

Graduate Studies  
Seminar Series

Nov. 10, 2010

5:00pm

GL 220

Modern Languages  
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# Celebration and Chaos — Festivals of Independence and Revolution in Mexico

*By***Rafael Hernandez-  
Rodriguez**  
Professor of Spanish & Latin  
American Studies

**Rafael Hernandez-Rodriguez** is Professor of Spanish and Latin American Studies at Southern Connecticut State University. He is the author of three books, and has completed a collection of essays on cultural and sexual otherness in the Americas and their importance in the process of cultural production. In addition, he has published on these and other subjects in numerous refereed journals and collective volumes. Professor Hernández Rodríguez is currently working on a manuscript on the use of spectacle, technology, and melodrama in the performance of a national identity in early-twentieth-century Mexico. His presentation focuses on readings of the celebrations of 1910 and 2010 and the similarities between them, as well as their implications for the formation of a national identity and its revision. He is particularly interested in the huge repertoire of images that were produced in the last one hundred years, which have shaped the portrayal of modern Mexico. He demonstrates how important early twentieth century technologies such as cinema and photography were for the formation of modern Mexican identity, and in what ways these technologies, far from being passive instruments, became mechanisms of negotiation, struggle, appropriation, transformation, and manipulation of national imagery.

**This event is free and open to FIU students and the community. Sponsored by CSO.**

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