

## Fall 2020 History Department Colloquium Series

Fernando Amador

**Presentation Title: Absent Children: Identity and Landscape in Rural Mexico**

Date: Monday, October 26th

Time: 1:00

Place: <https://stonybrook.zoom.us/j/92992069598?pwd=Q2syQktZdHpEbDdZNE16MDlxcmlnZz09>

The colloquium series is a wonderful opportunity for students and faculty to engage with each other outside of classes to further the scholarship of a fellow colleague.

**Abstract:** This presentation explores how the town of Temacapulín, Mexico became an “absentful” place. Located near a river and thermal springs in Los Altos de Jalisco, Temacapulín has experienced a large number of outmigration since the Cristero War of the 1920s. At this time, a new self-applied identity emerged: hijos ausentes (“absent children”: migrants connected to Temacapulín). My research considers how hijos ausentes made Temacapulín an absentful place: a town whose emigrants transformed and remained attached to Temacapulín and its landscape from afar as distant residents. They financed and constructed an aquatic-tourism industry, new homes, an altar in honor of the town saint El Cristo de La Peñita (The Christ on the Cliff), and expanded public infrastructure. In addition, they formed an international political network of support after the government announced plans to build a dam that would flood the town.

If you have any further questions, contact Lorna Ebner at [lorna.ebner@stonybrook.edu](mailto:lorna.ebner@stonybrook.edu)

---

### Other Upcoming Colloquium Presentations:

The History Department Colloquium Presents: Professor Sara Lipton

Date: Thursday, November 19th

Time: 2:00