropology.
Fall 2020	ANTH P380 "Prehistoric Diet and Nutrition" . Indiana University-Bloomington, Department of Anthropology.
Spring 2020	ANTH 3890 "Food and the Body" . Vanderbilt University Department of Anthropology.
Fall 2019	ANTH 2227 "Food in the Ancient World" . Vanderbilt University Department of Anthropology.
Fall 2017	ANTH 3372 "Human Osteology" . Vanderbilt University Department of Anthropology.

Public and Guest Lectures

2020	Workshop Instructor. "Tacos de Jamaica". AMEXTRA. Nov. 14 th , 2020.
2020	Speaker. Indiana University Food Institute Seminar Series: Food and (anti)Race(ism). Oct. 30, 2020.
2020	Speaker. "Día de los Muertos: Ancient origins, modern interpretations". La Casa Culture Center at Indiana University Day of the Dead Celebration, October 26 th , 2020.
2020	Workshop Instructor. "Roots of Southern Cooking". Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Middle Tennessee. February 6 th and 20 th , 2020. Nashville, TN.
2019	Workshop Instructor. "Día de los Muertos". Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Middle Tennessee. October 29, 2019. Nashville, TN.
2019	Workshop Instructor. "Lets Eat!: Origins and Evolutions of Tennessee Food". October 24, 2019. Tennessee State Museum.
2019	Panelist. "Migration Narratives: New Fiction and Nashville Stories". Southern Festival of Books, October 13-15, 2019. Nashville, TN.
2019	Panelist. "In Conversation: A Q&A about food, heritage and culture". September 21, 2019. Tennessee State Museum.
2018-2019	Instructor, Bioarchaeology. "Keys to the Past: Bioarchaeology and the Skeleton" Nov. 2018, February 2019. Vanderbilt Programs for Talented Youth.
2019	Guest Lecturer, ANTH 1301. "Forensic Anthropology, Identity and Race". Intro to Biological Anthropology. Vanderbilt University.
2019	Guest Lecturer, ANTH 1301. "Intro to Primates". Intro to Biological Anthropology. Vanderbilt University.
2018	Speaker. "Día de los Muertos: Ancient origins, modern interpretations". Cheekwood and Vanderbilt Center for Latin American Studies Day of the Dead Workshop, October 5 th , 2018.
2018	Guest Lecturer, ANTH 3343. "Race and Forensic Anthropology". Biology and Culture of Race. Vanderbilt University.
2018	Guest Lecturer, ANTH 3343. "Social Inequality and Health". Biology and Culture of Race. Vanderbilt University.

- 2018 **Bioarchaeology.** SAVY session 1, VSA session 2. Vanderbilt Programs for Talented Youth.
- 2017 **Bioarchaeology.** Vanderbilt Summer Academy sessions 1-3. Vanderbilt Programs for Talented Youth.
- 2013-2018 **Teaching Assistant.** Human Osteology, The Aztecs, Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology, Introduction to Biological Anthropology, The Biology and Culture of Race. Vanderbilt University.

Public Scholarship:

- 2021-present **Founder.** The Healing Garden at Hilltop Gardens.
www.healinggardeniub.com
- 2017-2020 **Sazón Nashville, Creator and Director.** Nashville, TN.
www.sazonnashville.com
- 2019-2021 **Imagining America National Advisory Board and Executive Committee Member.** Imagining America.
- 2019-2021 **Co-Director, Publicly Active Graduate Education (PAGE).** Imagining America.
- 2019 **Nashville Welcoming Committee.** Volunteer, meeting busses travelling through Nashville from Immigration Detention Centers. Nashville, TN.
- 2018-2019 **Immigrant Advisory Committee Member.** Nashville Public Library. Nashville, TN.
- 2018 **Vanderbilt Anthropology Guide & Speaker.** Escalera Spring Break College Tour. Conexión Américas. Nashville, TN

Language Skills

- English (native speaker)
- Spanish (native speaker)
- French (intermediate)