



## *Descargas otorgadas*

### *Segundo Semestre 2024-2025*

**Dr. Eric Lamore**  
**Departamento de Inglés**

*New Archival Discoveries Relating to Quobna Ottobah Cugoano's  
Jeremiad*

I respectfully request a research release for the Spring 2025 semester to continue to study the jeremiad of Ottobah Cugoano, the most radical Black writer in late-eighteenth-century Britain. During a recent fellowship, I located a unique copy of Cugoano's 1787 book at the Providence Public Library. This book contains an expanded autobiographical narrative in a section titled "General Contents," which Cugoano inserted to position himself as an Afro-British subject and increase sales of his book. There are at least ten extant copies of Cugoano's 1787 book in libraries throughout the world. However, this narrative does not appear in other copies that I have examined. With a descarga, I will contact archivists and special collections coordinators for scans or photographs of Cugoano's book housed at their institutions; calculate how many of the "General Contents" sections contain the expanded autobiographical narrative; determine if additional revisions have been made to these extant copies following the "General Contents" section; and draft parts of the chapter in which I examine the publishing and reception histories of Cugoano's book. This work forms part of my monograph, *Unstable as Water: Early Black Atlantic Literature and Textual Fluidity*, in which I utilize methodologies from the fields of book history and print cultures to examine books orally related or written by individuals of African descent first printed before 1800. For this research, I have been awarded numerous fellowships, including two funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, and appointed Remote Scholar at New York University numerous times.

**Dr. Gregory Stephens**  
**Departamento de Inglés**

*Case Study of a Communicative Culture*

The absence of fathers in mythology and children's literature is so normative as to be almost invisible. Yet commentary about absentee fathers in contemporary film, literature, and Young Adult Literature is growing. The proposed study has as ímpetus how students, and my daughter, are exposing me to recent developments in

representations of the “Absent Father.” In addition, there is a burgeoning sub-genre of books about the Absent Father in psychology, self-help literature, and memoir. Examples of how this phenomenon is becoming more visible in mainstream commercial culture include commentaries about the death of Miles’ father in “Across the Spider-Verse” as a “Canon Event,” or the fatherly absence in Rick Riordan’s Percy Jackson and the Olympians series.

I aspire to a wide-screen sort of cultural commentary that draws on these scholarly traditions:

1. A body of scholarship about the interface between anthropology and literature, especially studies arguing that fiction can serve as an ethnographic source (it can teach us about socio-cultural themes and obsessions of the era in which it was written or produced);
2. The theory of generic transformation, particularly the notion of rhetorical genres;
3. My theory of communicative cultures, including prior studies of fatherless “culture heroes” such as Bob Marley and Frederick Douglass.

My point of departure research questions would be:

1. To what degree can writing about the Absent Father be considered a genre, or an emergent genre?
2. To what degree do contemporary representations of the Absent Father differ from a history of archetypal representations of absent fathers in children’s literature, in particular?
3. Is this discourse informed by or responding to contemporary concerns such as “toxic masculinity”?

**Dra. Mary Moreno**  
**Departamento de Psicología**

*Desarrollo de un laboratorio de adiestramiento en investigación subgraduado y graduado en el campo de la Neuropsicología Escolar*

Se presenta una "Labor Creativa" para el desarrollo de infraestructura que promueva la investigación subgraduado y graduado en el campo de la Neuropsicología Escolar. Se pretende desarrollar un laboratorio de investigación, a través de comunidades de aprendizaje entre estudiantado subgraduado, graduado y la persona mentora. Estos laboratorios son comunes en universidades orientadas a la investigación, principalmente en áreas de ciencias y tecnología. El desarrollo del programa doctoral en Psicología Escolar, iniciado hace cuatro años, hace factible la creación de laboratorios en el área de psicología, lo que es innovador en nuestro recinto. En cuanto a la metodología, esta comunidad estará enlazada a través de actividades de seminarios, adiestramientos, journal club y subgrupos de trabajos inter y transdisciplinarios, así como con laboratorios de otras instituciones. Se proveerá mentoría de pares entre estudiantado, entre estudiantado y persona mentora, y

entre facultativos. Se espera que a mediano y largo plaza se produzcan proyectos que permitan obtener datos para presentaciones y publicaciones. El establecimiento de este laboratorio representa el inicio hacia una mejor infraestructura para trabajar de forma más efectiva, ampliar las oportunidades de investigación y ofrecer un componente práctico en cursos de neuropsicología del programa graduado. Además, abre oportunidades de adiestramiento y estructura formal para el desarrollo de proyectos con fondos externos. Esta propuesta está alineada a la visión y misión del Colegio de Artes y Ciencias, y el Departamento de la persona proponente, contribuyendo al desarrollo de egresados con competencias para resolver problemas sociales y proponer soluciones con base en evidencia científica.

**Dr. Hilton Alers**  
**Departamento de Estudios Hispánicos**

### *Modeling the syntax of clitics in the SMT Parser*

The biolinguistics approach aims to construct a coherent and biologically plausible theory of human language as a computational system coded in the brain that for each individual recursively generates an infinite array of hierarchically structured expressions interpreted at both interfaces for thought and externalization. Language, a recent development in human evolution, is acquired reflexively from impoverished data and shares common properties through the species in spite of individual diversity. Universal Grammar, a genuine explanation of language, must meet these apparently contradictory requirements of evolvability, learnability and universality. The Strong Minimalist Thesis (SMT) proposes that all phenomena of language have a principled account rooted in efficient computation, which makes language a perfect solution to interface conditions. For this project, a computer model, the SMT Parser, is implemented assuming these challenges, only using language-specific operations, relations, and procedures satisfying SMT. Among the most theoretically-challenging language phenomenon is the syntax of clitics. Clitics are generally understood as words without prosodic autonomy that “lean” on a host word. Usually weak forms of functional elements such as pronouns, determiners, auxiliaries, copulatives, negation particles and question particles, the morphosyntactic status of clitics is still under debate. One of the main problems in syntactic research is whether clitics are arguments or functional heads. As a plausible model of human language, the SMT Parser implements cutting-edge syntactic theory within the generative enterprise. Successful derivations of clitic structures obtained through the model will test the feasibility of the SMT and answer fundamental questions about the syntactic status of clitics.