

# CONVERSATIONS ON LITERATURE, LANGUAGES & SOCIAL JUSTICE

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## WHITENESS AND OTHER RACIAL FICTIONS IN COLOMBIA: HOW LITERATURE CREATED RACIAL IMAGINARIES AND SENSES OF PRIVILEGES



**MERCEDES LÓPEZ RODRÍGUEZ, PH.D.**, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

**2 PM, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16** | FREE VIRTUAL EVENT

**López Rodríguez's** presentation explores the literary narratives that created the singular notion of a racially white Colombian Andean Region, highlighting a contrast with the rest of the South American Andes, where indigenous populations remained at the core of literary representations. She revisits the notion of whiteness in Latin America, and the ways in which race acquires materiality in everyday practice, such as the consumption of food and European personal goods, and the politics of fashion and attire. López Rodríguez proposes to understand whiteness as a performance in which bodily traits are combined with nonracial contents such as manners, literacy, and codes of dress to create a desired white body.

For more information, contact Alejandra Aguilar, Ph.D., at [maguilardornelle@fau.edu](mailto:maguilardornelle@fau.edu) or Nuria Godón, Ph.D., at [ngodon@fau.edu](mailto:ngodon@fau.edu)

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