Indigenous education through dance and ceremony: a Mexica palimpsest

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Introduction

The first Faculty Pub Night of Fall 2015 features Ernesto Colín, Assistant Professor of Specialized Programs in Urban Education at LMU's School of Education. Professor Colín will discuss his recent publication, *Indigenous Education through Dance and Ceremony: a Mexica Palimpsest*.

About the Author

Ernesto Colín is a two-time LMU Lion graduate, earning a double Bachelor of Arts degree in Chicana/Chicano Studies and Spanish (Class of 1999) and a Master of Arts in Education (Class of 2001). He is a visual artist, 20-year Aztec Dancer, gardener, KXLU DJ, and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Urban Education at LMU. He received his Ph.D. in Anthropology of Education from Stanford and his research interests include indigenous education and culturally responsive pedagogy.

To view his CV or for more information about Ernesto, please visit www.linkedin.com/in/profetc/, see his faculty webpage, or tweet him at @ProfETC.

About the Author’s Work

This book presents an ethnography of contemporary indigenous education through the spirit practice, dance ceremonies, and cultural diffusion efforts of a Mexica (Aztec) dance circle in the United States. The author uses the metaphor of palimpsest to describe several teaching and learning spaces the group constructs with a combination of ancient and modern materials.
Colín unpacks the group's organizational leadership, ceremonies, community service, education, and dance practices. Ultimately, dancers reclaim and re-author identity, language, culture, leadership, education, spirituality, and community activism. The book celebrates a dynamic indigenous community and their post-colonial resistance to erasure.