

Expanding Black Civic Educative Imaginaries: Diasporic Perspectives on Afro-Latin@ and Afro-Latin American Political Thought

Expanding Black Civic Educative Imaginaries: Diasporic Perspectives on Afro-Latin@ and Afro-Latin American Political Thought is a developing book project that begins with contemporary examples of Black political mobilization across the Americas to highlight educative acts and educational advocacy, but trace the history through an Afro-Latin@ and Afro-Latin American lens. It answers the central research question of how can a historical examination of Afro-Latin@ and Afro-Latin American mobilization efforts and political thought be used to expand current ideas about Black civic education, civil society, and blackness? From January 2021-December 2021, this Spencer Grant will support archival and historical research to examine the civic educative engagement of Afro-Latin@ and Afro-Latin American individuals and collectives across the Americas. I argue that their exploits are inherently civic, and thus call for a re-imagination of the nexus of civic education, civil society, and blackness in educational discourses. In a heightened moment of Black advocacy across the Americas, this historical research project has the potential for informing multiple actors, stakeholders, and disciplines. Moreover, this research project expands current conceptions of blackness as well as notions surrounding the relationship between education and Black political mobilization.