

Priscilla Peña Ovalle (she/they), Associate Professor in the Department of Cinema Studies, will be offering a **“Research Assistant/Intern”** for Winter ’24 term which will also hopefully carry into Spring ’24.

This position will work closely with Ovalle, offering the opportunity to learn valuable academic writing and media research skills. It will be approximately 6 hours per week, or 60 hours per term, although these hours are flexible depending on the applicant’s availability. More hours may be available for the spring term if the position continues.

Ovalle is a media scholar who focuses on marginalized communities and mainstream popular culture, with an interdisciplinary emphasis on race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality. Ovalle’s interests cross the boundaries of film, television, and digital media and blur the line between critical studies and creative practice; these varied approaches, practices, and passions help her communicate across a range of disciplines and communities. Ovalle seeks connections and collaborative opportunities that might otherwise be overlooked or disregarded and these interests and investments anchor her research, teaching, and administrative work.

Ovalle’s first book, *Dance and the Hollywood Latina: Race, Sex, and Stardom*, explored the stardom of Latinas in Hollywood because she wanted to know why Latinas are so often depicted as naturally gifted dancers. She is currently working on a new book focusing on the production and performance of hairstyles in U.S. music videos and commercials. Providing research assistance for this new book will be the primary focus of this Research Assistant position. Focusing on something as common as hair, Ovalle analyzes how technologies (like lighting and photography) and labor (from the emotional/technical labor of hairstylists to the kinetic performances of the stars they style) operate behind the scenes of everyday media. There may also be some light administrative work to support Ovalle’s position as Past-President of the [Society for Cinema and Media Studies](#).

Please send a single page resume, a short writing sample and brief cover letter to alissap@uoregon.edu.