

Blacks and Latinos in Conflict and Cooperation: Writing Race in L.A.

 Tags: [literature](#), [los_angeles](#), [race](#), [sociology](#), [visions_voices](#)

This is a resource guide to accompany the Visions & Voices panel discussion (2/24/09) about Writing Race in Los Angeles.

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Useful Websites

- [Voice of the Shuttle - Minority Literatures](#)
- [Writing Black](#)
- [Voices From the Gaps \(Women Artists and Writers of Color\)](#)
- [Los Angeles Department of City Planning, Demographics Research Group](#)
- [LA as Subject](#)
- [MELUS: Society for the Study of the Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States](#)
- [Latino/a Literature Anthologies \(1990s\)](#)
- [USC Department of American Studies & Ethnicity](#)
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Find Data for LA

- [RAND California](#)
Allows users to pull various combinations of race/ethnicity/age/sex data for Los Angeles county as far back as 1970 (where data allow). Tip: To narrow by county, click where it says "estimates for counties in all U.S. states" near the top of the page
- [Historical Census Data](#)
Also provides data at the county level. Tip: Compare 1960 to today!

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Introduction

NOTE: This guide was created in 2009 to support a Visions & Voices event. Some of the material in this guide must be considered in that context. It may be outdated.

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examines how Los Angeles–based African American and Latino/a writers have dealt with race in their work. How have their backgrounds—family, community, neighborhood—shaped the way they see the city and the way they imagine the city’s racial future?

On February 24, several renowned writers will come together to explore these and other questions around Black and Latina/o relations in L.A. The panel will feature Héctor Tobar, author of *The Tattooed Soldier* and *Translation Nation: Defining a New American Identity in the Spanish-Speaking United States*; Dana Johnson, author of *Break Any Woman Down*; and Helena Maria Viramontes, author of *The Moths and Other Stories* and *Their Dogs Came with Them*. Moderated by esteemed journalist Erin Aubry Kaplan, the panel will explore the intersections of the arts, politics and urban conflict and coalition in present-day Los Angeles. Organized by Josh Kun (Communication and American Studies and Ethnicity), Laura Pulido (American Studies and Ethnicity) and USC’s Center for Diversity and Democracy. Cosponsored by the Center for Black Cultural and Student Affairs and El Centro Chicano.

Felicia Palsson of the USC Libraries has selected a variety of resources to help you explore the issues raised by the discussion.

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Recommended Databases for Research

- [Ethnic News Watch](#) -- a comprehensive full-text collection of the newspapers, magazines and journals of the ethnic, minority and native press. A rich collection of articles, editorials, columns, reviews, etc. provide a broad diversity of perspectives and viewpoints -- the other sides of the stories. With over 500,000 articles from more than 200 publications, the titles in Ethnic NewsWatch represent the diversity of the American population in ways that are not seen in the mainstream media.
- [Dictionary of Literary Biography](#) -- (part of the *Literature Resource Center*) -- The essays in Dictionary of Literary Biography outline the lives and careers of authors from all eras and genres, summarizing critical response to their work and their role within literary movements. Author entries include birth/death dates, nationality/ethnicity, and portrait. A bibliography of the author's works with original dates of publication, as well as information about additional writings and published interviews, is included at the beginning of each entry.
- [Latino Literature](#) -- brings together more than 100,000 pages of poetry, fiction, and drama written in English and Spanish by hundreds of Chicano, Cuban, Puerto Rican, Dominican, and other Latin authors working in the United States. Among the gems of the collection are nearly 800 items (poems, novels, and plays) that have never been published before. Researchers will also find numerous Chicano folk tales and audio files of selected poems and plays.

- **Hispanic-American Periodicals Index (HAPI)** -- contains articles from and about Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean region, and about Hispanics, Chicanos or Latinos in the United States. Covers political, economic, and social issues to unique coverage of Latin American arts, anthropology, literature and language. HAPI Online contains complete bibliographic citations to articles, book reviews, documents, original literary works appearing in more than 400 key social science and humanities journals published throughout the world.
- **Black Studies Center** -- a cross-searchable gateway to Black Studies including scholarly essays, recent periodicals, historical newspaper articles, and more. It combines several resources for research and teaching in Black Studies: *Schomburg Studies on the Black Experience*, *International Index to Black Periodicals (IIBP)*, historical black newspapers, and the *Black Literature Index*. The *Black Literature Index* includes over 70,000 bibliographic citations for fiction, poetry and literary reviews published in 110 black periodicals and newspapers between 1827-1940.
- **African-American Poetry** -- indexes selective subjects and bibliographic access to periodicals, books, hearings, reports, gray literature, government publications, Internet resources, and other publications from 120 countries.
- **CQ Researcher** -- Full reports on the most current and controversial issues of the day, including race relations. Each issue features a pro-con section that presents opposing viewpoints; a chronology; and annotated bibliographies to point the way to additional research. (Archive includes 1923-present)
- **Chicano Database** -- a major bibliographic database for topics in the humanities and social and behavioral sciences on Mexican-Americans and Chicano Studies.

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More Books!



Another City: Writing from Los Angeles - Edited by David L. Ulin
 Call Number: Leavey PS572.L6A84

Recommended Reading

Books by the panelists as well as further explorations! (Click on title to see Homer catalog record)



The Tattooed Soldier - By Héctor Tobar

Call Number: Doheny PS3570.O22T38



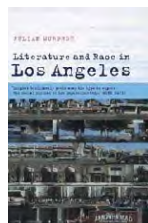
The Moths and Other Stories - By Helena María Viramontes

Call Number: Doheny PS3572.I63M6



Break Any Woman Down: Stories - By Dana Johnson

Call Number: Doheny PS3610.O33B74



Literature and Race in Los Angeles - By Julian Murphet

Call Number: Doheny or Leavey PS285.L7M87



Fluid Borders: Latino Power, Identity, and Politics in Los Angeles - By Lisa García Bedolla

Call Number: E-Book or Doheny F869.L89S753

Latino Metropolis - By Victor M. Valle and Rodolfo D. Torres

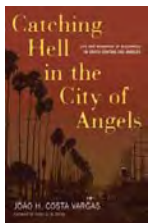
Call Number: Doheny F869.L89S757



Imagining Los Angeles: A City in Fiction - By David Fine
Call Number: Doheny PS374.L57F56

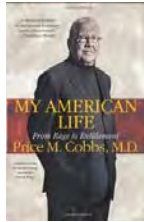
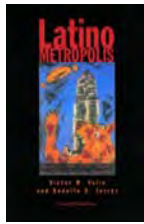


Jazz & Twelve O'Clock Tales: New Stories - By Wanda Coleman
Call Number: Doheny PS3553.O47447J39



Catching Hell in the City of Angels: Life and Meanings of Blackness in South Central Los Angeles - By João H. Costa Vargas
Call Number: Doheny F869.L89N4

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My American Life: From Rage to Entitlement - By Price M. Cobbs
Call Number: Doheny E185.97.C64A3



Ethnic Peace in the American City: Building Community in Los Angeles and Beyond - By Edward T. Chang and Jeannette Diaz-Veizades
Call Number: Doheny F869.L89A2517



Mutha' Is Half a Word: Intersections of Folklore, Vernacular, Myth, and Queerness in Black Female Culture - By LaMonda Horton-Stallings
Call Number: Doheny PS153.N5H68



L.A. City Limits: African American Los Angeles from the Great Depression to the Present - By Josh Sides
Call Number: E-Book or Leavey F869.L89N4

Brothers and Sisters - By Bebe Moore Campbell
Call Number: Doheny PS3553.A4395B76

Writing Between the Lines: Race and Intertextuality - By Aldon L. Nielsen
Call Number: Doheny PS153.N5N54

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Leavey DVDs

For information about checking out DVDs at Leavey Library, please see [this guide](#).

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Advanced Search

Advanced search for DVDs in Leavey Library. Adjust the drop-down menus and keywords to refine your search.

Search Keyword(s)

in

words or phrase

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Movies worth watching

DVDs can be checked out at [Leavey Library](#), Circulation Desk.

The New Los Angeles (DVD)

Call Number: Leavey Library LVDVD 1425

Explores the complexities of inclusion in Los Angeles -- the nation's largest "majority-minority" city and the city with the nation's largest divide between rich and poor. The film provides a riveting portrait of a city in often turbulent transition, beginning in 1973 with the election of African American mayor Tom Bradley and concluding with the political empowerment of Latinos and the election of Antonio R. Villarraigosa, Los Angeles' first Latino mayor in more than 130 years.

Racial Stereotypes in the Media

Call Number: Leavey Library LVDVD 2100

This program examines the relationship between mass media and social constructions of race from political and economic perspectives while looking at the effects media can have on audiences.

Watts, Then and Now

Call Number: Leavey Library LVDVD 1241

This program examines the socioeconomic conditions in Watts that have made it an ongoing hotbed of violence.



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Selected Journals

- [American Sociological Review](#)
Journal of the American Sociological Association.
- [American Literature](#)
- [American Quarterly](#)
Premier journal for American Studies.
- [Journal of Black Studies](#)
- [Callaloo](#)
The premier African Diaspora literary journal. Publishes original works by, and critical studies of, black writers worldwide. Offers a rich mixture of fiction, poetry, plays, critical essays, cultural studies, interviews, and visual art.
- [Latino Studies](#)
A new international, peer-reviewed journal. The principal aim of the Journal is to advance interdisciplinary scholarship about the lived experience and struggles of Latinas and Latinos for equity, representation, and social justice.
- [Arizona journal of Hispanic cultural studies](#)
- [Hispanic Review](#)
A quarterly journal devoted to research in Hispanic literary and cultural studies.
- [Ethnic and Racial Studies](#)

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- [Chicano Database](#) -- a major bibliographic database for topics in the humanities and social and behavioral sciences on Mexican-Americans and Chicano Studies.
- [Project Muse \(Premium Collection\)](#) -- a unique collaboration between libraries and publishers, providing 100% full-text, online access to a comprehensive selection of prestigious humanities and social sciences journals.
- [CQ Researcher](#) -- Full reports on the most current and controversial issues of the day, including race relations. Each issue features a pro-con section that presents opposing viewpoints; a chronology; and annotated bibliographies to point the way to additional research. (Archive includes 1923-present)

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Sociology Research Databases

- [Sociological Abstracts](#)
A primary resource for the latest research in sociology and related disciplines in the social sciences. The database draws from an international selection of over 2,600 journals, plus

Also provides data at the county level. Tip: Compare 1960 to today!

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conference papers, books, and dissertations. 1963-present (indexing).

- [American FactFinder](#)
Interactive database that provides access to Census statistics about population, housing, industry, and business.
- [RAND California - Comprehensive \(USC access\)](#)
California Statistics: statistical tables on business & economics, population & demographics, education, health, government finance, politics & public opinion.
- [Social Sciences Citation Index](#)
- [Wilson Social Sciences Full Text](#)
- [ProQuest](#)
One of the world's largest collections of information, including summaries of articles from over 5,000 publications, many in full text, page image format (pdf). Includes historical newspapers (custom search settings).

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American Studies and Ethnicity

Research Consultation:

Sue Tyson (213) 740-7044

- [E-resources in American studies and Ethnicity](#) (databases, e-journals, e-books, and websites)
- [Research guide for US and Canadian History](#) (books, databases, e-journals, e-books, websites, primary sources, archival information, and more)

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Regional History (LA)

Research consultation: Dace Taube (213) 821-2366

Collections

Founded in the mid-1970s, the Regional Cultural History Collection was originally conceived as a repository for the papers of outstanding Southern Californians, with a particular emphasis on political figures. To that end, the papers of several elected officials were acquired, among them Congresswoman Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Congressmen Alphonso Bell, Chet Holifield, Craig Hosmer, Gordon McDonough and Sheriff Eugene Biscailuz.

In 1982 USC History Professor Doyce Nunis proposed to California Governor Jerry Brown Jr. that he place his gubernatorial papers with the collection. Then California Secretary of State March Fong Eu protested that the papers belonged in the State Archives but, despite her vigorous actions, Brown's papers were transferred to the East Library at 3440 South Hope Street, a building known at that time as the Armory.

In addition to elected officials' papers, the now-named Regional History Collection has grown to include a range of materials such as the papers of the Century Freeway project, the Webster and Christopher Commissions, the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, early Los Angeles city directories and the *Los Angeles Examiner* clippings morgue. Visual materials have rounded out the scope of the Center's collections and now include three notable photographic collections: the Los Angeles Examiner, the California Historical Society, and the "Dick" Whittington collection. The Regional History Collection now contains close to two million images documenting one hundred years of Southern California history. Many of these images have appeared in books, documentaries, class presentations and wall decorations; currently many of them are being incorporated into the [Digital Archive](#).

The Regional History Collection is housed in [Special Collections](#) in the Doheny Memorial Library.

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