

International Conference | Frontiers and Wastelands: The Boundaries of US American Identity

November 25-27, 2024 | Alcalá de Henares (Madrid, ES)

MONDAY 25

08:45

Colegio de los Trinitarios

REGISTRATION

09:15–10:30

SESSION 1

Panel A

Rosales Room (Trinitarios)

Borderlands of Identity: Decay and Change in Modern American Cinema and Literature

Chair:

Naomi Sutton

University of Manchester

The Boundaries of Femininity in the Westerns of 1980

Magdalena Müllerová

University of Manchester

"That's the kind of story childrens like—Indians and buffalo stampedes, even that devil woman stuff": *Dessa Rose* (1986) and Black Women's Frontier

Heena Hussain

University of Manchester

Assimilating the Exceptional Immigrant in Disney's *Encanto*

Panel B

Alberti Room (Trinitarios)

Boundaries of Motherhood

Chair:

Carolina Toscano

Saint Louis University

Rhetorics at the Intersection of Mothering and Migration

Elisa Fernández Rodríguez

Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

"A border between your legs": Motherhood and the Borderlands in Gabriela García's *Of Women and Salt*

Bethany Webster-Parmentier

Europa-Universität Flensburg

Reservation Boundaries, National Parks, and Rematriation in Stephen Graham Jones's *The Only Good Indians*

Panel C

Diego Room (Trinitarios)

Extractive Histories and Landscape Narratives

Chair:

Annie Sand

University of Iowa

Osiris in Appalachia: Poetic and Geographic Border Crossing in Muriel Rukeyser's *The Book of the Dead*

Enrico Mariani	<i>Ca' Foscari Università di Venezia</i>	Oil Derricks, Jackrabbits, and Workers in the Southern California Deserts: The Animality Discourse in <i>Sinclair's Oil!</i>
Luis Lorenzo	<i>Independent scholar</i>	(One) American Southwest Identity: Roads' Juxtaposition plus Cultural Overlaying

10:45–12:00	SESSION 2	
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Panel A Rosales Room (Trinitarios)	Race and the Boundaries of the Nation Chair:	
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Melanie E L Bush	<i>Adelphi University</i>	Who are "We"; Who are "They"? In What Ways Does this Matter? Whiteness and the U.S. Nation
Neal Allen	<i>Wichita State University</i>	Race, Public Art, and Transactional Politics in the United States: White Supremacy Never Dies
Benjamin Lynerd	<i>Christopher Newport University</i>	To Redraw the Contours of American Identity: Black Abolitionists in the Jacksonian Era

Panel B Alberti Room (Trinitarios)	Poetics of Otherness Chair:	
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Anicet Christian Donfack Sounna	<i>Universidad de Alcalá</i>	Poética de la frontera y del cruce fronterizo en <i>A Better Life</i> de Chris Weitz y <i>Un verano en Brooklyn</i> de Ira Sach
Omar Figueras	<i>Miami Dade College</i>	Trickster in Limbo: Transitional and Permanent Liminality in Edel Rodriguez's <i>Worm</i>

Panel C Diego Room (Trinitarios)	Latina Experiences and Assimilation Chair:	
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Jelena Pataki Šumiga	<i>Josip Juraj Strossmayer University</i>	(Non)Violent Border in <i>I'm Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter</i> (2017)
Luisa Sánchez Rivas	<i>Universidad Nebrija</i>	"Fronterótica": Politics of Location en (la) <i>Vida</i>
Zdravka Katinić	<i>Karlstad University</i>	A "Borderline Schizoid Response" and a "Peculiar Mix" – The Crossroad of Coming of Age and Assimilation in the USA

12:15–12:30 Salón de Actos (Rectorado)	Conference opening	
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12:30–13:30	KEYNOTE S. JONATHON O'DONNELL (Queen's University Belfast) TBA Chair:	
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13:45–15:15	LUNCH BREAK Light lunch included in the conference fee upon registration for it.	
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15:30–16:45	SESSION 3	
Panel A Rosales Room (Trinitarios)	Detention, Citizenship, and Politics of Violence Chair:	
Mariana Magaña Gamero	<i>University of California Irvine</i>	There is More to Life than Just US Citizenship
Maria Antònia Oliver-Rotger	<i>Universitat Pompeu Fabra</i>	Breaking Down State Borders from Within: Cristina Ibarra and Alex Rivera's Docu-Thriller <i>The Infiltrators</i>
Molly Carlin	<i>University of Sussex</i>	"A 'Correct' Inmate is a Silent One": Prisons, Transfers and the Boundaries of Political Freedom
Panel B Diego Room (Trinitarios)	Contested Boundaries in Speculative Literature Chair:	
Valentina Markasovič	<i>Josip Juraj Strossmayer University</i>	The Forests of District 12: The Environment as a Frontier in the Hunger Games Universe
Beatriz Hermida Ramos	<i>Universidad de Salamanca</i>	Reject Modernity, Embrace Science Fiction: Tracing (Un)Civilized Bodies in Alix E. Harrow's <i>The Ten Thousand Doors of January</i>
Petra Sršič	<i>Josip Juraj Strossmayer University</i>	The Portrayal of the Frontier and the Frontier Myth in Brandon Sanderson's Wax and Wayne Series
17:00–18:30	SESSION 4	
17:00–18:30	(Neo)Western Frontiers	
Panel A Rosales (Trinitarios)	Chair:	
Patricia Catoira	<i>Montana State University</i>	The Subversions of the Western in the TV Series <i>Longmire</i>
Michael Fuchs	<i>Innsbruck University</i>	Going South—Encountering Prehistory: US Imperialism, Prehistoric Animals, and the (Deep) Pastness of Mexico
Margaux Collin	<i>University of Reims</i>	Challenging racial boundaries through the use of discourse in <i>Django Unchained</i> by Quentin Tarantino (2012)
Ismael Ibáñez Rosales	<i>University of La Rioja</i>	From Arden to America: The Symbology of the Slain Deer in American Literature, Film, and Frontier Mythology
17:00–18:15	Music and Musicals	

Panel B Alberti Room (Trinitarios)	Chair:	
Jiangtao Harry Gu	<i>Hobart and William Smith Colleges</i>	Juanita Hall's Chop Suey
Maz Jardon	<i>University of Amsterdam</i>	Depictions of Poverty in Extreme Music
Francesca Furlan	<i>Università di Padova</i>	Deconstructing US Foundational Myths: <i>Hamilton's</i> Politics of Belonging
17:00–18:45	Race, Politics and Activism	
Panel C Diego Room (Trinitarios)		
Aneta Dybska	<i>University of Warsaw</i>	The #ADOS Movement and the Redrafting of Racial Roundaries in the US Today
Antonio Reboredo	<i>Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya</i>	The Limits of Urbanity: the Breaking of Bourgeois City Boundaries through Revolution, from France's Paris Commune to America's "Ghetto Riots"
Melanie Gish	<i>Independent scholar</i>	Creation Care Activism and the Limits of Evangelical Religio-Political Identity
20:30	CONFERENCE DINNER Hemisferio Loft Restaurant. The dinner is not included in the conference registration and must be paid separately.	

TUESDAY 26

09:00–10:30	SESSION 5	
Panel A Rosales Room (Trinitarios)	Art and Visual Boundaries	
	Chair:	
Michael Russo	<i>Newcastle University</i>	1964: The Ins and Outs of American Painting
Elizabeth Frasco	<i>Stevens Institute of Technology</i>	Crisis of Image, Crisis of Self: Delilah Montoya and the Theater of the American Borderlands
Monika Dabrowska	<i>Universidad Internacional de La Rioja</i>	Interseccionalidad de espacio fronterizo Mexicoamericano: una lectura de Norma Elia Cantú
Kimberly Ramírez	<i>City University of New York</i>	Surrogate Soil: Examining Ana Mendieta's Earthworks in Exile

Panel B Alberti Room (Trinitarios)	The Fallout Franchise and its Wastelands Chair:	
Sarah Wagstaffe	<i>Lancaster University</i>	Americana at the End of the World: Defining American Identity in the Wastelands of the <i>Fallout</i> Series
Elsa del Campo Ramírez	<i>Universidad Nebrija</i>	The Last Frontier... Hero? Mas-cool-inities and Mask-ulinities in <i>True Detective</i> and <i>Fallout</i>
Abdullah Derin Nalan Şenata	<i>Dokuz Eylül University</i>	From Vaults to Wastelands: Exploring Utopian, Dystopian, and Atopian Environments in the <i>Fallout</i> series
Aslihan Yucel	<i>University of Santiago de Compostela</i>	Reimagining the American History in the Postapocalyptic World of <i>Fallout 3</i>

10:45–12:15	SESSION 6	
Panel A Rosales Room (Trinitarios)	Boundaries of Queerness Chair:	
Pilar Illanes Vicioso	<i>Universidad de Cádiz</i>	Crossing the Line in <i>All the Beauty and the Bloodshed</i> : Laura Poitras' Documenting of Otherness in the HIV/AIDS and Opioid Epidemics through Nan Goldin's Photography and Activism
J. Javier Torres-Fernández	<i>University of Almería</i>	Crossing Borders for HIV/AIDS Treatment in <i>Dallas Buyers Club</i> (2013)
Anna Ferrari	<i>Sapienza Università di Roma</i>	Big Ideas and Stories: Contaminating America with the Other
Bennet Schaber	<i>State University of New York, Oswego</i>	Sherwood Anderson's Borderlands
Panel B Alberti Room (Trinitarios)	Critical Approaches to the Border and Enforcement Chair:	
Anne Dewey	<i>Saint Louis University</i>	The Supreme Court v. Gloria Anzaldúa and Natalie Diaz: Ethnic Borders in US Law and Poetry
Lena Elipe Gutiérrez	<i>University of Oviedo</i>	Border Patrol Stories of Violence and Resistance: Francisco Cantú's <i>The Line Becomes a River</i> and Jenn Budd's <i>Against the Wall</i>
Özlem Atar	<i>Queen's University</i>	Gritty Dances of Americanness in Francisco Cantú's <i>The Line Becomes a River</i> and Aaron Bobrow-Strain's <i>The Death and Life of Aida Hernandez</i>
Justin Cosner	<i>University of Iowa</i>	The Borders of Play: Simulated Borders and Real Politics in Video Games

12:30–13:30 Salón de Actos (Rectorado)	KEYNOTE MATTHEW CARTER (Manchester Metropolitan University) Southern Gothic Chain Saw Massacres, or the State of the Union According to Tobe Hooper Chair:
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13:45–15:15	LUNCH BREAK Light lunch included in the conference fee upon registration for it.
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15:30–16:45	SESSION 7
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Panel A Rosales Room (Trinitarios)	Where Do Aliens Go? Borderlands, Boundaries and After Chair:	
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Rui Mateus	<i>CETAPS; NOVA-FCSH</i>	Mapping the borders of imaginary worlds with Robert Jordan's <i>The Wheel of Time</i>
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Catarina Almeida	<i>CETAPS; NOVA-FCSH</i>	Family, memory and border politics in Alma García's <i>All the Rises</i> (2023)
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Isabel Oliveira	<i>CETAPS; NOVA-FCSH</i>	Where do Aliens Go? Valeria Luiselli's <i>Essay in Forty Questions</i>
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Panel B Alberti Room (Trinitarios)	Female Writers and the Frontiers of Domesticity Chair:	
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Halyna Zaporozhets	<i>Saarland University</i>	Landscape and Identities in Nebraska 20th Century Women's Writing
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Janice Lynne Deitner	<i>Independent scholar</i>	Boundaries of Knowledge, Community, and American Identity in the Work of Shirley Jackson
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17:00–18:00	SESSION 8
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Panel A Rosales Room (Trinitarios)	Creative Re-imaginings: Activism and Graphic Novels Transforming the Borderlands Wastelands Chair:	
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Ewa Antoszek	<i>Maria Curie-Skłodowska University</i>	From Hospitality to Conviviality (Again): Tanya Aguiñiga's <i>Metabolizing the Border</i>
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Richard D. Reitsma	<i>Canisius University</i>	Ghosts, Magic Realism, and Superheroes: Depicting Hope in the Graphic Novels of Julio Anta with the artists Jacoby Salcedo, Anna Wieszczyk, and Lisa Sterle
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Panel B Alberti Room (Trinitarios)	Black Women and Marginalization Chair:	
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Ignacio Fernández Vásquez	<i>Universidad Complutense de Madrid</i>	Ordinary Margins: Race, Slow Violence, and The American (anti)Pastoral in Jesmyn Ward's <i>Salvage The Bones</i> (2011)
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Marta Miña	<i>UPV/EHU</i>	Breaking the Saloon Female Stereotypes: "Stagecoach" Mary Fields
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Panel C Alonso Room (Trinitarios)	Canadian Borders and Imaginaries	
	Chair:	
Graham G. Dodds	<i>Concordia University</i>	Northern Sanctuary: Canada as a Safe Haven from American Dangers, Real and Imagined
Sebastian Letts	<i>Independent scholar</i>	Challenging the Boundaries Together, Communities Encountering the Western US-Canada Border Post-1846 and During the Period of Immigration Restriction/Asian Exclusion

18:15–19:30	SESSION 9	
Panel A Rosales Room (Trinitarios)	Interethnic Relations	
	Chair:	
Jesús Blanco Hidalgo	<i>Universidad de Córdoba</i>	"Listening through a gray drizzle of static": The Reverb of History in Hari Kunzru's <i>White Tears</i>
Eva Pelayo Sañudo	<i>Universidad de Cantabria</i>	The Power of Love: Crossing Racial Boundaries in Italian American Narratives
Ellis Kierans	<i>Penn State University</i>	Brown Bread and Gravy Biscuits: Ethnic Indigestion in the Memoirs of Italian-American Writers
Panel B Alberti Room (Trinitarios)	(Re)Approaching the Frontier, Colonialism and the Manifest Destiny	
	Chair:	
Ross Nedervelt	<i>Florida International University</i>	Geopolitical Security, Identity, and the Revolutionary Atlantic Border-sea, 1775–1820
Manuel Herrero-Puertas	<i>National Taiwan University</i>	Frontiers of Attention: Frederick Jackson Turner's FOMO
Jante Borremans	<i>University of Antwerp</i>	Mapping Oz: A Narratological Study of the Setting and its Politics in L. Frank Baum's <i>The Wonderful Wizard of Oz</i> and Gregory Maguire's <i>Wicked</i>

WEDNESDAY 27

09:00–10:15	SESSION 10	
Panel A Rosales Room (Trinitarios)	Oral Testimony, Memoir and Autobiography	
	Chair:	
José Manuel Rodríguez Herrera	<i>Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria</i>	Beyond Borders: The Cultural Poetics of Juan Felipe Herrera's <i>Möbius Strip</i>
Ahmet Dikyurt	<i>Arizona State University</i>	Identity, Belonging and Home: The Case of Second-Generation Bosnian Americans

Daniela Sandoval Fierro	<i>Universidad Complutense de Madrid</i>	Analyzing Gloria Anzaldúa's Politics of Identity: A Critical Examination of Border Reframing
Panel B Alberti Room (Trinitarios)	TV Series and Racial Boundaries Chair:	
María Elena Serrano Moya	<i>Universidad de Alcalá</i>	The Reservation in <i>Reservation Dogs</i> : Between a Human and Cultural Wasteland and a Source of Identity
Emma Dinuzzi	<i>Independent scholar</i>	Beyond the Horizon: Uncovering American Identity in <i>True Detective</i> , <i>Night Country</i> and <i>Reservation Dogs</i>
Sergio García Jiménez	<i>University of Oviedo</i>	Racial Borders and Supernatural Fears in Little Marvin's <i>Them: The Scare</i> (2024)
Panel C Diego Room (Trinitarios)	Male Writers and Conflicted Identities Chair:	
Mikel Barea Pérez	<i>UPV/EHU</i>	Under Siege: Post-9/11 American Identity in Don DeLillo's <i>Falling Man</i>
Tatu Pajula	<i>Tampere University</i>	Identity as a Project, Process and Passage – Working Through Liminality in the Early Novels of Joseph McElroy
Ana Barroso	<i>CEAUL/ULICES, University of Lisbon</i>	The Final Frontier: From Melville's Oceanic Voyage to Mccarthy's Desert Wasteland: Representations of Wilderness and Violence

10:30–12:00	SESSION 11	
Panel A Rosales Room (Trinitarios)	Black Women's Experiences Chair:	
Hamid Masfour	<i>Sultan Moulay Slimane University</i>	Counter-narratives to the American Dream and Americanness in Minority Literatures: The Cases of Toni Morrison and Jumpa Lahiri
Laura Roldán-Sevillano	<i>Universidad de Zaragoza</i>	Where the American Dream Ends: Mapping Urban Borders and Segregation in the Post-Great Recession Black Immigrant Novel
Irene Izquierdo Marqueño	<i>Universitat de València</i>	Unfeeling in <i>Luster</i> by Raven Leilani: Sentimentalism as a Building Block of the US American Identity
Martina Lombardo	<i>Sapienza Università di Roma</i>	Blurring the Boundaries: Race, Gender, Identity, and Multimediality in Brit Bennett's <i>The Vanishing Half</i>
Panel B Alberti Room (Trinitarios)	Euro- and Transnational Western Chair:	

Marek Paryż	<i>University of Warsaw</i>	The Boundaries of Polish-American Identity as Portrayed in Polish Literary Westerns
Sara El Majhad	<i>Aix-Marseille University</i>	Cowboys, Natives and Belly Dancers: Hollywood's North African Frontier
Cody Alexander Troyan	<i>Universidad de Alcalá</i>	Hybridizing Billy the Kid: A Transnational Reading of the Old West in Ramón J. Sender's <i>El bandido adolescente</i>
Christopher R. Carter	<i>Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha</i>	Reinscribing the Border: Shifting Boundaries of Identity and Adaptation in Four Versions of <i>The Great Turkey Walk</i>
Panel C Diego Room (Trinitarios)	Fiction and Space Frontiers Chair:	
Tomasz Jacheć	<i>University of Warmia and Mazury</i>	Cosmic Wastelands and Multiple Frontiers: Pushing the Boundaries in <i>For All Mankind</i> , the TV Series
Natalia Mirón-Flrido	<i>UPV/EHU</i>	Freeing Pandora: Militarism, Frontier-Making and US Identity in James Cameron's Avatar Franchise
Rowena Squires	<i>University of Cambridge</i>	The Anthropocene and "Final Fun-tier" in Pixar's <i>Wall-E</i> : American National Identity in Outer Space
Beatrix Henry	<i>Bard Graduate Center</i>	Bicentennial Space Age: The Construction of America's New Frontier
12:15–13:15 Salón de Actos (Rectorado)	KEYNOTE KATLIN MARISOL SWEENEY-ROMERO (UC Davis) Looking in/to the Viewfinder: Legacies and New Strategies of Latina Media Representation Chair:	
13:15–13:45	Conference closing and annual assembly	