



## **Emilio del Valle Escalante**

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### **Bio Sketch**

Emilio del Valle Escalante (Maya K'iche') is originally from Guatemala. His teaching and research interest focus on contemporary Latin American literatures and cultural studies with particular emphasis on indigenous literatures and social movements, Central American literatures and cultures, Indigenous, post-colonial and subaltern studies theory in the Latin American context. He has been concerned with contemporary indigenous textual production and how indigenous intellectuals challenge hegemonic traditional constructions of the indigenous world, history, the nation-state and modernity in order to not only redefine the discursive and political nature of these hegemonic narratives, but also interethnic or intercultural relations. His broader cultural and theoretical interests cluster around areas involving themes of colonialism as these relate to issues of nationhood, national identity, race/ethnicity and gender. He is the author of *Maya Nationalisms and Postcolonial Challenges in Guatemala: Coloniality, Modernity and Identity Politics* (School for Advanced Research Press, 2009; Spanish version by FLACSO, 2008), the editor of "Indigenous Literatures and Social Movements in Latin America" (a special issue of *Latin American Indian Literatures Journal* [Spring 2008]), *U'k'ux kaj, u'k'ux ulew: Antología de poesía Maya guatemalteca contemporánea* (ILLI, 2010), and "Untying Tongues: Minority and Minoritizes Literatures in Spain and Latin America" (With Alfredo Sosa Velasco, Special issue of *Romance Notes*, 2011). Del Valle Escalante's articles may be found in such venues as *Mesoamerica*, *Studies in American Indian Literature*, *Revista Iberoamericana*, *Latin American Caribbean and Ethnic Studies*, *Procesos: Revista Ecuatoriana de Historia*, and *Revista de Estudios Interétnicos*.

### **Area(s) of Expertise:**

Indigenous Literatures and Social Movements

Cultural and Post-colonial studies

Indigenous Studies

### **Current Research Activities:**

Working on a book project, tentatively entitled: "Before and After Genocide in Guatemala: Re-Building the Maya World Through Literature (1961-2011)", which focuses on the poetry of ten contemporary Maya poets that respond to the experience of the (post)civil war in Guatemala (1960-1996).

### **Two Key Publications:**

*Maya Nationalisms and Postcolonial Challenges in Guatemala: Coloniality, Modernity and Identity Politics* (2009)

[Editor] *U'k'ux kaj, u'k'ux ulew: Antología de poesía Maya guatemalteca contemporánea* (ILLI, 2010),