

Professor Pedro A. Malavet: Curriculum Vitae

(26 January 2026)

Contact Information

Pedro A. Malavet
Visiting Professor of Law
The University of Tulsa College of Law

Professor of Law Emeritus
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Fredric G. Levin College of Law

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Experience

- **The University of Tulsa College of Law, 2025-present**
 - **Visiting Professor, Fall 2025-present**
 - **Teaching Assignments.** Evidence, Professional Responsibility, Comparative Law Seminar.
- **The University of Florida Fredric G. Levin College of Law, 1995-2025**
 - **Retired, July 2025**
 - **Co-Director, France Study Abroad Program, Summer 2015**
 - **Director, LL.M. in Comparative Law Program, Fall 2011-Spring 2016**
 - **Associate Director, LL.M. in Comparative Law Program, Fall 2010-Spring 2011**
 - **Interim Director, Center for the Study of Race and Race Relations, Fall 2009**
 - **Professor of Law, since 2004**
 - **Tenure, since 2001**
 - **Associate Professor, 2001-2004**
 - **Assistant Professor, 1995-2001**
 - **Affiliate Professor of Latin American Studies, since 2005**
 - **Teaching Assignments: Professional Responsibility (3 credits; 2 sections).**
 - **Teaching Assignment History.** Full-time teaching and research and writing currently principally focused on Comparative Law, Critical Race Theory and U.S. Territorial Possessions. Past and present teaching assignments: Professional Responsibility (3 credits); Evidence (4 credits); Seminar: The U.S. Territorial Possessions, (2 credits), Comparative Law (2 or 3 credits), Civil Procedure (4 credits), Comparative Law Seminar: The Civil Code (2 credits), Evidence (4 credits), Introduction to Law (1 credit), European Union Law (3 credits), Conflicts (3 credits), Comparative Procedure (2 credits), Florida-Univ. of Costa Rica

Environmental Law Program, Montpellier Summer Program, Study Tour of Chile program. As Director, I had administrative responsibilities over student admissions and enrollment, academic counseling and taught in the Introduction to the Legal System of the United States Program (up to 8 credits).

- **Seattle University School of Law, 2004-2005**
 - **Visiting Professor of Law, Fall 2004-Spring 2005.**
 - Taught Evidence, Comparative Law and U.S. Territorial Possessions Independent Study.
- **Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, June-July 2004.**
 - **Visiting Professor of Law, Summer 2004**
 - Taught ten hours of an Introduction to United States Law course.
- **Georgetown University Law Center, 1993-1995**
 - **Adjunct Professor of Law, Spring 1995.**
 - Taught a Seminar on introduction to specific Civil Code substantive legal concepts.
 - **Future Law Professor Teaching Scholar, Fall 1993-Fall 1994.**
 - Team-taught with Professor John R. Schmertz in Conflicts of Laws and European Union Law I.
- **Bufete Malavet & Ayoroa, Ponce, Puerto Rico, 1989-1993**
 - **Junior Partner, 1989 to 1993.**
 - Substantial general litigation experience; prosecution and defense of claims mostly in areas of general tort, personal-injury, medical malpractice and wills; defended in legal malpractice and disciplinary proceedings; significant appellate practice; Latin notary.
- **Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico, 1992-1992**
 - **Adjunct Professor of Law, Fall 1991 to Spring 1992.**
 - Taught courses in Federal Jurisdiction and Puerto Rico Appellate Procedure.
- **The Honorable Raymond L. Acosta, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 1987-1989**
 - **Law Clerk, US District Court, 1987 to 1989.**
 - General research and analysis of filings in civil and criminal cases; worked mainly on one of the largest complex-litigation cases in the history of the federal system; drafted opinions issued by the First Circuit Court of Appeals in several criminal cases.
- **Georgetown University Criminal Justice Clinic, Washington, DC, 1986-1987**
 - **Student Lawyer, 1986 to 1987.**
 - Represented criminal defendants in DC Superior Court and prisoners in post-conviction proceedings. "*Clinician of the Year-DC Division*" award.
- **Georgetown University Law Center, Professor Susan L. Bloch, 1985**
 - **Research Assistant, Summer 1985.**
 - Studied the Cable Communications Act of 1984 and other communications-related legislation.

Education

- [Georgetown University Law Center](#), Washington, DC
 - Juris Doctor, *magna cum laude* (top 10% of the class), 1987; LL.M., 1994.
 - Awards: Criminal Justice Clinician of the Year—DC Division, 1987; Order of the Coif.
- [Emory University](#), Atlanta, Georgia
 - Bachelor of Business Administration, 1984. Accounting Major.

Publication Downloads

- **DOWNLOADS**
(Drafts and final versions of my publications are available for review and download online.)
 - MyBEPRESS: http://works.bepress.com/pedro_malavet/
 - MySSRN: [SSRN Author page: http://ssrn.com/author=624526](http://ssrn.com/author=624526)
- **Repository of Publications by LCOL Faculty:**
 - [UF Law Scholarship Repository](#)
 - [My Publications are Here](#)

Law Review Articles

- ***Counsel for the Situation: The Latin Notary, a Historical and Comparative Model*, 19 Hastings Int'l. and Comparative L. Rev. 389-488 (1996).**
 - Can a lawyer, in certain matters, be an impartial counsel for the situation, rather than an advocate for either party?
- ***The Non-Adversarial, Extra-Judicial Search For Legality And Truth: Foreign Notarial Transactions As An Inexpensive And Reliable Model For A Market-Driven System Of Informed Contracting And Fact-Determination*, 16 Wisc. Int'l L. J. 1-60 (1997).**
 - Notarial transactions are specialized contracts, which in most of the world are written and certified by a legal professional known as a notary, who obviously is not the U.S. notary public. Notarial form is an extra-judicial certification of legality and truth, often comparable to our court judgments.
- ***The Foreign Notarial Legal Services Monopoly: Why Should We Care?*, 31 John Marshall L. Rev. 945-970 (1998).**
 - This piece serves three purposes: (1) briefly to take issue with the treatment of comparative scholarship, especially how it is ignored by main law reviews; (2) to be a succinct introduction to the Latin Notary; and (3) to point out that the adversarial ethic and notarial impartiality can co-exist and even complement one another.
- ***Literature and Arts as Antisubordination Praxis LatCrit Theory and Cultural Production: The Confessions of an Accidental Crit*, 33 U.C. Davis L. Rev. 1293-1331(2000).**
 - This short article: (1) explains the development the Arts Panel at the LatCrit IV Conference and provides an account of its substantive content; (2) it gives the author's reactions to the presentations, while placing them within the planned

description and written questions, locating them within the contemporary debate over the use of narrative in legal scholarship and in postmodern philosophical discourse more generally; and (3) the author gives a narrative about his own reluctant, difficult, and ultimately accidental gravitation towards LatCrit theory.

- ***Puerto Rico: Cultural Nation, American Colony*, 6 Mich. J. Race and Law 1-106 (2000) (actually published in the Summer of 2001).**
 - A study of Puerto Rico's century-old legal relationship with the United States, and how it constructs Puerto Ricans as legal and social second-class citizens because of their cultural nationhood.
- ***The Accidental Crit II: Culture and the Looking Glass of Exile*, 78 D.U. L. Rev. 753-793 (2001) (actually published in the Fall of 2002).**
 - Focuses on competing cultural constructs of Latinas/os generally, and Puerto Ricans in particular, re/viewed from the author's perspective of exile along the cultural borderlands of Puerto Rico and the *Estados Unidos de Norteamérica* (the U.S.A.).
- ***Reparations Theory and Postcolonial Puerto Rico: Some Preliminary Thoughts*, 13 La Raza L. J. 387-423 (2002).**
 - Applying Critical Race Theory reparations discourse to inform Puerto Rico's transition to any one of the three legitimate post-colonial status options.
- ***Introduction: LatCritical Encounters with Culture, In North-South Frameworks*, 51 Fla. L. Rev. 1-39 (2003).**
 - A critical introduction of a group of articles in the LatCrit VI Symposium issue, discussing the authors' diverse approaches to Latin American legal cultures and contextualizing the publications in the growing body of LatCrit scholarship.
- ***Afterword: Outsider Citizenships and Multidimensional Borders: The Power and Danger of Not Belonging*, 52 Cleveland State L. Rev. 321-338 (2005).**
 - A critical review of the essays and articles included in the LatCrit VIII Symposium issue.
- ***The Inconvenience of a "Constitution [that] follows the flag ... but doesn't quite catch up with it": From Downes v. Bidwell to Boumediene v. Bush*, 80 Mississippi Law Journal 181-257 (Fall 2010).**
 - Providing extensive historical, precedential and sociological context for the 2008 decision on the habeas corpus rights of detainees at Guantanamo Naval Station; includes a detailed study of the court's references to the Insular Cases.
- ***Cluster Introduction: Puerto Rico: Interrogating Economic, Political, and Linguistic Injustice*, 42 Cal. Western Int'l L.J. 393-405 (Spring 2012).**
 - A review of articles in the LatCrit XVI symposium volume.
- ***Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Civil Code and the Problem of Transculturation*, 29 Florida Journal of International Law 197 (Fall 2017), *Cuba, Puerto Rico, el Código Civil y el Problema de la Transculturación*, 29 Florida Journal of International Law 197-S (Spanish) (Otoño 2017).**
 - My presentation at the Law and Policy in the Americas Conference at the University of Havana in the summer of 2016. To be published in English and Spanish. Originally presented in Spanish.
- ***The Accidental Crit III: The Unbearable Lightness of Being ... Pedro?*, 22 Rutgers Race & The Law Review 247-292 (2021).**
 - A personal critical race narrative about being a Latino in the legal academy and my complex and painful process of promotion and tenure, viewed from the

perspective of over 27 years in the academy and in the early days of the age of Trumpian anti-Latina/o rabble rousing.

Research In Progress

- ***Latinx Racialization in the United States and Juror Bias: Peña-Rodríguez v. Colorado***
 - Putting the Supreme Court opinion in the context of comparative legal examples, historical evolution, critical race theory literature and actual and implicit bias literature, as well as in the current politics of anti-Latinx hysteria and violence.
- ***Accidental Crit IV: How did we get here?***
 - Trying to make sense of the state legislative assault on academic freedom and diversity and now the ongoing federal onslaught.

Book Chapter

- **Book Chapter: *The Story of Downes v. Bidwell: “The Constitution Follows the Flag ... But Doesn’t Quite Catch up With It,” in Race and the Law Stories*** (Rachel Moran and Devon Carbado, eds., Foundation Press, 2008).
 - A study of the principal decision of the *Insular Cases* of 1901, which has provided constitutional authorization for the U.S. territorial empire for over a century. The cases were most recently referenced by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Boumediene v. Bush* in June 2008.

Book

- ***America’s Colony: The Political and Cultural Conflict between the U.S. and Puerto Rico* (NYU Press 2004) (paperback edition 2007) (electronic edition 2010).**
 - A detailed study of the historical, legal, political and cultural background of the U.S.-Puerto Rico relationship, focusing on the political conflict produced by the clash between the dominant U.S. culture and the Latina/o Puerto Rican culture. The book also critically addresses the mythologies of 100 years of U.S. colonialism in Puerto Rico.

Popular Press

- ***Breaking Down UF Racial Barriers, The Gainesville Sun, Sunday, September 13, 2008.***
 - An OpEd essay on the 50th Anniversary of the desegregation of the University of Florida College of Law; briefly describes the personal struggle of lead plaintiff Virgil Hawkins, first admitted student George Starke and first law graduate W. George Allen.

Electronic Publishing

- **Personal Home Page. <http://plaza.ufl.edu/malavet> (last posted here).**
 - A virtual teaching portfolio, 1997-2025. UF stopped supporting the host platform effective April 1, 2025, so this is no longer available.

Professional Conferences, Special Teaching Assignments and CLE (selected)

- **Critical Legal Collective Inaugural Conference Workshop: “Documenting the Effects of Censorship & Miseducation Campaigns” (November 2023).**
- **Lessons from the LatCrit Experience of Academic Activism: Returning to Puerto Rican Roots (June 2023).** Law and Society Conference thematic panel.
- **LatCrit Biennial Conference (October 2019).** Selected to present now-published Accidental Crit III article and to speak in ceremony in honor of Francisco Valdes.
- **Law and Policy in the Americas Conference with the University of Havana Law School (July 2017).** Round table discussion of cooperative international legal education projects.
- **CSRRR Race Matters in the News: The Latina and Latino-Americans: The Demographic Realities and Racialized Identities of Hispanics in the United States (October 2016).** Lecture open to the public.
- **Law and Policy in the Americas Conference with the University of Havana Law School (May 2016).** Presented: *"Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Civil Code and the Problem of Transculturation."*
- **SEALS Conference. (Summer 2014).** LL.M. Programs Panel. Presented on the Crisis in Legal Education in the U.S. and the "Stampede" towards LL.M. programs.
- **MOOC: The Global Student’s Introduction to the Law of the United States (Summer 2014 and Spring 2015).**
 - Part of the College of Law and University Team that put together this [Coursera](#) Massive Online Open Course that attracted over 18,000 registrants from 172 countries in 2014, and over 5,000 in 2015.
 - Winner 2015 UF Online Education Excellence Award.
- **Civil Procedure and Evidence Lectures. (May 2013).**
 - School of the Magistrature of Paraná, Brazil. CLE program for judges and prosecutors in the state of Paraná, Brazil.
- **Law and Policy in the Americas Conference, University of Florida Center for Governmental Responsibility. (Summer 2008-2015).**
 - Chaired Comparative Legal Education panel in our conferences in Gainesville, Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo, Buenos Aires and Barranquilla.
- **Introduction to United States Civil Procedure. (July 2007-2008, 2012-2014, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2024).**
 - CLE program for judges, prosecutors, and law professors from several Brazilian states conducted at the Levin College of Law.
- **Introduction to the United States Legal System. (May 2007).**
 - CLE program for judges and prosecutors in the state of Minas Gerais in Brazil. I taught an overview of the U.S. legal system and a unit on Civil Procedure.
- **Latinos and the Law Conference (Spring 2007).**
 - University of Indiana-Bloomington, School of Law. Presented my work *The Story of Downes v. Bidwell: “The Constitution Follows the Flag ... But Doesn’t Quite Catch up With It.”*
- **LatCrit XI. (October 2006).**
 - Moderated and commented on the presentations in panel titled *History, Hernandez [v. Texas], & the West.*

- **LatCrit X. (October 2005).**
 - Presenter in panel titled *Colonialism in Comparative Context*. I discussed Puerto Rico's colonial/territorial status.
- **Study Abroad Program: France. (Summer 2005).**
 - Taught Comparative Law course to U.S. and French students at the University of Montpellier.
- **Costa Rica Environmental Law Program. (June 2004).**
 - Taught sessions on Introduction to the Comparative Method.
- **LatCrit IX. (May 2004).**
 - Moderator and commentator in plenary panel on cultural studies and colonialism; presenter in concurrent panel on voting and voting rights.
- **LatCrit VIII. (May 2003).**
 - Commentator in plenary panel *Militarisms and Other Isms: A Critical Discussion of Current Affairs*.
- **LatCrit VII. (May 2002).**
 - Presenter in plenary panel on Reparations and Colonialism.
- **LatCrit VI. (May 2001).**
 - Moderated and participated in panel titled *Puerto Rico: Cultural Nation, American Colony*.
- **Clason Lecture. (October 2000).**
 - An endowed lecture series at Western New England College School of Law. Spoke to faculty about my *Cultural Nation* article describe above, and to students and faculty about my *Accidental Crit II* article, which is also describe above.
- **LatCrit V. (May 2000).**
 - Moderated the plenary panel titled *Multi/Cultural Artistic Re/presentation in Mass Media: Capitalism, Power, Privilege and Cultural Production*.
- **Law and Society Conference. (May 1999).**
 - Moderated a panel entitled *Race, History, and Historical Representation*, during the 1999 Annual Meeting of the Association.
- **LatCrit IV. (April 1999).**
 - The initial course for certification of Florida Civil Law Notaries. A presentation about the Civil Law Notary in other countries, to give some comparative legal perspective to this Florida legislative initiative.
- **Florida Civil Law Notary. (December 1998).**
 - The initial course for certification of Florida Civil Law Notaries. A presentation about the Civil Law Notary in other countries, to give comparative legal perspective to this Florida legislative initiative.
- **CALI. (June 1998).**
 - Presentation during the Annual conference. Interactive Whiteboards. I was invited to report on my experience with this classroom equipment, based on testing of two interactive white board systems with my Civil Procedure students in the Spring of 1998.
- **National Notary Association. (May 1998).**
 - A comparative presentation of the legal professional notary abroad. With the President of the International Union of the Latin Notariate. CLE.
- **LatCrit III. (May 1998).**
 - I was invited to moderate a panel entitled *Between/Beyond Colors: Outsiders Within Latina/no Communities*.

- ***Introduction to American Civil Procedure and Civil Environmental Enforcement: A Comparative Analysis. (Summer 1996).***
 - Manuscript and lecture presented at the Guaratubá Judicial and Public Ministry Training Symposium, Guaratubá, Brazil; with the Center for Governmental Responsibility of the University of Florida.
- ***The Latin Notary, the Comparative Method and the American Legal Profession in the Age of Globalization. (Fall 1995).***
 - Manuscript drafted for and presented at the Hispanic National Bar Association Annual Conference in Puerto Rico.
- ***Technology and the Practice of Law.***
 - A CLE presentation during the University of Florida Alumni Weekend in the Fall of 1997. This presentation was based on the operating manual that I wrote for a computer program that was specifically designed to manage information generated in a typical law practice.
- **CLE course on Technology in the Practice of law.**
 - At the 1991-92 Annual Meeting of the *Colegio de Abogados de Puerto Rico* (Puerto Rico Bar Association) at the Catholic University of Puerto Rico. Using computers for law office management, legal research and drafting.

Consulting (selected)

- **Special Meeting Between French and Spanish Notaries and ABA Property Section.**
 - I was invited to assist in meetings between the French and Spanish National Councils of the Notariate, led by their respective presidents, and the ABA Property Section.
- **Computer-Driven Law Office Management, SYSCOMP, Inc.**
 - In 1992 I was contracted by SYSCOMP, Inc., a programming company and computer sales business in Ponce, Puerto Rico, to test their law office management program and to write a Quick Reference Manual for Bufete 2.0®, a sophisticated relational database for law office management, using the 4th Dimension® database.

Speeches and Special Presentations (selected)

- ***The Amistad Revolt and Spanish Colonial Law. (Spring 2001).***
 - A presentation to actors and to the general public about the *Amistad* play, using my experience with comparative legal studies and Spanish legal history.
- ***The Value of a College Education, the Pitfalls of Liberal Condescending Supremacy and the Complexities of Latino-Latina Self-Identification.***
 - Keynote Address, 1997 Hispanic Student Assembly, The University of Florida (Fall 1997).

Other Professional Activities (selected)

- **AALS Membership & ABA Accreditation Sabbatical Visits**
 - I have participated in two sabbatical visits and one AALS membership visit.
- **American Law Institute. Elected Member (Elected September 2009).**
 - <http://www.ali.org>
- **Association of American Law Schools: Membership Review Committee. (2007-2009).**
 - The committee “examines law school applications for membership in the Association and sabbatical evaluation reports of member law schools[; and] makes recommendations to the Executive Committee on the actions it should take.”
- **Consejo de Educación Superior de Puerto Rico (Puerto Rico Higher Education Council, Summer 2009).**
 - Program Review Committee member. Consultant to the Council and site visitor on approval of new LL.M. program.
- **Association of Hispanic Faculty and Staff, The University of Florida.**
 - **President.** For the academic year 2001-2002.
- **Fundación Facultad de Derecho Eugenio María de Hostos (1994-2014).**
 - I was a founding member and trustee of the Foundation, a Puerto Rico non-profit corporation created to run a new, independent law school in Mayagüez, Puerto Rico.
- **Latina and Latino Critical Legal Theory, Inc./LatCrit, Inc. and the Annual LatCrit Conference.**
 - I was a founding member of the Board of Trustees serving as treasurer of this Florida Non-Profit Corporation dedicated to Critical Legal Scholarship. I managed the corporation’s finances and annual conference registration. I also created and maintained the organization’s website from 1998 until 2002 (now at <http://www.latcrit.org>). I resigned from the board in 2005.
- **Center for the Study of Race and Race Relations.**
 - I was part of a small group of faculty, mostly of color, that worked with then Assistant Dean Rahim Reed to develop the Center and its early work.
- **Graduate Faculty.** I have served on multiple thesis committees.
- **Faculty Advisor: SALSA.**
 - For SALSA, the Latina/o student group at the College of Law, Fall 1995-Spring 2004, Fall 2005-Fall 2007.
- **University of Florida Chapter, Order of the Coif. President. (2006-2022).**
 - Head of the UF chapter of the national law school honor society. Our principal duty is to select new members to the chapter from among our most recent graduates.

Special Committee assignments (selected)

- **Ad Hoc Distance Education Committee (Fall 2013-2014, Co-Chair).**
 - College committee developing policies for various types of distance education programs.
- **Education and Outreach IT Committee (Fall 2010-2011).**

- University-wide committee focusing on distance-learning and other technology-based teaching initiatives.
- **50th Anniversary of Desegregation Committee. Chair.**
 - Planning a series of events to commemorate the desegregation of the College of Law and the University of Florida starting on September 15, 1958.
- **Non-Tenure-Track Legal Skills Faculty Appointments and Retention Committee (Fall 2007-Spring 2008).**
 - Chaired the search for our new Legal Skills faculty member for the Virgil Hawkins County Civil Mediation Clinic.
- **Ad Hoc Committee on Climate (Fall 2006).**
 - A special committee created by the dean to address concerns about diversity at the College of Law.
- **Admissions Committee (2005-2006).**
 - Reviewed individual files and voted on admissions matters.
- **Technology Committee (1995-1998, 1999-2000).**
 - Developed a comprehensive technology policy for the College of Law.
- **Admissions Committee (1995-1996).**
 - Reviewed over 600 individual applicant files and voted on matters related to Admissions.

Bar Admissions

- Puerto Rico, US District Court for Puerto Rico, US First Circuit Court of Appeals.

References

- Will be provided upon request.

Last Updated: 26 January 2026.