Center for Comparative Immigration Studies, UC San Diego Center for the Study of International Migration, UC Los Angeles In Co-Sponsorship with:

> Latin American Institute, UC Los Angeles Center for Mexican Studies, UC Los Angeles

## The Others: Race, Regulations, and Corruption in Mexico's Migration and Naturalization Policies, 1900–1950

Friday, March 3, 2023 | 12:00PM - 1:30PM Pacific Time

Will be held via Zoom | This Seminar will be in Spanish and English



## Author: Pablo Yankelevich

Pablo Yankelevich is professor-researcher at the Centro de Estudios Históricos of El Colegio de México, and is currently the director of the Centro de Estudios Históricos. He holds a Ph.D. in Latin American Studies (UNAM) and specializes in 20th century Latin American history. He is member of the Mexican Academy of the History and the Mexican Academy of Sciences. He is Director of the book series "Historias Mínimas" published by El Colegio de México. Professor Yankelevich performs research in Mexican contemporary history, history of Latin American exiles and political refugees, and history of migration in Mexico. He currently develops a project focused on social exclusion, discrimination and racism in post-revolutionary Mexico.



## Discussant: Grace Peña Delgado

Grace Peña Delgado (Ph.D., History, UCLA) is Associate Professor of History at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Professor Delgado is a Yale University Modern Slavery Research Group member and an affiliate of the Arts and Humanities Research Council's (UK) Project on Trafficking, Smuggling, and Illicit Migration in Historical and Gendered Perspective at Cambridge University and the University of London. Dr. Delgado is the author of Making the Chinese Mexican: Global Migration, Localism, and Exclusion in the US-Mexico Borderlands (Stanford: 2012) and the forthcoming Trafficking in Black and White: Persons as Property, Border Policing, and the Troubling History of Modern Day Slavery. She is also a co-author of Latino Immigrants in the United States (Polity: 2011).



In immigration matters, Mexico is a paradoxical case. His efforts to promote large-scale immigration policies failed. The country never received significant numbers of immigrants, but even so, in the first decades of the 20th century, it implemented one of the most restrictive immigration and naturalization policies in the Americas. Foreigners have always represented a minuscule percentage of the country's population (less than I percent) and the strictest controls were applied at a time when the number of Mexicans migrating to the United States exceeded the influx of foreigners into the country. So why did Mexico restrict immigration? And what were the underlying causes of the extreme racialization of immigration and naturalization rules in a country beset by ethnic prejudice and state policies that censored racial discrimination at the dawn of the 20th century? The book sheds light on the origins of

many migration-related problems that still afflict the Mexican government: irregular migration to the United States, bureaucratic immigration and naturalization procedures, corruption and arbitrary decisions, racism, and discrimination in its immigration policy.

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