



COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Mexican American Studies

*A Conversation with Mexican
American Studies Faculty*



Dr. Ada Wilkinson-Lee, Associate
Professor and Acting Department
Head

Land Acknowledgment

The University of Arizona's Tucson campus is located on the traditional lands of the Tohono O'odham and Pascua Yaqui people. As a land grant institution serving the entire state, we also recognize the homelands of an additional twenty other Tribal Nations on which we work and live. We pay respect to their cultures and histories, as well as to Indigenous People everywhere, when we act to foster a diverse and inclusive Wildcat community.

Historical Context: Department of Mexican American Studies

- ▶ Forged by a political movement
- ▶ Community voices at the center



My Background and Path to my Research



Why Focus on Community-based Participatory Research?

- ▶ The structural barriers in underserved communities limit individual's access and ability to effectively participate in their health decisions (Wilkinson-Lee, Armenta, Nuno, Moore-Monroy, Hopkins, & Garcia, 2018).
- ▶ Increasing community level capacity in health education and intervention is essential to narrow the most pressing health disparities and achieve the Healthy People 2030 objectives (Wilkinson-Lee, et al., 2018).
- ▶ Therefore, engaging the community in the research process places the needs of that community front and center (Wilkinson-Lee, et al., 2018).

Importance of Promotoras/CHWs

- ▶ Experts in the field
- ▶ Valuable source of resource information
- ▶ Members of the community and invested in the well-being of their own community



Importance of Community Action Boards

- ▶ Inclusion of diverse community voices
- ▶ Shared ownership of the research
- ▶ Network of accountability



Thank you!

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Dr. Damián Baca, Associate
Professor



**Quetzalcoatl:
Mictlanteuctli & Ehecatl**

***Amoxtli Yoalli Ehecatl
(Codex Borgia)***



In 1492, an
 SPANISH SAILED
 NAMED COLUMBUS
 DISCOVERED THE
 ISLANDS FROM THE
 POINT OF NORTHAMERICA
 with a small fleet of
 vessels, eight months later
 HE DISCOVERED A NEW
 CONTINENT AND NAMED IT
 AMERICA AFTER AMERICA.

In November 1492, the
 SPANISH SAILED AGAIN
 THE CONTINENT OF NORTHAMERICA
 IN THE NAME OF THE KING
 FERDINAND, LORD OF CASTILE
 CULTURAL MISUNDERSTANDING
 of language of discovery is necessary a multiplicity
 legs diplomatically and legs activities.

Excerpt from "Columbus" 1492

Codex Espangliensis, Screen 14/2

Dr. Michelle Téllez, Assistant
Professor



CHICANA TRANSFRONTERIZA IN ACADEMIA

Dr. Michelle Téllez

University of Arizona

BORDERLANDS: GENERATIVE CONCEPT



- Home for me is the borderlands, having been raised along the SD/TJ border divide, my persona has been deeply shaped by what I call a *transfronteriza/transborder* experience which in turn has determined the kind of work that I do, that I offer, and that I am compelled to collaborate around, ultimately because I find value in public pedagogy, in embedded praxis, in cultural/arts production and in producing knowledge with and about communities who are embodying *creation resistance*.

MY WORK

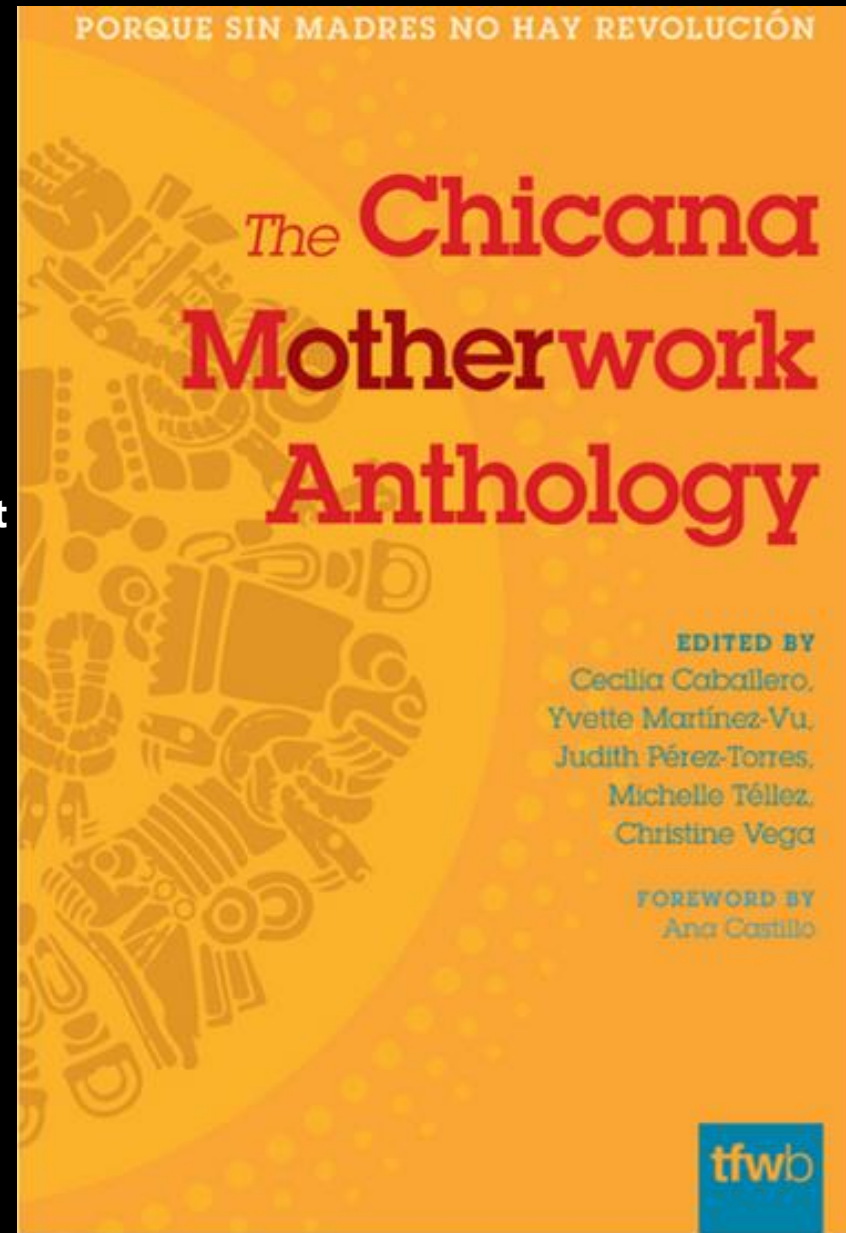
- Social Movements, Migration and Gender at the U.S./Mexico Border
- Chicana Studies – identity, intersectionality and motherhood
- Key terms – Transfronteriza Politicized Identity, Chicana Feminist Ethnography, Chicana M(other)work, Autonomy in the Spaces of Neoliberal Neglect
- *Gender & Society*, *Feminist Formations*, *Aztlán*, and *Chicana/Latina Studies*; and in online outlets such as *The Feminist Wire*, *Truth Out* and *Latino Rebels*.
- Editorial review board for *Chicana/Latina Studies: The Journal of Mujeres Activas en Letras y Cambio Social* and *Aztlán: The Journal of Chicano Studies*

CHICANA M(OTHER)WORK ANTHOLOGY

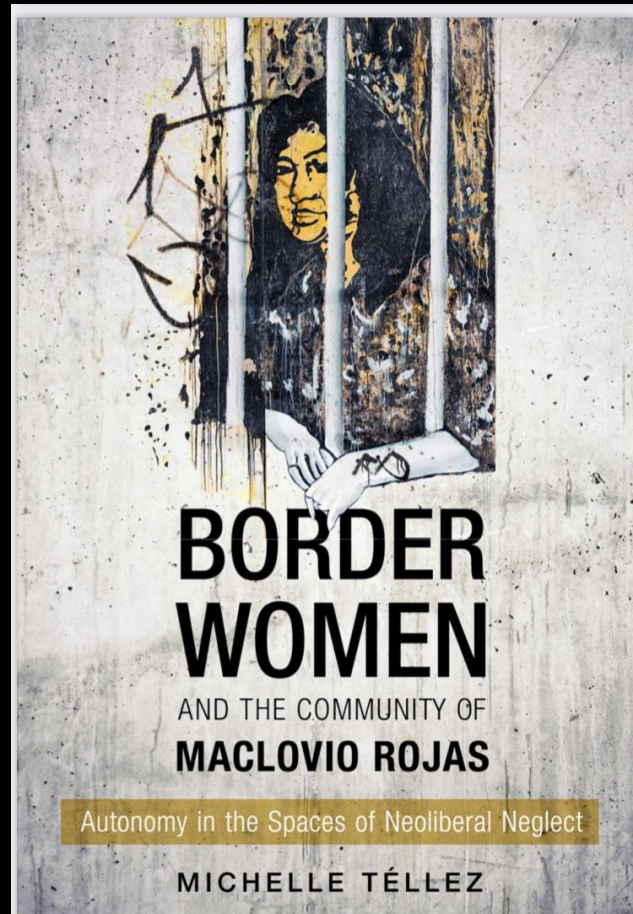
- **The Chicana M(other)work Anthology**
- **University of Arizona Press & The Feminist Wire**
- **March 19, 2019 Publication**

Anthology themes:

1. Separation, Migration, State Violence, Detention
2. Chicana and Women of Color Mother-Activists,
3. Loss, Reproductive Justice, Choice, Pregnancy
4. Chicana and Women of Color Testimonios



BORDER WOMEN AND THE COMMUNITY OF MACLOVIO ROJAS: AUTONOMY IN THE SPACES OF NEOLIBERAL NEGLECT



FILMS, DIGITAL HUMANITIES AND THE DEMOCRATIZATION OF KNOWLEDGE

Workers on the Rise
With Justine Garcia
(2012)



Singing My Way to Freedom
Advisor to Filmmaker: Paul Espinosa
(2018)



Mujeres de Manzo Film
(In Progress with Seckinger,
Cornide, Peterson)



COMMUNITY EMBEDDED PROJECTS



entre
nosOTR@S

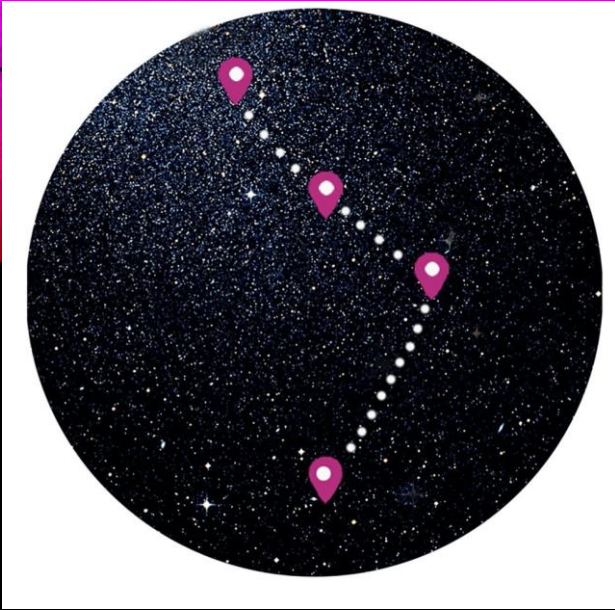
Entre nosOTR@S is a collective that creates community-embedded events in collaboration with Chican@/Latin@/Indigenous women and gender non-conforming artists. We foster critical dialogues around gender, sexuality, race, class, and cultura across borders.



An initiative for students, faculty, and community members at NAU to experience, collaborate, make media and discuss boundary disruptions/crossings.

CHICANA M(OTHER)WORK: A PRAXIS FOR COLLECTIVE RESISTANCE





BINATIONAL ARTS RESIDENCY

The **Binational Arts Residency (BNAR)** began with the idea of connecting cultural communities in the Sonoran Desert with issues of social justice, history, and identity through art. Over the course of the residency, artists, cultural workers, and students collaborate to create artistic workshops, performances, and public talks in their communities with the express intent to build dialogue around social issues. Each BNAR residency concludes with an artistic collaboration at the U.S.-Mexico border. Now in its third year, BNAR works with communities in: Phoenix (US), Douglas (US), Tucson (US), Tohono O'odham Nation, Nogales (MX), and Agua Prieta (MX).



Mothers of Color in Academia – MOCA of UArizona



The University of Arizona
Chapter

Mothers of Color in Academia
at The University of Arizona

Virtual Writing Retreat Opportunity

April 16- April 18, 2021

The MOCA Writing Retreat is dedicated to helping Mothers of Color achieve their academic writing goals by supporting them holistically.

Information & Application:

<http://bit.ly/MOCARETREAT>

link is case sensitive

**Deadline to submit application
April 6, 2021 at 11:59PM (Arizona Time)**

Please email us with any questions at
mocaofuarizona@gmail.com



DOING WORK THAT MATTERS – GLORIA ANZALDÚA

- Research as accompaniment
- Research for social transformation
- How do you keep center the work and not the institution?
- Thank-you!

www.michelletellez.com

Dr. Maurice Magaña, Assistant
Professor

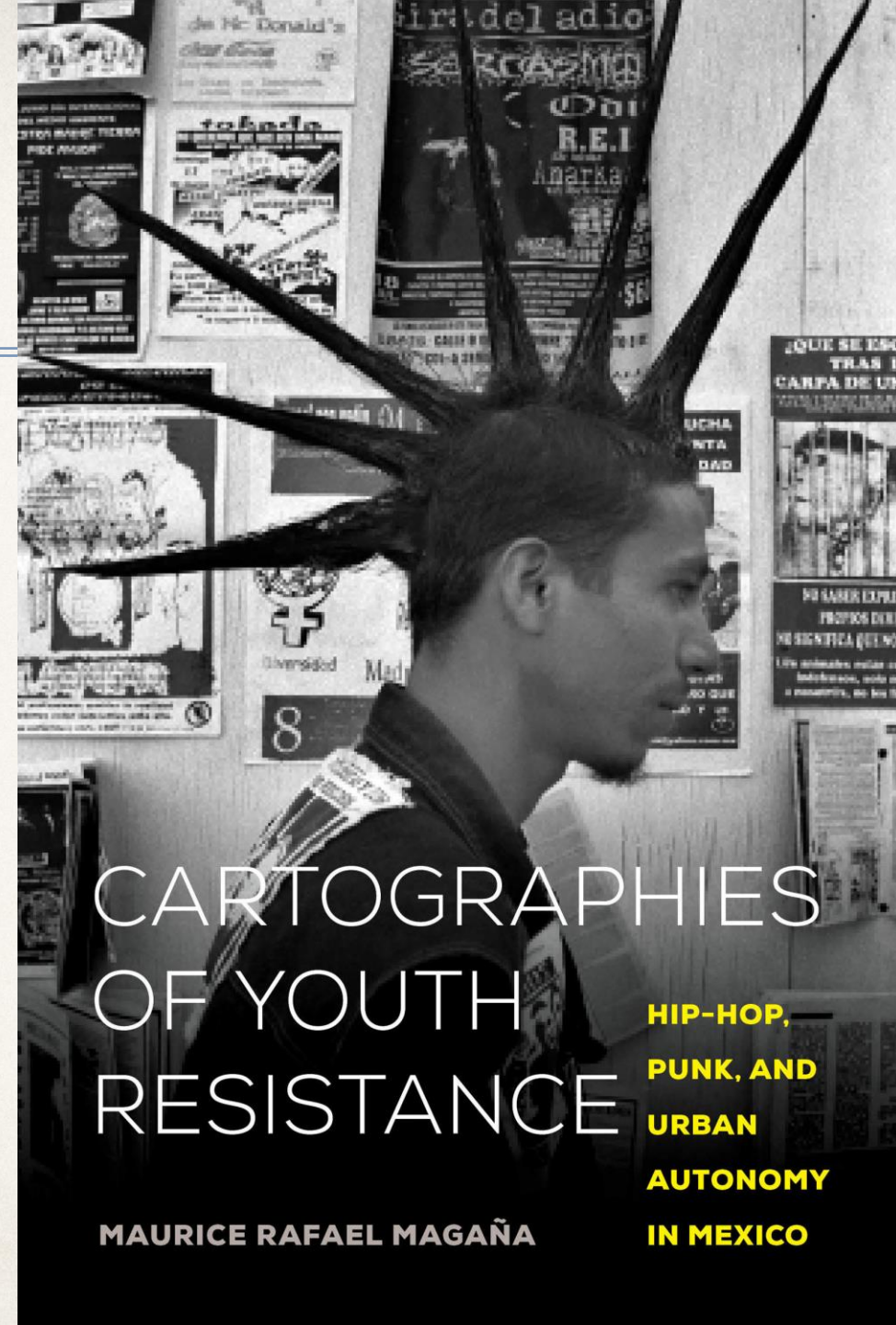


Race, Space, & Youth Culture in Mexican American Studies

Maurice Rafael Magaña, Ph.D
Professor of Mexican American Studies
University of Arizona
Twitter: @ProfeMauMagana

My Research Interests and Projects

- ❖ Transnational Migration
- ❖ Urban Social Movements
- ❖ Youth Culture & Activism
- ❖ Race & Difference in U.S. & Mexico



CARTOGRAPHIES
OF YOUTH
RESISTANCE

MAURICE RAFAEL MAGAÑA

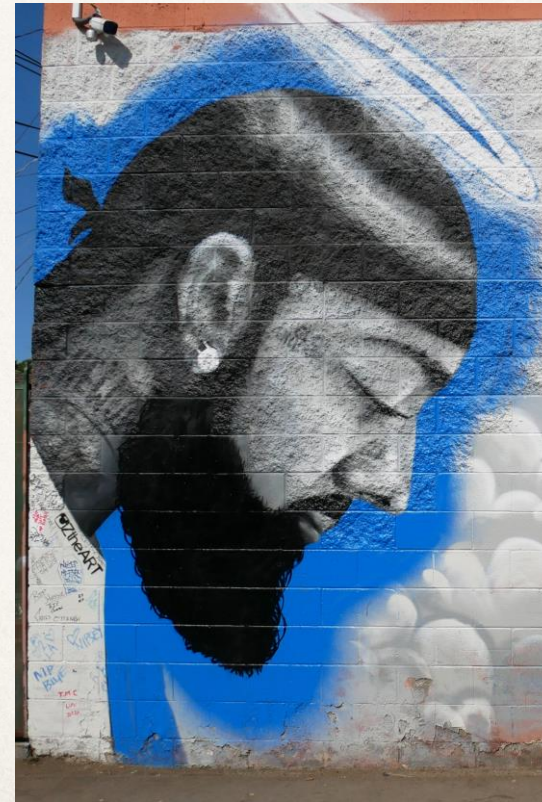
**HIP-HOP,
PUNK, AND
URBAN
AUTONOMY
IN MEXICO**

Current Research

- ❖ Murals, Hip-Hop, & Social Media
- ❖ Transnational Multiracial Communities
- ❖ Race and Political Coalition
- ❖ Ethnography, cultural analysis



The Politics of Black & Brown Solidarities: Race, Space, & Hip-Hop Cultural Production in Los Angeles



What Ethnic Studies Allows Me to Learn & Teach

- ❖ Untold/Undertold Histories
- ❖ Antiracist & Decolonial Politics
- ❖ Multiracial Solidarities & Understanding Systems of Power
- ❖ Political & Social Agency of Young People
- ❖ Reasons for Outrage & **Hope!**
- ❖ Public Scholarship, Community, & Teaching

Thank you!!!

- ❖ Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions
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- ❖ Website: MauriceRMagana.com