



View of Popocatepetl from Cholula



Puebla's Cathedral

Trans, Pan, Inter: Cultures in Contact

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We encourage papers on all comparative topics, not just those dealing with Mexico or the Americas. Below we suggest subtopics but, as usual, individuals may suggest seminar topics of their choosing. **Proposals for seminars are to be submitted to the ACLA website by October 1, 2006, and individual paper proposals by November 1, 2006.**

Crossing Borders and Boundaries of All Kinds
Mythic Subtexts, Modern Texts
Commodities and Cultures

Literary Translation: Textual and Contextual
Across Art Forms and Disciplines: Theory and Practice
Comparative Cuisines
Travel Literature
Transculturation, Mestizaje, Creolization
Transatlantic and Transpacific Encounters
Indigenous Literatures and Languages in Mexico and Beyond
Challenges of Non-Western Cultures to Critical Theory
Gendered Transactions: Literary and Cultural Constructions of Sex and Sexuality
Comparative Approaches to Literatures of the Americas
Colonialism and Classicism
Caribbean Languages and Literatures
Jewish Literature in the Americas
Canada and Mexico: “So Far from God, So Close to the United States”
Immigration and Exile in/to the Americas
US Latino Literatures
Latin American Studies and Inter-American Studies
Mechanisms of Literary and Cultural Production
Borders: US-Mexico, Mexico-Guatemala, Mexico-Belize
Performance in Mexico
Popular Culture and Literature
Ecocritical Approaches in Comparative Context
Violence and Testimonial Literature

About Puebla

Puebla is located 50 miles southeast of Mexico City at an altitude of 7100 feet, in a broad valley bordered on the west by the Sierra Nevada and its legendary volcanoes Popocatepetl and Iztaccíhuatl, and on the east by the Sierra Madre Oriental and its snow-capped volcano La Malinche. Puebla preserves a strong colonial flavor. Over five hundred buildings and seventy churches, many in the Baroque style, have been beautifully restored in the city center, which was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1987. The folk Baroque flourishes in nearby villages, where churches reflect the syncretic forms that resulted from the meeting of indigenous and European cultures. Important pre-contact indigenous sites, including the pyramid of Cholula and the ceremonial center of Cacaxtla, are also nearby and open to the public. Puebla has played a role the Mexican political and economic landscape since its establishment in 1531; here, the Cinco de Mayo battle was won against the invading French in 1862. The city is famous for its cuisine, including *mole poblano*, *chiles en nogada*, *chalupas poblanas*, and for its beautiful Talavera ceramics and glazed tiles, which grace tables and embellish façades, fountains and interior patios.

For basic information about Puebla, go to <http://www.virtualmex.com/puebla.htm>