

María Josefina Saldaña-Portillo is a Professor with the Department of Social and Cultural Analysis (SCA) and the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS) at NYU. During her time in SCA, she has served as the Director of Undergraduate Studies, the Latino Studies Program, and the Gender and Sexuality Studies Program. She received her B.A. from Yale University in the English major, and her doctorate from Stanford University in the interdisciplinary Modern Thought and Literature Program. Saldaña-Portillo's latest book, *Indian Given: Racial Geographies across Mexico and the United States* (Duke UP 2016), received the 2017 John Hope Franklin Book prize for the most outstanding book published in American Studies, as well as the 2017 NACCS Book Award for an outstanding book in Chicana & Chicano Studies. *Indian Given* compares racial formations in Mexico and the U.S. from the colonial period to the present through historical, discursive, and textual analysis of the figure of the *indio bárbaro*. In 2015, Saldaña-Portillo co-edited *Des/posesión: Género, territorio, y luchas por la autodeterminación* with Marisa Belausteguigoitia Rius on indigenous women's leadership roles in the global struggle to defend their territories (UNAM). In her first book, *The Revolutionary Imagination in the Americas and the Age of Development*, Saldaña-Portillo analyzed the discursive complicity between Central American and Mexican revolutionary movements and economic development discourse to elucidate the failure of these movements to understand their constituencies (Duke 2003). She has published over twenty-five articles in U.S. and Latin America on revolutionary subjectivity, subaltern politics, indigenous peoples, racial formation, migration, and Latin American and Latino cultural studies. She is currently working on her next monograph, *NAFTA, Narcos, and Migration: How Free Trade Brought Us the Drug Economy and Its Refugees*, which investigates multiple connections between free trade and the drug trade that have flourished in the aftermath of the North American Free Trade Accord in 1994; the last twenty years of U.S. deportation policy and its impact on Central America; and the contradictions between liberal citizenship and refugee policy in the era of globalization. This includes an exploration of the integral role that gendered labor and gender violence play in drug trafficking and narco economies of value. She is also Chairwoman of Coalición Mexicana, a New York City immigrant rights organization, and a volunteer and expert witness for Central American asylum cases with immigration legal aid agencies internationally.