

**Amelia María de la Luz Montes**  
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**EDUCATION:**

Ph.D., 1999 University of Denver. Denver, Colorado. English.  
M.A., 1994 University of Denver. Denver, Colorado. English.  
B.A., 1980 Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, California. English.

**SPECIALIZATIONS:**

Chicana/Chicano and U.S. Latina/Latino Literature and Theory  
Nineteenth and Twentieth Century American Literature  
Creative Writing, Fiction

**PUBLICATIONS: CRITICAL WRITING**

**Books:**

Ruiz de Burton, María Amparo, *Who Would Have Thought It? 1872*. Ed. Amelia M.L. Montes. New York: Penguin Classics, 2009.

*María Amparo Ruiz de Burton: Critical and Pedagogical Perspectives*  
Co-edited volume with Anne Elizabeth Goldman  
University of Nebraska Press, 2004.

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

\*Peer Reviewed

\*“What La Virgen Said About Gloria Anzaldúa’s Hands.” *Güeras y Prietas: Celebrating 20 Year of Borderlands/La Frontera*. Ed. Norma E. Cantú and Christina L. Gutierrez. Texas: The Adelante Project, 2009, pp. 39-47.

\*“Introduction.” *Who Would Have Thought It?* María Amparo Ruiz de Burton. New York: Penguin Classics, in press, August 25, 2009. pp. x-xxiv.

\*“María Amparo Ruiz: A Transhistoric Tradition.” *Symbolism: A New International Annual of Critical Aesthetics Journal*. Volume IV, 2005, pp. 293-311.

\*“ ‘Mine is the Mission to Redress’: The New Order of Knight-Errantry in Don Quixote de la Mancha: A Comedy in Five Acts.” *María Amparo Ruiz de Burton: Critical and Pedagogical Perspectives*. Ed. Amelia María de la Luz Montes and Anne Elizabeth Goldman. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2004. pp. 206-224.

\*“Tortilleras on the Prairie: Latina Lesbians Writing the Midwest.” *The Journal of Lesbian Studies*. Vol. 7. #3, 2003. pp. 25-41.

\*“Tortilleras on the Prairie: Latina Lesbians Writing the Midwest.” *Latina Lesbian Writers and Artists*. Ed. María Dolores Costa. New York: The Haworth Press, 2003. pp. 29-46.

\*“ ‘See How I Am Received’: Nationalism, Race, and Gender in *Who Would Have Thought It?*” *Decolonial Voices: Chicana and Chicano Cultural Studies in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. Ed. Arturo J. Aldama and Naomi H. Quiñonez. Indiana University Press, 2002. pp. 177-194.

\*“ ‘Es Necesario Mirar Bien’: The Letters of María Amparo Ruiz de Burton.” *Recovering the Hispanic Literary Heritage, Volume III*. Ed. María Herrera-Sobek and Virginia Sánchez Korrol. Houston: Arte Público Press, 2000. pp. 16-37.

\*“María Amparo Ruiz de Burton Negotiates American Literary Politics and Culture.” *Challenging Boundaries: Gender and Periodization*. Ed. Joyce W. Warren and Margaret Dickie. University of Georgia Press, 2000. pp. 202-225.

“Theory By Any Other Name is Still Theory.” *California English*. 4:1 (Fall 1998): 8-9.

## **PUBLICATIONS: CREATIVE WRITING**

### **Short Story Collection:**

*While Pilar Tobillo Sleeps*  
*manuscript in progress*

### **Fiction, Creative Non-fiction, Poetry in journals and anthologies:**

\*Peer Reviewed

\*(Memoir) “Queen For A Day.” *An Angle of Vision: Women Writers on Their Poor and Working-Class Roots*. Ed. Lorraine M. López. The University of Michigan Press, *in press*, September 2009.

\*(Memoir) "Levantate: Our Healing Ceremonia." *Speaking desde las heridas. Testimonios transfronterizos/ Transborder testimonios through Cyberspace (11 de septiembre de 2001-11 de marzo de 2007)*). Ed. Claire Joysmith. Mexico D.F.: Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, December 2008, pp. 75-90.

\*(short story)"Amígdala." *River City Journal*. 25 (2005): 84-90

\*(Memoir)"9-11 Testimonio." *One Wound for Another/Una Herida por Otra: Testimonios de Latin@s in the US Through Cyberspace (11 de Septiembre 2001 – 11 Marzo 2002)*. Ed. Claire Joysmith and Clara Lomas. Mexico, D.F.: Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, 2005. pp. 213-216.

\*(poetry)"Their House of Cards," "Even When the Story is Finished," "Running Bodies Through L.A." *Elixir: Poetry and Fiction 2001*. Ed. Dana Curtis. Minnesota: Elixir Press, 2001. pp. 37-39.

\*(short story)"R for Ricura." *Circa 2000: Lesbian Fiction at the Millennium*. Ed. Terry Wolverton and Robert Drake. New York: Alyson publications, 2000. pp. 160-176.

\*(short story)"La Guacamaya." *Culture and Society in Dialogue: Chicana Literary and Artistic Expressions*. Ed. María Herrera-Sobek. Santa Barbara: Center for Chicano Studies, University of California Santa Barbara, 2000. pp. 201-214.

(non-fiction)"Marilyn Whirry: National Teacher of the Year. A Tribute." *California English* 6.2 (2000): 28.

\*(short story)"While Pilar Tobillo Sleeps." *Hers 3: Brilliant New Fiction by Lesbian Writers*. Ed. Terry Wolverton and Robert Drake. New York: Faber and Faber, Inc., 1999. pp. 9-21.

\*(short story)"Frayed Edges, Loose Thread." *Saguaro* 9 (1995): 7-11.

### **Encyclopedia Entries:**

"Chicano/a Literature." *The Edinburgh Encyclopaedia of Literary Criticism and Theory Since 1940*. Ed. Julian Wolfreys. Edinburgh University Press Ltd., 2002. pp. 575-582.

"María Amparo Ruiz de Burton." *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Latinos and Latinas in the United States*. Ed. Gonzalez, Deena J., and Suzanne Oboler. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005. volume 2, pp. 557-559

"Graciela Limón." *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Latinos and Latinas in the United States*. Ed. Gonzalez, Deena J., and Suzanne Oboler. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005. volume 4, pp. 41-43.

### **Book Reviews:**

Review of *Crescent*, by Diana Abu-Jaber. *Prairie Schooner*. 80.1 (2006): 211-213.

Review of *Telling Our Stories: The Lives of Midwestern Latinas*, by Theresa Barron-McKeagney. *Latino Studies Journal*. 3:2 (July 2005): 301-305.

Review of *Conflicts of Interest: The Letters of María Amparo Ruiz de Burton*, Ed. Rosaura Sanchez and Beatrice Pita. Spec. issue of *Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers* 20.1-2 (2003): 195-197.

**Newspaper Articles:**

“Civil War-era Latina Casts Light on 2008 America.” *The Omaha World Herald* 27 July 2008: 9B.

**PUBLIC READINGS/INTERVIEWS:** (for the launching of *Who Would Have Thought It*, The Penguin Classics Edition)

Featured Reader: University of Nebraska Bookstore, September 9, 2009

**Podcast:** Interview with Elda Rotor, Executive Director, Penguin Classics. Launching of Podcast: September 15, 2009 (on Penguin Classics site and on I-Tunes)

Featured Reader: John H. Ames Reading Series at the Jane Pope Geake Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors, Bennett Martin Public Library, September 20, 2009 (will also be aired on Lincoln’s government access channel, 5 City TV).

Featured Reader: Bird and Beckett Bookstore, San Francisco, October 6, 2009.

-- other Bookstore readings in San Francisco and Los Angeles, TBA (between October 1-11, 2009).

Panel: “Nineteenth-century Writing in the Twenty-first Century.” *The Latino Book Festival*. Los Angeles, October 10-11, 2009.

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

“Publishing Women of Color Perspectives.” MLA (Modern Language Association) Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 27-30, 2009.

“Gloria Anzaldúa and Transnational Contemporary Concerns.” NWSA (National Women’s Studies Association Conference) Atlanta, Georgia, November 12-14, 2009.

“María Amparo Ruiz de Burton and Critical Race Theory.” NACCS (National Association of Chicana and Chicano Studies) Austin, Texas, March 21, 2008.

“Queer Juchitan and one Chicana: Indigenous Clothing/Public Spaces in Oaxaca and the U.S.” NACCS (National Association of Chicana and Chicano Studies) San Jose, California. April 4, 2007.

“La Omaha Mariachi Dyke” (fiction reading.) Macondo Writing Conference (with Dorothy Allison and Sandra Cisneros). August 2, 2007.

“Latina Queer Studies in the Midwest.” *Gueras y Prietas: Celebrating 20 Years of Borderlands/La Frontera*, a one-day symposium by The Society for the Study of Gloria Anzaldúa. San Antonio, Texas, November 3, 2007.

“Not Particular to the Southwest: Anzaldúa and the Tortillera/Lesbian Community in the Midwest.” SAWW (Society for the Study of America Women Writers) Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. November 10, 2006.

“Transnational Connections in *Una Herida Por Otra: Mexican and U.S. Latin@ Print and Cyberspace Collaborations*.” NACCS (National Association of Chicana and Chicano Studies) Guadalajara, Mexico. June 29, 2006.

“Breathing.” (fiction reading). Macondo Writing Conference (with Sandra Cisneros). August 5, 2005. San Antonio, Texas.

“Chicanas in the Cornfields: Teaching Chicana and U.S. Latina Literatures in the Midwest.” (ALA) American Literature Association. May 26, 2005. Boston, Mass.

“I am Boricua on the Midwest: Marisol Torres and Film as Testimonio.” NACCS (National Association of Chicana and Chicano Studies). April 15, 2005. Miami, Florida.

“Diabetes.” (fiction reading). Macondo Writing Conference (with Sandra Cisneros). August 6, 2004. San Antonio, Texas.

“While Pilar Tobillo Sleeps.” (fiction reading) NACCS (National Association of Chicana and Chicano Studies). April 2, 2004. Albuquerque, New Mexico.

“Tortilleras on the Prairie.” MLA (Modern Language Association). December 29, 2003. San Diego, California.

“Chicana/Latina Lesbianas in the Academy.” MALCS (Mujeres Activas en Letras y Cambio Social Conference). August 11, 2003. San Antonio, Texas.

“From the Archives to the Classroom: Teaching What We Are Recovering.” Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage Conference. November 15, 2002. Houston, Texas.

“Maria Amparo Ruiz de Burton As ‘Pocha’: A Critique of Recovery, the Academy, and Contemporary Chicana Civic Voices.” ASA (The American Studies Association). November 10, 2001. Washington D.C.

“María Amparo Ruiz de Burton and Nineteenth-Century/Late Twentieth-Century Class and Racial Privilege.” Society for the Study of American Women Writers First International Conference. February 15, 2001. San Antonio, Texas.

“Consequences of Recovery: Negotiating María Amparo Ruiz de Burton’s Class and Race Issues in Scholarship and in the Classroom.” Sixth Conference of Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage. December 2, 2000. University of Houston, Texas.

“‘Avoiding Confusion in the American Mind’: María Amparo Ruiz de Burton and Litigations Within/Outside the Domestic Sphere.” ALA (American Literature Association). May 2000. Long Beach, California.

“‘Remember Who I Am’: María Amparo Ruiz de Burton and the Question of Identity.” MLA (Modern Language Association). December 1999. Chicago.

“Polyglossia Border Check Point: Complicating What it Means to Translate.” ASA (American Studies Association). October 1999. Montreal, Quebec.

“Crossing Centuries, Crossing Boundaries: Canon, History, and Creative Writing.” AWP (Associated Writing Programs). April 1999. Albany, New York.

“Negotiating the ‘American Mind’: Nineteenth-Century Nationalism, Race, and Gender in the Life of María Amparo Ruiz de Burton.” MLA (Modern Language Association). December 1998. San Francisco.

“National Spaces: María Amparo Ruiz de Burton and Redefining Historical Canons.” WHA (Western History Association). October 1998. Sacramento.

“‘Mucho Hay Que Ver’: What We Learn Today From Recovering María Amparo Ruiz de Burton.” ALA (American Literature Association). May 1998. San Diego.

“‘I Did Not Write For Glory’: The Letters of María Amparo Ruiz de Burton.” MLA (Modern Language Association). December 1997. Toronto, Canada.

“‘Es Necesario Mirar Bien’: Nineteenth-Century Letter Making and Novel Writing.” Lecture presented at The Huntington Library, Los Angeles. July 30, 1997.

“María Amparo Ruiz de Burton in the Twentieth Century.” Conference of The Author, The Critic, and The Public: Critical Theory and Chicano Culture. May 1997. University of California Los Angeles.

“‘Y veo como en fotografia en un instante’: María Amparo Ruiz de Burton's Constructions of Nationhood.” Chicana/o Cultural Critique: Trespassing Disciplinary Divides Conference. April 1997. University of Colorado at Boulder.

#### **INVITED TALKS:**

Guest Speaker: student read my fiction or critical writing and we discussed the reading in the following classes (listed by Professor's name): Nick Spencer, (F2007), Barbara DiBernard, (S2007, F2007, S2008, F2008), Amy Goodburn (F2007).

Lecture on Gloria Anzaldúa for one class session of WMNS 485, (Rose Holtz), (F2007, S2008, F2009)

Keynote Speaker, "Transcending Margins: How To Be An Ally When You Are Not The Minority." 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual GLBT History Month Banquet. October 27, 2005, UNL.

Keynote Speaker, "Chicana and Latina Perspectives on The Great Plains and Midwest." University of Illinois. Latina and Latino Studies Graduate Student Conference: "Exploring and Challenging Fronteras in the Midwest and Beyond". February 26, 2005. Urbana-Champaign.

Speaker, Plenary Session, "Positioning Women in the Academy: Issues of Teaching, Research, and Administration for Scholars of American Women Writers." Society for the Study of American Women Writers Conference (SSAWW). September 27, 2003. Fort Worth, Texas.

Fiction reading and discussion. Prof. Barbara DiBernard's "Gay and Lesbian Literature" (Eng. 210B) course. October 22, 2003. UNL.

Fiction reading and discussion. Prof. Barbara DiBernard's 20<sup>th</sup> Century Lesbian literature class. November 7, 2002. UNL.

Fiction reading, Omaha Public Library. Reading Sponsored by the Nebraska Writers Series. May 11, 2002. Omaha, Nebraska.

"The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo and Californio History" Prof. Susan Belasco's Survey of Women's Literature class. April 4, 2002. UNL.

Panel speaker on "Teaching in a Predominantly White Institution". (Other participants: Daniel Martinez, Flo Wong). March 5, 2002. UNL.

"Chicana and Chicano literature and culture". Lincoln High School. Mary Dickinson's Multicultural Literature class. November 15, 2001. Lincoln, Nebraska.

"Chicana/Chicano Identity." Prof. Ron Stephen's Intercultural Communication class. March 20, 2001. UNL.

Nineteenth-century Women Writer's Colloquium on Ruiz de Burton. February 7, 2001. UNL.

"'Soy Mujer...Y Mejicana!': The Question of Identity in María Amparo Ruiz de Burton's Fiction and Letter Writing." Women's Studies Symposium Lecture. September 21, 2000. UNL.

“Creative Writing and Chicana/Chicano Identity.” Prof. Robert Brooks’ Literary Scholarship Class. November 6, 2000. UNL.

“Testimonios.” Latino Association Mentor Program. November 8, 2000. UNL.

Fiction reading and discussion. Prof. Barbara DiBernard’s 20<sup>th</sup> Century Lesbian Literature class. November 8, 2000. UNL.

## **GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS:**

### **External:**

Latina/Latino Studies Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, \$42,000

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (Jan. 2004-Dec. 2004)

Chicana Dissertation Fellowship, Department of Chicano Studies, \$18,000

University of California, Santa Barbara (July 1997-July 1998)

Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage "Grants-in-Aid" (University of Houston), \$6,000 for research at The Huntington Library (January 1997-October 1997)

The Huntington Library/Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Fellowship (Summer 1996) \$1500

RMWI (Rocky Mountain Women's Institute) Creative Writing Fellowship, \$12,000 Associate Fellow (September 1995-June 1996)

### **Internal, UNL:**

Academic Senate, Convocations Grant, 2008, \$250

Academic Senate, Convocations Grant, 2006, \$250

Research Council, Faculty Grant, 2006, \$770

Academic Senate, Convocations Grant, 2005, \$750

Layman Award, 2003, \$10,000

Research Council, Faculty Grant, 2003, \$5000

Academic Senate, Convocations Grant, 2002, \$350

Humanities Center Grant, 2002, \$500

Research Council, Faculty Grant, 2001, \$6500

## **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)  
Chicano Literature, Eng. 245D (F 2000, F 2001, S 2002, S 2003, F 2003,  
S 2005, F 2005, S 2007)  
Chicana and Latina Literature and Theory, Eng. 971 (S 2002, F 2006, S2008)  
Chicana and Latina Literature (special topics, Eng. 498/898) (F 2003, S 2005)  
Ethnic Studies 100 (F 2000, F 2001, F 2005)  
Ethnic Studies 400 (F 2008)  
Gay and Lesbian Literature, Eng. 212 (S 2006, S2007, F2009)  
Novels After Dreiser 4/805 (S 2001)  
American Novels II 4/805 (S 2003)  
Survey of Late American Literature, 361B (S 2001, F 2002)  
Introduction to the Writing of Fiction, 252 (F 2002)

Course Taught (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign):

Reconfiguring Traditional Borderlands in Chicana and Latina Literature,  
LLS 296, Section #4 (S 2004)

**FACULTY APPOINTMENTS AT UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA, LINCOLN:**

Member of The Center for Great Plains Studies, 2009-present  
Member of Graduate Faculty, 2001-present  
Member of Women's and Gender Studies Faculty, 2001-present  
Member of Creative Writing Faculty, 2001-present

**HONORS, APPOINTMENTS:**

Nominated and appointed to *The UNL Chancellor's Commission on the Status of People of Color*, Spring 2008-present.

UNL College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Teaching Award, 2005

Recognition for Outstanding Efforts in Education. Beta Theta Pi, Nebraska Chapter,  
April, 2005

Awarded and appointed to The List of Excellent Instructors, University of Illinois at  
Urbana-Champaign (S 2004)

Nominated and accepted into Macondo, a small community of writers led by  
Chicana author Sandra Cisneros, (meets in August every year) 2004 – present

Certificate of Recognition for Contribution to Students, UNL Parents Assoc., Jan. 2004

Certificate of Recognition for Contribution to Students, UNL Parents Assoc., Jan. 2003

Certificate of Recognition for Contribution to Students, UNL Parents Assoc., Jan. 2001

Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association (RMMLA)  
Graduate Student Delegate/Board Member 1996-1998

National Council Teachers of English (NCTE)  
Secondary Section Committee Member 1996-1997

National Council Teachers of English (NCTE)  
Board Member, National Commission on Literature 1995-1996

Language Arts Consultant for the State of California, 1986-1991

South Bay (Los Angeles area), Outstanding Young Educator of the Year, 1988-89  
Finalist for California Young Educator of the Year 1989

### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

Reviewer, *Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers*, Fall 2008-present

Reviewer, *Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies*, Fall 2007-present

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

Reader, Macondo, Sandra Cisneros' group, 2004, 2006

Peer Reviewer, "Literature Compass," (Blackwell Publishing) on-line journal, fall 2005.

Judge, PEN WEST Fiction Awards, 2004

Reader, Polity Press, 2003

Reader, *University of Oklahoma Press*, 2002

Reader, PMLA (Journal of Modern Language Association), 2002-present

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:**

Modern Language Association (MLA)

PEN West

American Association of University Professors (AAUP)

The Society for the Study of Gloria Anzaldúa (co-founder and member)

Macondo (member of author Sandra Cisneros' professional writing group)

American Literature Association (ALA)

The Society for the Study of the Multi-Ethnic Literature of The United States (MELUS)

American Studies Association (ASA)

National Women's Studies Association (NWSA)

Mujeres Activas en Letras y Cambio Social (MALCS)

Society for the Study of American Women Writers (SSAWW)

National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies (NAACS)

Associated Writing Programs (AWP)

American Association for University Women (AAUW)

California Association Teachers of English (CATE)