



The New York Public Library  
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,  
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

**José Vigo papers**

1967-1987

Sc MG 374

Schomburg NEH Automated Access to Special Collections Project

## Summary

**Creator:** Vigo, José A., 1950-1987

**Title:** José Vigo papers

**Date:** 1967-1987

**Size:** 4.63 linear feet (6 boxes)

**Source:** Gift of Mercedes Vigo, 1989.

**Revision History:** Finding aid updated by Lauren Stark.

**Abstract:** José A. Vigo was a professor of Afro-American studies, anthropology, and Puerto Rican history and culture. The José Vigo papers consist of materials reflecting Vigo's dissertation topic, "Language Maintenance and Ethnicity: A Sociolinguistic Study of Samaná, Dominican Republic".

**Preferred citation:** [Item], José Vigo papers, Sc MG 374, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

**Language of the Material:** English In English and Spanish.

**Processing note:** Accessioned by Victor Smthe, June 1989.

**Separated Materials:**

Transferred to the Moving Image and Recorded Sound Division: audio materials. For more information, please contact the division at [schomburgaudiovisual@nypl.org](mailto:schomburgaudiovisual@nypl.org) or 212-491-2270.

Transferred to the Photographs and Prints Division: slides.

## Creator History

Born in Puerto Rico, José A. Vigo migrated to New York; he attended Hunter College, graduating in 1978 summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Language and Culture Studies. He was awarded a Masters in Philosophy degree from Yale University in 1980, and was working towards his

Ph.D. in Anthropology from Yale University in 1987, the year he died. Vigo taught Afro-American studies, anthropology, and as well as Puerto Rican history and culture at three Connecticut universities including Yale. He died in 1987.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The José A. Vigo papers consist of materials reflecting Vigo's dissertation topic, "Language Maintenance and Ethnicity: A Sociolinguistic Study of Samaná, Dominican Republic", which is a study of the processes of language maintenance and language shift among the descendants of a 19th-century American colony of freed people. Materials include research proposals, papers, field notes, and undergraduate papers pertaining to linguistics and anthropology. The collection also contains numerous bibliographies and articles written by other scholars, pertaining to the history of Samaná, linguistics, linguistic anthropology, the Creole language, and Cuba. Additionally, there are publications prepared by the Northeast Center for Curriculum Development for a community school district in the Bronx, New York, regarding Puerto Rican and African influences in the United States. Many publications are written in Spanish. Other materials include transcripts of interviews, and documents related to a course in Haitian Creole.

## **Key Terms**

### **Subjects**

African Americans -- Puerto Rico  
Anthropological linguistics  
Authors, Puerto Rican  
Blacks -- Cultural assimilation  
Blacks -- Languages  
Creole dialects, French -- Haiti  
Ethnology -- Dominican Republic  
Languages, Mixed  
Spanish language -- Foreign elements

### **Occupations**

Anthropologists.

### **Names**

Vigo, José A., 1950-1987

## Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Proposals
- b. 1 f. 2 Language and society in Samaná (draft)
- b. 1 f. 3-4 Transcripts of interviews 1979-1983  
Samaná
- b. 1 f. 5-6 History
- b. 1 f. 7 Migration
- b. 1 f. 8 Tourism
- b. 1 f. 9-10 Wesleyan method  
Includes correspondence.
- b. 1 f. 11 Maps and sketches
- b. 1 f. 12 Population statistics 1982
- b. 1 f. 13 Survey outline 1983
- b. 1 f. 14 Survey statistics
- b. 1 f. 15 Socio-cultural anthropology
- b. 1 f. 16 Turks Islands
- b. 1 f. 17 Linguistics (Debose, S. Poplack)
- b. 1 f. 18 Linguistic survey questionnaire
- b. 1 f. 19 Dominican Republic linguistics
- b. 1 f. 20 AME Church 1984
- b. 1 f. 21 Language maintenance and shifts
- b. 1 f. 22 Multilingualism
- b. 1 f. 23 Afro-Dominican traditions, "¡Ahora!"
- b. 1 f. 24 *Bourget, Luis Eduardo. Macabón: estampas de Samaná*
- b. 1 f. 25 *Cazneau, Jane McManus. Our Winter Eden*
- b. 1 f. 27 Christian work in Santo Domingo
- b. 1 f. 28 Personal correspondence  
This folder is restricted until 2049.
- b. 2 f. 1 Linguistics classes 1976-1979  
Includes Vigo's papers, "Racial Categories among New York Puerto Ricans: A Semantic Study", December 1976, and "Observations of Animal Symbolism in Puerto Rican Proverbs and Expressions", May 1978; and a final exam from 1979.
- b. 2 f. 2-3 Linguistic anthropology
- b. 2 f. 4 Simpson, George E
- b. 2 f. 5 Ethnoscience
- b. 2 f. 6 Linguistics syllabi
- b. 2 f. 7 Psycholinguistics
- b. 2 f. 8 Evaluation of speech errors
- b. 2 f. 9-10 Caribbean linguistics
- b. 2 f. 11 Morphology
- b. 2 f. 12 Haitian Creole
- b. 2 f. 13 Dominican Republic Creole and Spanish dialectology

- b. 2 f. 14 Bendix, E. Sociolinguistics bibliography
- b. 2 f. 15 Alix, J. A
- b. 2 f. 16 Educational reform
- b. 2 f. 17 Research material from library books
- b. 2 f. 18-19 Pidgins and Creoles
  - b. 2 f. 20 Sociolinguistic perspective in the study of bilingualism
  - b. 2 f. 21 Non-English Language Variation in the Western Hemisphere Conference, University of Louisville
  - b. 2 f. 22 Article on Black English
  - b. 2 f. 23 Creolization
  - b. 2 f. 35 Colonization
  - b. 2 f. 25 Articles on Dominican Republic
  - b. 2 f. 26 Dominican migration to New York City
  - b. 2 f. 27 National Clearinghouse for Bilingual Education
  - b. 2 f. 28 Freed Blacks
  - b. 2 f. 29 Ethnicity
  - b. 2 f. 30 Latin American bibliographies
  - b. 2 f. 31 Tong, Diane. "Language Use and Attitudes among the Gypsies of the Thessaloniki"
- Syllabi
  - b. 3 f. 1 General
  - b. 3 f. 2 Puerto Rican
  - b. 3 f. 3 "Afro-American Peoples and Cultures"
- Puerto Rico
  - b. 3 f. 4 Handicrafts
  - b. 3 f. 5 Tainos
    - Includes slide guides and lecture notes.
  - b. 3 f. 6 Photocopies
  - b. 3 f. 7 Race and color
  - b. 3 f. 8 Miscellaneous
  - b. 3 f. 9 Los Africanos
  - b. 3 f. 10 Chronological history
  - b. 3 f. 11 "Old Roots in New Lands"
  - b. 3 f. 12 Cuban anthropology
  - b. 3 f. 13 Afro-American anthropology, general papers
- b. 3 f. 14-15 Caribbean society and culture
  - b. 3 f. 16 "Contradictory Omens"
  - b. 3 f. 17 Mintz and Price. "An Anthropological Approach to the Afro-American Past"
  - b. 3 f. 18 Hall, G. "The African Ingredient in the New Orleans Gumbo Pot"
  - b. 3 f. 19 Gullah
  - b. 3 f. 20 Dominican Republic history
- Classes

Classes (cont.)

- b. 3 f. 21 "Afro-American Peoples and Cultures" syllabus, bibliographies, and notes
- b. 3 f. 22 "Language and Ethnic Identity" syllabus
- b. 3 f. 23 Notes
- b. 3 f. 24 Valentine, Charles A. "The Culture of Poverty"
- b. 3 f. 25 *Holm, John, ed. Central American English*
- b. 3 f. 26 Bibliography
- b. 3 f. 27 Printed matter
- b. 3 f. 28 Caribbean archaeology
- b. 3 f. 29 "Puerto Rican History and Culture" proposed course outline
- b. 3 f. 30 Westfried's writing on race anthropology in Puerto Rico
- b. 3 f. 31 Anthropology syllabi and Anthropological Research Group on Homosexuality (ARGOH) newsletters 1979-1981
- b. 3 f. 32 Latin American folklore
- b. 3 f. 33 Miscellaneous linguistics papers
  - b. 4 f. 1 *Interamerican Journal of Psychology*
  - b. 4 f. 2 Linguistics 153a, "Introduction to Transformational Grammar"
  - b. 4 f. 3 West Africa
  - b. 4 f. 2 Linguistic Society of America publications
  - b. 4 f. 5 Mesoamerica
  - b. 4 f. 6 "The Creolization of Literatures"
  - b. 4 f. 7 Valentine, Charles A. "Black Studies and Anthropology"
- b. 4 f. 8-9 Miscellaneous papers
- b. 4 f. 10 Structuralism
- b. 4 f. 11 Miscellaneous social anthropology
- b. 4 f. 12 "Language and Culture"
- b. 4 f. 13 *Cable, George W. The Dance in Place Congo and Creole Slave Songs*
- b. 4 f. 14-16 Conferences
  - Includes the first international multidisciplinary conference on the Dominican Republic and the Modern Language Association's conference at Marist College. MLA Conference - Marist
- b. 4 f. 17 Archival information from the National Archives
- b. 4 f. 18 Poems
- b. 4 f. 19 Miscellaneous undergraduate papers
- Books
  - b. 5 f. 1 *Celebraciones Escolares*
  - b. 5 f. 2 *Figuras Gloriosas de Puerto Rico*
  - b. 5 f. 3 *Curriculo en espanol para educacion bilingue*
  - b. 5 f. 4 *El Legado Cultural de la Antigüedad en America, Las Sociedades Africanas y su Impacto en America*
  - b. 5 f. 5 *Visiones Geograficas de la Isla de Puerto Rico*
  - b. 5 f. 6 *Conciencia Negra en America: Africa en la Imaginacion y la Realidad (Curriculo en espanol para educacion bilingue)*
  - b. 5 f. 7 *Puerto Rico Descubre a Europa*
  - b. 5 f. 8 *Conciencia Negra en America*

Books (cont.)

- b. 5 f. 9 *"Ranking" and "Joking" among Inner-City Puerto Ricans*
- b. 5 f. 10 *"Urban Media Materials: Suggestions for Use in Modern Puerto Rico"*
- b. 5 f. 11 *From Art to Manufacture: Some Aspects of Contemporary Art Production in Urban Africa*
- b. 5 f. 12 *Report of the Committee on the Status of Minority Students in the Graduate and Professional Schools*
- b. 6 f. 1 *Presencia Africana Antologia*
- b. 6 f. 2 *Nuevas Raices en America: Antologia de Lecturas*
- b. 6 f. 3 *Presencia Africana: manual del estudiante*