On Monday, March 25th, 2019, the Department of Central American Studies celebrated Bishop Romero’s life.

Monseñor Oswaldo Escobar Aguilar, Archbishop of El Salvador’s Chalatenango Dioceses was invited by the department for a dialogue about the legacy and life of San Oscar A. Romero.

Monseñor Romero was killed while celebrating mass on March 24, 1980. His legacy of showing a preference for the poor and promoting peace lives on in his native country of El Salvador, where, even in death, he plays a role in the country's public life and occupies a special place in its collective consciousness and collective memory.

San Oscar A. Romero is now El Salvador’s first saint. In looking at the life of Monsenor Romero, we had a discussion of cultural identity as it actively defined, interpreted and debated El Salvador’s historical memory.

This event was co-sponsored by the Department of Central American Studies, the Department of Religious Studies, the College of Humanities Academic Programing Fund, and the Central American Research and Policy Institute.