

KU Department of Spanish & Portuguese

2nd Biennial Graduate Conference

Threads of Knowledge: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Language, Identity, and Resistance

Hybrid Conference
March 7-8, 2025
The University of Kansas

Keynote Presentation by
Dr. Tiffany Miller (Colby College)

<https://spanport.ku.edu/grasp-conference-2025>



GRADUATE ASSOCIATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE

Friday, March 7, 2025 - On-site Presentations

GRASP invites attendees to join us at 8:00am for a light breakfast with our department's graduate students at **Wescoe 2600 (1445 Jayhawk Blvd)**.

The conference will begin at 9:30am at Sabatini Multicultural Resource Center (1299 Oread Ave).

- 9:30am** **Inauguration of GRASP Second Biennial Conference**
“Threads of Knowledge: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Language, Identity, and Resistance” (*Sabatini Multicultural Resource Center, 1299 Oread Ave*)
- 10:00am** **Panel 1: Shaping Identity Through Performance and Visual Legacies**
- Kasper Jackson:** *Shaping Puerto Rican Narratives: A Comparative Analysis of West Side Story Productions.* KU - School of Music
- Luisa Garcés Sierra:** *Iconography of Resistance: The Visual Legacies of Prudencia Ayala, Francia Márquez, and Marielle Franco.* KU - Spanish and Portuguese
- Eva Sostak:** *Los Elementos Innovadores y Experimentales en el Teatro Independiente de Roberto Arlt.* KU - Spanish and Portuguese
- 11:00am** **Keynote lecture by Dr. Tiffany Miller (Colby College)**
- “Decolonial Transnational *Ch’owen*: Invoking Guatemalan Highland Spirituality and Environmental Indigenous Futures”
- Zoom: Meeting ID: 874 2928 4907 – Passcode: 2025
(Additional info on page 8 of program)
- 12:00pm** **Lunch @ The Oread with professors and Span&Port graduate students (1200 Oread Ave)**

Change of Venue

Presentations will resume at 1:30pm at **Bailey 318 (1440 Jayhawk Blvd)**.

1:30pm Panel 2: Memory, Trauma, and Resistance: Narratives of Defeat, Violence, and Displacement in Latin America and Spain.

Soffia Castillo: *En retirada. La importancia de recordar la derrota en Los girasoles ciegos.* KU - Spanish and Portuguese

Alexandra Navarro: *¿Qué revelan los testimonios de los residentes sobre la naturaleza de la violencia y el trauma en la ciudad de Choloma, Honduras?* KU - Global International Studies

Margarita Rivera: *This is our land: Participatory mapping of forced displacement through collective embroidery.* KU – Anthropology

2:40pm Panel 3: Reimagining Brazilian Identity: Historiography, Kinship, and Language in Literature and Society

Mira Briana-Haydu: *Brazilian History or Jewish History? Examining Moacyr Scliar's The Strange Nation of Rafael Mendes Through a Historiographic Lens.* KU - Spanish and Portuguese

Matheus Romanetto: *Familiarly a kin, politically akin? Conjectures on kinship and politics in Brazil.* KU - Sociology

Andraya Yearwood: *“Samba’o na cara da sociedade:” A Quare Linguistic Account of Brazilian Portuguese.* Columbia University

3:50pm Panel 4: Educative Challenges: Bilingual Education in Latin America

José Fabián Elizondo: *Towards Equity in Bilingual Education in Costa Rica.* KU - School of Education and Human Sciences

Rocío Chamorro: *Thirty Years of Bilingual Education in Paraguay: History and Contradictions in Policy and Practice.* KU - Educational Leadership and Policy Studies

4:40pm **Panel 5: Indigenous Women, Gender, and Modernism: Ecuadorian Uprisings and Literature**

Melisa Mantilla: *Gendering Resistance: Indigenous Women and Social Uprisings in Ecuador*. University of Florida

Salenka Chinchin: *Irma Leal: La mujer dandi en el modernismo literario ecuatoriano*. University of Florida

5:40pm **Day one closing remarks**

6:00pm Happy Hour @ Delicias del Sur with Span&Port graduate students and professors (724 Massachusetts St)

7:30pm Invitation to join the “Latin American Art Music Festival: Celebrating Latin American Composers” (Swarthout Recital Hall, 1530 Naismith Dr)

Saturday, March 8, 2025 - Virtual Sessions

Join via Zoom:

- **Meeting ID:** 845 9769 7034
- **Passcode:** 063554

All the sessions will use the same link, feel free to share it for the audience. // Todas las sesiones serán con el mismo código, siéntete libre de compartir el enlace con tus invitados.

Saturday, March 8, 2025

Virtual Sessions in Spanish:

10:00am Panel 1: Reconfiguraciones de género, identidad y resistencia en la literatura y el arte contemporáneo

Seraffn Leiva: *Machos eran los de antes: la construcción del héroe y la representación de la masculinidad frágil en la obra de Horacio Castellanos Moya.* Universidad Nacional de San Martín

Silvana Aiudi: *Intimidad, vejez y arte desde una perspectiva feminista. Un análisis de Escuela de envejecer, de Ana Gallardo, y Soy tan pero tan vieja..., de Mónica Mayer.* Universidad. Universidad Nacional de San Martín

Karla Janett Andonegui Cruz: *El cuerpo monstruoso en Eso que duerme dentro de Úrsula Fuentesberain.* Universidad de Colima

11:00am Panel 2: Narrativas de memoria, resistencia y trauma: representaciones literarias y artísticas en Argentina y México

Irene Eizykovicz: *La tierra de uno: Cartografías afectivas.* Universidad Nacional de San Martín

Salma Bautista: *Memoria, identidad y poder: un análisis de la tradición en El murmullo de las abejas de Sofía Segovia.* Universidad de Colima

Pastora Amezcua Rivera: *Antígona González de Sara Uribe: Sociedad red para tejer poesía y resistencia.* Universidad de Colima

12:00pm Lunch Break – Sessions Resume at 1:00pm

1:00pm Panel 3: Cosmovisiones, identidad y prácticas culturales: tradiciones, sincretismo y transformaciones en América Latina

Agustín Eduardo Vaccaneo: *La recepción de la saga de Don Juan, de Carlos Castaneda, en América Latina y la construcción de imaginarios neochamánicos.* Universidad Nacional de San Martín

Marlen Salgado: *Análisis cultural: La festividad religiosa de la Virgen de Suyapa, como elemento unificador e identitario en las comunidades indígenas y afrodescendientes en Honduras.* Universidad Europea del Atlántico.

Coral Anahí Escalera López: *Identidad en disputa: estrategias de resistencia en La Sunamita, de Inés Arredondo y Calenturientas, de Ana Patricia Martínez.* Universidad de Colima

2:00pm Panel 4: Comunidad, Estado y Sistemas Financieros en América Latina

Eduardo H. Gorobets Martins: *Perspectivas comunitarias y tradicionales de trabajo y poder en Chicontepec, México.* University of Texas - Austin

Douglas Vargas: *La presentación del funcionario público en la vida cotidiana. La sociología y la construcción de representaciones burocráticas públicas* Tegucigalpa. Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras

Kathia E. Cañada Luque: *Análisis de las provisiones bancarias en el contexto económico hondureño: Una aproximación del impacto en los usuarios financieros.* Instituto Centroamericano de Administración Pública (ICAP) Costa Rica

Virtual Sessions in English:

3:00pm Panel 5: Identity Politics, Authoritarianism, and Mobility: Narratives of Resistance and Transformation in the Americas.

Kiera Eckhardt: *A Discursive Analysis of Migrants in Ecuador's Constitution.* KU - Anthropology

Riley "Red" Klung: *State Control of Fertility is Fundamental to Authoritarianism: Connections Between Abortion Restriction and Dictatorship in Latin America.* University of California - San Diego

Sara Rico Godoy: *Young Immigrants: Cross-dressing, Hegemonic Masculinity and Racial Discrimination in the Guatemalan film The Golden Dream.* Eastern Kentucky University

4:00pm Panel 6: Indigeneity, Education, and Technology: Unpacking Borders, Knowledge, and Power in the Americas

Verónica Pérez García & Constance von Igel de Mello: *On the River of Time: A Cross-Temporal Analysis of Indigeneity in Brazilian Nation-Making.* University of California - San Diego

David Martínez and Dr. Bryan Mann (co-author): *Educational challenges near the Paraguayan-Brazilian border: What happens to schools in a place where political and cultural boundaries are misaligned?* KU - Education and Leadership

Isabel Ebersole. *From Cold War Machine Translation to Neoliberal AI: Language Technologies and the Politics of Knowledge Production.* Wichita State University

Sarah Bertry. *Climate Change Language and Discourse: the Politics of Marginalization and Resistance.* Wichita State University.

Keynote Presentation Info:

Decolonial Transnational *Ch'owen*: Invoking Guatemalan Highland Spirituality and Environmental Indigenous Futures

Dr. Tiffany Miller (Colby College)

Sabatini Multicultural Resource Center (1299 Oread Ave, Lawrence, KS 66044)

Friday, March 7

11 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Drawing from her longtime fieldwork in the Guatemalan Highlands, methodologically Dr. Miller's use of epistemologies deriving from Kaqchikel spirituality and the four cardinal points as she analyzes contemporary Maya cultural production across media formats and genres. Representations of the cardinal points connect contemporary Maya *ajq'ija'* (daykeepers), authors, and artists to their pre-Hispanic past by referencing Kaqchikel Maya religious beliefs deriving from the *Cholq'ij* calendar. At the same time, references to the cardinal points geographically deterritorialize these texts, moving them beyond Iximulew (Guatemala) to dialogue with Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultures and their communities in other parts of the globe. As readers and audiences – from Guatemala and abroad – are interpellated into the *ch'owen*, or dialogue, she proposes that there are unique possibilities to sow seeds for allyship and engaged environmental activism.

2024-2025 GRASP members:

- Cesia Espinal (President)
- Lorena Mosquera (Treasurer)
- Laryssa Rodrigues (Vice President)
- Camila Micán (Secretary)

The 2025 GRASP Conference is sponsored by:

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