



The American Corner Innsbruck and the Department of American Studies at the University of Innsbruck cordially invite you to a talk by

## **Professor Marion Christina Rohrleitner**

The University of Texas at El Paso, U. S. A.

### **Queering Aztlán: Key Terms and Current Trends in Chicana/o Literature and Art**

After briefly introducing some key terms in Chicana/o Studies, such as Aztlán, the border/la frontera, and mestizaje, I focus on two major trends in current Chicana/o literary and cultural studies: First, I discuss the literary and visual reappropriation of three central female icons in Mexican and Mexican American culture - La Malinche, La Virgen de Guadalupe, and La Llorona - by Chicana feminist novelists, poets, and critics to illustrate queering practices. Second, I highlight the increasing popularity of science fiction and speculative fiction in contemporary Chicana/o literature and demonstrate how these genres allow authors to critically comment on U.S. immigration policy and neoliberal globalization.

**Monday, October 20, 2014, 10.15am**  
**HS 3, Humanities Building**



**Marion Christina Rohrleitner** (Ph.D., University of Notre Dame, 2007) is Associate Professor of English at The University of Texas at El Paso, where she teaches American Literature with a focus on Chicana/o, Latina/o, and Caribbean diasporic fiction, as well as postcolonial and queer theory. She is the co-editor of *Dialogues across Diasporas: Women Writers, Scholars, and Activists of Africana and Latina Descent in Conversation* (Lexington, 2012), and her scholarship has been published in *American Quarterly*, *Antípodas*, *Callaloo*, *Interdisciplinary Humanities*, *Latino Studies*, and *The Oxford Bibliography of Latina/o Studies*. She also contributed book chapters to *Inhabiting la Patria: Identity, Agency, and Antojito in the Work of Julia Alvarez* (SUNY, 2013) and *El Mundo Zurdo* (UT, 2011). Her monograph, *Diasporic Bodies: Contemporary Historical Fiction and the Intimate Public Sphere*, was a finalist in the ICI First Manuscript Competition at

Vanderbilt University and is currently under review. Most recently, Dr. Rohrleitner was awarded a Career Enhancement Grant by the University of Texas to support research on her new book project, *Transnational Latinidades*, which explores the production, translation, and marketing of Latinidad in Latina/o literature beyond the United States.

Ass.-Prof. Dr. Margaret Davidson  
Director, ACI

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Mario Klarer  
Head, Department of American Studies