

Michele F. Ferris-Dobles

She/Her

Researcher and professor
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Personal Website: <https://mferrisdobles.me/>**Date of birth:** July 5, 1987**Nationality:** Costa Rica, Central America**Languages:** Native Spanish / Fluent English**1. EDUCATION****2017- 2022****PhD in Communication** University of Illinois at Chicago, Illinois, USA.

Committee: Steve Jones (chair), Zizi Papacharissi, Elaine Yuan, Andreas Feldmann, and Ignacio Siles

Graduate Concentration in Latin American and Latino Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)

- Studies funded with a full scholarship awarded by the Fulbright program of the United States Government.
- Studies funded with a full scholarship awarded by the University of Costa Rica.
- **Award for the best doctoral thesis** in social sciences from the University of Illinois at Chicago (2023).
<https://grad.uic.edu/news-stories/recipients-fall2022-awards/>

- **Award for the best doctoral thesis** in the area of communication and technology (CAT) from the International Communication Association ICA
https://www.icaheadq.org/members/group_content_view.asp?group=186088&id=631396

2011-2013**Master's degree in Documentary Filmmaking and Communication**, Wake Forest University, North Carolina, USA.

- Studies funded with a full scholarship awarded by the Fulbright program of the United States Government.

**2005-2010
Production.****Bachelor's degree in Communication with emphasis in Audiovisual**

Graduated with academic honors; avg 9.19 (out of 10).

University of Costa Rica, School of Communication, San Jose, Costa Rica.

2. SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS**2023**

Award for the best doctoral thesis in communication and technology (CAT) from the International Communication Association ICA.

2022

Award for the best doctoral thesis in social sciences from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

2017-2020	LASPAU- Fulbright Scholarship to pursue PhD studies in the United States
2019	University of Illinois President's Research in Diversity Travel Award
2019	University of Illinois at Chicago Graduate Student Council Travel Award
2018	ECO Midwest Conference, Chicago, IL Best Graduate Student Poster Award
2011-2013	IIE-Fulbright Scholarship to pursue MA studies in the United States

3. PUBLICATIONS

Book	Ferris-Dobles, M. (forthcoming) Migration in the Digital Age. Intellect Books
Book	Ferris-Dobles, M. (2023) Crossing the border with the cell phone: migration and technology. Editions Institute of Social Research, University of Costa Rica.
Book Chapter	Ferris-Dobles, M. (2022) New Communication Technologies and Peoples' Movement. In The Routledge History of Modern Latin American Migration (pp. 400-411). Routledge.
Book Chapter	Ferris-Dobles, M. (2020) Central America: For migrants crossing national borders or connecting across 'the wall', communication technologies play a vital role. In Minority Rights Report. <i>Minority and Indigenous Trends a Focus on Technology</i> .

4. CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2022	AoIR Association of Internet Researchers Conference.
2020	AoIR Association of Internet Researchers Conference. Virtual. Paper presentation: "Communication Technologies and Human Migration: Moving Beyond the Narrative of the 'Connected Migrant'".
2019	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Media in Transition Conference. Paper presentation: "Central American Migration and the "Borderless" mobile phone".
2019	Utrecht University, NL. Digitized Mobilities Conference. Paper presentation: "Central American migration, using the mobile phone across national borders".
2019	AoIR Association of Internet Researchers Conference. Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia. Paper presentation: "Central American migration, trusting the mobile phone to cross borders".
2018	Eco Midwest Conference, Chicago IL. Poster: "Undocumented and Unafraid: young Latinxs in the United States using Instagram to build networks of solidarity". Best graduate poster award.

5. SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, AND ADDITIONAL TRAINING

2021	MIGTEC (http://sts-migtec.org/) writing workshop: training academic skills at the intersection of science, technology, and human migration.
2021	Cornell University. Computer and Information Science Department. Summer School "Design for Social Impact".
2021	NECS-European Network for Cinema and Media Studies Graduate Workshop "Migration as a Method: Media, Circulation, and Knowledge Production".

2019 AoIR Association of Internet Researchers Conference “Dissertation Research Workshop”. Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia.

6. TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2019-2020 Instructor. University of Illinois at Chicago, Communication Department. COMM 100 Fundamentals of Human Communication / Public Speaking.

2014-2017 Professor. University of Costa Rica, School of Communication.

Courses:

Scriptwriting (First Semester 2014).

Introduction to audiovisual communication (Second Semester 2014, Second Semester 2015, Second Semester 2016).

Research for communication (First Semester 2016, First Semester 2017).

Storytelling and narratives (Second Semester 2016).

Documentary production (First Semester 2015, First Semester 2016, First Semester 2017).

7. ACADEMIC SERVICE

Journal Reviewer: New Media & Society

Conference Paper Reviewer: AoIR Association of Internet Researchers

8. PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2021 Graduate Assistant Workforce Education, Discovery Partners Institute (DPI), University of Illinois.

2017 Researcher in Communication. CICOM (Center for Investigation in Communication) University of Costa Rica.

2015-2017 Coordinator of Student Community and Social Impact Work. School of Communication, University of Costa Rica

2016 Director and Producer. “Memorias de un Sueño” (Memories of a Dream) Documentary about the 45th anniversary of the Costa Rican Tech Institution. TEC, Instituto Tecnológico de Costa Rica.

2016 Producer. “Casa en Tierra Ajena” (Home in a Foreign Land) Documentary about Central American migration to the United States. Universidad de Costa Rica and Universidad Estatal a Distancia, Costa Rica.

2014-2016 Producer and Director. Documentaries and educational audiovisual productions. Universidad Estatal a Distancia, Costa Rica.

- 2013-2014** Director and Editor. “Campaña Nacional” (National Campaign) Documentary for the Costa Rica Ministry of Education. Caramba Films, Costa Rica.
- 2013** Editor. Audiovisuales Chirripó, videos for nature conservation in Costa Rica. San José, Costa Rica.
- 2012-2013** Director, editor and director of photography. WIP (Wrought Iron Productions). Wake Forest University. NC, USA.
- 2006-2011/2013** Producer and Editor. Channel 15, University of Costa Rica. In charge of the production of more than 50 TV educational spots on social-environmental issues in Costa Rica and Central America.
- 2009-2011** Department of Social Work, University of Costa Rica. (Vicerectoría de Acción Social). In charge of communications, audiovisual production and workshops. (half time).
- 2009-2011** In charge of communications and audiovisual production. COECOCEIBA, Friends of the Earth International (NGO) San José, Costa Rica.
- December 2010** In charge of communications and audiovisual production. Friends of the Earth International Cop-16: United Nations Conference on Climate Change, Cancún, México.
- December 2009** In charge of communications and audiovisual production. Friends of the Earth International Cop-15: United Nations Conference on Climate Change, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- 2008** Production Assistant. Audiovisual Production Collective “Bisonte Producciones” San José, Costa Rica.
- 2007-2008.** Journalist and Photographer. “Kink” Cultural Magazine, San José, Costa Rica.
- 2006-2007** Producer and Editor. Giro en U: Student News Radio Show. University of Costa Rica Radio. San José, Costa Rica

9. AUDIOVISUAL TRAINING

Workshop: DOCULAB Costa Rica. Official selection for the workshop and Documentary lab imparted by the Guadalajara Film Festival during the Costa Rica International (2013 and 2014).

Workshop: Audiovisual narratives. Casa Batsú. August 2013. San José, Costa Rica.

Training: Documentary Film Production “Harvard 7/19 Documentary Filmmaking” Digital Media Academy, Harvard University, Boston. August, 2010.

Workshop: "Documentary: high quality, low budget". Cultural Center of Spain, San José, Costa Rica. October, 2010.

Course: “Protest, repression and criminalization: theoretical debates and audiovisual productions”. Institute for Social Research, University of Costa Rica. San José, Costa Rica. February 2010.

2008. Technical Diploma in Audiovisual Production.

Institute of National Education (INA), San Jose, Costa Rica.

Workshop: “Audio production and design”. Mexican Cultural Institute of Radio Stations and the University of Costa Rica. San José, Costa Rica. December, 2006.

2006. Technical Diploma in advanced photography, Memorandum Photography Academy, San Jose, Costa Rica.

10. RESEARCH SKILLS

Survey and questionnaire design / Interview design and application / Focus groups and workshop facilitation / Qualitative and Quantitative data analysis / Data Visualization / Qualitative and Quantitative Research / Ethnography and Digital Ethnography / Social Network Analysis / Content and Discourse Analysis /

11. TECHNICAL SKILLS

Audio and Video Editing / Photo Editing / Basic Animation / Camera Operator / Basic Web Design / Director of Photography / Photographer / Sound Recording / Data Coding / Data Analysis / Social Network Analysis / Data Visualization

Complete knowledge of the following programs: Word, Excel, Power Point, Flash, InDesign, Motion, Final Cut Pro, Soundtrack Pro, Premier, Photoshop e Illustrator.

Complete knowledge of semi-professional cameras, video cameras, and DSLR cameras.

12. AWARDS - AUDIOVISUAL PRODUCTIONS

Direction: “Marea Alta” (High Tide) (2020). Best Documentary Short Film, Costa Rica International Film Festival. Jury Special Price, Shnit Film Festival, Costa Rica. Jury Special Price, Los Angeles International Film Festival.

Production: “Casa en Tierra Ajena” (Home in a Foreign Land) Documentary (2016). Costa Rican Ministry of Culture Audiovisual, Best Documentary Award 2016.

Direction: “Iliana” (2014)

Official Selection: Costa Rica International Film Festival 2014. San José, Costa Rica.

Festival Internacional de Cine ICARO, 2014. Guatemala. Festival Internacional de cine centroamericano, 2015, Los Angeles, EEUU. Festival Internacional de Cine Pobre, 2016, Panamá.

Direction: “Ghosts of Johnston County” (2013). North Carolina, USA.

Screenings:

Pittsburgh Documentary Salon, Pittsburgh, PA – December 2014

Guilford College, in collaboration with the Peace and Conflict Studies Department, Greensboro, NC – November 2014

Wild Goose Festival, Hot Springs, NC - June 2014

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Raleigh, Raleigh, NC – February 2014

The Quaker House; Fayetteville, NC – February 2014

North Carolina State University, in collaboration with the Department of Social Work, Raleigh, NC – February 2014

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, in collaboration the School of Law’s Human Rights Lab, Chapel Hill, NC – February 2014

Direction: “The Legitimate Child” (2012).

Official Selection: River Run International Film Festival, Winston Salem, North Carolina, USA. (2013).

National Black Theater Festival. Winston Salem, North Carolina, USA. (2013).
Eichelberger Film Dayton Festival, Dayton, Ohio, USA (2013).