The idea of modernity as an emancipatory force leading the individual to dispel the influence of the unknown through the sole power of reason, progress, and technique has often situated the interest in religious and mythical thinking in the realms of mere superstition and primitiveness. A fundamental critique of modernity has, in turn, dismissed the absolute validity of the ideals championed by the Enlightenment as being themselves generators of myths and horror. As Horkheimer and Adorno famously put it, “myth is already enlightenment, and enlightenment reverts to mythology.” A more nuanced and dynamic understanding of how modernity and reason, on the one hand, and religion and myth, on the other, intersect with each other can shed new light on the way culture shapes our perception of reality. As John C. Lyden says when referring to the influence of popular culture and media in our daily life today, sometimes “we fail to acknowledge the extent to which modern people base their worldviews and ethics upon sources we do not usually label ‘religious,’” an observation that applies not only to popular culture, but to other domains of human imagination and knowledge.

The Hispanic world presents a particular case in the interaction between religion and myth, given the continuing presence of competing forces emanating from the realms of both the secular and the sacred. This conference aims at exploring how textual and visual culture in the Spanish-speaking world has understood the relationship between reason and faith, progress and myth, in a variety of historical periods, from Medieval and Pre-Colonial times to the Present.
### Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 - 9:00</td>
<td>Coffee and Registration</td>
<td>Pryzbyla, 3rd floor</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 - 10:20</td>
<td><strong>Panel Sessions I and II</strong></td>
<td>Pryzbyla, room 321</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Panel Session I (Pryzbyla, room 321) <strong>Nation, Empire: Religion and Myth in Colonial / Post-colonial Perspective</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>· Alexis McBride, Vanderbilt University <strong>“Línguas de Fogo ou Fogo de Línguas: la misión apostólica de Portugal en el Sermón del Espíritu Santo”</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>· Astrid Lorena Ochoa Campo, University of Virginia <strong>“Francisco Núñez de Pineda y Bascuñán entre fiestas y rezos, en Cautiverio feliz”</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>· Carla F. Burns, The Catholic University of America <strong>“Persuasion, Control, and the Power of the Word: A Panegyric Sermon of 1757”</strong></td>
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<td>Panel Session II (Pryzbyla, room 323) <strong>The Ethics of Writing and Reading</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>· Enrique Pallares, The Catholic University of America <strong>“Towards a Recovery of Personal Reality: Lucha in Miguel de Unamuno”</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>· Gabriel Villarroel, Georgetown University <strong>“El personaje-narrador de El pozo de Juan Carlos Onetti: la ética de un no-relato”</strong></td>
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<td>· Gabriel Rudas, Stony Brook University <strong>“Formas de conocer: violencia, poética y trascendencia en el proyecto literario de José María Arguedas”</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:20 - 10:30</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 - 11:30</td>
<td><strong>Panel Sessions III and IV</strong></td>
<td>Pryzbyla, room 321</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Panel Session III (Pryzbyla, room 321) <strong>Religion and Myth in Popular Culture and Media</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>· Khristyne Wilson, University of Missouri <strong>“Benedicición de Movidades: Hybridization of Technology, Catholicism, and Indigenous Religion in Copacabana, Bolivia”</strong></td>
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<td>· Patricia Gabriela Diaz Suzarte, The Catholic University of America <strong>“The Gothic Numinous in Aura”</strong></td>
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<td>· Guillermo Miguel Morales-Jodra, Temple University <strong>“Alma, sujeto y mística: la modernidad del alma en España y el Nuevo Mundo”</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>· Sergio Restrepo, The Catholic University of America <strong>“Estado e Iglesia como condiciones necesarias en la definición del arte del Barroco de Indias en el Primero Sueño, de Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz”</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>11:40 - 1:00</td>
<td>Keynote Address: Dr. Aníbal González-Pérez, Professor of Modern Latin American Literature in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at Yale University <strong>“In Search of the Sacred Book: Religion and the Novel in One Hundred Years of Solitude”</strong></td>
<td>Pryzbyla, Great Room A</td>
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<td></td>
<td>· Daniel García Donoso <strong>“Estado e Iglesia como condiciones necesarias en la definición del arte del Barroco de Indias en el Primero Sueño, de Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz”</strong></td>
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### Schedule

**1:00 - 2:30**
Lunch Break

**2:30 - 3:50**
**Panel Sessions V and VI**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Panel Session V (Pryzbyla, room 321)</th>
<th>Panel Session VI (Pryzbyla, room 323)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Sacred Role of the Intellectual /Author</strong></td>
<td><strong>Readings of Religious and Mythical Narratives</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderated by Verónica Enamorado</td>
<td>Moderated by Alejandro Armenteros</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Edward Gabriel Acuña Quintana, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
  “La antipoesía como actitud estética: interpretación del anticlericalismo del poeta colombiano Luis Carlos López”

- Antonio Ginés Collado González, University of Delaware
  “El poema de la saeta de García Lorca: la presencia tridentina en el siglo XX andaluz”

- John Delaplane, University of Arkansas
  “Poetics of the Ordinary: The Sacred Made Common in Ernesto Cardenal’s Poetry”

- Nélida Devesa-Gómez, The Catholic University of America
  “From Bible to Myth: The Inversion of Biblical Figures in Benito Pérez Galdós’ Torquemada en la Hoguera”

- María José Gutiérrez, The Catholic University of America
  “Erotismo, crueldad y ascenso a lo sagrado en La Altísima de Felipe Trigo”

**3:50 - 4:00**
Coffee Break

**4:00 - 5:20**
**Panel Sessions VII and VIII**

<table>
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<th>Panel Session VII (Pryzbyla, room 321)</th>
<th>Panel Session VIII (Pryzbyla, room 323)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Locating the Sacred and the Secular: City, Nation, Text</strong></td>
<td><strong>Modern and Post-modern Saints</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Moderated by María José Gutierrez</td>
<td>Moderated by Patricia Gabriela Díaz Suzarte</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Alejandro Armenteros, The Catholic University of America
  “Birth in the Fields of Death”

- Alodia Martín-Martínez, Temple University
  “Tres formas de morir en la obra de Valle Inclán”

- Monica VanBladel, Stanford University
  “Nocturno de Chile in the Key of Bataille: Sacramental Violence as Post-dictatorship Literature”

- Nieves Sánchez, The Catholic University of America
  “La creación de un mito posmoderno a través del espacio en Historias del Kronen, de José Ángel Mañas”

- Arthur D. Soto-Vásquez, American University
  “The Myth Making of Linear Success by Latino College Students”

**5:20**
Reception: Pryzbyla, Great Room A
LIST OF PRESENTERS

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- Gabriel Villarroel, Georgetown University  
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- Khrystyne Wilson, University of Missouri  
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KEYNOTE ADDRESS

In Search of the Sacred Book: Religion and the Novel in *One Hundred Years of Solitude*  
Aníbal González-Pérez

Aníbal González-Pérez (Puerto Rico, 1956) is Professor of Modern Latin American Literature in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at Yale University, and founder and general editor of the “Bucknell Studies in Latin American Literature and Theory” Series of Bucknell University Press. He is the recipient of a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship, and has authored several books of literary criticism, including *A Companion to Spanish American Modernismo* (2007), *Love and Politics in the Contemporary Spanish American Novel* (2010), and *Redentores* by Manuel Zeno Gandía (critical edition, 2010). Prof. González Pérez has just completed a book on religion and the novel in contemporary Spanish American literature.