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A Note on Terminology

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A note on terminology

Language has rules. It is also a fluid and evolving reality. We are especially aware of this at *JHLT* as we examine Latinoa religious, theological, social, and cultural realities. Our original name, the *Journal of Hispanic/Latino Theology*, already reflected the contested and evolving nature of the terminology we use to name ourselves and our scholarly field.

Since our founding a quarter of a century ago, our language about culture and identity has continued to evolve, as has our language about gender. We no longer use the term “Hispanic”—except in the present title of *JHLT*, though a change in this title will be in place by the next issue. In our articles, we no longer use the masculine form “Latino” as a generic and will soon change that descriptor in the journal’s title as well. Watch for changes in the near future.

Our current editorial policy is to leave individual authors the freedom to use their preferred term—Latinoa, Latin@, Latin@, Latinx, LatinaXo. We also leave them an option to use one of these terms exclusively or to vary the terminology within a given essay. Their decisions reflect their own carefully considered perspectives on identity

You will note that some authors have followed suit in their usage of other identifiers such as Chicanx and Filipinx.

The terms Latinoa, Latin@, Latin@, Latinx, and LatinaXo do not refer to Latin Americans. When referring to the population of the Americas outside of the United States and Canada, we use “Latin Americans.”

-- *The Editor*