

# Southwest Studies

# Blockly Newsletter

Block 2, 2024

## Field Trips of the Block SW272 & CC100

### Fort Garland Museum & Cultural Center (8/29)

Dr. Roybal took her students from CC100: Power, Place, and the Southwest Borderlands to the Fort Garland Museum & Cultural Center. There students had the opportunity to engage in discussion with director Eric Carpio. They also viewed the many exhibits available at the museum. This trip allowed students to visit the southwest and inspire their final projects.



### History Colorado Center (9/13)

Students from CC100: Power, Place, and the Southwest Borderlands traveled to the History Colorado Center in Denver. There Danielle Seewalker walked them through her exhibit *But We Have Something To Say*. An exhibit that highlights the often erased and censored histories. Students also walked through *The Sand Creek Massacre: The Betrayal that Changed Cheyenne and Arapaho People Forever*. A history of the betrayal coming from the perspectives of Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal representatives.



### Fiesta Day at the Colorado State Fair (9/1)

Our visiting professor April Bojorquez took her students from SW272: Cultural Landscapes of the Southwest to the Fiesta Day Rodeo. This allowed students an opportunity to experience and observe the cultural customs that they read during class. During the rodeo there were many folklórico performances, bull riding, and dancing horses. Fiesta Day is a way to celebrate the culture and traditions deeply embeded in Pueblo, CO.



### DesertArtLAB (9/5)

Students from SW272: Cultural Landscapes of the Southwest visited a desert ArtLAB fieldsite in Pueblo, CO. Where our visiting professor April is the Director of Programs and Food Practice. While at the field site students met with Founder and Creative Director Matt Garcia. He was able to further explain the process and reasonings for creating this field site. "DesertArtLAB's projects activate public space through participatory artworks and support the restoration of desert environments and their foodways through zero irrigation regrowth projects."



### Mark Your Calendar!

September 15th to October 15th- Hispanic Heritage Month

October 9th- Block 2 Aficionados Speaker Series: April Bojorquez of DesertArtLAB

October 14th-Indigenous Peoples' Day

October 16th- SW273 Art, Power, and Resistance creative project exhibition. Come visit the FAC and view student work. Work will remain on display during Block 3 too!

## Block 2 Aficionados Speaker: April Bojorquez of DesertArtLAB

"The Desertification Cookbook : Revitalizing Desert Wasteland through Land Art"

Our block 2 Aficionados speaker April Bojorquez works within the intersection of art and anthropology. She has worked in the museum field nationally and internationally as a curator, educator, and researcher, exploring new approaches to museum practices in an increasingly multicultural society. Born and raised in the Sonoran desert, Bojorquez has inherited generations of ancestral desert food practice and is an advocate of indigenous foodways.



April is also focused on DesertArtLAB. DesertArtLAB is an interdisciplinary environmental arts collaborative co-directed by April Bojorquez and Matt Garcia. Their work promotes Indigenous/Chicanx perspectives on ecological practice, food sovereignty, self-determination, and climate change. DesertArtLAB's projects activate public space through participatory artworks and support the restoration of desert environments and their foodways through zero irrigation regrowth projects.

Development in desert cities has created new homes and opportunities in the Southwest, but has also stripped away parts of the natural environment and its rich history. Can urban pockets of degraded land be revitalized? Can the history, culture, and ecologies of these places be reclaimed sustainably? The answers might be in a 30-year land art project in Pueblo, Colorado. Matt Garcia and April Bojorquez, artists, educators, and founders of desert ArtLab, transform "wasteland" into a productive and edible landscape in their public art initiative: "The Desertification Cookbook." They bring together art and place, ecology and community, in an ambitious multi-phase project set to span decades. Join us for a conversation with Bojorquez as she discusses the development of their land art project, from its roots in Phoenix to its realization in Pueblo.

Join us Wednesday, October 9th, from 12pm-1:30pm

You can RSVP using the QR code or email

[swshulbert@coloradocollege.edu](mailto:swshulbert@coloradocollege.edu)



## NEWS FLASH!

Our visiting professor April Bojorquez will no longer be teaching Space, Place, and the Southwest during BLOCK 2. The course will now be taught during BLOCK 3, so if you are looking for a class to replace there is plenty of space.

### SW102: Space, Place, and the Southwest

Survey of the Greater Southwest, the power of place and overlapping cultural geographies of indigenous and European cultures in shaping the history, geography and landscapes of the region. Covers the pre-1492 Southwest, the Spanish conquest and colonial era, and tracks through the Mexican and Anglo-American periods of the Southwest. Considers modern controversies such as land and water use, border issues, environmental challenges, and the maintenance of cultural heritage. Prepares participants for further work in Southwest Studies and affiliated interdisciplinary programs. There will be many field trips to enjoy!

This course fulfills GEN ED REQUIREMENTS!

CRITICAL LEARNING: HP

CRITICAL LEARNING: SHB