

UCLA DEPARTMENT OF GENDER STUDIES & CHICANA/O
STUDIES RESEARCH CENTER PRESENT

UCLA

College | Social Sciences
Gender Studies

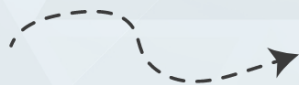
UCLA

Institute of American Cultures
Chicano Studies Research Center

DAN BUSTILLO



TRANS LATINX COUNTER-SECURITY MEDIA: THE "WILD TONGUE" OF PRISON LETTER WRITING ACTIVISM



FEBRUARY 6, 2023 (MONDAY), 3:00-5:00 PM
YRL PRESENTATION ROOM AT
YOUNG RESEARCH LIBRARY

Talk Bio: This is a talk about trans Latinx worldmaking projects that are made possible through activists' creative media praxis. In this talk, I introduce what I term "counter-security media" as a community-building tool that challenges the ways that ethnoracialized gender is built into media and disciplinary structures. As an example of counter-security media, I highlight trans-led letter writing activism in prisons and detention centers. The letter writing projects I will discuss use the letter as media to write transness back into existence in sex-segregated carceral systems where gender norms are used as tools of punishment.

Dan Bustillo is a Ph.D. candidate in Visual Studies at the University of California, Irvine. Their dissertation, titled "Refusing Spectacle: Trans Latinx Counter-Security Media," centers trans Latinx activists' strategic mis/use of media to challenge carceral, national, and digital borders of belonging.