

# Elma-Ryan Bornander Honors Distinguished Chair



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**Mary Bloodsworth-Lugo**  
509-335-8825  
bloodswo@wsu.edu

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## MARY BLOODSWORTH-LUGO

Professor

School of Languages, Cultures, and Race

Mary Bloodsworth-Lugo teaches courses in comparative ethnic studies focused on race and global inequality; race and racism in U.S. popular culture; and race, science, and society. Her research in the past 20 years has examined the cultural and rhetorical aftermath of 9/11, including how specific perceptions of disease and contagion have emerged during this time. She is the author or co-author of seven published books and 40 journal articles and book chapters, and she has presented her scholarly work at 70 national and international venues.

Bloodsworth-Lugo has taught for five years in the Honors College on the topic of the global food system. She uses a case-study framework to examine inequalities embedded within the food system and, more recently, how these inequalities have been revealed during the COVID-19 pandemic. She has used funds designated by the Bornander professorship to supervise undergraduate research supporting her current book project about American perceptions of contagion and disease crises in the post-9/11 era.

On WSU faculty since 1997, Bloodsworth-Lugo has served in various administrative roles, including as director of the General Studies Program in liberal arts and, at the college level, as associate dean of curriculum and students. Currently graduate director of the American Studies and Culture program in the School of Languages, Cultures, and Race, she has been on graduate committees for more than 25 students and was honored in 2014 with the William F. Mullen Excellence in Teaching Award.



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