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Education

- 1984 – 1987: San Juan Evangelista High School (Santiago Chile). Best student class 1987.
- 1988 – 1991: Catholic University of Chile: Law School
- 1992 –1997: Catholic University of Chile. Sociology (B.A.)
- 1999 – 2001: Ph.D. student Political Science. University of Illinois at Chicago. M.A. Political Science UIC, December 2000, Certificate in Gender and Women Studies, April 2001, UIC, Certificate in Teaching Political Science, UIC, APSA. PhD Expected May 2003. Examination fields: Political theory, Political Communication, Urban Politics.

Other Studies

- 1984 – 1986: British Cultural institute: Certificate of English proficiency.
- 1991 – 1992: Courses of M.A. Political Science. Catholic University of Chile.

Dissertation

Shopping Malls: (Public) Spaces in the post-modern Society

Abstract: In the last decades there is a constant process of decay in public space and a replacement of those spaces by “Pseudo-public” spaces like gated communities, Shopping malls or office building complexes. In the case shopping malls American literature has identified them as spaces of exclusion, surveillance, and of construction of an imaginary reality. However, Malls in Chile tend not to fit that description: they are localized in very accessible places, its localization is independent of crime rates, and many community activities such as Sunday mass or charities take place on them. This difference has to be looked in a more homogeneous society and in a small size market that requires from everybody’s consumption in order to be profitable. But the differences with the literature do not imply to uncritically accept that Chilean malls are public spaces. In fact the dissertation argues that they are not: they fail to offer people the capacity of contesting the dominant values and uses imposed over space. Through qualitative research, interviews, focus groups and experiments, the thesis argues that space is not

contested in malls because three different groups do not think about them as public spaces: Developers, managers, and customers. The thesis finally concludes by making a parallel between the perceptions of these three groups and different theories of domination: Marxist repression by the ruling class, Foucault's disciplinary power, and Gramsci's theory of ideological hegemony.

Dissertation Committee: Chair: Professor Dennis Judd. Members: Professors Isaac Balbus, Evan McKenzie, David Perry and Gustavo Munizaga.

Professional Internships

- 1995: Undersecretary of Communications and Culture: research assistant in a study about the impact of mass media in the economic perspectives of citizens, (Santiago, Chile).
- 1996: UCV TV (Channel 5): Develop a new organizational model using surveys, interviews and other qualitative methodologies (Valparaiso, Chile).
- 1997: Ministry of Government: research in political communication. Analysis of the coverage and treatment that newspapers gave to the government's agenda. Published thesis to obtain the B.A. in Sociology, (Santiago, Chile).
- 1999: Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy, (University of Illinois at Chicago). Search for grant opportunities and coordinating fellows' activities.

Teaching Experience

- 1992: Teaching Assistant, Catholic University of Chile. Undergraduate class, "Social problems through a cultural perspective," (Teaching and discussion conduction)
- 1999 – 2000: Teaching Assistant, Department of Political Science, University of Illinois at Chicago. Undergraduate class "The Scope of Political Science," (teaching, grading and discussion conduction).
- 2000: Adjunct Faculty, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Governor's State University, University Park, IL. Undergraduate courses: "Latin American History" and "Latin American Culture and Society."
- 2000: Curriculum design: Development of classes for the forthcoming M.A. in Communication at the Alberto Hurtado University, (Santiago, Chile).

- 2001 Spring: Instructor, department of Latin American Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago. Undergraduate class, "Introduction to the Andean Countries."
- 2001 Summer: Instructor, department of Political Science, University of Illinois at Chicago. Undergraduate class, "The Scope of Political Science."
- 2001-2002: Lecturer, Department of Political Science, University of Illinois at Chicago. Undergraduate class, "The Scope of Political Science."

Paper presentations in Conferences and Seminars

- 1999: "Latin America: A successful left?" 25th Third World Conference, Chicago, Illinois. Third World Conference Foundation
- 1999: "New media in the political Process" (In cooperation with Carlos Catalan, Ph.D.). Seminar "Mass media, Political parties and Democracy." Mexico city, Federal Electoral Institute.
- 2000: "Political parties coverage in Chilean newspapers." Latin American Studies Association Conference, Miami, Florida.
- 2000: "Female politicians in Chilean newspapers." International Studies Association, Midwest meeting, St. Louis, Missouri.
- 2001: "A challenge to the exclusionary vision of Shopping malls." (Forthcoming). Southern Political Science Association Conference. Atlanta, November 2001

Articles in books and magazines

- 1996: "Political sphere as a base for a fair society." In, "Culture and Solidarity". Edited by ICHEH, 1996. Santiago, Chile.
- 2001: "Shopping malls: (Public spaces) in a consumer society. The case of Santiago, Chile." Under review in the International Journal of Urban and Regional Research.

Work Experience

- 1989: Quanta Market Studies: Assistant to the survey team for Chilean Presidential elections.

- 1993: Quanta Market Studies: Member of the survey analyst team for Chilean Presidential elections.
- 1993 – 1994: Vision Communications: Member of the survey analyst team, and field coordinator, in a series of studies regarding the perceptions of the University of Chile. Cooperation in the development of a communication strategy for the University.
- 1994: National TV Council: Research Assistant in a study regarding content analysis of children TV programs.
- 1996: Quanta Market Studies: Member of the survey analyst team and field coordinator in different surveys regarding the Ecuadorian presidential elections, (Quito, Ecuador).
- 1996 – 1997: Sistema Political Consultants: Mass media and political analyst. Daily and weekly reports on political issues and media coverage. Electoral analysis after parliamentary elections.
- 1997 – 1998: Cruz & Souza, Political Consultants: Mass media and political analyst. Periodical quantitative reports about news coverage and media's agenda.
- 1998: Ministry of Foreign Relations: Cultural attaché at the Consulate General of Chile in Chicago.
- 2001-2002: University of Illinois at Chicago: Research Specialist in Political Science. Conducting research in Urban Politics, Public Spaces, and Urban Tourism under the direction of Professor Dennis Judd.