

**Applicant:** Rodrigo O'Malley, Class of 2021

**Title:** José Leandro Andrade and the Color Barrier in Latin American Sport, 1910-1930

**Narrative:** This research project centers on the life of José Leandro Andrade, a footballer of African descent whose participation with the Uruguayan national team altered the course of international athletic competition for minority athletes. A full generation before Jackie Robinson integrated professional baseball in the United States, Andrade's remarkable success in the 1924 and 1928 Olympics forced the athletic federations of Brazil, Argentina, and Colombia (among others) to revoke their unofficial bans on black footballers. Afro-Brazilian athletes, members of the largest black population in South America, particularly benefitted from Andrade's success on the pitch and in the sporting press. Unfortunately, there has been little to no scholarship on the transnational impact of José Leandro Andrade's career or on the sociopolitical context of his activities in Montevideo, the Uruguayan capital.

Over the course of Fall 2020 and Spring 2021, I will develop an Honors research project that situates Andrade as a member of the Uruguayan working-class who emigrated from his natal Salto to find success in the rapidly industrializing Montevideo of the early twentieth century. However, my thesis contends that much of Andrade's success was rooted in his participation in the capital's *sociedades de negros*, Afro-Uruguayan mutual aid societies. To explore this neglected aspect of his life, I will examine periodical sources between 1910 and 1930 in order to contextualize these societies and their efforts to promote black athletes in organized sport.

**Sources:** I have already conducted some preliminary research on this topic for a paper I developed in Prof. Singh's course on Muscular Christianity. The most common reference to Andrade's life is found in Eduardo Galeano's *Soccer in Sun and Shadow*. Unfortunately the text lacks proper citations and only features a brief concluding essay that lists recommended titles, but not a formal

bibliography. Most academic books on football cite Galeano, which leads us back to the problem of sources. By contrast, George Reid Andrews's *Blackness in the White Nation*, provides complete archival references. Reid Andrews, however, was not interested in Afro-Uruguayans in organized sport. His study could be characterized as a history of black socialization and the gradual co-optation of *candombe* as a "national cultural form." In this regard, José Leandro Andrade appears in photographs published in *Blackness in the White Nation* as a member of a musical group, not as a world-class athlete. I plan on using these photographs as visual sources to complement my research in 1920s periodicals.

**Research Plan:** This summer I will advance two important aspects of my research project. First, I will study English-language references to José Leandro Andrade in early-twentieth-century African-American newspapers (such as the Baltimore Sun). My second objective will be to locate Spanish-language references to Montevideo's mutual aid societies, candombe groups and football clubs for the years 1910 to 1920 in the Latin American Newspaper Database. I will access these databases remotely from my parents' house with my University library account. I have also applied for a Discover grant with the University's Office of Undergraduate Research. If I receive the grant, I will spend a week at the Newspaper & Periodical Reading Room at the Library of Congress (LOC) in Washington, D.C. consulting two Uruguayan newspapers, *La Mañana* and *La Razón*.

From August-September 2020, I will develop the first section of my thesis by focusing on Andrade and the international sporting press. October-November will be spent developing the second section on Andrade's family life. These two sections/chapters will require considerable time for translating the newspaper articles. The third section will focus on the Andrade's fall into alcoholism in the context of surging inequality in Uruguay. This will likely be the most difficult phase of the project due to a scarcity of sources on Andrade's life. I will have the final section of the thesis finished by late January 2021 and submit a first draft of the thesis to my advisor by March 1st.

## Bibliography

- Alexander, Robert Jackson and Eldon M. Parker. *A History of Organized Labor in Uruguay and Paraguay*. Westport: Praeger Publishers, 2005.
- Armus, Diego, ed. *Del football al futbol/futebol: Historias argentinas, brasileras y uruguayas en el siglo XX*. Madrid: Iberoamericana/Vervuert, 2014.
- De la Fuente, Alejandro and George Reid Andrews, eds. *Afro-Latin American Studies: An Introduction*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018.
- Ehrick, Christine. *Radio and the Gendered Soundscape: Women and Broadcasting in Argentina and Uruguay, 1930-1950*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015.
- Else, Brenda and Stanislao G. Pugliese. *Football and the Boundaries of History: Critical Studies in History*. New York: Palgrave-Macmillan, 2017.
- Frydenberg, Julio. *Historia social del fútbol, del amateurismo a la profesionalización*. Buenos Aires: Siglo XXI Editores, 2011.
- Galeano, Eduardo. *Soccer in Sun and Shadow*. New York: Verso, 1997.
- Lerena, César Augusto. *Esclavitud y libertad en Montevideo*. Montevideo: Fundación Agustina Lerena, 2019.
- Lewis, Marvin A. *Afro-Uruguayan Literature: Postcolonial Perspectives*. Lewisburg: Bucknell University Press, 2003.
- Reid Andrews, George. *Blackness in the White Nation: A History of Afro-Uruguay*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press.

## Potential Primary Sources

- Arrighi, Pierre. *Fútbol mundial: Los archivos de 1924*. Paris: BoD Editeurs, 2019.
- bal Salsamendi, Asdrul. *The eyes of a gaucho: Memoirs of an Uruguayan Childhood*. Washington, D.C.: Pan-American Union, 1960.
- Censo municipal del departamento y de la ciudad de Montevideo... 1892*.
- Estadísticas Históricas del Uruguay, 1900-1950*. Tomo I. Montevideo: Universidad de la República, 2007.
- La Mañana*, Montevideo periodical, Library of Congress
- La Razón*, Montevideo periodical, Library of Congress
- Somos Candombe: Transcripciones No. 2*. Casa de la Cultura Afrouruguaya, 2019.