



The 2009-2010 Klopsteg seminar series in SCIENCE IN HUMAN CULTURE presents:  
SPRING 2010: LATIN AMERICA SERIES

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## “Circulations: Heart and Science in the Catholic Atlantic World”

**ABSTRACT:** How did it become possible to see bodies in parts? How did ideas about anatomy circulate, outside of philosophic treatises, outside of the literate world, even? How did lay people participate in the world ideas? How, in particular, were people in New Spain invited to participate in transformations wrought by what we call the scientific revolution, the Enlightenment? I contend that answers must be sought in an exploration of Catholic devotional literature and devotional practices. In this paper, I examine eighteenth-century shifts in devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and argue that the distinctive shape of the anatomically correct heart offers a concrete sense of this moment in history when spiritual contemplation and observation of natural phenomena went hand-in-hand.

Monday, April 26, 2010

4:00 - 5:30 pm

Hagstrum Room

University Hall 201

Evanston Campus

reception to follow



**BIO:** J. Michelle Molina (PhD, University of Chicago, 2004) studies the Society of Jesus in the early modern period. She explores Jesuit spirituality in an effort to understand how individuals – both elite and commoner -- approached and experienced religious transformation. In particular, she has been interested in examining the impact of the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises – a meditative retreat geared toward self-reform – on early modern global expansion. Molina is the John W. Croghan Assistant Professor in Catholic Studies at Northwestern University in the Department of Religious Studies.