

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Anthony P. Mora, assistant professor of American culture, and assistant professor of history, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of American culture, with tenure, and associate professor of history, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2002	University of Notre Dame
M.A.	1998	University of Notre Dame
B.A.	1996	University of New Mexico

Professional Record:

2007 – present	Assistant Professor, Program in American Culture and Department of History, University of Michigan
2002 – 2007	Assistant Professor, Department of History, Texas A&M University

Summary of Evaluations:

Teaching – Professor Mora is a committed and successful teacher, and is making important curricular contributions. He views undergraduate teaching as the central educational mission of the university. Every year he has offered to teach courses at the entry level. His upper-division teaching is also frequent and excellent. Professor Mora's grading is on the tough side, as he expects excellence for an excellent grade. Students rate him very favorably and his evaluation trajectory has trended upward from very good to excellent.

Research – The centerpiece of Professor Mora's scholarship is his published book, Border Dilemmas, which establishes him as a leading historian of the U.S.-Mexico border. Demonstrating his great mastery of existing scholarship in borderlands history, Chicana/o history, and Mexican history (as well as critical studies of race, nationalism, imperialism, gender, and identity in a variety of historical contexts), Professor Mora wields an impressive array of evidence to recast the history of territorial New Mexico. He is certain to achieve national recognition as a careful, productive, and transformative scholar. Professor Mora has also written an award-winning article and an essay that amounts to a creative history of the U.S.-Mexico border. His current research on Mexican Americans and African Americans in 20th-century Chicago has received prestigious fellowships from the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, ensuring his continued productivity.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Border Dilemmas: Racial and National Uncertainties in New Mexico, 1848-1912, Duke University Press, 2011.

“A fixed border's shifting meanings: The United States and Mexico, 1821 to 2007,” in Labor Market Issues along the U.S.-Mexico Border, University of Arizona Press, 2009.

“Resistance and accommodation in a border parish,” *Western Historical Quarterly*, 36(3), 2005, pp. 301-326.

Service – Professor Mora has an excellent record of service in American Culture and in History. His excellent leadership during the 25th anniversary celebrations of the creation of the Latina/o Studies program was integral to the success of the event.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

“Anthony P. Mora is an outstanding historian [of his generation]. ... Mora turned a very smart local study (his dissertation) into a much more important study—one in which scholars otherwise uninterested in the American West can find important lessons... ...I strongly support Mora’s candidacy for tenure and promotion to associate professor at the University of Michigan. He has written an *outstanding* first book, has already begun an important second project, and shows every sign of having a long and distinguished career...”

Reviewer (B)

“*Border Dilemmas*... offers a critically important perspective on recent discussions of Mexican nationalism in the southwestern borderlands. ... Dr. Mora’s upcoming project... promises to take the themes of his first book to a broader audience... Dr. Mora would certainly receive tenure and promotion to associate professor in my own department... ...[he] is a wonderful human being, a delightful colleague who I would want to keep around my campus for good.”

Reviewer (C)

“...few scholars of Mexican Americans in the modern period have examined religion, church, or the conflicts they produced, so Mora’s contribution is quite original and badly needed. ...Mora’s contribution is impressive. What’s more, and by no means trivial, is the clarity and grace of the writing. I can recommend...[him] for tenure without qualifications.”

Reviewer (D)

“I would characterize Mora as one of a small cohort of scholars at the forefront of new developments in the history of borderlands and nation formation... I would certainly include Professor Mora’s book on the list of the most significant books or articles in the field, and intend to assign it when I next teach a course on the U.S./ Mexican border. ... The book is exceptionally strong—polished and important—and the new work, for which he has already received a fellowship, promises a similar level of creativity and significance.”

Reviewer (E)

“His book, *Border Dilemmas*, is a superb, well-written example of historical scholarship, a significant contribution to existing knowledge in the fields of American history and Latino Studies. ... There is no doubt that his completed scholarship qualifies Prof. Mora for a tenured position... ...in my view [he] ranks among the most promising scholars [of his generation] emerging in the well-populated and burgeoning field of Latino historical research.”

Reviewer (F)

“...Michigan is fortunate to have a scholar of Mexican Americans who can pursue archival research in the decades before and after 1900. ...I would suggest that Mora’s interests in religious histories make him an unusually valuable scholar in his field. ... Mora’s *Border Dilemmas* is certainly the most important published work on late-19th century race relations in

southern New Mexico. I am teaching it in my graduate Latina/o History readings course this semester... Let me close by stating that Anthony Mora is certainly in the top ranks of Mexican American historians, and Borderlands historians, nationwide.”

Reviewer (G)

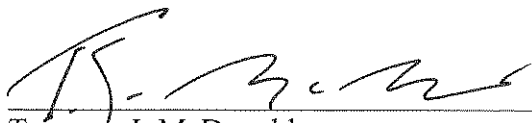
“This is an important piece of original historical scholarship. ... *Border Dilemmas* is a masterful exploration of the relationship between nation, race, citizenship, and social belonging... In short, I think the work produced thus far by Professor Mora places him in the first rank of his cohort- and clearly meets the threshold for promotion in rank and tenure.”

Reviewer (H)

“...I regard *Border Dilemmas* to be a solid and worthy contribution to its field. It makes an important point and it will certainly be read by specialists in the field and in specialized graduate seminars. ...Professor Mora has met the requirements for tenure at most research universities, for he has...written a useful, well-researched and -written monograph based on careful analysis of a distinctive case study. *Border Dilemmas* offers new insights into the dynamics of race in the southwest borderlands and it contributes to a lively and still expanding historiography on that theme.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Mora is an established leader in his field who has made substantial contributions to the teaching and service missions of the college. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Anthony P. Mora be promoted to the rank of associate professor of American culture, with tenure, and associate professor of history, with tenure, in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



Terrence J. McDonald
Arthur F. Thurnau Professor,
Professor of History and Dean,
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

May 2012