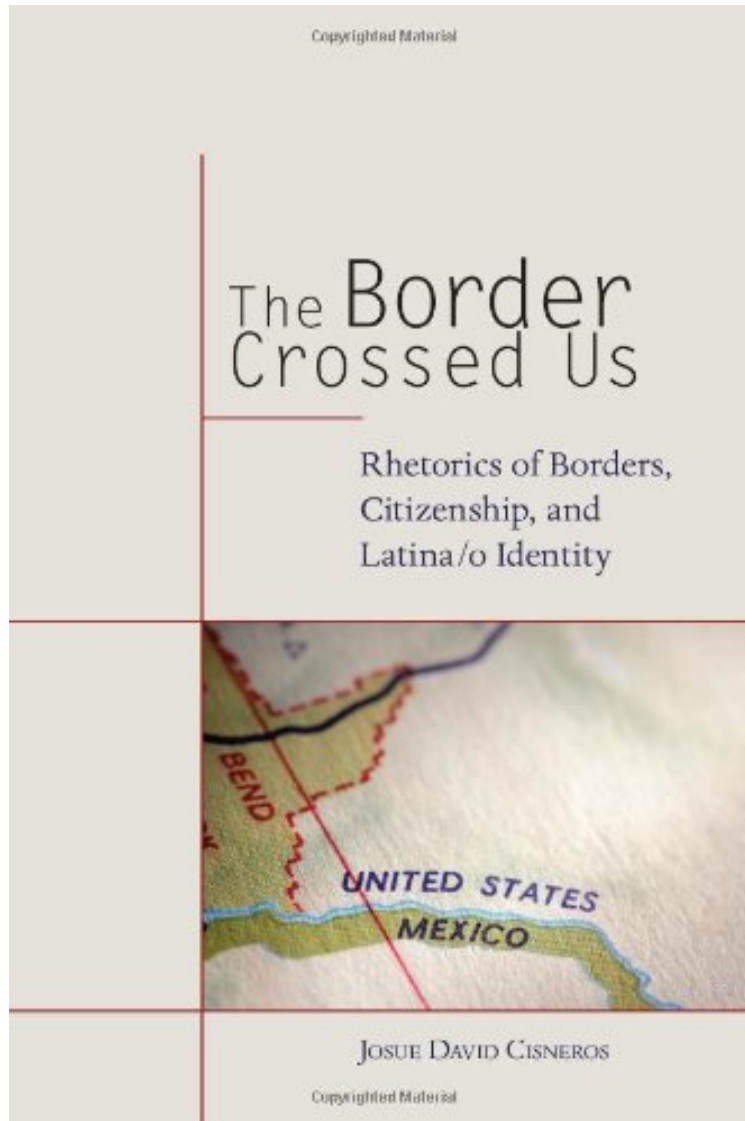


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## The Border Crossed Us: Rhetorics of Borders, Citizenship, and Latina/o Identity (Albma Rhetoric Cult Soc Crit)

*Dr. Josue David Cisneros*

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**Dr. Josue David Cisneros : The Border Crossed Us: Rhetorics of Borders, Citizenship, and Latina/o Identity (Albma Rhetoric Cult Soc Crit)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Border Crossed Us: Rhetorics of Borders, Citizenship, and Latina/o Identity (Albma Rhetoric Cult Soc Crit):

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The Border Crossed Us explores efforts to restrict and expand notions of US citizenship as they relate specifically to the US-Mexico border and Latina/o identity. Borders and citizenship go hand in hand. Borders define a nation as a territorial entity and create the parameters for national belonging. But the relationship between borders and citizenship breeds perpetual anxiety over the purported sanctity of the border, the security of a nation, and the integrity of civic identity. In *The Border Crossed Us*, Josue David Cisneros addresses these themes as they relate to the US-Mexico border, arguing that issues ranging from the Mexican-American War of 1846-1848 to contemporary debates about Latina/o immigration and border security are negotiated rhetorically through public discourse. He explores these rhetorical battles through case studies of specific Latina/o struggles for civil rights and citizenship, including debates about Mexican American citizenship in the 1849 California Constitutional Convention, 1960s Chicana/o civil rights movements, and modern-day immigrant activism. Cisneros posits that borders both geographic and civic have crossed and recrossed Latina/o communities throughout history (the book's title derives from the popular activist chant, We didn't cross the border; the border crossed us!) and that Latina/os in the United States have long contributed to, struggled with, and sought to cross or challenge the borders of belonging, including race, culture, language, and gender. *The Border Crossed Us* illuminates the enduring significance and evolution of US borders and citizenship, and provides programmatic and theoretical suggestions for the continued study of these critical issues.

"*The Border Crossed Us* is a fascinating and important interpretation of the meaning of borders in U.S. history. Josue David Cisneros argues that borders not only delineate physical space but also define the boundaries of belonging in the United States, shifting and changing over time. . . . By using examples from different centuries, Cisneros shows that anxieties permeating from the borderline have been both adopted and resisted across the United States at various points in time. Ideas of belonging and social identity shifted with the boundaries along the way. He is especially adept at showing how Latinos/as have contributed to this process. . . . The book is smart, and its incorporation of a wide array of historical examples opens it to use across various disciplines." *New Mexico Historical* "Josue David Cisneros *The Border Crossed Us* offers an important addition from rhetoric studies. The book provides a stellar example of rhetorical historiography applied to