

Religion in Latin America

Dr. Janzen and Dr. Camacho will speak about their recently published books: *Unholy Trinity: State, Church, and Film in Mexico* (SUNY 2021), and Jorge will speak about his *Representaciones del mal: brujos y ñañigos en Cuba. Romance Monographs, University of Mississippi, 2021, [Representations of evil: sorcerers and ñañigos in Cuba].*

November 2nd, 2022

4pm-5pm

Gambrell 429



Rebecca Janzen is McCausland Fellow and Associate Professor of Spanish and Comparative Literature at the University of South Carolina in Columbia. She is a scholar of gender, disability and religious studies in Mexican literature and culture whose research focuses on excluded populations in Mexico. Her first book, *The National Body in Mexican Literature: Collective Challenges to Biopolitical Control* (Palgrave-Macmillan, 2015), explored images of disability and illness in 20th century texts. Her second book, *Liminal Sovereignty: Mennonites and Mormons in Mexican Culture* (SUNY, 2018), focused on religious minorities. *Unholy Trinity: State, Church and Film in Mexico* (SUNY, 2021) deals with film and religion in Mexico, and *Unlawful Violence: Law and Cultural Production in 21st Century Mexico* (Vanderbilt, 2022), is about human rights, law, and literature. The Plett Foundation, the Kreider Fellowship at Elizabethtown College, the C Henry Smith Peace Trust and the Newberry library in Chicago have supported her research.

Jorge Camacho is a professor of Spanish, Comparative Literature, and Latin American Studies at UofSC. He is also the Director of Latin American, Caribbean, and US Latinx Studies for the Walker Institute. Professor Camacho has published more than one hundred peer-reviewed single-authored articles and book chapters in leading national and international journals. In addition, he has published 14 scholarly books, including six monographs and critical editions where he made known for the first time more than eighty chronicles and poems by famous Latin American writers such as José Martí, Rubén Darío, and Mercedes Matamoros. His latest book *Representaciones del mal: brujos y ñañigos en Cuba* (University of Mississippi, 2021), uncovers the role anthropology, criminology, legal, literary, and cinematographic fictions played in the condemnation and persecution of African spiritual beliefs in Cuba from the end of the 19th century to the early 21st century.

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