

## GLORIA E. CHACON, PhD

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### EDUCATION

#### **University of California, Santa Cruz**

Ph.D. Department of Literature. Parenthetical Degree Notation in Latin American and Latino Studies, 2006.

Dissertation Title: "Contemporary Maya Writers: *Kabawil* and the Making of a Millenarian Literary Tradition." Committee Members: Norma Klahn (Chair), Kirsten Griesz, Rob Wilson.

Areas of Specialization: Latin American Culture and Literature; Contemporary Maya literatures, Latino/a literatures, Central American literatures, Post-boom literature, 20<sup>th</sup> Century Latin American women's literatures.

M.A. Department of Literature, 2003.

Qualifying Exams: "Reconceptualizing Latin American Indigeneity: Abya-Yala and its Writers." Within and Beyond Central/American Fictions: A Comparative Frame." Areas of Study: Contemporary Central American fiction; Latin American literature, indigeneity, Latino/a literature, American literature.

#### **Hampshire College, Amherst, MA**

B.A. Concentration: U.S. Latina/o and Latin American Literature, 1994.

Thesis: "Politics and Aesthetics in Central American Poetry."

### RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS AND OTHER GRANTS

Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) Fellow, Charles Young Research Library, University of California, Los Angeles (2008-present).

Conference Grant Award for "Discursive Practices: The Formation of a Transnational Indigenous Poetics" 2008. UC Humanities Research Institute (UCHRI), University of California, Irvine (with Inés Hernández-Avila.)

UC President's Postdoctoral Fellowship, Department of Native American Studies, University of

California Davis (7/2006-6/2008).  
 Dissertation Fellowship, Ford Foundation/National Academies, 2005-2006.  
 Dissertation Fellowship (Declined), Institute for Humanities Research,  
 University of California Santa Cruz, 2005.  
 Teaching Fellow (Declined), Department of Literature, University of California Santa  
 Cruz, Winter 2005.  
 Research Fellowship, Department of Literature, University of California Santa Cruz, Fall 2004.  
 Research Fellowship, University of California Institute for Mexico & the  
 U.S. (UCMEXUS), University of California Riverside, 2003-2004.  
 Research Travel Grant, Research Institute for the Humanities,  
 University of California Santa Cruz, Summer 2003.  
 Research Fellowship, Hemispheric Dialogues, Funded by the Ford Foundation,  
 University of California Santa Cruz, Summer 2002.  
 Research Fellowship, Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS),  
 University of California Berkeley, Summer 2002.  
 Research Fellowship, Awarded by the Division of Graduate Studies, University of  
 California Santa Cruz, Winter 2002.  
 Research and Language Grant, Department of Literature, University of California  
 Santa Cruz, Summer 2001.  
 Research Fellowship, Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS),  
 University of California Berkeley, Summer 2001.  
 Travel and Research Grant, Department of Literature, University of California  
 Santa Cruz, Spring 2001.  
 Travel and Research Grant, Department of Literature, University of California  
 Santa Cruz, Summer, 1999.  
 Grant Recipient, Awarded by the Graduate Studies Division, University of  
 California Santa Cruz; 1998–1999.  
 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF), University of California Irvine, Summer  
 1993.  
 Research Grant Recipient, Office for Social Change, Hampshire College, Amherst, MA, Summer  
 1993.  
 Thesis Grant, Humanities and Arts, Hampshire College, Amherst, MA, Winter 1994.

### PUBLICATIONS

Book chapter entitled, “Escritores Mayas contemporáneos: redefiniendo nociones de tradición y  
 autoría.” *Diversidad y diálogo intercultural a través de las literaturas en lenguas Mexicanas*.  
 ELIAC: D.F., Mexico, 2008.

Article entitled, “Poetisas Mayas: subjetividades contra la corriente.” In *Cuadernos de Literatura*  
 11 (22) enero-junio 2007 (94-106).

Prologue to Estercilia Simanca Pushaina’s *El encierro de una pequeña doncella*. Lama  
 producciones & representaciones: Barranquilla, Colombia 2006.

### WORKS IN PROGRESS

Manuscript (tentative title): Contemporary Indigenous Intellectuals in Mesoamerica: Literature,  
 Identity, and Politics (in progress).

Utilizing primary texts and interviews, my manuscript examines the emergence of indigenous literary productions within the last forty years as a disruption to the implicit link between identity and literacy in Latin American literary and cultural frameworks. In it, I argue that the work of indigenous intellectuals offers an alternative genealogy to Latin America literature, and in so doing, reconfigures established notions of indigenous practices as well as the very concept of the literary.

### RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

- Latin American Literary and Cultural Studies
- Indigenous Literature
- Chicano/a and Latino/a Literary and Cultural Studies
- Ethnic and Race Formations

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Instructor:** Faculty Mentor Program/Equal Opportunity Programs, Spring 2005.

**Teaching Assistant:** Introduction to Latin American and Latino Studies, Department of Latin American and Latino Studies; Prof. Suzanne Jonas, Winter 2005.

**Teaching Assistant:** Introduction to Native American Studies, Department of American Studies; Prof. Renya Ramirez, Spring 2003.

**Teaching Assistant:** Critical Feminist Race Studies, Department of Feminist Studies; Prof. Rhadika Mongia, Winter 2003.

**Teaching Assistant:** Mayan History and Literature, Department of Latin American and Latino Studies; Prof. Cater Wilson, Fall 2003.

**Teaching Assistant:** Chicano Literature, Department of Literature; Prof. Kirsten Gruesz, Fall 2002.

**Teaching Assistant:** Race and Gender Formations in the U.S., Department of Feminists Studies; Prof. Anjali Arondekar, Spring 2001.

**Teaching Assistant:** Introduction to Feminist Studies, Department of Feminist Studies; Prof. Bettina Aphteker, Fall 2001.

**Teaching Assistant:** Early American Poetry, Department of Literature; Prof. Kasey Hicks Winter 2001.

**Teaching Assistant:** Introduction to Literary Interpretation, Department of Literature; Prof. Lourdes Martínez-Echazábal, Fall 2000.

**Teaching Assistant:** Contemporary American Literature, Department of Literature; Prof. Louis Chude-Sokei, Spring 2000.

**Teaching Assistant:** Introduction to Literary Interpretation, Department of Literature; Prof. Susan Gillman, Winter 2000.

**Teaching Assistant:** The British Canon, Department of Literature; Prof. Michael Warren Fall 1999.

**Teaching Assistant:** Toni Morrison and William Faulkner, Department of Literature; Prof. Paul Skanazy, Spring 1999.

**Teaching Assistant:** Introduction to Fiction, Department of Literature; Prof. Louis Chude-Sokei, Winter 1999.

**Teaching Assistant:** Myth and Gender, Department of Literature; Prof. Karen Bassi, Fall 1998.

### OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**CLIR Seminar Fellow**, Bryn Mawr College, Philadelphia, July 2008.

**Spanish Language Teaching Methods Trainee**, Language Programs, University of California Santa Cruz, Spring 2006.

**Guest Speaker Organizer and Coordinator**, Javier Castellanos, the first Zapotec novelist in Mexico. University of California Santa Cruz; Spring 2006.

**Institute Fellow**, Writing in the Americas Summer Institute, Boston University, Boston, MA; Summer 2002.

**Writing Mentor**, Summer Bridge Program/Equal Opportunity Programs, University of California Santa Cruz; Summer 2000.

**Research Assistant**, Prof. Kirsten Gruesz-Silva, Department of Literature and American Studies, University of California Santa Cruz; Summer 2000.

**Bilingual Teacher**. Gratts Elementary School, Los Angeles Unified School District; 1996-1998.

**Teach for America Corps Member/Teacher**, Mayo Elementary School, Compton Unified School District; 1994-1996.

**Editorial Intern**, Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press, Albany, NY; Summer 1993.

#### SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Panel Moderator. "Memory, Autonomy, Language, and Solidarity." Discursive Practices: The Formation of a Transnational Indigenous Poetics. University of California, Davis; May 11-13, 2008.

Presenter. "Escritores Mayas contemporáneos: redefiniendo nociones de tradición y autoría." Encuentro Nacional de Literatura en Lenguas Indígenas, Palacio de la autonomía de la Universidad Autónoma de México (UNAM), México; October 17, 2007.

Panelist. "Against the Grain: Contemporary Maya Writers and Tradition." IASA Lisbon, Portugal; September 21, 2007.

Organizer/panelist. "Contemporary Maya Writers and the Legacy of Colonialist Literary Notions." LASA Montreal, Canada; September 7, 2007.

Invited guest speaker. "Between Nation-State Denial and Progressive Politics: Memory, History, and Indigenous Identity in El Salvador." Native American Studies Department, University of California Davis; May 17, 2007.

Panelist. "Maya Women: Contesting Nations, Reconfiguring Traditions." What's Next for Native American and Indigenous Studies?" University of Oklahoma Norman, Oklahoma; May 5 2007.

Panelist. "Contemporary Maya Writers and the Making of a Millenarian Literary Tradition." ACLA Puebla, Mexico; April, 2007.

Invited Guest Speaker. "Maya Women: Contesting Tradition, Reconfiguring Nations" A Plenary on Transnationalisms and Indigeneity: Rethinking Borders, Nations and Diasporas MALCS conference. University of California Santa Cruz; August 04, 2006.

Presenter. "Poetizas Mayas: forjando subjetividades modernas," Literaturas Indígenas y Globalizaciones Universidad de Nariño Pasto, Colombia; May 24, 2006.

Organizer and presenter. "Contemporary Maya Women: Subject Making and the Making of Subjects through Poetry" LASA San Juan, Puerto Rico; March 18, 2006.

Presenter. "La interpelación o negación del indígena en el imaginario guatemalteco" Conferencia Internacional de Literatura y Cultura Centroamericana y Festival de Cine

California State University, Northridge; October 2001.

Panel Chair. "Processes of Concientización: Consciousness and Conscience in Margarita Cota-Cardenas' Puppet" National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies San Antonio, TX.; April 28–1 May 1999.

#### PEER-REVIEW JOURNALS

*The Latin Americanist*. University of North Carolina at Charlotte. (2008)

*Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies*. UCLA Chicano Studies Center. (2008)

*Temas antropológicos*. Universidad Autonoma de Yucatán. Yucatan, Mexico. (2007)

#### LANGUAGES

- Spanish (Fluent in reading and writing)
- Functional Maya K'iche'
- French (Reading)

#### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Latin American Studies Association (LASA)

Modern Language Association (MLA)

American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)

International American Studies Association (IASA)

#### REFERENCES

Professor Kirsten Gruesz  
Department of Literature  
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Telephone: 831-459-2225  
E-mail: kgruesz@ucsc.edu

Professor Norma Klahn  
Department of Literature  
Santa Cruz, CA 95064  
Telephone: 831-3452  
E-mail: nklahn@ucsc.edu

Professor Rob Wilson  
Department of Literature  
Santa Cruz, CA 95064  
Telephone: 831-459-2401  
E-mail: rwilson@ucsc.edu