

**Amelia María de la Luz Montes**  
Associate Professor of English and Ethnic Studies  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

**EDUCATION:**

Ph.D., 1999 University of Denver. Denver, Colorado. American Literature.  
M.A., 1994 University of Denver. Denver, Colorado. Creative Writing.  
M.Ed., 1989 Azusa Pacific University, Los Angeles. Education.  
B.A., 1980 Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, California. English/Spanish

**SPECIALIZATIONS:**

Chicana/Chicano and U.S. Latina/Latino Literature and Theory  
Nineteenth, Twentieth, & Twenty-First Century American Literature  
Creative Writing (Non-Fiction/Fiction)

**PUBLICATIONS: CRITICAL WRITING**

**Books:**

Ruiz de Burton, María Amparo, *Who Would Have Thought It? 1872*. Editing, Introduction, Notes, Translated Letters by Amelia M.L. Montes. New York: Penguin Classics, 2009. --Listed on the "Latino Books Month List," May 2010, The Association of American Publishers

*Note: This edition has been on various college and high school curriculum courses*

*María Amparo Ruiz de Burton: Critical and Pedagogical Perspectives*

Co-edited volume with Anne Elizabeth Goldman, University of Nebraska Press, 2004.

*Note: This anthology has a significant section on pedagogy—how to teach Ruiz de Burton's novels and has been taught in various college curriculum courses.*

**Books in progress:**

1. *Rituals of Health*, with Routledge Press (Latino Cultural Studies Series)--Proposal sent, December 2016
2. *Nothing Sweet About Me* (non-fiction creative memoir, diabetes)—was entitled, *The Diabetes Chronicles* (editing draft)
3. *Corazón y Tierra: Latinas Writing From the Midwest*. (critical literary text)

**International Portfolio: Fulbright Scholar**

1. *FULBRIGHT Award* (letter received April, 2017). University and Country: University of Novi Sad, Serbia. **Project:** Creative Non-Fiction Monograph *La Llorona on the Danube*; Chicanx and Latinx Literature curriculum consultation & co-teaching one course on Chicanx and U.S. Latinx Literature (2017-2018).
2. *Society for the Study of American Women Writers (SSAWW)*: Abstract Accepted to Bordeaux, France Conference (July 5 – 8, 2017) and will be meeting with University of Novi Sad and University of Belgrade professors on preliminary consultation for the creation of a Chicanx/Latinx Literature curriculum in Serbia.

**Articles submitted (forthcoming, accepted, or under review):**

Montes, Amelia María de la Luz. "Latino Studies and Ethnic Studies at Midwestern Colleges and Universities." *The Latino Midwest Reader*. Eds. Omar Valerio-Jiménez, Santiago Vaquera-Vásquez, and Claire F. Fox. Champaign: University of Illinois Press. (Forthcoming, 2017).

**Selected Articles and Chapters in Journals and Books:**

\*Peer Reviewed

\*Montes, Amelia María de la Luz. "Rituals of Health." *The Routledge Companion to Latina/o Popular Culture*. Ed. Frederick Luis Aldama. New York: Routledge, 2016. Pp. 256-266.

\*Montes, Amelia María de la Luz. "María Amparo Ruiz de Burton." *Latino/a Literature in the Classroom: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Approaches to Teaching*. Ed. Frederick Luis Aldama. New York: Routledge, 2015, pp. 290-298.

**PUBLICATIONS: CREATIVE WRITING****Selected Fiction, Creative Non-fiction, Poetry in journals and anthologies:**

\*Peer Reviewed

\*(short story) "La Omaha Mariachi Dyke." *Afro-Hispanic Review*. (forthcoming 2017)

\*(poems) "Platicando Existentialism While Writing a New Song" and "Birthday Party." Jota Anthology. Kórima Press, San Francisco. (accepted/contract signed, 2016).

\*(short story) "Frayed Edges, Loose Thread." *Angels of the Americlypse: An Anthology of New Latin@ Writing*. Eds. Chavez, John and Carmen Gimenez Smith. Counterpath Press, 2014.

**DIGITAL PUBLICATIONS:**

***La Bloga*, National/International Blog: <http://labloga.blogspot.com/>**

*La Bloga* is a national/international daily critical literary and cultural blog focusing on U.S. Latina/Latino and Chicana/Chicano writing, art, music, health, culture, and politics. I am one of eleven writers. We are poets, fiction, and non-fiction writers. This has brought my critical and creative work significant attention. In fact, the 2013 Modern Language Association Conference (MLA) in Boston, scholar Jennifer Lozano (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign), featured *La Bloga's* international impact in a paper entitled "Convergence Cultura? Reevaluating New Media Scholarship through a Latina/Latino Literary Blog, *La Bloga*."

As well, Aunt Lute Books (a multicultural women's press since 1982) featured and quoted my piece on writer Gloria Anzaldúa on their website (titled: "Gloria Anzaldúa's Enduring Legacy Celebrated in *La Bloga*," and on March 4, 2012, an international blog entitled *Migrare/Migrate/Change* re-published my post, "Banned Books" on its site.

In 2015 at the International Latina/Latino Conference in Chicago, La Bloga writers were on a panel and library curators from UCLA, Stanford, and USC were present. They spoke to us about their intentions to archive our articles. We are in negotiations with them on this project.

**Selected La Bloga Articles posted:**

“*Beatriz at Dinner and Other Pensamientos.*” June 11, 2017.

<http://labloga.blogspot.com/2017/06/beatriz-at-dinner-and-other-pensamientos.html>

“Practicing Abuelita Medicine When Healthcare is Unavailable: Interview with Yerbetera Andina, La Loba.” May 7, 2017.

<http://labloga.blogspot.com/2017/05/practicing-abuelita-medicine-when.html>

“*Long Stories Cut Short:* Interview with Frederick Luis Aldama.” February 5, 2017.

<http://labloga.blogspot.com/2017/02/long-stories-cut-short-interview-with.html>

“MUJERES”—Five Latina Artists Exhibit Their Work in Kearney, Nebraska. October 30, 2016. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2016/10/mujeres-five-latina-artists-exhibit.html>

“Diabetes Type I & II: Can’t Take It Anymore?” June 12, 2016

<http://labloga.blogspot.com/2016/06/diabetes-type-ii-cant-take-it-anymore.html>

“Xicana Nebraska: ‘Taking With Me the Land.’” August 28, 2016.

<http://labloga.blogspot.com/2016/08/xicana-nebraska-taking-with-me-land.html>

“Diabetes Type II: Thoughts Regarding the Terms ‘Remission’ and ‘Cure,’” August 21, 2016. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2016/08/diabetes-type-ii-thoughts-regarding.html>

“Faith and Fat Chances: Interview with Author, Carla Trujillo.” *La Bloga*. November 22, 2015. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2015/11/faith-and-fat-chances-interview-with.html>

“‘San Francisco, Mi Amor!’: Interview with Critically Acclaimed Chicana Lesbian Comic, Monica Palacios.” *La Bloga*. November 8, 2015.

<http://labloga.blogspot.com/2015/11/san-francisco-mi-amor-interview-with.html>

“All Day, Talking: A Conversation with Poet, Sarah A. Chavez.” *La Bloga*. October 11, 2015. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2015/10/all-day-talking-conversation-with-poet.html>

“Just Published! *Decolonize Your Diet:* Interview with Luz Calvo and Catriona Esquibel.” *La Bloga*. October 4, 2015. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2015/10/just-published-decolonize-your-diet.html>

“How Winter Began: A Conversation with Joy Castro.” *La Bloga*. September 27, 2015.

<http://labloga.blogspot.com/2015/09/how-winter-began-conversation-with-joy.html>

“Living in the Fourth Dimension: A Literary Experience Guiding Readers to an Understanding of Schizophrenia.” *La Bloga*. September 13, 2015.

<http://labloga.blogspot.com/2015/09/living-in-fourth-dimension-literary.html>

“Testing Your Blood: The Importance and the Expense.” *La Bloga*. August 2, 2015.

<http://labloga.blogspot.com/2015/08/testing-your-blood-importance-and.html>

“Con La Familia: Healing, Medicine, Palabras.” *La Bloga*. August 16, 2015.

<http://labloga.blogspot.com/2015/08/con-la-familia-healing-medicine-palabras.html>

“Creating Art from Diabetes: An interview with ire’ne lara silva on enduring azucares.”

*La Bloga*. July 5, 2015. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2015/07/creating-art-from-diabetes-interview.html>

“Interview with Carmen Tafolla, The 2015 Texas State Poet Laureate. *La Bloga*. June

21, 2015. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2015/06/interview-with-carmen-tafolla-2015.html>

“Memorial Day Tribute to Mi Papa.” *La Bloga*. May 24, 2015.

<http://labloga.blogspot.com/2015/05/memorial-day-tribute-to-mi-papa.html>

“Ruth Behar Interview, From the Island: Cuba and Re-Establishing Ties.” *La Bloga*.

February 15, 2015. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2015/02/ruth-behar-interview-from-island-cuba.html>

“Honoring Michelle Serros: Two Poems.” *La Bloga*. January 18, 2015.

<http://labloga.blogspot.com/2015/01/honoring-michele-serros-two-poems.html>

“A Letter to You, Dear Caregiver.” *La Bloga*. December 21, 2014.

<http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/12/a-letter-to-you-dear-caregiver.html>

“What We Read, What We Eat: The Library, Our Food, and Books.” *La Bloga*.

December 7, 2014. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/12/what-we-read-what-we-eat-library-our.html>

“The Body With Diabetes: Interview With Christina Elizabeth Rodriguez.” *La Bloga*.

November 23, 2014. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/11/how-body-works-with-diabetes-interview.html>

“Celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of *Massacre of the Dreamers*: Interview With Ana Castillo.” *La Bloga*. November 9, 2014.

<http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/11/celebrating-20th-anniversary-of.html>

“Los Muertos en este Dia: Testimonios, or Little Stories (Some True, Some Not).” *La*

*Bloga*. November 2, 2014. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/11/los-muertos-en-este-dia-testimonios-or.html>

“Latinas and Latinos in the Midwest: Past, Present, and Future: The National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies (NACCS) FOCO in Kansas City, Missouri.” *La Bloga*. October 26, 2014. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/10/latinandas-latinos-in-midwest-past.html>

“The Violent Foam: Returning to Poet Daisy Zamora.” *La Bloga*. October 12, 2014. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/10/the-violent-foam-returning-to-poet.html>

“Sílabas de Viento/Syllables of Wind: An Interview with Poet Xánath Caraza.” *La Bloga*. September 28, 2014. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/09/silabas-de-vientosyllables-of-wind.html>

“Urban Farm Gardening, Cooking, with Luz Calvo & Catriona Esquibel: Decolonize Your Diet Conversations.” *La Bloga*. September 14, 2014. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/09/urban-farm-gardening-cooking-with-luz.html>

“The Cha Cha Files: a Chapina Interview with Maya Chinchilla!” *La Bloga*. August 31, 2014. [http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014\\_08\\_01\\_archive.html](http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014_08_01_archive.html)

“Diabetes on Madison Avenue, in New York, and Becoming a Xicana Foodie Activist.” *La Bloga*. August 3, 2014. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/08/diabetes-on-madison-avenue-in-new-york.html>

“La Bloga ‘in person’ in Chicago: Celebrating 10 Years and Over 1 Million Readers.” *La Bloga*. July 20, 2014. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/07/la-bloga-in-person-in-chicago.html>

“Up Close and Personal: What It Was Like When Verónica Reyes Heard She Won First Place.” *La Bloga*. July 6, 2014. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/07/up-close-and-personal-what-it-was-like.html>

“Talking About *Lavando La Dirty Laundry*: Interview with Writer, Natalia Treviño!” *La Bloga*. June 22, 2014. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/06/talking-about-lavando-la-dirty-laundry.html>

“Learning, Witnessing, on The Pine Ridge Lakota Reservation.” *La Bloga*. June 8, 2014. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/06/learning-witnessing-on-pine-ridge.html>

“Chicana/Latina Hair: A Discussion About Identity and Your Pelo Journey!” *La Bloga*. May 25, 2014. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/05/chicanalatina-hair-discussion-about.html>

“Of Book Burning, Wild Nightmares, Love Lost and Found: An Interview with Lucha Corpi.” *La Bloga*. May 11, 2014. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/05/of-book-burning-wild-nightmares-love.html>

“Exploration in Cyclical Trauma: Adelina Anthony Talks About Her Film, *Bruising for Besos*.” *La Bloga*. April 27, 2014. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/04/exploration-in-cyclical-trauma-adelina.html>

“Poet, Lorenzo Herrera y Lozano’s *Amorcito Maricón*: The Interview.” *La Bloga*. April 13, 2014. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/04/poet-lorenzo-herrera-y-lozanos-amorcito.html>

“Ever on the Alert: Earthquakes and Sandhill Cranes.” *La Bloga*. March 30, 2014. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/03/ever-on-alert-earthquakes-and-sandhill.html>

“La Bloga Celebrates 10 Years and Over 1 Million Readers! Talking About Chris Abani’s Novels and Poetry.” *La Bloga*. March 16, 2014. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2014/03/la-bloga-celebrates-10-years-and-over-1.html>

“Critical Thinking: What an Ethnic Studies Class Looks Like.” *La Bloga*. February 17, 2013.) <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2013/02/critical-thinking-what-ethnic-studies.html>

“Teaching the Chicana and Chicano ‘Body.’” *La Bloga*. August 18, 2013. <http://labloga.blogspot.com/2013/08/teaching-chicana-and-chicano-body.html>

#### **Selected Citations of My Work:**

*Light in the Dark: Luz En Lo Oscuro. Rewriting Identity, Spirituality, Reality* – Gloria E. Anzaldúa. Ed. Analouise Keating. Durham: Duke University Press, 2015.

Modern Language Association Conference (MLA) paper by Jennifer Lozano, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. “Convergence Cultura? Reevaluating New Media Scholarship through a Latina/Latino Literary Blog, *La Bloga*.” January 4, 2013.

#### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

Associate Professor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2006- present  
 Assistant Professor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2000-2006  
 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign,  
     taught one course spring 2004 (see below under “course taught”)  
 Lecturer, University of California, Santa Barbara, 1998-2000  
 Teaching Assistant, University of Denver, Colorado, 1992-1996  
 Redondo Union High School, Redondo Beach, California, 1989-1991  
 El Segundo High School, El Segundo, California, 1985-1989  
 Hawthorne High School, Hawthorne, California, 1984-1985  
 Edison Jr. High School, Los Angeles, California, 1982-1984

#### **Courses Taught (UNL):**

Advanced Creative Writing, Fiction, ENG 452 (F 2007)  
 Introduction to Creative Writing, Fiction, ENG 212 (Summer 2017)  
 American Novels II, ENG 4/805 (S 2003, S2013, S2014, S2015, S2016, S2017)

Chicana and Chicano Literature, ENG 245D (F 2000, F 2001, S 2002, S 2003, F 2003, S 2005, F 2005, S 2007, F2013, S2017)  
Chicana and Latina Literature & Theory, ENG 945/971 (S 2002, F 2006, S2008, S2015)  
Chicana and Latina Literature & Theory, ENG 498/898 (F 2003, S 2005, F 2012, S2016)  
Ethnic Studies, ETHN 100 (F 2000, F 2001, F 2005, F2010)  
Ethnic Studies, ETHN 400 (F 2008)  
Gay and Lesbian Drama, ENG 401K/801K  
Gay and Lesbian Literature, ENG 212 (S 2006, S2007, F2009, S2016)  
Intro to U.S. Latino Studies, ETHN 202 (S2013)  
Latinos in Film, ENG 344 (S2010)  
Novels After Dreiser, ENG 4/805 (S 2001, S2012,)  
Survey of Late American Literature, ENG 361B (S 2001, F 2002)  
Introduction to the Writing of Fiction, ENG 252 (F 2002, SSPre2017)

Course Taught (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign):  
Reconfiguring Traditional Borderlands in Chicana and Latina Literature,  
LLS 296, Section #4 (S 2004)

**CONFERENCE PAPERS** (academic and creative writing):

“Gloria Anzaldúa, Rhetorical Plasticity, and the Means of Agency.” The American Studies Association Conference (ASA). Chicago, Illinois. November 9 -12, 2017.

“Gloria Anzaldúa’s Naguala Cuerpo.” The Society for the Study of American Women Writers (SSAWW). Bordeaux, France. July 8-14, 2017.

“Divergent Thinking: Reclaiming, Rethinking Ancestral and Indigenous Healing Practices in the Poetry of ire’ne lara silva.” *The Society for the Study of Gloria Anzaldúa* (SSGA). San Antonio, Texas. November 4, 2016.

“Celebrating Chicano Author, John Rechy.” Associated Writing Programs (AWP). Pasadena, California. March 30-April 2, 2016.

Featured Panel Speaker: “Diabetes: Our National Disease,” at The Society for the Study of Gloria Anzaldúa (SSGA) Conference. University of Texas, Austin. May 29, 2015.

Featured Panel Speaker: “Glucose Logs: Anzaldúa and the Story of Blood.” El Mundo Zurdo: The International Conference on the Life and Work of Gloria Anzaldúa. University of Texas at San Antonio. November 16, 2013.

“The Diabetes Mestizaje Cronica: Theory and Practice.” The 1<sup>st</sup> Biennial U.S. Latina/o Literary Theory and Criticism Conference, “Haciendo Caminos: Mapping the Futures of U.S. Latina/o Literatures.” City University of New York (John Jay College of Criminal Justice). March 8, 2013.

“The Diabetes Chronicles.” The Modern Language Association. Panel: “Life Writing and Invention in Latina Memoir and Fiction.” Boston, MA. January 4, 2013.

**INVITED TALKS:**

Invited Feature Speaker: “The Diabetes Chronicles,” University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC). Chicano/Latino Resource Center and The Latin American and Latino Studies Department. April 4, 2016.

Invited Featured Speaker : “Day of the Dead Reading Series” at The Writer’s Place, Kansas City, Missouri. (hosted by University of Missouri, Kansas City), November 6, 2015.

**HONORS, APPOINTMENTS:**

University of Nebraska Press, Board Appointment, 2014-present  
Sheldon Art Museum, Advisory Board Appointment, 2010- 2015

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

Reviewed manuscript for University of Texas Press, 2015  
Reviewer for *Latino Studies*, Fall/Spring 2012-2013  
Reviewer for *MELUS* (Journal for The Society for the Study of the Multi-Ethnic Literature of the U.S.), Fall 2006, Spring 2007, Fall 2007, Fall 2008, Fall 2009, Fall 2010, Fall 2011, Fall 2012  
Reviewer, *Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers*, Fall 2008, 2010, 2011  
Reviewer, *Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies*, Fall 2007, Fall 2008, 2012  
Reader, Macondo, Sandra Cisneros’ group, 2004, 2006, 2014  
Peer Reviewer, “Literature Compass,” (Blackwell Publishing) on-line journal, fall 2005.  
Judge, PEN WEST Fiction Awards, 2004

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:**

PEN West  
Modern Language Association (MLA)  
American Studies Association (ASA)  
American Association of University Professor (AAUP)  
The Society for the Study of Gloria Anzaldúa (co-founder and member)  
Macondo (member of author Sandra Cisneros’ professional writing group)

**SERVICE:**

National:

- Co-Founder, Member, *Society for the Study of Gloria Anzaldúa* – Fall 2007 – present
- Conference Organizing Committee, Member, *Society for the Study of Gloria Anzaldúa*, 2016, 2014, 2012 Conferences.
- Member, MLA Executive Committee: Division on “Women’s Studies in Language and Literature,” (elected by MLA national ballot) Fall 2007 – 2012
- Nomination Chair for Macondo, author Sandra Cisneros’ writing group, 2005 and 2006
- Chair, Modern Language Association (MLA) Division on Chicana and Chicano Literature. January 2003-December 2003.



University:

- Member, Academic Right and Responsibilities Panel (AAR), 2016 - Present
- Director, The Institute for Ethnic Studies, January 2008 – to August 2014
- Organizing Chair, Center for Great Plains Studies Spring Symposium, Spring/Fall 2010
- Advisory Board, The Sheldon Art Museum, Fall 2010- present
- Member, Arts and Sciences Executive Committee, Fall 2008
- Co-Chair, Martin Luther King Week, January 2007 to January 2008
- Advisory Board, The Melvyn Jones Scholars Learning Community, Fall 2006-Fall 2007
- Member, Advisory Committee, Initiative for Teaching & Learning Excellence, 2005

English Department:

- Member, Chair's Advisory Committee, 2016 - present
- Judge, English Dept., Creative Writing Fiction/Poetry Contest, Spring 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2015
- Member, Chair's Advisory Committee, Fall 2009
- Member, Theory Search Committee (at MLA), Fall 2008

Ethnic Studies:

- Search Committee Member, History/Ethnic Studies Search, Fall 2016
- Director, The Institute for Ethnic Studies, January 2008 – August 2014
- Overseer/Consultant, Africana/African American Studies Search, Fall 2008
- Co-Organizer for visiting writer, Pat Alderete, February 18-21, 2008
- Coordinator, Latino and Latin American Studies Program, Fall 2007-January 2008

Community/Service:

- “Human Subject” for “The International Diabetes Remission Registry Project,” co-founded by PhD candidate, Victor Villalobos, University of California, Berkeley; and Prof. Axel Olaf Kern, The School of High Studies, Ravensburg-Weingarten, Germany, 2016 to present
- Founder, Diabetes Support Book Group, Fall 2011-2015
- Stanford University “Living Well” Workshop Leader, 2011-2013