“Unsettling Monuments of Latinx Masculinity in Estela Portillo-Trambley’s ‘Rain of Scorpions’”

By Francisco Robles

In this paper, I consider Estela Portillo Trambley’s "Rain of Scorpions" novella and its critiques of Chicanx masculinity as contained in radical-revolutionary political movements. I am also interested in examining how the novella, as part of Portillo Trambley’s Rain of Scorpions short story collection, offers an undoing of the logics of the young man’s bildungsroman or the tropes of developing masculine consciousness in many Chicano publications of the 1960s and 1970s. This paper is also a partial recovery of and engagement with the early critical work on Portillo Trambley, an author whose writings have largely been ignored in current conversations about Chicanx Literature, while also considering how decoloniality, as a critical lens, might lead to a renewed appreciation and reinvigoration of those early conversations.

Lunch will be provided - Email Pbutler1@nd.edu to RSVP

Wednesday, October 24
12-1pm
339 O’Shaughnessy