

Keitlyn Alcantara

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Department of Anthropology
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Research Interests: *Food Sovereignty, Foodways, Immigration, Latinx Diaspora, Decolonial Anthropology, Community-based research, Oral History, Indigenous Ecologies, Collective Practices of Care, Embodied Pedagogies, Late Postclassic Mexico, Colonial Latin America, Bioarchaeology,*

Academic Appointment

2020-Present **Indiana University**, Bloomington (Bloomington, IN)
Assistant Professor, Anthropology
IU Affiliate: Latino Studies Program, Food Institute, Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society, Integrated Program in the Environment

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:

2023 **American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship** for book manuscript project “Recipes of Resistance: An Archaeology of the Past and Present”

2023 **Documentary film awards and recognitions** for “Comida Como Resistencia”.
Bronze Award. Spotlight Documentary Film Awards
Excellence Award. Docs Without Borders Film Festival.
Official Selection. Environmental Film and Screenplay Festival.
Official Selection. Quetzalcoatl Indigenous Film Festival.
Official Entry. The Archaeology Channel International Film Festival, May 17-23, Eugene, Oregon.

2022 **Hunt Postdoctoral Fellowship.** Wenner Gren Foundation, for book manuscript project “Recipes of Resistance: An Archaeology of the Past and Present.”

2022 **Recognition of Exemplary Latinx/Hispanic Leadership** (The Healing Garden/Jardín Curativo). The City of Bloomington Latino Programs, City’s Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs, National Hispanic Heritage Month/Fiesta de Otoño Committee. (Fall 2022)

2022 **Seed Funding.** The Bloomington Symposia, IU Institute for Advanced Study. Awarded for “Embodied Learning” workshop series.

- 2022 **Summer funding.** Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. To support summer research in Tlaxcala.
- 2022 **Global Gateway Grant.** IU College Arts and Humanities Institute/Office of the Vice President for International Affairs. For screening of documentary “Comida Como Resistencia” in Mexico City.
- 2022 **Faculty Travel Grant.** IU College Arts and Humanities Institute. For screening of documentary “Comida Como Resistencia” in Mexico City.
- 2022 **Faculty Travel Grant.** IU College of International Affairs. To support summer research in Tlaxcala.
- 2022 **Trustees Teaching Award.** IU College of Arts and Sciences.
- 2022 **The Bloomington Symposia: Migration.** IU Institute for Advanced Study. Awarded to develop the course “ANTHP399: Migration and Identity in Mesoamerica”.
- 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.** Awarded to develop the course “ANTHA525/526 Community Based Research”.

Publications:

Peer Reviewed Publications:

- 2023 López Corral, A, **K. Alcántara**, R. Santacruz Cano. 2023. Identidad guerrera tlaxcalteca del Posclásico tardío. *Anales de Antropología* 57(1) enero-junio.
- 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 Alcantara-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 Alcantara-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.

Book Reviews

- 2023 Alcantara, K. Review of *Native Foodways: Indigenous North American Religious Traditions and Foods*. edited by Michelene E. Pensatubbee and Michael J. Zogry. SUNY Press. *NAIS* Volume 10, Issue 1:127-129.
- 2021 Alcantara, K. 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. 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.

Video Publications:

- 2022 Alcantara, K. (Director). “Comida Como Resistencia”. 27 mins.
www.comidacomoresistencia.com
Screenings:
- ANTHB200 Screening, Indiana University, Bloomington. Nov. 30, 2022. (60 in-person attendees)
 - Universidad Nacional del Sur. Argentina. Cátedra de Historia de América. Oct 11, 2022 (12 in-person attendees)
 - IU Bloomington Center for Documentary Research. Oct. 10 2022. (50 in-person attendees)
 - Universidad Anáhuac. Ciudad de México, México. Aug. 31,2022 (10 in-person attendees)
 - IU Mexico City Gateway offices at UNAM, Mexico City. August 10, 2022. (82 virtual attendees from Canada, Mexico, US, Costa Rica, Brazil, Portugal, Honduras, Guatemala, Peru, Argentina, Colombia, Spain, Ecuador, Switzerland; 30 in-person attendees)
 - Food Relatives Conference, Berkeley Food Institute Graduate Council. April 1st, 2022. (50 virtual attendees from US and Latin America)
 - Indiana Black Loam Conference, Bloomington, IN. March 19th, 2022. (10 in-person attendees)
 - Diplomado en Antropología e Historia de Tlaxcala. INAH, Tlaxcala, Mexico. March 3rd, 2022. (150 virtual attendees from US, Latin America)

Publications in Process:

- 2023 (expected) Alcantara, K. “Olla Ecologies: Transgenerational Foodways in Tlaxcala, Mexico”. *Under Review* as part of *Elementa* Special Feature “Agrobiodiversity Nourishes Us: Action Research for Agroecological Transformations” .
- 2023 (expected) Alcantara, K. “Wrinkled Time: A Model for A Bioarchaeology of the Present”. *In preparation for American Anthropologist* .
- 2024 (expected) Alcantara, K and S. Pedzinski. “Garden as Laboratory”.
- 2025 (expected) Alcantara, K. “Food as Resistance: An Archaeology of the Past and Present”. *In Preparation, Book Manuscript under contract with University Press of Florida for submission Fall 2024, publication Fall 2025.*

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., Kalentzidou O., McCallister L., Ormaza P., Vanderburgh D. “The Soil”. Self-published zine and digital booklet.
<https://www.healinggardeniub.com/curricula>
- 2021 Alcantara, K. “Food and Resistance in Ancient and Contemporary Tlaxcala”. Wenner Gren Foundation Blog. November 17, 2021.
<http://blog.wennergren.org/2021/11/eag-keitlyn-alcantara/>
- 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/>

Conference Presentations:

- 2023 **Alcantara, K** (Moderator, Organizer), K. French, C. Fisher, G. Ramón Celis, C. Fisher, I Kuijt. Forum “Visual storytelling and Community Based Research in Archaeology”, 88th Annual Meeting for the Society of American Archaeology, Portland, OR, March 29- April 2, 2023.
- 2022 **Alcantara, K** (Moderator), Shield Chief Gover, C., Badillo, A., Van Alst, E., Graduate, "Archaeology and Identity", Panel for Identity and Identification Themester, Indiana University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Bloomington, IN. Nov 30, 2022.

- 2022 **Alcantara, K.**, Kawate, A., Kalentzidou, O., Bispo de Jesus, A. "Seeds, Foodways and Biomes", Panelist, Workshop for the Global Indigenous Studies Network, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. Nov 4, 2022.
- 2022 **Alcantara, K.**, Campos Quezada, A. Méndez-Martínez EM. "Colectividad de las Prácticas Alimentarias: Recetas que Resisten y Persisten". Moderator, Panelist. Latin American Studies Association Ethnicity Race and Indigenous People's Conference. October 28-30, Mexico City, Mexico.
- 2022 **Alcantara, K.** "Cultivating Community Comfort Foods". Indiana Uplands Winter Food Conference, Jan. 25, 2022, Bloomington, IN.
- 2021 **Alcantara, K.** Roundtable "Truth, Responsibility and Mental Health in Anthropology: The Crisis in Graduate Student Mental Health and Beyond". Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, virtual meeting. Nov. 19, 2021.
- 2021 **Alcantara, K.** Panelist. "Ligando el Pasado y El Presente: A Bioarchaeological Instagram Cooking Series". Theoretical Archaeology Group Meetings, May 2nd, 2021. Virtual.
- 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.

Speaking Engagements and Interviews:

- 2022 **Introductory Commentary.** Patten Lecture Series: Cherrie Moraga. September 15, 2022.
- 2022 **Invited Speaker.** “Community Based Methods at the Healing Garden”, workshop in support of project "Support to Traditional Cultural Practices in Northern Iraq", Laser Pulse Organization, University of Duhok, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, Purdue University, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. Aug. 25, 2022
- 2022 **Invited Speaker.** “The Roots of Food Inequity in the U.S.: Using the Past to Imagine Better Futures.” Indiana Department of Health. Indiana Grown for Schools Network 2022 Webinar Series. Presentation. July 20, 2022.
- 2022 **Keynote Speaker.** “Recipes of Resistance”. Wilkes Honors College Symposium, Florida Atlantic University, April 1st, 2022, Jupiter, FL.
- 2021 **Invited Speaker.** Archaeology Research Symposium. “Food as Storytelling”. New York University. Dec. 9, 2021.
- 2021 **Invited Speaker.** Environmental Resilience Speaker Series. “Food as Storytelling”. Indiana University. Dec. 3, 2021.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2okKrLNvJLE>
- 2021 **Invited Speaker.** “Indigenous Foodways”. Chapternoons at First Nations Cultural and Educational Center, Indiana University. Nov. 4th, 2021.
- 2021 **Panelist.** Mexico Meetups: A Reflection on the Fall of the Aztec Empire: 500 Years Later (1521-2021), with panelists Matthew Restall, Ruben Ruíz and moderator César Feliz-Brasdefer. Nov. 4th, 2021.
https://iu.mediaspace.kaltura.com/playlist/dedicated/1_os3po04b/
- 2020 **Invited Speaker.** “La Comida Como Resistencia: Integrando El Pasado y El Presente”. Hablando de Huesos: Conversaciones en Tiempo de Pandemia. Bioarqueología Mexico, Dec. 2nd 2020.
- 2020 **Invited Speaker.** “Recipes of Belonging: Adapting What Our Ancestors Gave Us.” Indigenous Archaeology & Community Engaged Research in the Americas. Boston University, Nov. 13th, 2020.
- 2020 **Panelist.** Indiana University Food Institute Seminar Series: Food and (anti)Race(ism). Oct. 30, 2020.
- 2020 **Invited Speaker.** “Día de los Muertos: Ancient origins, modern interpretations”. La Casa Culture Center at Indiana University Day of the Dead Celebration, October 26th, 2020.
- 2020 **Workshop Instructor.** “Tacos de Jamaica”. AMEXTRA. Nov. 14th, 2020.
- 2020 **Workshop Instructor.** “Roots of Southern Cooking”. Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Middle Tennessee. February 6th and 20th, 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.

Media Interviews

- 2022 **Invited Guest.** “The Way Home”. Making Contact: radio stories and voices to take action. Radio Project. Nov. 23, 2022.
- 2022 **Invited Guest.** “Healing Garden provides refuge, helps students grow”. IU Bloomington Today. October 24, 2022.
- 2021 **Invited Guest.** Hola Bloomington – a Spanish Language News and Public Affairs Radio Show. WFHB. Bloomington, Indiana. May 28.2021.
- 2021 **Invited Guest.** The Governance Roundtable of the Ostrom Workshop Podcast. Episode 9: Keitlyn Alcantara. April 2021.
- 2021 **Invited Guest.** Earth Eats: Real Food and Green Living – a weekly podcast on WFIU, Indiana Public Radio. Recorded Nov. 16th, 2021, Aired January 15th, 2022.

Public Scholarship

- 2022-2023 **IU Sustainability Scholar mentor.** For project “Building Rich Soils”. Bloomington, Indiana.
- 2021-Present **Healing Garden Project Director.** Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana. www.healinggardeniub.com
- 2021-2022 **Restorative Foodways Project Principal Investigator.** Indiana University, Bloomington. <https://www.healinggardeniub.com/restorative-foodways-project-2020-2021>
- 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.

Teaching

- Spring 2023 **ANTH E400/600 “Food and the Body”.** Indiana University-Bloomington, Department of Anthropology.
- Fall 2022 **ANTH A525 “Community Based Research I”.** Indiana University-Bloomington, Department of Anthropology.
- Spring 2022 **ANTH P399/600 “Migration and Identity in Mesoamerica”.** Indiana University-Bloomington, Department of Anthropology.
- Fall 2021 **ANTH P380 “Prehistoric Diet and Nutrition”.** Indiana University-Bloomington, Department of Anthropology.
- Spring 2021 **ANTH A526 “Community Based Research II”.** Indiana University-Bloomington, Department of Anthropology.
- Fall 2020 **ANTH A107 “Becoming Human”.** Indiana University – Bloomington, Department of Anthropology.
- Spring 2021 **ANTH A525 “Community Based Research I”.** Indiana University-Bloomington, Department of Anthropology.
- Fall 2020 **ANTH P399/600 “Food and the Body”.** 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.