

**Latinx Literature:**  
**Race, Collective Memory, and the Archive**  
**ENGL\*6691**

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**Course Description:** Due to the steady migration of Latinx into North America and the close proximity of Latin America, Latinx have a long history of resisting citizenship's requirement that they contain their identities within the boundaries of the nation. When it comes to the question of Latinx in the United States and Canada, both countries are uncomfortably faced with a series of critical questions. What are the political and ethical effects of having a group of people unable to imagine or narrate community and family solely within the borders of the nation? What happens when one traverses borders and gains two or more histories, two or more sets of memories? How do we address memories and histories that do not respect national borders and "migrate," disrupting official national histories and demanding different archives and collection practices? How can fiction participate in the formation of historical memory? What are the limits and benefits to such a literary intervention into the archive? This course will explore these questions by focusing on contemporary Latinx fiction and examining how Latinx cultural producers are addressing issues of history and memory in their work.

**Required Reading (readings may change):**

*Heart of Aztlan*, Rudolfo Anaya

*Borderlands/La Frontera*, Gloria Anzaldua

*The Conquest*, Yxta Maya Murray

*Unclaimed Experience*, Cathy Caruth

*Dreaming in Cuban*, Cristina García

*The Agüero Sisters*, Cristina Garcia

*Fronteras Americanas*, Guillermo Verdecchia