Ismael García-Colón obtained his B.A., Magna Cum Laude, in Anthropology from the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras. He received his Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Connecticut in 2002. From 1999 to 2003, García-Colón worked as an archivist at the Library and Archives Unit at Centro. He had the opportunity to conduct a project documenting the history of Latinos in the New York City labor movement. He also processed part of the Records of the Offices of the Government of Puerto Rico in the United States and coordinated the arrangement and description of 15 different collections documenting the history of Puerto Ricans in New York City. In addition, he taught a course for at the Latin American Studies Program at Hostos Community College. From 2003 to 2005, García-Colón was as an Assistant Instructor at the Department of Puerto Rican and Hispanic Caribbean Studies at Rutgers University.

Garcia-Colon is author of “Buscando Ambiente: Hegemony in Puerto Rico’s Land Reform and Subaltern Tactics of Survival, 1930s-1960s” (forthcoming, Latin American Perspectives). His dissertation, entitled Hegemony, Land Reform, and Social Space in Puerto Rico: Parceles, a Land Distribution Program for Landless Workers, 1940s-1960s, explores how residents shaped state’s policies of land reform and community formation through economic practices, migration, political involvement, resistance, and accommodation in the municipality of Cidra. His teaching and research interests include: historical and political anthropology, oral history, political economy, urban space, state formation, migration, transnationalism, power and culture, and workers. Ismael is currently writing about Puerto Rican farmworkers in Upstate New York during the 1960s, and landless workers, migration, and land reform in Puerto Rico during the 1930s through the 1960s.

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