

{ CONTENTS }

Acknowledgments	vii
Introduction: Representing Race, Producing Culture: Chicano/a Literature and the Sociology of Assimilation	1
Ends of Assimilation	1
Disjunctive Histories	7
Assimilation as Ideology	10
The Formation of Chicano/a Literature	18
1. Becoming Mexican-American Literature	21
The Mexican-American Generation	21
“The First Mexican-American”	23
<i>Pocho’s</i> Racial Boundaries	26
Nation Time(s) in <i>George Washington Gómez</i>	35
Gendered Assimilation in <i>Caballero</i>	44
Chicano/a Politics of Reception	50
2. Quinto Sol, Chicano/a Literature, and the Long March Through Institutions	56
Literature, Cultural Capital, Universities	56
Assimilation Sociology and Structural Inequality	60
Quinto Sol Literature and Chicano/a Cultural Nationalism	65
Literary Discourse in <i>Estampas del Valle</i>	71
Rethinking the University in <i>Rain of Scorpions</i>	78
3. Cultural Capital and the Singularity of Literature in <i>Hunger of Memory</i> and <i>The Rain God</i>	86
“Two Strong Men”	86
<i>Hunger of Memory’s</i> Symbolic Capital	89
Masculine Alienation in <i>The Rain God</i>	95
Neoliberal Assimilation	103
Transnational Sympathies	110
4. Lyric Subjects, Cultures of Poverty, and Sandra Cisneros’s Wicked Wicked Ways	118
Feminist Boundary Crossing	118
“No Adelita nor Malintzin”	122
Cultures of Poverty	126
Recovering <i>Mango Street’s</i> Lyric Subjects	130
“The Big Rock Comes In”	135

Cisneros, Brooks, and "Bad" Women	141
"My Jewels, My Colicky Kids"	144
5. Segmented Assimilation and Jimmy Santiago Baca's Prison Counterpublics	153
Segmentation versus Boundary Crossing	153
Segmented Assimilation in <i>Martin</i>	156
Rereading Baca's Prison Poetics	161
Poetic Counterpublics	170
"The Poems are Signs that Tell Us Things"	174
6. Disappeared Men: Chicano/a Authenticity and the American War in Viet Nam	181
Remembering Viet Nam, Remembering the Movement	181
"The Buzz of the Reel"	185
<i>Gods Go Begging</i> and the Coloniality of Power	192
Border Thinking in <i>Motorcycle Ride on the Sea of Tranquility</i>	199
Besieged Authenticities in <i>Their Dogs Came With Them</i>	204
Disappeared Men	211
Conclusion	214
Assimilation "Is Now Condemned"	214
What Was Chicano/a Literature?	219
Notes	223
Works Cited	253
Index	269