Dr. Chambers’ study examines how diverse groups of Central Americans and West Indians integrated into New Orleans and Gulf Coast life and negotiated their distinct historical and racial identity within the context of the Jim Crow South. Central to this study is the role of violence in shaping Central American nationalisms, particularly its modern origins in the anti-immigrant and labor movements that developed in the banana enclaves of the region in the early twentieth century. The sentiments of these groups shaped legislation, highlighted corruption, fomented revolutions, and created diplomatic fallout that hindered political and economic development to the point where many fled to cities such as New Orleans where they used the city as a base to organize and garner political and economic support to fight opposition back home, or chose to settle there and were confronted with a racial and caste system that failed to acknowledge their distinct identities.