Policing Electricity: Power Theft and Everyday Life in Mexico City, 1901-1918
November 10 2 pm
https://umsystem.zoom.us/j/4757708789

Diana J. Montaño's research interests include the construction of modern Latin American societies with a focus on technology and its relationship to nationalism, everyday life and domesticity. Her first book *Electrifying Mexico: Technology and the Transformation of a Modern City* examines how ordinary citizens used electricity, both symbolically and physically, in the construction of a modern nation. The book weaves together how these "electrifying agents" first crafted a discourse for an electrified future and secondly, how they shaped its consumption. It shows how these agents of modernity promoted and created both imaginary and tangible notions of this technology. Taking a user-based perspective, this study reconstructs how electricity was lived, consumed, rejected, and shaped in everyday life.

With Diana J. Montaño, Assistant Professor, Department of History, Washington University.

Prof. Montaño is currently a fellow at the Linda Hall Library where she is researching for her second book project, *(Dis)Placing Necaxa: Power Networks and Erased Histories in Mexico (1890s-1914).* She serves as convener for the Working Group: History of Science, Technology & Culture in Latin America. ([https://www.chstm.org/latin-america](https://www.chstm.org/latin-america))

Her articles have appeared in *History of Technology, Technology's Stories* and *HAHR.*

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