

AMST 519:

SPRING 2014

Indigenous, Decolonial and Transhemispheric American Studies

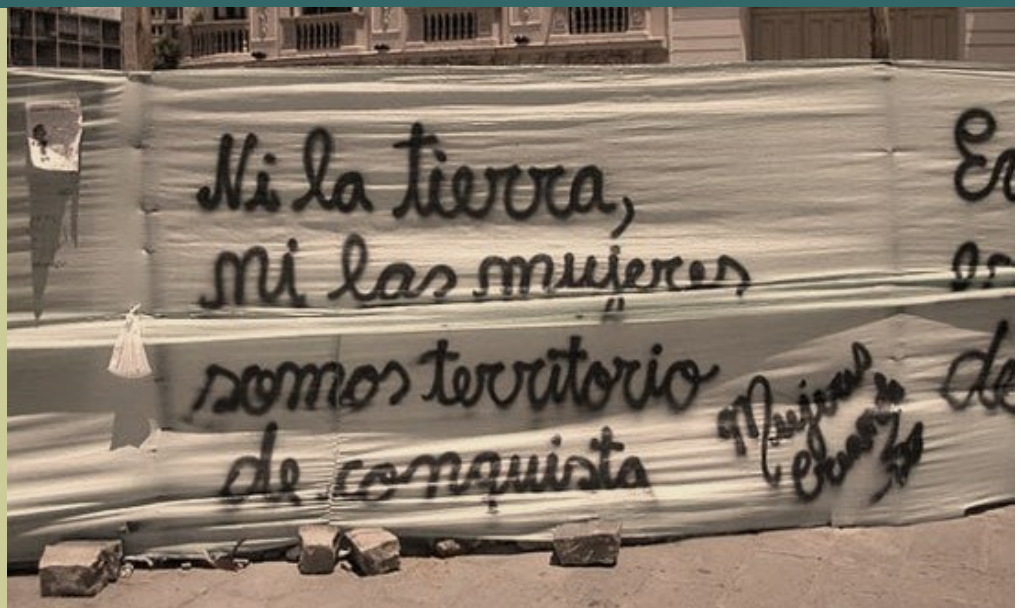
Professor
Macarena
Gómez-Barris

Class meets on
Wednesdays 2-4:50pm
THH 111
4 units
Class no. 10451

*For more information, please contact
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This graduate seminar examines the study of decolonization and the decolonial turn that reference European colonization beginning in the late 15th century. We explore the persistence of coloniality in the Américas and the particular histories of the Global South in relation to indigeneity to analyze how the colonial trace continues to show up in multiple spheres that include the law, settlement projects, the racial state, and land and property rights. We analyze a number of different intellectual formations that include Caribbean philosophical thought, the decolonial turn, indigenous studies, and queer native studies as they think through key terms such as trans-modernity, cultural memory, extractive and racial capitalism, and indigenous representation and struggles in the Américas. Further, we will read recently published theoretical works and do in class readings of cultural texts that represent "the decolonial gesture," aesthetic spaces that rupture and rearticulate colonial continuities. For at least one assignment, we will conduct research at cultural institutions and sites of social interaction pertinent to these issues in Los Angeles. We will also invite guest speakers working in the field as a way to link to the ongoing work of the "Indigeneity and Decolonization" research cluster in American Studies and Ethnicity. By the end of the course, we will all be challenged to think about our individual research through the frames of indigenous and decolonial studies.