



Old Pueblo Archaeology Center's "Third Thursday Food for Thought" Series Reconstructing the Biographies of Culture and Power in Conquest Mexico: Malinche, Hernán Cortés, and the Origins of Indigenous-Spanish Relations

A Free Zoom Presentation by Michael M. Brescia, PhD



Malinche and Cortés, Codex Durán, 16th century, Biblioteca Nacional, Madrid

In this presentation Dr. Michael Brescia establishes the nature and scope of biography as a tool to uncover the historical experiences of Indigenous peoples and Spaniards in the early days of cross-cultural contact and exchange, followed by the violence of conquest, demographic collapse of Native communities due to Old World diseases, and the racial and cultural mixing (*mestizaje*) that took place in its aftermath.

As an exemplar, he will examine the lives of Malintzin – often called La Malinche in history textbooks – the Indigenous woman who served as an interpreter and was the mistress of the Spanish conquistador, Hernán Cortés, and how their relationship revealed the complexities of Mesoamerica and early modern Spain.

Thursday October 16, 2025

7 pm ARIZONA/Mountain Standard Time*

To register for the Zoom program click on this link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_iy89B7ekS9yxQKh2_YSu-A

For more information contact Old Pueblo at info@oldpueblo.org or 520-798-1201.

* Same as Pacific Daylight Time)



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*Aztec Emperor Moctezuma meets Cortés and Malinche
(Facsimile of the Lienzo de Tlaxcala, 16th century,
Bancroft Library, University of California Berkeley)*

Old Pueblo's Third Thursday encore presenter is Michael M. Brescia, PhD.

For nearly 30 years Michael Brescia has been sharing his passion and enthusiasm for the Mexican historical experience with the general and scholarly publics. Dr. Brescia is Curator of Ethnohistory in the Arizona State Museum at the University of Arizona, where he holds faculty affiliations with the Department of History, James E. Rogers College of Law, the Southwest Center, and others across campus.

Dr. Brescia's research and scholarship have been recognized by a variety of international, national, and state organizations and agencies, including Arizona Humanities, Arizona Historical Society, Autry Museum of the American West (Los Angeles, California), as well as Princeton University, Wabash College (Indiana), and universities in Mexico, Australia, Canada, and Uruguay.



*Michael Brescia outside the Peace Palace,
The Hague, Netherlands*



The Third Thursday Food for Thought Series

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center's Third Thursday Food for Thought Zoom webinars, on the Third Thursday evening of each month, feature presentations on archaeological, historical, and cultural topics. If you would like to be added to Old Pueblo's list of persons who receive semimonthly email announcements about Old Pueblo's and other southwestern archaeology organizations' activities, go to www.oldpueblo.org, scroll down to the "Subscribe" box, and enter your name and email addresses. One can unsubscribe from Old Pueblo's emailing list at any time.

