

Kat Cosby, Ph.D.

Kat Cosby, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Africana Studies at CSUCI with an emphasis in Modern Latin America, Black Feminist Studies, African Diaspora, Black Geographies, as well as Black women and their geographies in Brazil in the post-abolition era. Specifically, Kat examines how the criminalization of the presence of Black women in São Paulo was crucial to whitening ideologies and practices in the early twentieth century.

Her Dissertation, titled “Flowers Grew Out of the Asphalt: Black Women’s Territories in Sao Paulo, 1871-1930,” looks at the African Diaspora in Brazil and Modern Latin America. Dr. Cosby is committed to recovering the lives and presence of Black women in the public histories and archives of the 19th and 20th centuries.



They received their Ph.D. in History from the University of California, Irvine along with several prestigious research awards, including a Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship (2020-2021) and a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Award (2018-2019). Dr. Cosby approaches teaching from a historical perspective and hopes to develop courses on Black Life throughout the Americas. Dr. Cosby uses maps, mapping, database analysis, and digital humanities to engage students in thinking deeply about Black Life, movement, mobility, and place-based identification and belonging.

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