



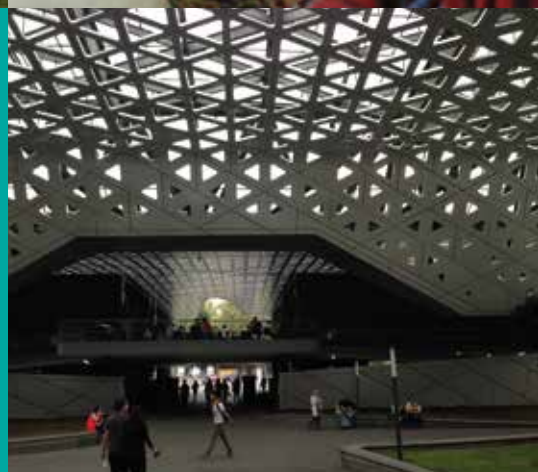
SLAS2016

**Society for Latin
American Studies
annual conference**

Conference programme

University of Liverpool

7-8 April 2016



Welcome9

Programme overview 10

Campus map 11

Practical information 12

Keynote lectures 13

Events and launches 14

Panel timetable 15

Paper abstracts 35



The Society for Latin American Studies and the conference organisers at the University of Liverpool would like to express our thanks to our partners/funders:

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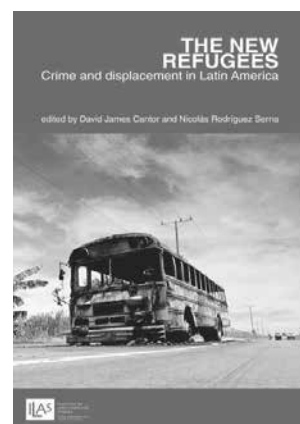
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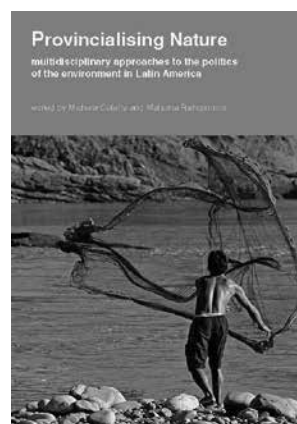
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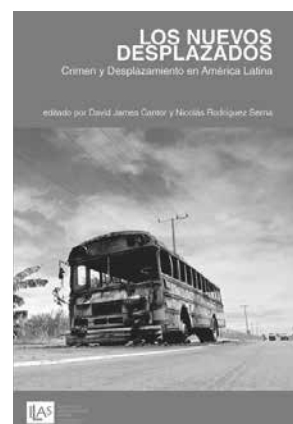
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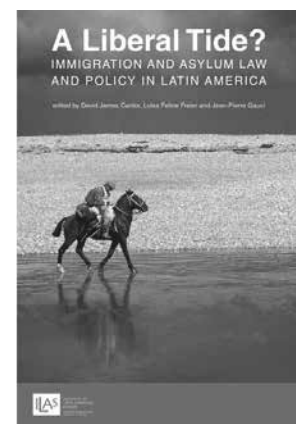
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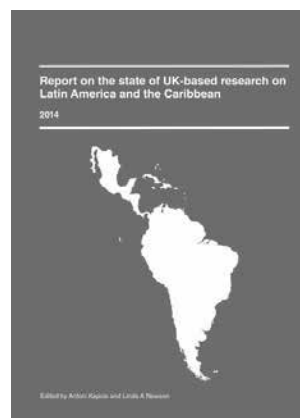
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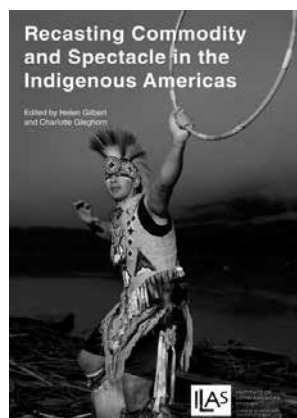
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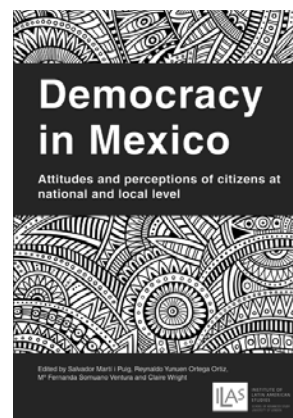
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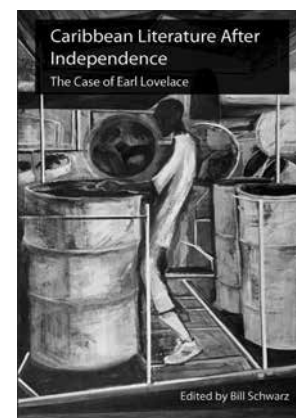
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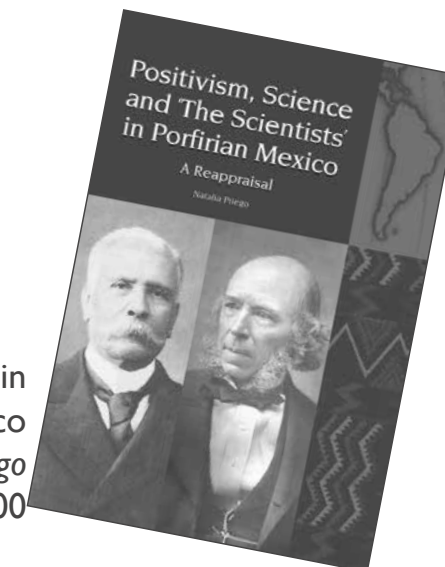
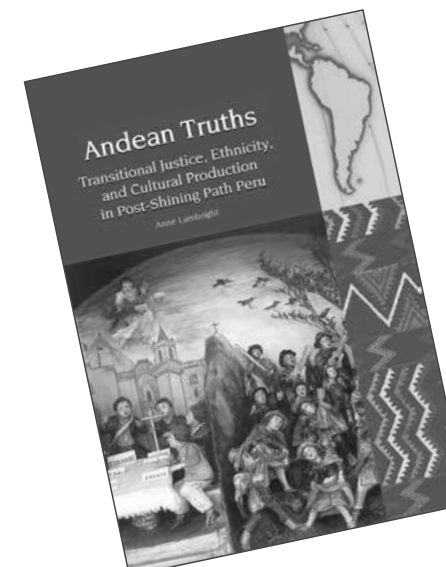
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New in Liverpool Latin American Studies

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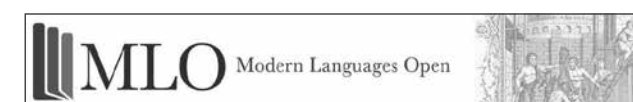
Book Launch - Friday 8th April, 12.15pm



Since its founding by Edgar Allison Peers in 1923, *Bulletin of Hispanic Studies* has become the foremost British academic journal devoted to the languages, literatures and civilizations of Spain, Portugal and Latin America. Recognised across the world as one of the front-ranking journals in the field of Hispanic research, it is supported by an editorial committee specialising in a vast range of Hispanic scholarship.

Published on behalf of the North American Catalan Society, *Catalan Review* accepts contributions such as research articles, translations, and book reviews dealing with all aspects of Catalan culture.

For more information please contact Chloe Johnson.
(chloe.johnson@liverpool.ac.uk)



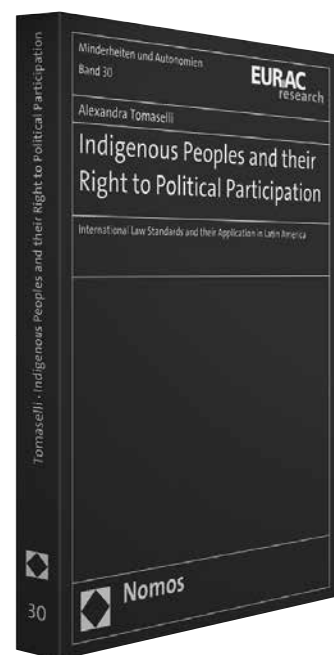
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For more information, visit www.modernlanguagesopen.org.

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Law and Politics beyond Europe



Indigenous Peoples and their Right to Political Participation

International Law Standards and their Application in Latin America

By Dr. Alexandra Tomaselli

2016, 558 pp., pb., € 119.00

ISBN 978-3-8487-2663-9

eISBN 978-3-8452-6878-1

(Schriftenreihe der Europäischen Akademie Bozen, Bereich »Minderheiten und Autonomien«, volume 30)

www.nomos-shop.de/26197

This book proposes a composite right to political participation of indigenous peoples, identifies its recognition in international law and explores its application in two case studies in Latin America which seem to be apparently divergent but are substantially more similar than expected: Bolivia and Chile.



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ISSN 0506-7286 | volume 48

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Law and Politics in Africa, Asia and Latin America analyses legal and constitutional developments in all states or regions outside of Europe as well as their regional and international integration. The journal also promotes a special interest in contributions on 'law and development'. It aims to provide a variety of perspectives on these fields of interest, being focused on one country, comparative, theoretical or methodological in nature.



Latin America, Illuminated.

We are pleased to offer four new research collections that reflect the diversity of Latin American studies today:

Latin American Newspapers, Series 1 and 2, 1805-1922

Created in partnership with the Center for Research Libraries, these two series provide access to more than 280 newspapers published between 1805 and 1922 from more than 20 countries in the region, including Argentina, Brazil, Chile and more than a dozen others. (Readex)

Caribbean Newspapers, Series 1, 1718-1876: From the American Antiquarian Society

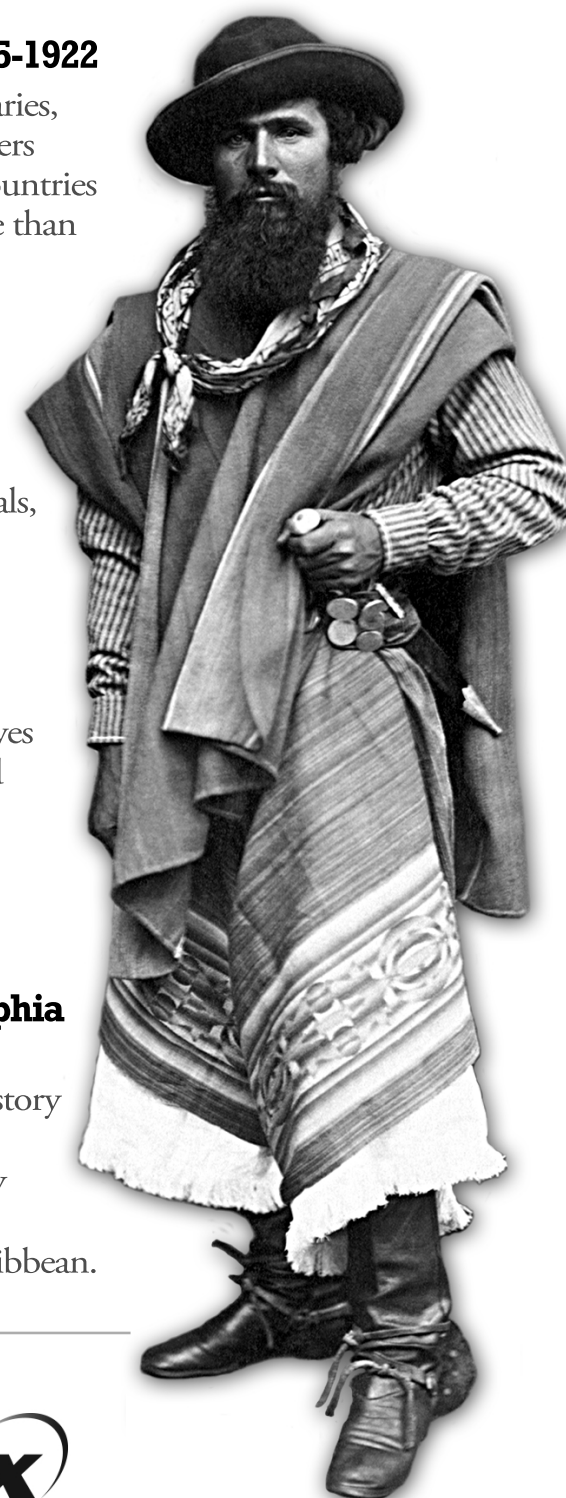
Featuring more than 140 searchable newspapers from 22 islands, this collection chronicles the region's evolution across two centuries through eyewitness reporting, editorials, legislative information, letters, poetry, advertisements, obituaries and other news items. (Readex)

Foreign Broadcast Information Services (FBIS) Daily Reports: Latin America, 1974-1996

This U.S. intelligence archive provides firsthand perspectives on world history, governments and politics, capturing and translating reports of events as they occurred. The Latin American module is an indispensable source for insights into decades of turbulent regional history. (Readex)

Caribbean History and Culture, 1535-1920, Imprints from the Library Company of Philadelphia

This most significant resource available for students and scholars of Caribbean studies, this collection covers the history and culture of this broad region from the 16th century to the early 20th century. Included are more than 1,200 fully catalogued and searchable books, pamphlets, almanacs, broadsides and ephemera—both from and about the Caribbean.



For further information or to request a free trial, please contact:

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Jack Webb

The conference team would like to thank emeritus Prof John Fisher and Prof Chris Harris for their advice and support. Practical and administrative support from the School of Histories, Languages and Cultures events and finance teams has been invaluable. We would particularly like to thank Caroline Stanley, Larissa Kolstein, Lynn Farthman, Annie Bradshaw, Jane Maher and Andy Sloan.

The University of Liverpool and the conference organisers are delighted to welcome you to the 52nd Annual Conference of the Social for Latin American Studies 2016. The papers and panels in this programme proposed by postgraduate students, junior and senior academics from the UK, other European countries, Latin America, the US, Canada and elsewhere cover a wide range of topics in the arts, humanities and social sciences, including anthropology, cultural studies, history, film, literature, politics and socio-linguistics. We are also pleased to welcome our two keynote speakers to Liverpool, Professor Hugo Cancino (Aalborg University) and Professor John D. French (Duke University).

In 2016 we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the opening of Liverpool’s Centre for Latin American Studies (later re-named the 'Institute of Latin American Studies'). The Institute was one of the six Parry centres for Latin American Area Studies founded in the UK in 1966. The conference marks the relaunch of Latin American Studies in Liverpool as the North West Americas Studies Network (NWASN). This will be a Liverpool-based multidisciplinary network whose aim is to bring together experts in Latin American and North American studies to support research in the field, exchange ideas, and to provide opportunities for collaborations amongst the members.

We hope you have an enjoyable and productive conference,

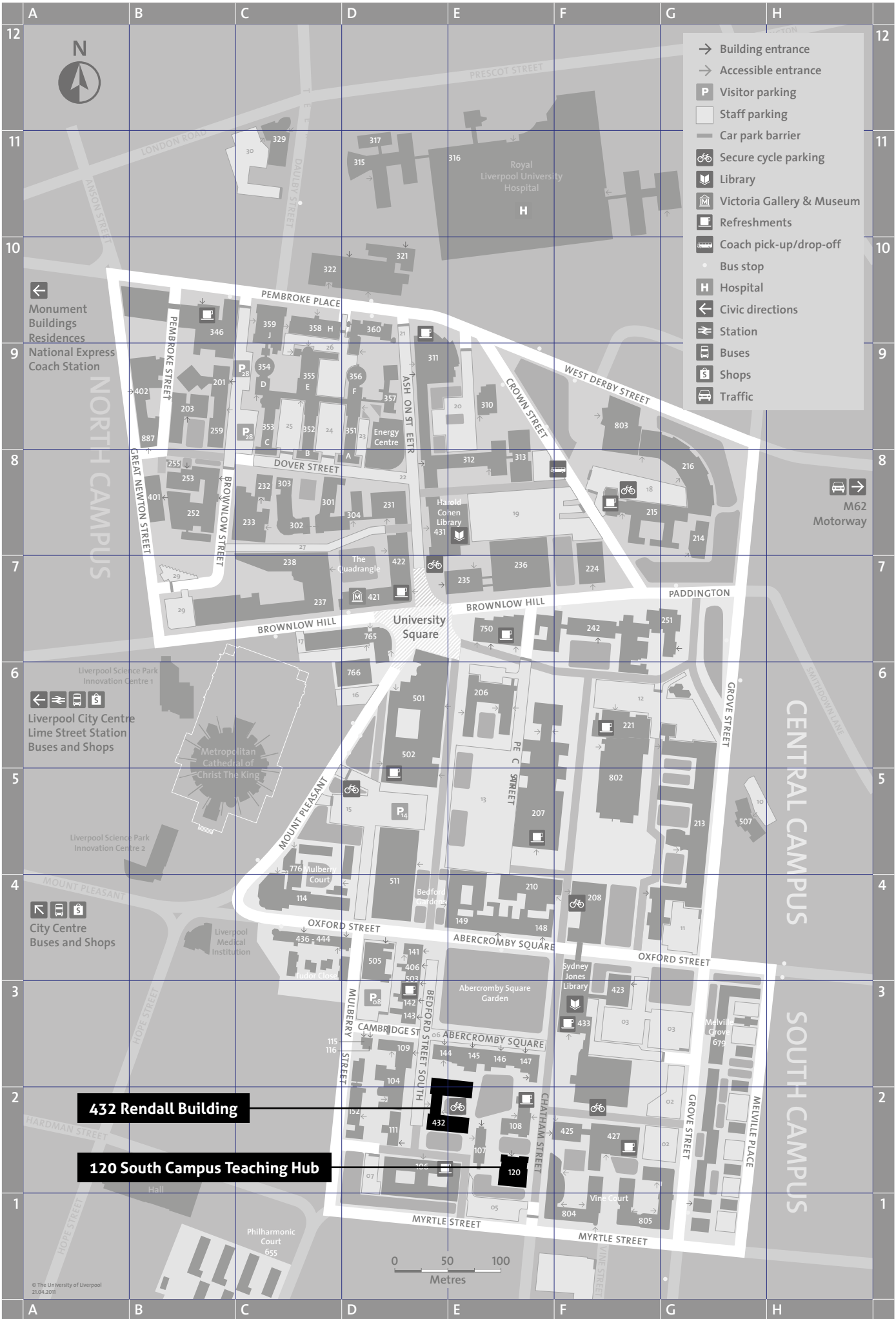
On behalf of the organising committee,

Marieke Riethof

SLAS 2016 Programme Overview

SCTH: South Campus Teaching Hub	
Thursday 7 April 2016	
08:30-17:00	Registration (Lobby, South Campus Teaching Hub)
09:00-10:30	Panel session 1: Panels 1, 2, 7, 11, 16, 36 SLAS Committee Meeting (9:30-10:30): SCTH/Seminar Room 1
10:30-11:00	Tea/coffee break Publishers' exhibition opens
11:00-12:30	Panel session 2: Panels 1, 2, 4, 7, 16, 18, 36
11:00-12:00	BLAR Editorial Meeting – SCTH/Seminar Room 1
12:30-13:30	Buffet lunch (SCTH/SLS 1) PILAS lunch (SCTH/SLS 2)
13:30-15:00	Panel session 3: Panels 6, 9, 13, 14, 15, 19, 24, 25, 39
15:00-15:30	Tea/coffee break
15:30-17:00	Panel session 4: Panels 6, 9, 13, 15, 19, 23, 24, 25, 34
17:00-18:00	Keynote Lecture 1 – SCTH/Moot Lecture Theatre
18:00-19:00	Wine reception
From 19:30	Conference dinner and entertainment Anglican Cathedral

SLS: Social Learning Space	
Friday 8 April 2016	
08:30-17:30	Registration (Lobby, South Campus Teaching Hub)
09:00-10:30	Panel session 5: Panels 3, 10, 12, 21, 23, 26, 34, 38
10:30-11:00	Tea/coffee break Cengage launch
11:00-12:00	Keynote lecture 2 – SCTH/Moot Lecture Theatre
12:15-13:00	Liverpool University Press book launch (SCTH/SLS 1)
12:30-14:00	Buffet Lunch SLAS Annual General Meeting (13.00-14.00) – SCTH/Moot Lecture Theatre
14:00-15:30	Panel session 6: Panels 5, 10, 12, 17, 22, 28, 29, 38
15:30-16:00	Tea/coffee break
16:00-17:30	Panel session 7: Panels 5, 20, 27, 28, 29, 40
	The publishers' exhibition, all breaks, lunch and the wine reception take place in the Social Learning Space 1 – first floor South Campus Teaching Hub



Practical Information

Navigating the Programme

The programme overview on p. 10 provides times for panels, keynote lectures and other events. The detailed timetable (from p. 16) lists panel and paper titles as well as times and locations.

Many panels have two slots and each panel session normally has three to four paper presentations. You can use the order in the programme as an indication when a particular paper is scheduled. Please bear in mind the final order of presentation in each panel is at the discretion of the panel convenors/chairs. Delegates can present their paper in English, Spanish or Portuguese: please ask the panel chair for clarification if necessary.

Conference Location

Most conference events will take place in the South Campus Teaching Hub (SCTH), building 120 on the campus map. We will also use the Rendall Building (no. 432 on the campus map).

The registration/reception desk in the South Campus Teaching Hub lobby will be open from 8.30am until 17.00 on Thursday and 8.30 until 17.30 on Friday. A cloakroom will be available to delegates during the same times: please ask at the reception desk.

All breaks, lunch and the publishers’ exhibition take place in the Social Learning Space 1 on the first floor of the South Campus Teaching Hub.

The conference dinner will be held in the Anglican Cathedral at 19.30 on Thursday 7 April. The Cathedral is 1.1km from the conference venue, approximately 13-15 minutes’ walk.

Internet access

Delegates will receive guest wireless access on request from the reception desk. Many delegates will automatically have access to the University’s eduroam network – for joining instructions, check <https://wireless.liv.ac.uk/connecting/eduroam/>.

Panel convenors will also have log in details and instructions for computers in panel rooms. Printing facilities will not be available and the nearest copy shop is Desktop Print, 57 Bold Street, L1 4EU.

Presentation guidelines

For pre-constituted panels, the panel chairs will contact the panellists about the arrangements. For panels formed by the conference committee: delegates are not expected to submit a paper. To allow for discussion, presentations should be no more than 20 minutes for panel sessions with up to 4 papers and 15 minutes for 5 participants per panel session (each panel session is 90 minutes and many panels have two sessions).

Audio-visual facilities

All panel rooms are equipped with PowerPoint facilities and delegates should bring their presentation on a USB stick. You can also connect your laptop if it has a VGA connection. An IT technician will be available on both days for support.

Certificates of Attendance

Only available if requested in advance: you can pick up your certificate at the reception desk. Please contact slas2016@liverpool.ac.uk to request a certificate and include your name, affiliation and paper title.

Keynote lectures

7 April at 17.00
Moot Lecture Theatre, South Campus Teaching Hub

Emeritus Associate Professor Hugo Cancino, Aalborg University, Denmark

El Latinoamericanismo en los Países Escandinavos: Una Visión Crítica, 1976-2015 (in Spanish)

Professor Cancino’s distinguished career as a cultural historian was launched in 1984 with the publication by the University of Odense of his PhD thesis *Las raíces históricas e ideológicas del Movimiento Sandinista: antecedentes de la Revolución Nacional y Popular nicaraguense, 1927-1973*. Since then he has continued to publish extensively and indefatigably on the intellectual and cultural history and politics of not only his native Chile – for example *Chile: Iglesia y dictadura, 1973-1989: un estudio sobre el rol político de la Iglesia católica y el conflicto con el régimen militar* (1997) – but also Peru, Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico. His recent works include a major anthology of essays - *Intelectuais na América Latina: Pensamentos, Contextos e Instituições. Dos processos de Independência A Globalização* – edited in 2013 with the Mexican scholar Rogelio de la Mora and the Brazilian Lená Medeiros de Menezes for the Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, as well as in 2014-2015 journal articles on Salvador Allende and (with his wife, Rita) on the educational projects of the Popular Unity Government.

8 April at 11.00
Moot Lecture Theatre, South Campus Teaching Hub.

Professor John D. French, Duke University

Lula’s Politics of Cunning: From the Factory Floor to the Post-Presidency

John D. French is a professor of History and African and African-American Studies at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. With a B.A. from Amherst College, he received his doctorate at Yale in 1985 under Brazilian historian Emília Viotti da Costa. Since 1979, he has been studying labor politics, populism, and the left in Latin America and has published 42 refereed articles as well as three books: *The Brazilian Workers ABC* (1992/1995 in Brazil), *Drowning in Laws: Labor Law and Brazilian Political Culture* (2004; 2002 in Brazil), and a coedited volume *The Gendered Worlds of Latin American Women Workers* (1997). He is currently finishing a book manuscript entitled *Lula’s Politics of Cunning: From Trade Unionism to the Brazilian Presidency*.

His most recent articles include: “How the Not-So-Powerless Prevail: Industrial Labor Market Demand and the Contours of Militancy in Mid-Twentieth Century São Paulo, Brazil” (HAHR 2010); “Another World History Is Possible: Reflections on the Translocal, Transnational, and Global” in *Workers, Across the Americas: The Transnational Turn in Labor History* (2011); “Understanding the Politics of Latin America’s Plural Lefts (Chávez/Lula): Social Democracy, Populism, and Convergence on the Path to a Post-Neoliberal World,” *Third World Quarterly* (2009); and “Social History and the Study of ‘Great Men’? The *Hispanic American Historical Review*, William Spence Robertson (1872-1956), and the Disciplinary Debate about Biography,” *Anuario Colombiano de Historia Social y de la Cultura* (2013).

From 2001 to 2005, he served as director of the Duke Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies and as national Treasurer of the 5,000-member Latin American Studies Association from 2003-05. In July 2012, he became senior editor of the *Hispanic American Historical Review* for a five-year term with Jocelyn Olcott and Pete Sigal. Currently he co-directs the Duke Brazil Initiative and the Global Brazil Humanities Lab of the John Hope Franklin Center at Duke University.

Events

Wine Reception

Thursday 7 April, 18.00-19.00, Social Learning Space 1, South Campus Teaching Hub

All delegates are invited to join us for drinks and nibbles after the first keynote lecture.

Conference Dinner

Thursday 7 April, 19.30, Anglican Cathedral (pre-booked only)

Come and join us for dinner in the Anglican Cathedral at 7.30pm on Thursday, 7 April, where dinner will be served in 'The Well', with its stunning views through the Dulverton Bridge to the High Altar, offering an exceptional view of the Cathedral. After dinner,Irish and Ceili band Beer for Breakfastwill play a ceili with an Irish and Scottish flavour.

The Cathedral is 1km (approx. 12-15 minutes' walk from the conference venue).

Meetings

SLAS Committee Meeting:

Thursday April 7, 9.30-10.30, SCTH Seminar Room 1.

***Bulletin of Latin American Research* editorial board:**

Thursday April 7, 11-12, SCTH Seminar Room 1.

Postgraduates in Latin American Studies lunch:

Thursday April 7, 12.30-13.30 in SCTH, Social Learning Space 2.

The Postgraduates in Latin American Studies (PILAS) Committee has organised a lunch session with established academics fromdiverse career trajectoryesto share experiences and learned lessons ina less formalspace.

We aim this to be a welcoming session to provide insights for postgraduates at all stages on:

- Getting a job and working in academia
- Activism from and in academia
- Working in Latin America
- What else can I do with my PhD?

Annual General Meeting, Society for Latin American Studies:

Friday 8th April, 13.00-14.00, Moot Lecture Theatre, South Campus Teaching Hub.

Publishers’ launches

Liverpool University Press

Friday 8th April, 12.15-13.00, Publishers’ Exhibition, Social Learning Space 1, South Campus Teaching Hub.

The ‘Liverpool Latin American Studies New Series’, which published its first title in 1999, exemplifies LUP’s longstanding and distinguished record of publishing on Latin America and Hispanic themes. It is fitting, therefore, that the two most recent titles in the series, numbers 14 and 15, published in November 2015 and January 2016 respectively, should be formally launched at this Conference, which is designed to showcase Liverpool University’s continuing commitment to research on Latin American Studies.

The series aims to present original, world-leading scholarship produced by experts in a broad spectrum of disciplines, including, history, literature, cultural and social studies, languages, social anthropology, politics, international relations, and human geography, as well as multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary studies. It is edited by Professor Catherine Davies (Director of the Institute of Modern Languages Research at the University of London’s School of Advanced Study) – herself the principal author of number 7 – *South American Independence: Gender, Politics, Text* (2006) – and Professor Allan J. Kuethe (Department of History, Texas Tech University). Professor John Fisher, for his part, revels in the role of ‘Emeritus Editor’.

The interdisciplinary feature is evident in each of the two new titles. In *Andean Truths, Transitional Justice, Ethnicity and Cultural Production in Post-Shining Path Peru* Anne Lambright analyses how literature, drama, film, and the visual arts contest the dominant narrative of national peace and reconciliation promoted by Peru’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission, established in 2001 with the responsibility for investigating and making public the truth of the civil war that ravaged the country during the 1980s and early-1990s. She concludes by questioning the country’s capacity to overcome this collective trauma without reconsidering prevailing cultural paradigms. Dr Lewis Taylor, who has also written on Sendero Luminoso for the series (number 6: *Shining Path. Guerrilla War in Peru’s Northern Highland, 1980-1997*, 2006) will present this volume.

In number 15, *Positivism, Science, and ‘The Scientists’ in Porfirian Mexico. A Reappraisal*, Natalia Priego draws upon her profound understanding of the real nature of the long dictatorship of Porfirio Díaz and her expertise in the history of science and philosophy to test and debunk the influential myth, established by Leopoldo Zea, that the members of the group described as ‘The Scientists’ by its critics were Spencerian Positivists. Her methodology embraces an analysis of the original papers of Francisco Bulnes and Justo Sierra, coupled with a close reading of the books, pamphlets and articles of Herbert Spencer, in order to establish the real sources and nature of the ideas and activities of these prominent ‘scientists’. It also demonstrates that the ideas of Spencer, Charles Darwin, and other philosophers tended to be disseminated in

Mexico by indirect routes, including reviews and articles in French journals. As the President of SLAS, Jens Hentschke – who will speak at the launch – states on the back cover of the volume, this truly is an ‘innovative monograph...that breaks new ground’.

Gale, Exploring the Oliveira Lima Library

Friday 8th April, 10.30-11.00, Publishers’ Exhibition, Social Learning Space 1, South Campus Teaching Hub.

The Oliveira Lima Library has long been regarded as one of the finest collections of Luso-Brazilian materials available to academics.Now this collection is more available than ever, thanks to Gale’s partnership with the library to digitise this content and present it in the new archive, **Brazilian and Portuguese History and Culture: The Oliveira Lima Library.**

Come and see the archive within Gale’s revolutionary digital research platforms, enabling primaryresearch and discovery like never before.

Tsikan Chu Nipxi / La Viejita y la Calabaza / Buri and the Marrow

Both days: Publishers’ Exhibition, Social Learning Space 1, South Campus Teaching Hub.

You are also welcome to attend a presentation on the project in panel session 40 on “Mainstream publishing in indigenous languages: presentation and discussion for academics, students, publishers and activists”, on Friday afternoon 16-17.30, SCTH, Seminar Room 1.

Welcome to the first ever trilingual ‘talking book’ featuring Totonac, an indigenous language of Mexico, plus Spanish and English. The University of Liverpool teamed up with *Colegio Paulo Freire*, an independent indigenous-led school in the Puebla highlands, and UK publishers Mantra Lingua whose award-winning *TalkingPEN* brings all three languages to life. Children enjoy listening to or reading this joyful, universally popular story in any of three languages, adding fun to language learning and bilingual literacy.

Every copy you buy pays for another book for a Totonac child!

Panel timetable

Thursday 7 April									
Session 1 (09.00-10.30):	1	2	7	11	16	36			
Session 2 (11.00-12.30):	1	2	4	7	16	18	36		
Session 3 (13.30-15.00):	6	9	13	14	15	19	24	25	39
Session 4 (15.30-17.00):	6	9	13	15	19	23	24	25	34

Friday 8 April									
Session 5 (09.00-10.30):	3	10	12	21	23	26	34	38	
Session 6 (14.00-15.30):	5	10	12	17	22	28	29	38	
Session 7 (16.00-17.30):	5	20	27	28	29	40			

SCTH: South Campus Teaching Hub (120 on campus map)

Rendall: Rendall Building (432 on campus map)

S1

Rethinking whiteness in Latin America

Session 1, Thursday 9-10.30 and continues in session 2, 11-12.30

Both sessions: SCTH – Seminar Room 2

Convenor: Ignacio Aguilo
University of Manchester

White Privilege? Migration, Belonging, & the Fragility of Costa Rica’s Whiteness Myth

Carmen Kordick, Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL, United States

From Warriors to Scholars: Manuel Querino’s Contribution to Black History

Helen Gledhill, Independent Scholar, Godalming, Surrey, UK

Constructing the White Cholo: Racial Sincerity or Colour-Blindness?

Fiorella Montero Diaz, Keele University, Staffordshire, UK

Re-Examining Argentinian ‘Whiteness’ through Art during the 2001-02 Economic Crisis

Ignacio Aguilo, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK

S2

Questions of identity and post-identity in Latin American studies

Session 1, Thursday 9-10.30 and continues in session 2, 11-12.30

Both sessions: SCTH, Seminar Room 3

Convenor: Emily Baker
University of Cambridge

Discussant: Lucy Bollington
University of Cambridge

‘Y se hundió en el otro rostro’: renderings of La Malinche in contemporary Mexican fiction

Maria Montt Strabucchi, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK, Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile, Santiago, Chile

El paseo de las muñecas: Queer (In) Visibility in Contemporary Santiago

Barbara Castillo Buttinghausen, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

Institutions and Gender Policies in Michelle Bachelet’s Second Administration

Carmen Sepúlveda, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK

The Re-appropriation of Catalina de los Ríos y Lisperguer in Gustavo Frías’ Tres nombres para Catalina Series

Ceire Broderick, NUI Galway, Galway, Ireland

From ‘imagined’ to ‘inoperative’ communities: En busca de Klingsor by Jorge Volpi and Amphitryon by Ignacio Padilla

Emily Baker, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

Promiscuous Disidentification in Mario Bellatin’s novella Jacobo el mutante (2004)

Lucy Bollington, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

Bridging Alterity: Translating Languages, Cultures and Identities in Luciano Tapia’s Ukhamawa Jakawisaxa

Peter Baker, University of Newcastle, Newcastle, UK

S7

Making sense of neoliberalism in Latin America today: narratives on violence, exclusion and resistance

Session 1, Thursday 9-10.30 and continues in session 2, 11-12.30

Both sessions: Rendall, Seminar Room 10

Convenor: Karina García
University of Bristol

The oracles of the past framing the future: decoding the intellectual narratives over war in Colombia

María Pinto, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

#YoSoy132 and digital ICTs: The ambivalent character of an ‘anti-neoliberal’ practice

Rodrigo Liceaga, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

Analysing ex-narcos narratives: what can we learn?

Karina Garcia, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

Fighting and living with dignity in a neoliberal era: Dynamics of disagreement, recognition and social criticism in the Urban Housing Movement (Movimiento de Pobladores en Lucha) in Chile

Juan Rodriguez, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

S11

The changing dynamics of Cuban Healthcare: The New Role of Health

Session 1, Thursday 9-10.30

SCTH, Seminar Room 4

Convenor: Emily Kirk
University of Nottingham

The Evolution of Cuban Medical Internationalism under Raúl Castro

John Kirk, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada

Did Ebola save the day? How medical cooperation in West Africa made for healthy relations between Canada and the United States

Robert Huish, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada

Development as Dignity? The ‘Critical Distance’ of Contemporary Cuban Medical Internationalism

Chris Walker, Saint Mary’s Univeristy, Halifax, Canada

Health and Well-being: The Next Stage of Cuban Healthcare

Emily Kirk, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK

Cuba and Research: Contemporary Healthcare

Imti Choonara, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK

S16

Exploring bridges between the formal and informal (sectors) in Latin America

Session 1, Thursday 9-10.30 and continues in session 2, 11-12.30

Both sessions: Rendall, Seminar Room 11

Convenor: Patrick O’Hare
University of Cambridge

Discussant: Sian Lazar
University of Cambridge

From Precarious Inclusion to ... Precarious Inclusion? The ‘Container Law’ and the Containment of Waste and Workers in Montevideo

Patrick O’Hare, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

‘Divined Work’: Linking Evangelical churches and belief to informal economies in Rio de Janeiro’s peripheries

Laurie Denyer-Willis, Centre of Latin American Studies, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

Argentinean Cartoneros: from informality to a ‘vernacularized’ integral solid waste management model

Santiago Sorroche, University of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina

‘Social security lite’ and the informalisation of citizenship in Brazil

Lucy McMahon, Centre of Development Studies, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

Worker Power and Community Development in Argentina

Jorge Rogachevsky, St. Mary’s College of Maryland, St. Mary’s City, MD, USA

The policymaking of wage policies: The political economy patterns in democracy and the challenges from different MW-collective bargaining models in Chile and Uruguay.

Juan Velasco, International Development Institute, King’s College, London, UK

The production of “popular economy”: forms of activism and collective organization of work among popular sectors in Argentina

Dolores Señorans, University of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina

S36

Representations of indigeneity and community resistance

Session 1, Thursday 9-10.30 and continues in session 2, 11-12.30

Both sessions: Rendall, Seminar Room 9

Mapping the Absence: Participatory GIS in the Afro-Geographies of the Colombian Caribe

Ana Laura Zavala Guillen, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, UK, Observatorio del Caribe Colombiano, Cartagena de Indias, Bolivar, Colombia

Stitching gender identities: embroidery and the definition of Mayan womanhood between globalisation, tourism and migration in the Yucatán Peninsula

Claudia Giannetto, Goldsmiths College, London, UK

The Past is Future: Representations of Moxos’ “millenarian” past in political campaigning in lowland Bolivia

Chuck Sturtevant, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, UK

Colonial Kings of Amazonia: the role of intermediaries in the negotiation of interethnic and power relations

Louise Cardoso de Mello, Universidad Pablo de Olavide, Sevilla, Spain

The place of the peasant community on Peru’s northern coast?

Andrew Jobling, Sheffield Hallam University, Sheffield, UK

Movements Matter: Indigenous Movements and Electoral Politics in Peru

Gemma McNulty, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, USA, Dublin City University, Dublin, Ireland

S4

Breaking down conflict: understanding and reframing Latin American experience

Session 2, Thursday 11-12.30
Rendall, Seminar Room 8
Convenor: Diana Morales Arcila
Newcastle University

- War on Drugs in Mexico: spaces of government and violence**
Héctor Bezares-Buenrostro, Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK
- Pentecostal Understandings of Violence, la Misión Iglesia Pentecostal, and Military Authoritarianism in Chile, 1973-1990**
Joseph Flórez, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK
- ¿Aquí viven genocidas? Reframing State Terror in Human Rights Discourse in Argentina**
Laura Webb, Swansea University, Wales, UK
- The Political Ecology of Voice in Peru**
Adrian González, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

S18

Cultural transformations in a changing Cuba: media, communication and the remaking of Cuban Identity

Session 2, Thursday 11-12.30
SCTH, Seminar Room 4
Convenor: Sara García Santamaría
University of Sheffield

- Towards an Updating of Communication Policies in Cuba: Rethinking the Management and Sustainability of Journalistic Organisations**
Mabel Machado López, Goldsmiths, University of London, London, UK
- Media and Hegemony: Rearticulating Equivalential Chains in a Changing Cuba**
Sara Garcia Santamaria, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK
- Cool Party: Pocket Utopia. Social Uses of Audiovisual Projects in Havana**
Rafael Rodriguez Berlanga, University of Havana, Havana, Cuba
- Beyond the Blog: Cuban Independent Digital Media, Emergent Civil Society, and Changing United States Policy**
Ted Henken, Baruch College, City University of New York, New York, USA

S6

Enforced disappearances in Mexico: continuities and ruptures in the civil society-state relationship

Session 3, Thursday 13.30-15.00 and continues in session 4, 15.30-17.00
Both sessions: Rendall, Seminar Room 10
Convenor: María de Vecchi
University College London

- Discussant:* Sebastian Scholl, University of Bamberg
- Putting Absence into Words: The Disappeared in Mexico**
Maria De Vecchi Gerli, UCL Institute of the Americas, London, UK
- Victims, Agency and Reparation: Reconsidering the Notion of “Victim” in Discourses on Mexico’s Contemporary Violence**
Mijael Jiménez Monroy, Kingston University London, London, UK
- Citizen-led Forensics: How Mexicans are Leading the Search for the Disappeared**
Arely Cruz-Santiago, Durham University, Durham, UK
- Contested Spatiality? Exploring Ambivalent Geographies of Social Movement Dynamics in the Drug War**
Sebastian Scholl, University of Bamberg, Bamberg, Germany

S9

Bridging languages, knowledge systems, and identities in contemporary Latin America

Session 3, Thursday 13.30-15.00 and continues in session 4, 15.30-17.00
Both sessions: Rendall, Seminar Room 9
Convenor: Rosaleen Howard
Newcastle University

- Ecuador’s growing conflict over difference: the case of ‘indigenous’ education**
Antonia Manresa, Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK
- Language attitudes among young Maya professionals: overcoming language purism**
Josep Cru, Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK
- Multilingual language resources and socio-economic change in the Peruvian Amazon**
Sheila Aikman, University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK
- Bridging worlds: translating the law in Peru**
Rosaleen Howard, Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK; Luis Andrade, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, Lima, Peru; Raquel De Pedro, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, UK
- Language and cultural ideologies in indigenous interpreting and translation in Peru**
Luis Andrade, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, Lima, Peru; Rosaleen Howard, Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK; Raquel De Pedro, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, UK
- Grounded in language, rooted in the past: expressing animate landscape in a non-indigenous tongue**
Sarah Bennison, Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK
- A Wayuú Perspective on the Symbolism in Gabriel García Márquez’s Literature**
Paul McAleer, University of Hull, Hull, Humberside, UK
- The Many Etymologies of an Andean-Amazonian Toponym**
Nicholas Emlen, Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands

S13

Settler colonial experiences in Latin America

Session 3, Thursday 13.30-15.00 and continues in session 4, 15.30-17.00

Both sessions: SCTH, Seminar Room 3

Convenor: Geraldine Lublin
Swansea University

Discussant: Lucy Taylor
Aberystwyth University

Challenging the Traditional Concept of the Melting Pot: Peronism, Jewish Argentines and the Seeds of Multiculturalism

Raanan Rein, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel

Exploring the ambiguities of the settler subject: the Welsh in Patagonia

Lucy Taylor, Aberystwyth University, Aberystwyth, UK

Recreating Welshness in Patagonia

Geraldine Lublin, Swansea University, Swansea, UK

The Rise and Decline of the British “Investment” Community in Argentina

David Rock, University of California, Santa Barbara, USA

Negotiating Space, Power and Knowledge in Northern Brazil and French Guiana, 1650s-1750s

Silvia Espelt-Bombín, University of St Andrews, Fife, UK

S14

Collective action successes and failures in 21st century Argentina

Session 3, Thursday 13.30-15.00

SCTH, Seminar Room 2

Convenor: Ken Mitchell
Monmouth University

Collective Action and Public Resource Mobilization - Have Argentines Learned to Tax Themselves?

Ken Mitchell, Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ, USA

Collective Action and Party System Fragmentation: Opposition Parties in Argentina

Samuel Maynard, Georgetown University, Washington DC, USA

Vessels of Modernity: Examining Youth Culture in Urban Space in Argentina, Mexico, and Brazil

Dylan Maynard, New York University, NYC, NY, USA

S19

America or Americas? New opportunities and pressures on regional governance

Session 3, Thursday 13.30-15.00 and continues in session 4, 15.30-17.00

Both sessions: SCTH, Seminar Room 1

Convenor: Giulia Sirigu
University of Manchester

The United States and Latin America: Decline of power or decline in interest?

Tom Long, University of Reading, Reading, Berkshire, UK

Governance opportunities for Mexico related to its presence in Central America

Giulia Sirigu, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK

The support and promotion of Stephen Harper government to the Canadian-owned mines in Latin America

Oliver Santín Peña, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico City, DF, Mexico

The role of subnational governments in North America’s governance

Roberto Zepeda Martínez, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico city, D.F., Mexico

S15

Neoliberalism, resistance, and popular cultures

Session 3, Thursday 13.30-15.00 and continues in session 4, 15.30-17.00

Both sessions: Rendall, Seminar Room 8

Convenor: Daniel Nehring
University of Worcester

Discussant: Gerardo Gómez Michel
Busan University of Foreign Studies

Re-imagined communities: Neoliberal multiculturalism, identity, memory and the literature of pueblos originarios

Gerardo Gómez Michel, Busan University of Foreign Studies, Busan, Republic of Korea

Bare life in contemporary Mexico: Popular religion and everyday violence

Jungwon Park, Kyung Hee University, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Psychology, capitalism and the making of neoliberal selves in Mexico

Daniel Nehring, University of Worcester, Worcester, UK

‘Cine Bajo Tierra’: Ecuador’s Booming Underground Cinema in the Aftermath of the Long Neoliberal Night

Rafael Ponce-Cordero, Keene State College, Keene, NH, USA

‘Decolonial Marxism’: Understanding Pluriversal Struggles through Multiple Subsumptions

Ana Cecilia Dinerstein, University of Bath, Bath, UK

S24

Latin American sports in the global arena

Session 3, Thursday 13.30-15.00 and continues in session 4, 15.30-17.00

Both sessions: Rendall, Seminar Room 11

Convenor:

David Wood

University of Sheffield

Discussant:

Matthew Brown

University of Bristol

Banana Republic Ball Games? Sport, Global Games and Latin America

Thomas Carter, Mark Doidge, University of Brighton, Brighton, UK

“We’ll trade a gold for some plata”! The role of Cuba’s sport for development outreach in training athletes in the Americas and beyond

Robert Huish, Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia, Canada

Early South American cycling: Competition for Urban Space and the Thrill of the Open Road

Matthew Brown, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

“Brazil, tell me how it feels”: football, music and narcissism, or how to be a local fan in global times

Pablo Alabarces, Universidad de Buenos Aires/ CONICET, Buenos Aires, Argentina

More than samba, football and carnival? The ‘Demonstrations Cup’ under the global spotlight

César Jiménez-Martínez, LSE, London, UK

Imagining National Frontiers Through Printed Narratives In South America: A Methodological Approach For A Global History Of Styles Of Play

Christian Schwartz, Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV-CPDOC), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Black Diamonds: Football and the Perpetuation of Brazilian Racial Democracy

David Wood, The University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK

Global Maradona - (different) perceptions in Argentina, Spain, Italy, England and Dubai

Thomas Fischer, Catholic University of Eichstätt, Eichstätt, Bavaria, Germany

Sarah Bennison, Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK

A Wayuú Perspective on the Symbolism in Gabriel García Márquez’s Literature

Paul McAleer, University of Hull, Hull, Humberside, UK

The Many Etymologies of an Andean-Amazonian Toponym

Nicholas Emlen, Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands

S25

Building bridges between social, cultural and environmental studies: states, social movements and natural resources in Latin America

Session 3, Thursday 13.30-15.00 and continues in session 4, 15.30-17.00

Both sessions: Rendall, Seminar Room 3

Convenor:

Francesca Zunino

CDS-University of Bath

Building bridges between natural and cultural struggles: The Frente de Mujeres Mazahua en Defensa del Agua, Mexico

Francesca Zunino, CDS-University of Bath, Bath, UK

Liquid Spirit: Defending the Communal Control of Water in Ecuador

Geoff Goodwin, London School of Economics and Political Science, London, UK

Metal Governance in El Salvador and the Cultures of Legality Thereof

Ainhoa Montoya, ILAS, SAS, University of London, London, UK

The space between oil and gold: A case of indigenous empowerment through extractive resources in Venezuelan Amazonia

Amy Penfield, ILAS, SAS, University of London, London, UK

Ethnificating the people and the land: the emergence of a ‘new’ indigenous geography in Chile

Hugo Romero, Catholic University of Temuco, Temuco, Chile; Katy Jenkins, University of Northumbria, Newcastle, UK

S39

Elites, governance and democracy in Central America: changes and continuities in the faces of power

Session 3, Thursday 13.30-15.00

SCTH, Seminar Room 4

Convenor:

Benedicte Bull

University of Oslo

Media and Economic Elites in Central America: Convergence, Conflict and News during Presidential Campaigns in Costa Rica and El Salvador (2014)

Francisco Robles Rivera, Frei Universiteit Berlin, Berlin, Germany

Licit elites and illicit flows in Central America: linkages, collusion and conflicts

Benedicte Bull, University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway

Between the back and the front stage - the political strategies of Central American business groups

Yuri Kasahara, Norwegian Institute for Urban and Rural Research, Oslo, Norway

Sarah Bennison, Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK

A Wayuú Perspective on the Symbolism in Gabriel García Márquez’s Literature

Paul McAleer, University of Hull, Hull, Humberside, UK

The Many Etymologies of an Andean-Amazonian Toponym

Nicholas Emlen, Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands

S23	<p>Middle-class activism and politics in contemporary Latin America</p> <p>Session 4, Thursday 15.30-17.00 and continues in session 5, Friday 9-10.30</p> <p>Session 4: Rendall, Seminar Room 3; Session 5: Rendall, Seminar Room 10</p> <p><i>Convenor:</i> Franka Winter Maynooth University</p> <p>Post-neoliberal protest in Latin America as struggle over the name of “the people”</p> <p>Juan Pablo Ferrero, University of Bath, Bath, UK</p> <p>Moving beyond “revolts of rising expectations” and “middle-class discontent”. Young middle-class people in Lima discussing their city’s problems</p> <p>Franka Winter, Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, Ireland</p> <p>Demonstrating Elite Status - The Political Activism of the Colombian-Lebanese community in Bogota</p> <p>Esteban Devis-Amaya, Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, UK</p> <p>Governando o Consumidor: A Cultural Study of the Consumer in Brazil</p> <p>Christopher Barton, King’s College London, London, UK</p> <p>Sarah Bennison, Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK</p> <p>A Wayuú Perspective on the Symbolism in Gabriel García Márquez’s Literature</p> <p>Paul McAleer, University of Hull, Hull, Humberside, UK</p> <p>The Many Etymologies of an Andean-Amazonian Toponym</p> <p>Nicholas Emlen, Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands</p>	S34	<p>Insiders and outsiders in society, film and literature</p> <p>Session 4, Thursday 15.30-17.00 and continues in session 5, Friday 9-10.30</p> <p>Session 4: Rendall, Seminar 4; Session 5: Rendall, Seminar Room 9</p> <p>Including US-Latino Literature in Latin American Studies: Junot Díaz’s This Is How You Lose Her</p> <p>Liz Harvey, UCL, London, UK</p> <p>‘Bridges across heartlands’: comparing the depiction in films of indigenous peoples in Argentina with minority peoples in European contexts</p> <p>Dilys Jones, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK</p> <p>Consuming Latin America in the UK: Building imagined communities through the ¡Viva! film festival</p> <p>Nicola Astudillo-Jones, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK</p> <p>Victims of the Spaniards: The portrayal of the Latin American Immigrant in La venta del paraíso (Emilio Ruiz Barrachina, 2012) and Evelyn (Isabel de Ocampo, 2012)</p> <p>Marta F Suárez, Liverpool John Moores, Liverpool, Merseyside, UK</p> <p>Almost American: Reading the Memoirs of Esmeralda Santiago - When I Was Puerto Rican (1994) and Almost a Woman (1999)</p> <p>Emma Staniland, University of Leicester, Leicester, UK</p> <p>Low Bridge over Shallow Waters: Witold Gombrowicz and Argentina</p> <p>Lloyd Davies, Swansea University, Swansea, UK</p>
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S3	<p>(Re)viewing the archive in Latin American cinema</p> <p>Session 5, Friday 9-10.30</p> <p>SCTH, Seminar Room 3</p> <p><i>Convenor:</i> Sarah Barrow University of Lincoln</p> <p>Uruguayan Films as Archives: and Opportunity to Access Previous Productions</p> <p>Beatriz Tadeo Fuica, Universidad Católica del Uruguay, Montevideo, Uruguay</p> <p>Between archive and a hard place: “Found Footage” Film in Experimental Argentine Video</p> <p>Clara Garavelli, Leicester University, Leicester, UK</p> <p>Reframing Transition: Film Archives, Cultural Memory and National identity in Peru</p> <p>Sarah Barrow, University of Lincoln, Lincoln, UK</p> <p>Sarah Bennison, Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK</p> <p>A Wayuú Perspective on the Symbolism in Gabriel García Márquez’s Literature</p> <p>Paul McAleer, University of Hull, Hull, Humberside, UK</p> <p>The Many Etymologies of an Andean-Amazonian Toponym</p> <p>Nicholas Emlen, Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands</p>	S10	<p>Feminism, violence, and migration in Latin America</p> <p>Session 5, Friday 9-10.30 and continues in session 6, 14-15.30</p> <p>Both sessions: SCTH, Seminar Room 1</p> <p><i>Convenor:</i> Mo Hume University of Glasgow</p> <p>Listening to the silences: towards a feminist theorisation of violence in Central America</p> <p>Mo Hume, University of Glasgow, Scotland, UK</p> <p>The use and abuse of the ‘continuum’ of violence</p> <p>Jelke Boesten, Kings College, London, UK</p> <p>Unpacking local political economies of violence: feminist insights and framings</p> <p>Polly Wilding, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK</p> <p>Between a rock and a hard place: Central American Migrants in Mexico</p> <p>Alejandra Diaz de Leon, University of Essex, Essex, UK; Maria Inclan, CIDE, Mexico City, Mexico</p> <p>Migration Crisis in the Americas: “The Beast” as its Visual Representation</p> <p>Hólmfríður Garðarsdóttir, University of Iceland, Reykjavík, Iceland</p>
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S12

Solidarity Campaigns and Latin America

Session 5, Friday 9-10.30 and continues in session 6, 14-15.30

Both sessions: SCTH, Seminar Room 4

Convenor: Grace Livingstone
University of Cambridge

Gauging the impact of solidarity campaigns: Pinochet’s Chile

Grace Livingstone, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

The influence of international solidarity in Chile’s politics during the 1970s. Exiles in western Europe

Mariana Perry, Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands

The Venezuela Solidarity Campaign in Britain

Julia Buxton, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary

Political activism as a means of coping with exile

Jasmine Gideon, Birkbeck, University of London, London, UK

S21

The transnational circulation of Mexican celebrity and stardom

Session 5, Friday 9-10.30

SCTH, Seminar Room 3

Convenor: Niamh Thornton
University of Liverpool

Demián Bichir - Constructions of Mexican masculinity and othering across the border

Francisca Sánchez-Ortiz, Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester, UK

Gael García Bernal: Staging Transnational Stardom

Catherine Leen, NUI, Maynooth, Kildare, Ireland

Las Félix: Celebrity, Stardom and Guns in Mexico

Niamh Thornton, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK

S26

Round Table: global history and Latin America

Session 5, Friday 9-10.30

Rendall, Seminar Room 8

Convenor: Matthew Brown
University of Bristol

Panellists include: Patience Schell, Natalia Priego, Jo Crow, Nicola Foote, Rosie Doyle, Pedro Feitoza, Julie McClure and Matthew Brown.

S38

Politics and the audio-visual: transmedial relations in film and TV

Session 5, Friday 9-10.30 and continues in session 6, 14-15.30

Both sessions: Rendall, Seminar Room 11

Televisión por cineastas: nuevas series ficcionales en la Argentina

Carolina Soria, UBA-CONICET, Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Argentina

Depatriarchalizing the gaze on the Andean political cinema of the 70s. The case of Ukamau and Kuntur groups

Isabel Seguí, University of St Andrews, St Andrews, Fife, Scotland, UK

Exploring the sphere of leisure and gender in contemporary Latin American cinema

Julia Kratje, University of Buenos Aires (UBA)-National Research Council (CONICET), Buenos Aires, Argentina

From private to public? Chavism and the media in Venezuela

Alicja Fijalkowska, University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland

Politics and media in Latin America. The hazards and fortune of a troubled relationship in audiovisual democracies

Mariano Dagatti, University of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina, University of Quilmes, Bernal, Buenos Aires, Argentina, CONICET, Buenos Aires, Argentina

S5

Transnational Intellectual networks in Latin America

Session 6, Friday 14-15.30 and continues in session 7, 16-17.30

Both sessions: SCTH, Seminar Room 2

Convenor: Joanna Crow
University of Bristol

Local geographies and Maya archaeology, 1890-1940

Sophie Brockmann, ILAS, University of London, London, UK

Writing Indo-America: Gabriela Mistral in Conversation with Peruvian Apristas

Joanna Crow, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

James Trail, Scientific Networks and Amazonian Exploration in the late Nineteenth Century

Patience Schell, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, UK

Anita Brenner, Intellectual Tourism, and Nation-building in Post-revolutionary Mexico

Claire Lindsay, University College London, London, UK

The political and technical dimensions of the arrival of industrial accident prevention. Chile, 1930-1950

Andrea del Campo Peirano, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK

S17

Social-Environmental Conflicts and Human Rights in Latin America

Session 6, Friday 14-15.30

Rendall, Seminar Room 8

Convenor: Malayna Raftopoulos
University of Aalborg, Denmark

A New Benchmark for Green Criminology: the case for a Community-Based Human Rights Impact Assessment of REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation plus Conservation and Sustainable Development)

Malayna Raftopoulos, University of Aalborg, Denmark; Damien Short, Human Rights Consortium, University of London

Exploring the contradictions between Brazil’s role in the global climate change regime and its position in regional environmental governance

Karen Siegel, Edinburgh Napier University, Edinburgh, UK; Marieke Riethof, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK

Indigenous State and the Frustration of Indigenous Self-determined Development in Bolivia

Radosław Powęska, CESLA, University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland

S22

Looking Back to the Future: 40+ years of Thinking About and ‘Doing’ Latin American Research and Fieldwork

Session 6, Friday 14-15.30

SCTH, Seminar Room 3

Convenor: Peter Ward
The University of Texas at Austin

Going back to Move Forward: Revisiting and Learning from Fieldwork Sites 40 years On

Peter Ward, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas, USA

Scholarly Reflections on Research and Fieldwork in Kingston, Jamaica, in the 1960s

Colin Clarke, Oxford University, Oxford, UK

Beijing+20: A Retrospective and a Forward Look at Women’s Political Representation in Latin America

Victoria Rodríguez, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas, USA

S28

International Perspectives on the Politics and History of Latin America

Session 6, Friday 14-15.30 and continues in session 7, 16-17.30

Both sessions: Rendall, Seminar Room 9

The Falklands/Malvinas sovereignty dispute: Is British-Argentine reconciliation a possible scenario?

Magdalena Lisinska, Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland

British Shareholders within the Colombian Railway Sector

Andrew Primmer, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

Revolutionary Christianity in Argentina: Containment and Transgression of a Social Movement (1968-1976)

Pablo Bradbury, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK

Apertura/Clausura – The Case for an ‘Early Cold War’ in Latin America

William Booth, UCL, London, UK

British Understandings of Haitian Independence: Emperor Faustin I of Haiti and the Illustrated London News

Jack Webb, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK

S29

Education, Environment, Inequality, and Social Mobility

Session 6, Friday 14-15.30 and continues in session 7, 16-17.30

Both sessions: Rendall, Seminar Room 10

Welfare State Development, Individual Deprivations and Income Inequality: A cross-country analysis in Latin America and the Caribbean

Gibrán Cruz-Martínez, Universidad Autónoma de Chile, Santiago, Chile

Building Bridges Between Paulo Freire’s Pedagogy of the Oppressed, and European Alternative Educational Methods

Anna Isabella Grimaldi, King’s College London Brazil Institute, London, UK

A territorial view of social mobility in Chile. A mixed method and multidisciplinary approach

Alejandro Bilbao Quiroga, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK, Centre for Social Conflict and Cohesion Studies, COES, Santiago, Chile

Environmental conflicts in the Chilean forest landscape: toward a new social geography in the political ecology scope

Enrique Aliste, Universidad de Chile, Santiago de Chile, Chile

Professional Learning Communities in Chile: How to best approach or local realities?

Daniela Figueroa Moya, UCL Institute of Education, London, UK

The Politics of Land Use in Costa Rica’s Southern Rainforest

Clate Korsant, Goldsmiths College, University of London, London, UK

S20

Latin American digital culture: repositioning the field

Session 7, Friday 16-17.30

SCTH, Seminar Room 3

Convenor: Claire Taylor
University of Liverpool

Building Bridges Between Disciplines: Negotiations Between Digital Culture and Latin American Studies

Claire Taylor, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK

Visual Navigations: The Poetics of Data

Maria Mencia, Kingston University London, London, UK

Viral Latinidad and Beyond: Lozano-Hemmer, Gómez-Peña and Navas

Thea Pitman, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK

S27

Violence, politics and the sacred

Session 7, Friday 16-17.30

SCTH, Seminar Room 4

Repositioning the Genre? Questioning Truth in Rogelio Guedea’s Detective Trilogy

Ailsa Peate, University of Liverpool, Merseyside, UK

Cultural brokers and ‘urban articulators’ at the boundaries between core and periphery in Rio de Janeiro: strategies, goals and the role of digital technologies

Mary Delphine Freedman, Queens University, Belfast, Ireland

Policing Street Children in Sao Paulo, Brazil: Relations of Violence and Exclusion in the City

Daniel Jupp Kina, University of Dundee, Dundee, UK

The ‘police-isation’ of Brazil’s military? Feedback effects between UN Peacekeeping and domestic deployments of soldiers

Christoph Harig, King’s College London, London, UK

S40

Mainstream publishing in indigenous languages: presentation and discussion for academics, students, publishers and activists

Session 7, Friday 16-17.30
SCTH, Seminar Room 1

Convenor: Lucia Brandi
(PhD student in Mexican sociolinguistics at the University of Liverpool and coordinator of the Totonac / Spanish / English publication Tsikan Chu Nipxi / La Viejita y la Calabaza / Buri and the Marrow)

This friendly and informal session welcomes academics, students, teachers, language activists and publishers for a discussion on current opportunities and markets for multilingual and Latin American indigenous language publishing or performance, especially for popular and mainstream audiences. Rapidly developing technology is bringing constant innovation and opening up unexpected channels for indigenous languages. The risks and opportunities of processes of linguistic and cultural commodification, and their economic, sociolinguistic and cultural implications, make for a lively discussion, alongside the challenges of collaboration between academics, publishers and language activists. The session begins by showcasing *Tsikan chu Nipxi*, which is the trilingual edition of *Buri and the Marrow*, an internationally successful children’s book published by UK-based *Mantra Lingua*, and a new development for indigenous language publishing in Mexico. The University of Liverpool has begun using the text in its local community to promote Spanish and primary school learning on indigenous cultural diversity in the Americas; in Mexico it is being used to support Totonac literacy among primary students. Following discussion of this collaboration, the floor is opened up for questions, reflections, debate, information-sharing and ideas around indigenous language publishing.

Re-Examining Argentinian ‘Whiteness’ through Art during the 2001-02 Economic Crisis.

Ignacio Aguilo
The University of Manchester, Manchester, UK

The crisis suffered by Argentina in 2001-02 as a result of a series of neoliberal reforms has been the subject of substantial academic scrutiny. However, despite the vast quantity of studies on the crisis, few comprehensive investigations have been produced on the ways in which it impacted on established narratives of national identity, partly constructed around whiteness and racial homogeneity. These narratives argued that discussing race and racism in Argentina was irrelevant because Afro-descendant and indigenous groups had virtually died out or were very marginal, and European immigrants had whitened the country. In practice, however, this image of a racially homogeneous nation was instrumental in the reproduction of racial domination over non-white groups throughout the 20th century. This paper will demonstrate that the crisis contributed to the emergence of manifold discourses in the cultural field that engaged critically with these ideas of racial uniformity. In order to do so, it will examine the work of visual artist Leonel Luna. It will be argued that Luna’s artworks expose Argentina’s racism by linking the late 19th century indigenous genocide with the exclusion and discrimination of the poor during the crisis. By de-naturalising the usually-masked articulation of race with class in contemporary Argentina, Luna’s work also shows how the impoverishment brought about by the financial meltdown was experienced in terms of race by the middle class, and specifically, as a threat to their whiteness.

S1 Rethinking whiteness in Latin America

Multilingual language resources and socio-economic change in the Peruvian Amazon

Sheila Aikman
University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK

This paper asks how in the context of rapid and radical socioeconomic and cultural change indigenous speakers’ multilingual repertoires and the values they give to particular language resources are changing. It focuses on the Arakmbut of SE Peru, a numerically small people where the work of missionary linguists in the past and indigenous organisations today have produced an orthography, dictionary, transcriptions of myths and an intercultural bilingual primary schooling programme. Arakmbut responses to such initiatives have been mixed and ambiguous and the rate of language shift to Spanish has continued apace. Arakmbut youth are diversely mobile, virtually networked, formally educated, professionally employed, as well as being gold miners, hunters, and gardeners. The paper investigates the complexities of contemporary indigenous modernities, creative processes of Arakmbut internal restructuring, and the ways Arakmbut ontological and socio-cosmological assumptions structure perspectives on contextual changes and influence the ways in which language resources are valued.

S9 Bridging languages, knowledge systems, and identities in contemporary Latin America

“Brazil, tell me how it feels”: football, music and narcissism, or how to be a local fan in global times.

Pablo Alabarces
Universidad de Buenos Aires/ CONICET, Buenos Aires, Argentina

During Brazil’s 2014 World Cup finals, Argentine fans popularized a chant that stated “Brazil, tell me how it feels”. The chant became viral, and produced a Brazilian response, “Argentina, me diz que se sente”: both discussed a historical rivalry by joking at the other’s expenses. But it was surprising that the chant was based on the melody of a very old song from the American rock band Creedence Clearwater Revival (“Bad Moon Rising”), first recorded in 1969, possibly before the birth of those who sang the melody in Brazil. The paper discusses several topics derived from that fact: the relationship between popular music and football chants; the uses of popular music and global pop at the World Cups from 1962 to the present day; the self-presentation of the “local” (national) fans before a globalized media scene; and, last but not least, the role of sport icons and heroes for the fans as well as the construction of national epics (the icons and heroes invoked in the chants included, obviously, both Maradona and Messi, two of the most important football heroes from the ‘80s until today). The core idea is to show how contemporary football culture must be described and interpreted in the continuous intersection of local texts - and fans’ practices - and global events.

S24 Latin American Sports in the Global Arena

Environmental conflicts in the Chilean forest landscape: toward a new social geography in the political ecology scope.

Enrique Aliste
Universidad de Chile, Santiago de Chile, Chile

This study seeks to address potential social and environmental conflicts that may arise due to changes in the assessment and perception of the mutations of the landscape. To do this, it addresses land-use changes in coastal regions of Bio-Bio and Maule, concentrating on the forestry sector and its expansion in the last 40 years. In this way, seeks to work the issue from the political ecology, stressing how to interpret and construct a reading of that process. This, it does so from the social and cultural geography, environmental history, social anthropology and development, and landscape ecology. It is held from the conceptual point of view, that as important as the physical changes are those that occur at the level of representations and imaginary, for development discourses exert an important influence on how to understand these new territories and ways of inhabit. This could be leading to the emergence of new conflicts based on the consolidation of second nature as “natural landscape” which is already a artificialised landscape, but one that responds to the lived experience of space of the inhabitants of these territories.

S29 Education, Environment, Inequality, and Social Mobility

Consuming Latin America in the UK: Building imagined communities through the ¡Viva! film festival.

Nicola Astudillo-Jones
University of Manchester, Manchester, UK

Since the early 1990s there has been a marked increase in Latin American culture within the UK, from food, music, sport and film to increased levels of immigration and larger migrant communities (McIlwaine, Cock and Linneker, 2011). This paper examines the contemporary consumption of Latin American film through the ¡Viva! film festival in Manchester and, drawing on data from my PhD research, considers the relationships that are often forged and/or sustained through the film festival experience between Latin America and the individual in Britain. Coinciding with the wider conference theme of building bridges, this paper looks at two ways in which both British and Latin American audience members were found to construct a sense of imagined community (Anderson, 1982; Iordanova and Cheung, 2010) with Latin America through the festival. On the one hand, British members of the audience used the film festival as a means to temporarily immerse themselves in Latin American culture, forge a sense of connection and identification with Latin America and use this culture within the construction of their own self-identity. At the same time, Latin Americans were found to use the film festival as a medium through which to reconnect with their home countries and culture, but also as a means of further developing knowledge and understanding of their national and regional cultures and participating in a pan-Latin American identity. The construction of imagined communities through the ¡Viva! film festival was thus found to potentially reinforce notions of identity for both migrants and non-migrants alike.

S34 Insiders and Outsiders in Society, Film and Literature

Language and cultural ideologies in indigenous interpreting and translation in Peru

Luis Andrade
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A state-funded training programme for translators and interpreters between indigenous languages and Spanish in Peru provides an opportunity for bridging communicative gaps between social groups and cultures that have been historically related in a scheme of domination and asymmetry. Both the programme priorities and the trainees’ expectations and trajectories reveal an inherent duality in this new official role: on the one hand, translators and interpreters seek to facilitate cross-linguistic and inter-cultural understanding in public spaces (between speakers of Spanish and Amerindian languages), in order to comply with recently approved legislation on indigenous rights. On the other hand, they perceive themselves—and are positioned by the state and the media—as “cultural ambassadors” of their peoples in the wider society. This implies the development of activities focused on raising awareness of linguistic and cultural rights. However, these activities, as well as the translation-interpreting training, are permeated by language and cultural ideologies—both on the side of the state and that of the trainees—that reintroduce colonial perspectives into a valuable initiative aimed at reinforcing intercultural communication. In this paper we address some of the main ideologies we have identified, with special focus on different forms of purism and essentialism. The paper is based on research funded by the AHRC’s “Translating Cultures” programme, our thanks to the Research Council for their support.

S9 Bridging languages, knowledge systems, and identities in contemporary Latin America

From ‘imagined’ to ‘inoperative’ communities: En busca de Klingsor by Jorge Volpi and Amphitryon by Ignacio Padilla.

Emily Baker
University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

The criticism faced by Latin American authors for failing to deal with ‘national’ questions was a source of contention throughout the twentieth century. It was most eloquently addressed by Jorge Luis Borges when he was moved to voice his concerns about the aesthetic constraints imposed by the Argentine cultural nationalism of the Peronist period, in his oft-quoted essay ‘El escritor Argentino y la tradición’ (1952). In it he aptly points out that ‘Shakespeare se habría asombrado si hubieran pretendido limitarlo a temas ingleses’. It appeared that circumstances had not changed almost five decades later when, in the Mexican context, Jorge Volpi and Ignacio Padilla caused a stir on the national cultural scene when they published novels dealing with events, philosophical questions, and conspiracies relating to Nazism and the Second World War, and did not include any ‘Mexican’ questions, characters or locations. One critic said ‘ya no podemos considerarlos autores mexicanos porque ni su tema ni su tratamiento se remiten a México’. This paper reads the novels En busca de Klingsor (Volpi; 1999) and Amphitryon (Padilla; 2000) as performances of the ‘interruption of the myth’ of national identity –a task layed out for literature by by Jean-Luc Nancy in his 1986 book The Inoperative Community. It situates these gestures in the context of wider debates, which Volpi himself has extensively participated in, regarding the need for a re-assessment of the disciplinary and locational boundaries which are still rigidly upheld in the ways in which universities and literary markets are configured.

S2 Questions of Identity and Post-identity in Latin American Studies

Bridging Alterity: Translating Languages, Cultures and Identities in Luciano Tapia’s Ukhamawa Jakawisaxa

Peter Baker
University of Newcastle, Newcastle, UK
Luciano Tapia’s Ukhamawa Jakawisaxa provides a rare testimonial insight into the life of a member of one of the first generations of contemporary indigenous activists in Bolivia. The text is presented as a coming-of-age tale, whose economy is structured around a moment of revelation, where Tapia appears to come to terms with the fact that the long history of discrimination that he has suffered owes to his being part of an indigenous race. It is from a specific understanding of this race -- which Tapia constructs in and through his writing -- that he develops and makes sense of his own pro-indigenous political agenda. Throughout the autobiography, Tapia employs various textual strategies that mark Aymara linguistic and cultural differences in order to lay claim to an Aymara collective identity of which he presents himself as an exemplary member. This paper will draw on deconstructive theory to highlight the inherent instability of these linguistic and cultural differences in the Aymara author’s writing. Focusing on target audience and the sense of selfhood he portrays, the paper will show that the Aymara writer’s recourse to a collective indigenous identity is marked by an absolute alterity that can never be anticipated in advance. The paper will therefore offer reflections on the limits of linguistic and cultural demarcations in the formation of political identities in Bolivia, as well as offering reflections on the significance of this for the agency of indigenous writers such as Tapia.

S2 Questions of Identity and Post-identity in Latin American Studies

Reframing Transition: Film Archives, Cultural Memory and National identity in Peru

Sarah Barrow
University of Lincoln, Lincoln, UK

Although Peru has a fragile and fragmented film production ecology that relies to a large extent on passion, serendipity and transnational patrons, its national film archive (the Filmoteca) is an institution that has been developed strategically and (relatively) independently since the 1960s with a mission to preserve the cinematic heritage of its nation. By taking the concept of ‘mediated memory’ articulated by Thomas Elsaesser in his writings on the cultural and political value of the archive, this paper considers the contemporary role, reach and relevance of the Filmoteca. Moreover, it will explore its status as a ‘contested site of curation’ (Ernst) that has the potential to impose or disrupt the status quo through its preservation priorities and its links to and influence upon other key institutions such as the Ministry of Culture (for funding) and the national Film Festival (for profile/distribution). In order to offer more tangible ways of understanding the political powerplays, analysis will be offered of recent productions and film-makers who have been supported by the Filmoteca: from fiction directors such as Francisco Lombardi whose Ojos que no Ven (2003) drew largely on filmic accounts of the last days of former President Fujimori’s corrupt regime; to documentary-makers such as Alfredo Béjar, whose recent provocative work on one of Peru’s most successful sportsmen of the 1960s, Imaginando Mina (2011) relied on hundreds of archival sources and revealed — through its making and its subject matter — the ongoing inequalities in modern Peru.

S3 (Re)viewing the Archive in Latin American Cinema

Governando o Consumidor: A Cultural Study of the Consumer in Brazil

Christopher Barton
King’s College London, London, UK

Affluence - as Avner Offer noted of mid-to-late twentieth century Britain and America - comes with a distinct set of challenges. The doctoral research that forms the basis of this paper seeks to address how institutions in Brazil responded to the challenge of affluence during the late Nineties and early Noughties, namely through the consumer. While rightly accepting the existence of consumption and the consumer prior to this period, the paper suggests that as consumption experienced material changes, the consumer underwent qualitative changes in response to the challenge of affluence. This paper, utilising the literature and theory of Stephen Greenblatt and Michel Foucault, seeks to make visible how authorities sought to manage this condition of affluence to particular and productive ends through the construction, circulation and often contestation of the consumer. The authority that shall be the focus - though still contextualised within a milieu of spatial, political and regulatory authorities - of this paper shall be that of novelas, due to their popularity and capacity for normalisation. The ideas pertaining to the consumer propagated in this period, it is argued, have a bearing on the more recent history of Brazil, even manifesting themselves in the protests of 2013 that garnered much attention.

S23 Middle-class activism and politics in contemporary Latin America

Grounded in language, rooted in the past: expressing animate landscape in a non-indigenous tongue

Sarah Bennison
Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK

How central is language to a value system? How central is language to identity? This paper explores these questions in relation to the non-indigenous, Spanish-speaking province of Huarochirí in the highlands of Lima (Peru). Here, locals differentiate themselves from outsiders through oral narratives that centre on their unwavering conviction that the landscape is animate. This Andean ontological perspective has been attributed to Quechua speakers (Mannheim and Salas 2014), yet Huarochiranos do not speak Quechua. Indigenous languages are no longer spoken in Huarochirí and as such, its communities are not indigenous in the eyes of the State. Moreover, locals do not define themselves this way. Nevertheless, the province is home to the so-called Huarochirí Manuscript (c.1608), an anonymous Quechua document describing local traditions during the early colonial era. This text was written by an indigenous person and it provides unique insights into the pre-Hispanic Andean past. Today, Huarochiranos practice many of the traditions mentioned in the Huarochirí Manuscript, including rituals geared at pacifying the animate landscape. In order to explore the nexus between language and ontology, I explore oral narratives collected during fieldwork in Huarochirí. I focus on the use of Quechua and Aymara loanwords used to describe the local environment, and consider the role of the animate landscape in promoting linguistic continuity. Furthermore, I draw on locals texts from a period of intensive infrastructural development in order to consider the role of nation-building processes on language loss.

S9 Bridging languages, knowledge systems, and identities in contemporary Latin America

War on Drugs in Mexico: spaces of government and violence

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Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

The War on Drugs (WoD) in Mexico constructs the world as permanent and intense conflict between law and disorder. In this regard, it enables the material and ideological resources to govern the spaces and identities performed around the prohibition of drugs, constructing violent forms of mediation in urban and rural settings alike to manage individuals and populations. To this extent, the WoD in Mexico, as a form of exerting power is productive of spatial arrangements enabling the classification, separation, and organisation of the conduct of Mexican citizens. In such a way it has demarcated and communicated informal taxonomies regarding zones of circulation where drug traffickers, undocumented migrants and citizens are being transformed into terrorists and insurgents. The acceptance of these informal zones and classifications by citizens and police agencies produce the spaces in which the use of force -coercive and kinetic- becomes possible; the articulation of these spaces as 'dangerous' or 'risky' also expresses understandings of how and where state-imposed violence should be exerted and based on these understandings violence is prolonged and escalated as well as people' behaviour is constrained. Informed by Foucault's notion of government, and his explanation of the micropractices of disciplining of individuals, the bio-political management of populations, and the further concept of governmentality, this work aims to describe the spatiality of the exertion of power under the WoD. Accordingly, the central research question is 'how does power exerted through the WOD shape the political organisation of the spaces of everyday violence in Mexico?

S4 Breaking down conflict: understanding and reframing Latin American experience

A territorial view of social mobility in Chile. A mixed method and multidisciplinary approach

Alejandro Bilbao Quiroga
University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

In recent years, the use of mixed method designs has been increasing in social sciences (Robson, 2011; Small, 2011). In a broad sense, this design integrates elements of both qualitative and quantitative approaches in a single setting to complement, to contrast and/ or to expand the research scope. Due its flexibility, mixed method designs could be extremely useful to face the challenges of Latin American research, like democratization, struggle against the inequalities and environmental issues. However, in the literature there is lack of systematisation about this methodological strategy, meanwhile in the Latin America its use is not very extended yet. This paper is an effort to systemise the discussion about mixed method, besides it presents an illustrative example of its use on the author PhD research, which is focused on social mobility and territorial trends in Chile. This research has been implementing in a first main quantitative phase following for a qualitative one, which will also give more elements for new quantitative analysis. In theoretical terms, this research also adopts a multidisciplinary perspective, taking in consideration elements from social policy, sociology and geography. Thus, the paper takes the methodological elements of this research to give a meta-analysis of the use of mixed methods, detecting its advantages and disadvantages. Finally, the paper proposes some challenges to incorporate more researches based on mixed methods and multidisciplinary approaches in Latin American.

S29 Education, Environment, Inequality, and Social Mobility

The use and abuse of the 'continuum' of violence

Jelke Boesten
Kings College, London, UK

The term continuum of violence has found particular salience in studies of violence against women. It helps seek root causes of violence beyond contingencies and it politicizes every day violence. Critics of the concept point out that certain contexts produce different forms of violence, and that these differences should be highlighted, rather than the similarities. This would help identify perpetrators, rather than structures, and thus lead to more accountability. Using violence against women in Peru as a case study, this paper will question these assumption and examine to what extent thinking in terms of a continuum helps or constraints accountability.

S10 Feminist engagements with violence in Latin America

Promiscuous Disidentification
in Mario Bellatin’s novella
Jacobó el mutante (2004)

Lucy Bollington
University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

This paper discusses contemporary Mexican author Mario Bellatin’s experimental novella Jacobó el mutante in dialogue with the work of Judith Butler in order to draw out the queer challenge Bellatin poses to the Oedipal identitarian framework. Jacobó is composed of fragmented pieces of text that have allegedly been written, deconstructed and reassembled by multiple (fictional) authors and researchers. The text of the novella purposely contains many gaps, foregrounds some striking jumps in logic, and introduces a number of unexpected juxtapositions. The palimpsestic and fragmented nature of the text has implications for the identities of the novella’s central characters. These characters are caught up in metamorphoses that take them from one gender to another or from one type of family formation to another pattern of kinship. For instance, a central cross-gender familial metamorphosis occurs when Jacobó, the novella’s protagonist, is suddenly reborn in the body of his adopted daughter Rosa. Drawing, in particular, on the frameworks introduced by Butler in Bodies that Matter and Antigone’s Claim, this paper shall discuss how Bellatin implements an aesthetic of promiscuity on both a character and textual level throughout his novella. It shall be argued that Bellatin’s promiscuous text stages processes of disidentification through which hegemonic familial subjectivities are destabilized and complicated. At the same time, Bellatin’s promiscuity creates new forms of identification and new patterns of kinship and community that exceed the limits of dominant identitarian models.

S2 Questions of Identity and Post-identity in Latin
American Studies

Apertura/Clausura – The Case for an
‘Early Cold War’ in Latin America

William Booth
UCL, London, UK

Latin America remains overlooked as a site of Cold War conflict prior to 1959 and the Cuban Revolution. While in recent years there has been a concession to the importance of Guatemala and the coup of 1954, there remains a broad narrative of ‘lateness’. Key volumes of Cold War history say very little of Latin America prior to 1959, often (and oddly) relegating this period to a footnote in the process of decolonisation. In their seminal edited volume Latin America between the Second World War and the Cold War, Bethell and Roxborough made a forceful case for the 1944-48 period as a democratic opening in Latin America, albeit one which rapidly choked. This paper will argue that, nonetheless, the ‘apertura’ masked a more fundamental regional ‘clausura’, beginning in 1945 (and arguably earlier). Indeed, the paper goes further, suggesting that 1945-48 is one of the most critical conjunctures of the modern era. Engaging with world systems theories and longue durée histories, the period is framed as a global and (particularly) regional turning-point in social, economic and political terms. While most Latin American lefts lingered in an unrequited ‘popular front’ mindset, domestic anticommunism brought the Cold War to local political conflicts, a change which caught many by surprise.

S28 International Perspectives on the Politics and History
of Latin America

Local geographies and Maya
archaeology, 1890-1940

Sophie Brockmann
ILAS, University of London, London, UK

In the first half of the twentieth century, an unprecedented number of archaeological expeditions from Britain and North America travelled to Guatemala and Honduras to excavated Maya sites. While these endeavors relied heavily on the support of Central American governments, as well as scholars and hired labourers from local communities, scholars have paid more attention to the reception of Maya artefacts in British and American museums than to the immediate social and geographical surroundings of these field sites. My paper will examine excavations including those led by George Byron Gordon at Copán in the 1890s and John Alden Mason and Linton Satterthwaite at Piedras Negras in the 1930s and 40s. It will focus on the interactions of local labourers and local scholars with these foreign scientists and highlight locals’ contribution to research at this field sites. I will show that archaeological sites, far from being scientific spaces remote from the rest of society, were integrated into a rural, agricultural landscape. Debates about the right of locals to maintain milpas around expedition sites were emblematic of this. Local geographical knowledge was also exceedingly important to the success of these expeditions. I will examine the different conceptions of the landscape put forward by archaeologists, Central American scholars and local labourers, and highlight the contribution of local guides to archaeologists’ excavations.

S5 Transnational Intellectual Networks in Latin America

Revolutionary Christianity in Argentina:
Containment and Transgression of
a Social Movement (1968-1976)

Pablo Bradbury
University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK

As in the rest of Latin America, a large and highly mobilised movement of Christians in Argentina began to agitate for socialist revolution in the 1960s and 1970s. Intellectually, the movement became known as liberation theology, and comprised a broad range of theoretical developments that combined, to varying degrees, theological innovations with sociology influenced by Marxism. The movement’s relationship with the institutional Catholic Church, Protestant authorities and the political and economic elites became increasingly conflictive and complex during 1970s. Particularly within Catholicism, conflicts between different sectors escalated, deepening internal divisions and solidifying the sense of opposition between the church of the rich and the church of the poor. This paper adopts a social movement approach and looks at how the intra-ecclesial confrontations and social conflicts intertwined with and conditioned the formation of a broad liberationist Christian movement that sought a preferential option for the poor and oppressed. It will show how the tension between containment and transgression, that is, the desire to remain within or to transcend the traditional ecclesial institution, emerged within the liberationism. In taking this approach, it reveals how, as a result of social and religious antagonism, an alternative vision of the Church was produced that promoted notions of assembly over institution, and of more horizontal structures over hierarchy. Additionally, as social and political allegiances realigned, with liberationists of different Christian denominations making common cause and uniting with other revolutionary groups, a distinctly plural and ecumenical character was affirmed that contrasted with the traditionalism of Catholic authorities.

S28 International Perspectives on the Politics and History
of Latin America

The Re-appropriation of Catalina de los Ríos y Lisperguer in Gustavo Frías’ Tres nombres para Catalina Series.

Ceire Broderick
NUI Galway, Galway, Ireland

The seventeenth-century historical figure Catalina de los Ríos y Lisperguer- more commonly known as la Quintrala- has represented a personification of ethnic anxieties in the Chilean national imagining since the nineteenth century. This paper analyses how Gustavo Frías, writing in the early twenty-first century, uses the figure of Catalina to attempt a unifying yet complex portrayal of ethnic identities in Chile. In his ‘historical’ study, Los Lisperguer y la Quintrala (1877), Benjamín Vicuña Mackenna suggests that Catalina’s alleged crimes, which include the murder of her father, servants and former lovers, are a result of her mestiza condition. The historian suggests that as a mestiza woman of Spanish, German and indigenous descent, she was prone to such violence. In the twentieth century a number of authors of historical novels produced new permutations of la Quintrala to question issues of ethnic identity in Chile pertinent to the period in which they were publishing. None strayed too far from the ‘facts’ of Vicuña Mackenna’s text until Mercedes Valdivieso’s Maldita yo entre las mujeres (1991) and Gustavo Frías’ Tres nombres para Catalina (2001; 2003) series. Used for so long as a tool of distinction and ‘othering’, Frías provides Catalina with a new narrative that places her in the centre of a complicated contestation of identities that reject facile, static definitions. Taking a postcolonial approach, the paper will draw on the work of academics theorising on and within the Chilean context such as José Bengoa, Sonia Montecino and Jorge Larraín.

S2 Questions of Identity and Post-identity in Latin American Studies

Early South American cycling: Competition for Urban Space and the Thrill of the Open Road.

Matthew Brown
University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

This paper will discuss the problems and opportunities offered to early South American cyclists in the late nineteenth-century. Reflecting on material preserved in newspapers and cycling club statutes, it will explore the extent to which the arrival of this new technology was seen as bringing modernity, freedom for men and women to explore new urban and rural territories. As U.S., German, British and French manufacturers competed to import the latest machines and spare parts, South American cyclists used the innovations for mobility, leisure and competition. The paper will conclude with speculation regarding the possible historical routes for the vastly different trajectories of cycling culture across the continent.

S24 Latin American Sports in the Global Arena

Licit elites and illicit flows in Central America: linkages, collusion and conflicts

Benedicte Bull
University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway

For several decades, the Central American economies have been dominated by sprawling, multisectoral family-based business groups. Some of them originate in the colonial landholding elites, while many more have roots in businesses set up by european and arab immigrants from the early 20th century. Jointly with multinational companies, these business group have controlled the economies and their owners have also dominated politics in shifting alliances with armed forces and through a number of different means (political parties, pressure groups etc). However, over the last decade they have become increasingly vulnerable to competition from abroad, while at the same time, financial flows from the illicit economy has provided new sources of funding but also given rise to competing elites. Based on research on Central American business groups and a series of recent cases of proven collusion between business groups and criminal organizations, this paper explores how the surge of illicit flows have changed the political-economic context and the strategies applied by traditional business groups to grow economically and dominate politically.

S39 Elites, governance and democracy in Central America: changes and continuities in the faces of power

The Venezuela Solidarity Campaign in Britain

Julia Buxton
Central European University, Budapest, Hungary

This paper looks at the Venezuela solidarity movement in the UK during the Chavez and Maduro presidencies, starting with the launch of the Venezuela Information Campaign during the 2002 coup attempt. Issues relating to funding, networks, priorities and ‘audience’ will be addressed, with the paper reflecting on the advantages and draw backs of the move from an ‘information’ to a ‘solidarity’ campaign.

S12 Solidarity Campaigns and Latin America

The political and technical dimensions of the arrival of industrial accident prevention. Chile, 1930-1950

Andrea del Campo Peirano
University of Manchester, Manchester, UK

This study states that pioneering efforts to set in practices of safety at workplaces in Chile between the 1930s and 1940s, shared an agenda with political purposes. Since in this period accident prevention depended mostly on the state propaganda, the discipline was tightly related to the state professionals’ agenda. I affirm that the main means of communication of promoters, the bulletin Seguridad, was an instrument for education on safety but also for demanding a new accident law and the existence of only one accident insurance, the “social insurance”. In this way, the introduction of the discipline in Chile manifested a visible intertwined combination of technical and political roots. On the one hand, a scientific dimension which looked at the North American model. On the other hand, a political dimension inspired in the principles of social security, which along the twenty century, until the 1970s, had a growing expression in welfare policies, common reality in different occidental states. Furthermore, if we recognise the United States as the main international referent in the transference of knowledge about industrial safety, we identify in the political ambit the International Labour Organization as the main referent and supporter. This paper not only reflects on the strong political nature that the discipline showed in its arrival to Chile, but also on the transnational character of this process.

S5 Transnational Intellectual Networks in Latin America

Colonial Kings of Amazonia: the role of intermediaries in the negotiation of interethnic and power relations

Louise Cardoso de Mello
Universidad Pablo de Olavide, Sevilla, Spain

During the eighteenth century, and until fairly recently, the South-West of Amazonia was perceived as an undefined, unknown region located in the distant boundaries of the Iberian (and later national) domains. From a historiographic viewpoint, this derived not only in a lack of primary sources, but also in a general negligence towards the area. Nevertheless, the revision of the existing ethnohistorical documents from the prism of the study of interethnic relations has allowed to bring new data to light and new actors to life. Therefore, the main objective of this paper is to showcase the underlying role of the intermediaries in the articulation of the relations between the indigenous and colonial societies. Secondly, it looks at how these interethnic relations transformed within the framework of colonial political reforms and territorial agreements in the midst of changing power relations. In view of this, it argues that despite the governmental endeavour to nullify its competition, there was a continuity in the dynamics of said relations due to the persistence of the role of intermediaries, which was not eliminated but instead assumed by new actors. It further aims at demonstrating that these relations developed on the fringes of governmental interference, therefore, within its multiple inner frontiers rather than the external political one. Finally, by focusing on the study of interethnic relations, this paper hopes to contribute to outline the creative and adaptive capacities of the different ethnic groups and social actors in the region, revealing not only their voice but also their agency.

S13 Settler colonial experiences in Latin America

OS OUTROS LADOS DA FRONTEIRA: Identities and agency in the construction of the Brazilian nationality in South-West Amazonia

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The concept of “Brazilian” as a nationality, like many others in Latin America, is the construction of an identity whose origins date back at least two centuries. Nevertheless, the configuration of the Brazilian identity masks a highly varied scenario of ethnicities and identities within its jurisdiction, which in some parts of Amazonia have been neglected. This process started out with the establishment of porous borders in what were initially the distant boundaries of the Iberian domains, in an attempt to overlap its multiple inner frontiers by nullifying indigenous territoriality and thus, identities. Since then and until fairly recently, such ethnicities were concealed under a somewhat paradoxical homogeneity of a society comprised of mestizos. In view of this, this paper presents an ethnohistorical and ethnographic analysis of the reconstruction of identities in South-West Amazonia throughout the process of construction of the Brazilian one. By means of three case studies, it proposes to look at this historical process of transformation of ethnicities and identities from the viewpoint of strategies of resistance, thus outlining the agency of the various ethnic groups in the region. With this, it further aims to demonstrate how the indigenous, mestizo and maroon identities transformed from ethnic categories to social-political ones. Finally, by bridging the process of transformation of social and ethnic identities in Amazonia since the eighteenth century and the modern-day identity claims of local communities, this paper hopes to contribute towards the historical understanding of identitarian, territorial and heritage struggles not only in Amazonia, but in Brazil.

S36 Representations of Indigeneity and Community Resistance

Banana Republic Ball Games? Sport, Global Games and Latin America.

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The emergence of global sport in the late twentieth century has now become the pervasive, if not hegemonic, form of sport found in the wider world. Latin America’s alleged “arrival” in this globalized, presumed modern, world, became apparent in the global sport spectacles hosted by Mexico in 1968 and 1970 and then reiterated in Argentina in 1978. Then for nearly thirty years, the visibility of Latin America dissipated in the sporting world. Only now has globalized attention returned to Latin America with the 2014 and 2016 global spectacles in Brazil. Not all of this attention is good, however. In this paper we examine the good (triumphant athletes and national sides) and the bad (alleged corruption and exploitation of governing officials) to better understand Latin America’s presence in the world of global sport. Examining both sides of the ball, we look at the political economy of the global sport industries (with particular emphasis on the Olympic and FIFA spectacles) and how Latin Americans have played prominent roles within these industries.

S4 Latin American Sports in the Global Arena

El paseo de las muñecas: Queer (In) Visibility in Contemporary Santiago

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At present, Santiago de Chile is considered a post-modern capital that is open to the world, as a result of modernisation and the liberalisation of its economic system in the late 1970s. Taking a social and cultural perspective on the city’s development, however, allows us to see another dimension. Aside from the large socio-economic gap experienced by its inhabitants, there remain unresolved problems connected to discrimination against sexual minority groups, such as homosexuals and transvestites, which are physically manifested in the urban space. These issues persist despite efforts made by Chilean authorities, from the late 1990s onwards, to move towards a more integrated and tolerant society. This paper looks at the work of contemporary Chilean urban chroniclers Roberto Merino, Álvaro Bisama and Pedro Lemebel, exploring the representation of homosexuality and transvestism in Santiago’s urban space, as well as looking at processes of the integration of “gay-friendly” zones into the city. For this purpose, chronicles by these writers are analysed using theories related to the field of queer geography. It is argued that, while world cities such as London, San Francisco or Madrid have developed “gay-friendly” zones that are openly recognizable, Santiago’s most renowned queer spaces, such as Bellas Artes and Bellavista, find themselves at a half-way point between visibility and invisibility, reflecting therefore forms of discrimination that are still present in Chilean society.

S2 Questions of Identity and Post-identity in Latin American Studies

Cuba and Research: Contemporary Healthcare

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Healthcare in Cuba is excellent. Child mortality rates are lower than in the USA. The model of health care delivered in Cuba is an excellent model for other countries, especially lower- and middle- income countries. Cubans however are very modest about their achievements and do not like boasting. Additionally, there are numerous difficulties for Cubans who wish to write scientific papers – access to computers, internet access and speed, language difficulties. Collaboration with Cuban health professionals has resulted in several publications and workshops in both La Habana and Camaguey. It is hoped that a young generation of Cubans can be encouraged to write about their achievements. Experiences over the last decade will be described.

S11 The Changing Dynamics of Cuban Healthcare: The New Role of Health

Scholarly Reflections on Research and Fieldwork in Kingston, Jamaica, in the 1960s

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This paper will offer reflections upon my Kingston research as the first systematic study of the social structure, social history and social geography of a city in the developing world, as well as explore some of the early ideas about squatting, shanty towns, rent-yards/ciudades perdidas and squatter up-grading in the Caribbean and elsewhere. Having held one of the first three faculty posts created at the Latin American Centre at Liverpool, in 1966, I will also offers some thoughts about my and others’ research contributed to research and teaching on Latin America and the Caribbean over the past half-century - the bridge to where we are today.

S22 Looking Back to the Future: 40+ years of Thinking About and 'Doing' Latin American Research and Fieldwork

Imaginarios, formas de sociabilidad y paradigmas culturales en América Latina. Una mirada a las experiencias de Argentina, Paraguay y Venezuela

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Los radicales cambios en las formas de subjetivación política que tomaron cuerpo en Venezuela a finales de siglo desbordaron las formas de regulación económica y política de los últimos cincuenta años. La emergencia de nuevos imaginarios anclados en luchas sociales y políticas permitió la construcción de formas de sociabilidad, paradigmas culturales y memorias históricas que lograron producir nuevos enunciados de lo político en la región. Las dinámicas transformativas desencadenadas en la experiencia venezolana se convirtieron en el suplemento fundamental del quiebre de la hegemonía neoliberal en América Latina. Este deslizamiento contribuyó a consolidar un ideario popular de resistencia centrado en la crítica al neoliberalismo. La experiencia venezolana con su capacidad de interpelación se convirtió en el punto de inflexión de la primavera política regional. Posteriormente, con las transversales consecuencias de la crisis global de 2008 la región comenzó a experimentar reflujos en los dinamismos societales. Las tensiones entre las formas de fragmentación del consumo, la localización territorial de redes delincuenciales, el desacoplamiento de las políticas sociales están creando campos de fuerzas que se confrontan con las dinámicas transformativas de principios de siglo. La finalidad del presente trabajo es ofrecer una mirada comprehensiva que permita caracterizar las tensiones, bifurcaciones e incertidumbres localizadas en los imaginarios populares de América Latina. Principalmente, se centra en las experiencias populares de Argentina (cambio moderado), Paraguay (contención del cambio) y Venezuela (radicalización de los cambios) con el objetivo de clarificar alternativas societales en un contexto de profundización de la histórica heterogeneidad estructural de la región.

S15 Neoliberalism, resistance and popular cultures

Writing Indo-America: Gabriela Mistral in Conversation with Peruvian Apristas

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The idea of Indo-America constituted an integral, yet dynamic and flexible, part of the political philosophy of Peru’s Alianza Popular Revolucionaria Americana (APRA). Building on a growing body of scholarship which interprets APRA as a fundamentally transnational organisation (without side-lining national context or trajectory) and examines the ways in which experiences of exile and travel impacted upon Apristas’ intellectual production, this paper spotlights one particular Chilean writer who collaborated in this cultural and political project of continental integration: Gabriela Mistral. It explores the multiple meanings of Indo-America as created and debated through epistolary exchanges between the Nobel laureate and key Aprista intellectuals, Víctor Raúl Haya de la Torre, Luis Alberto Sánchez, Ciro Alegría and Magda Portal. It also investigates joint publishing endeavours, such as the prologues that Mistral and Haya de la Torre wrote for Joaquín Edwards Bello’s book El nacionalismo continental. I focus, in particular, on the role that the ‘Indian’ was allocated in the idea or project of Indo-America, and in doing so seek to undermine the dominant historical narrative that tends to present relations between Chile and Peru exclusively as hostile and antagonistic, and Chile as a country that, in contrast to Peru, failed to engage in discussions about the so-called ‘indigenous problem’.

S5 Transnational Intellectual Networks in Latin America

Welfare State Development, Individual Deprivations and Income Inequality: A cross-country analysis in Latin America and the Caribbean

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Several scholars have confirmed the role that the welfare state (WS) plays in reducing poverty, promoting equality and ensuring the common wellbeing. One of the limitations of the scholarship has been the conceptualization and operationalization of the WS and poverty as one-dimensional variables. The purpose of this paper is to examine the explanatory power and significance of the WS development on single-dimensions deprivations and income inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean, before and after controlling for demographic and cyclical factors. The WS is operationalized taking into account its multidimensional nature. Three individual deprivations suffered by people on poverty and two income inequality indicators are used as dependent variables. Three pooled time-series cross-section regression analyses with panel-corrected standard errors models were carried out on 18 countries in the region around 2000, 2005 and 2010. This paper shows that the development of social-welfare programs and institutions seems to be an effective way of tackling individual deprivations suffered by people on poverty in the region. On the other hand, the WS development didn’t appear to be effective to reduce income inequality. The coverage of welfare programs appears to be the pivotal dimension to reduce income inequality and income deprivations in the region.

S29 Education, Environment, Inequality, and Social Mobility

Language attitudes among young Maya professionals: overcoming language purism

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Language purism often emerges as a conspicuous phenomenon in processes of language revitalisation. As an ideology that seeks to remove from languages elements (often lexical) that appear to be foreign or lacking in authenticity, linguistic purism is closely linked to the idea of legitimation and standardisation, which has been researched in a number of works on endangered languages in Latin America (see Hornberger and King 1998; Howard 2007 for the Andean region, also England 1996, 2003 and Brown 1996 for Guatemala). In Mexico the seminal work by Hill and Hill (1986), which explores the impact of purist attitudes on the use of Nahuatl, continues to be essential to understand language shift in central Mexico. This presentation will explore the narratives of young indigenous professionals from the Yucatan peninsula that reflect a change in attitudes towards language purism. I argue that a fundamental ideological change, triggered by higher education and professionalization during a particular life stage, underpins not only a process of re-ethnification among these young adults but also a committed attitude towards the maintenance and reproduction of Maya.

S9 Bridging languages, knowledge systems, and identities in contemporary Latin America

Citizen-led Forensics: How Mexicans are Leading the Search for the Disappeared

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This paper develops new understandings around the ways in which citizens are participating in the construction of forensic knowledge in Mexico. The analysis moves from simply framing the independent searches done by families of the disappeared as isolated efforts, to analysing how their activities are effectively transforming the way forensic science is practiced and established. To date more than 27,000 persons have disappeared in Mexico. Little or no investigation has been carried to find out what happened to them and prosecute those responsible. The recent disappearance of 43 students from Ayotzinapa, Guerrero, provided a glimpse into the status of forensic science. As a forensic expert stated “Mexico is in the middle of a huge forensic crisis. The country was not prepared to deal with the amount of bodies been discovered in clandestine mass graves”. The Mexican state has failed to provide answers to thousands of families looking for a loved one. In some cases, governmental authorities have even tampered with forensic evidence. Thus, International organisations have provided technical assistance for the identification of victims in Mexico; however support has been geared towards high profile cases, while thousands still need proper analysis and investigation. Not surprisingly, relatives of the disappeared are taking the lead in the search for their missing. They are locating possible clandestine mass graves sometimes doing the excavation and documentation by themselves and using GPS technologies and phone tracking software to search for their loved ones, in a country where disappearances are an everyday occurrence.

S6 Enforced Disappearances in Mexico: Continuities and Ruptures in the Civil Society-State Relationship

Politics and media in Latin America. The hazards and fortune of a troubled relationship in audiovisual democracies

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From Athens on, public opinion rules over democracies, said Walter Lippman in Public Opinion. This premise provides a direction to investigate any change in the mechanisms of trust in politics, media and civil society. The decline of the old collective actors, the progressive processes of individualization and the loss of trust in political parties have changed the constellation of contemporary politics and its connection with the role of media in mediated contemporary democratic societies. The consolidation of democracy as a political system and a way of life finds in the relationship between politics and media one of its keystones. Different regional political experiences -as in the case of neoliberalism and postneoliberalism- are marked by a specific interweaving of political and media systems. As some recent research has showed, the “video-politics” has closed bonds with neoliberalism. Similarly, the “left turn” in Latin America has brought a growing concern in national Executives for the role of media. This paper proposes three axes to investigate the relationship between politics and media in current Latin American societies, taking into account the passage from a neoliberal democratic consensus to a post-neoliberal democratic consensus. Primo, we consider various global studies of media systems and the formation of public opinion in industrial democracies. Secundo, we contrastively analyze the political culture of the 90s and the derivations of “left turn” in the first decade of this new century. At last, we problematize the relationship between media and leadership, in a Latin American presidentialist democratical scenario.

S38 Politics and the Audio-Visual: Transmedial Relations in Film and TV

Low Bridge over Shallow Waters: Witold Gombrowicz and Argentina.

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The Polish writer, Witold Gombrowicz (1904-1969) lived for more than twenty years in Argentina. He was, however, not only a political but also a literary outsider who championed those values resistant to what he saw - much in the manner of Said - as the imperialism of Western reason: instability, incoherence, the ‘unformed’, the ‘immature’ and the ‘low’. It was on this basis that he forged a degree of solidarity with his adopted country which he regarded, approvingly, as ‘abject’, lacking ‘full definition’. His novel, Transatlantico (1953), is Poland-orientated but set in Argentina. The two countries share a ‘minor’ cultural status, the peripheral position of Poland in relation to mainstream European culture shaped by Renaissance values that did not fully penetrate countries at the European margins such as Poland and Spain, finding an echo in what Sabato, in his preface to Gombrowicz’s *Ferdydurk* (1937), describes as ‘la vieja Argentina de las grandes llanuras pastoriles’ (the translation of this text from Polish into Spanish can also be seen as an exercise in linguistic bridge-building). Argentine writers, such as Ricardo Piglia, see Gombrowicz as part of the Argentine traditon - because of, rather than despite, his status as a foreigner and outsider. This paper will explore Gombrowicz’s key concepts such as ‘immaturity’ and ‘indefinition’ - noting their connection with Deleuzian notions of ‘becoming’ - and will trace their resonances in Argentine literature, particularly in the work of Ricardo Piglia (1941 -).

S34 Insiders and Outsiders in Society, Film and Literature

‘Divined Work’: Linking Evangelical churches and belief to informal economies in Rio de Janeiro’s peripheries.

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This paper concerns how evangelical belief shifts the sensation of precariousness for women in the informal work economies of Rio de Janeiro’s peripheries. While neoliberal reforms have reconfigured access to secure work, health care and security in Brazil’s urban peripheries, the evangelical church has emerged as a central spoke in the ways people make sense of this entrenched precarity. Based on approximately two years of ethnographic research with women who have started their own informal businesses with micro-loans from evangelical churches - from making and selling their own home cleaner with toxic factory run-off to buying and selling warehouse athletic socks -this paper considers the relationships between Evangelical churches and the informal economy, and how these new linkages are shifting the affects of precarity and women’s relationship to the state. Many women explain that their businesses are ‘cradled by God’, and that their futures are guaranteed by ‘a God who knows’. This paper takes seriously how ‘a God who knows and cradles’ is a rather remarkable thing for women within the precarious periphery. These new ties between economy and church and belief alter women’s engagement with the state - sometimes even making them decline the conditional cash transfers that Brazil has become internationally known for - and dramatically realter relationships to city space, family, and community. For evangelical women, God has made informal work ‘divined’ and gives it a logic that is categorically different from prevailing neoliberal logics of abandonment or empowerment.

S16 Exploring bridges between the formal and informal (sectors) in Latin America

Demonstrating Elite Status - The Political Activism of the Colombian-Lebanese community in Bogota

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The Colombian-Lebanese have an established community in Bogota, with over 100 years of presence in the city. Over time, some their members have risen to the political, cultural and social elite of the city and most of those that actively participate in the community belong to the middle and upper-middle classes. A number of organisations, including religious, social, cultural and political groups, form part of the community and are the most active centres for the Colombian-Lebanese. This paper argues that elite Colombian-Lebanese individuals have used their social, economic and political resources both to improve and enhance the position of the community within Bogota, as well as to promote their views and ideologies to the wider public. Over the years they have participated in a number of public demonstrations, including a protest demanding Israel withdrawal from Lebanon, as well as participating in national protests calling for peace and rejecting the FARC, under Colombian-Lebanese banners. It also contends that it is their elite position within the city that allows them to openly participate in these demonstrations as hyphenated-Colombians, and has meant that the demonstrations that pursue their goals have been effective. However, the elite status has also meant that the community and its organisations have not been entirely inclusive of all Colombian-Lebanese, and hence their political activism only actively represents the desires of those in the elite. This paper draws from material from ethnographic research I conducted for my PhD at the University of Southampton.

S23 Middle-class activism and politics in contemporary Latin America

Between a rock and a hard place: Central American Migrants in Mexico

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Every year, thousands of Central American migrants cross through Mexico to arrive to the United States. In the way they have to brave the road, the elements, the heat, the mosquitoes, and wild animals. They have to ride on top of a fast moving freight train for hours at a time. They have to avoid organized criminals and corrupt members of the Mexican institutions who rob, beat, rape, kidnap and even murder them. Although the violence has been going on for decades, the situation got worse in late 2014 when Mexico implemented the Southern Border Plan. This ongoing strategy intends to deter migrants from crossing the southern states by increasing the number of roadblocks and making the freight train go faster. This leaves Central American migrants trapped between a rock and a hard place since a great number of them leave their country to escape poverty or violence and cannot go back. This paper analyses the effects of the Southern Border Plan in the town of Pakal-Na in Palenque, Chiapas in the months of June and July of 2015. Through five weeks of fieldwork, participant observation, and interviews with migrants and stakeholders we can assess the effect of this newly implemented deterrence policy on the strategies of migrants and their vulnerability to violence.

S10 Feminism, violence, and migration in Latin America

The Many Etymologies of an Andean-Amazonian Toponym

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In a remote corner of the Andean-Amazonian coffee frontier of Southern Peru, indigenous Matsigenka people from across the region have married together, along with a handful of Quechua-speaking migrant farmers from the Andean highlands, to form a community in the small Yokiri River Valley. Community members from these diverse backgrounds understand and discuss the landscape, its history, and its toponyms in different ways--as a world shaped by mythological beings and events, as the legacy of a painful recent history of violence and displacement, and as a contested economic resource to be developed in conjunction with state investment. Etymological knowledge of local toponyms is an important part of these discourses, which take place in different languages and in different interactional contexts. However, while most toponyms in the area come from the Matsigenka language and make transparent reference to geographical features and mythological beings or events, Yokiri does not suggest an obvious interpretation, and is subject to a wide variety of etymological interpretations. This paper reports five such etymologies of Yokiri collected in 2011-2012, and discusses how these discourses are tied to their proponents' conceptualizations of the region's history and their own places in it. These etymologies, like the notions of history from which they emerge, are often contextual and can co-exist in different types of naturally occurring discourse without apparent contradiction. In other cases, they can play an important role in both internal and external political struggles over identity, authority, and legitimacy.

S9 Bridging languages, knowledge systems, and identities in contemporary Latin America

'Decolonial Marxism': Understading Pluriversal Struggles thorough Multiple Subsumptions

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How can we understand diverse forms of resistances within current processes of accumulation of capital, from a non-Eurocentric perspective? Authors of the decolonial school question the lack of epistemological consciousness in the left. The imposition of categories of modern thought on the analysis of indigenous resistance for example tend to reinforce the coloniality of power that indigenous movements are struggling against. They contend that the world is 'pluriversal' (Conway and Singh, 2011: 702): 'a truly universal decolonial perspective cannot be based on an abstract universal (one particular that promotes itself as universal global design), but would have to be the result of critical dialogue between diverse critical epistemic/ethical/political projects towards a pluriversal as opposed to a universal world'. (Grosfoguel, 2009). In this paper, I anticipate a conversation between two approaches: Decolonial School and Open Marxism. I identify their theoretical strategies, limitations and mutual misrecognitions that prevent fruitful cross-fertilisation, in order to delineate a new direction in the study of counterhegemonic politics and social emancipation. I offer the term 'Decolonial Marxism' to designate a form of critique that bridges diverse forms of counter hegemonic resistance within current processes of accumulation of capital from a non-North centric perspective. 'Decolonial Marxism' distinguishes between multiple oppressions and subsumption and, and the same tie, is able to grasp the production of excess of indigenous and non indigenous struggles. By offering the notion of subsumption via exclusion, Decolonial Marxism bridges different pluriversal resistance that assert themselves in the open veins of global capital.

S15 Neoliberalism, resistance and popular cultures

Negotiating Space, Power and Knowledge in Northern Brazil and French Guiana, 1650s-1750s

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This paper focuses on the exchanges that took place between settlers – colonists, missionaries and local authorities– and indigenous people in the lands and rivers located between the mouth of the Amazon River (Brazil) and French Guiana (France). While my starting point is French settlement, archival sources in several languages allow me to develop an argument that deals with French and Portuguese colonising initiatives and Indigenous polities. French settlement took place in a space already inhabited by several indigenous groups immersed in pre-European exchange networks, what could be named an 'Amerindian Space'. This space was also within the orbit of influence of the Portuguese Crown and its northern expeditions and well-established and successful Dutch presence in the West (Dutch Guiana or nowadays Suriname). Through the analysis of several cases, this paper explores the friendly but sometimes conflictive links established between French settlers and Indigenous groups (both autonomous and settled in missions), French missionaries and Indigenous groups, and between different European settlers (colonists, traders, slave raiders of indigenous people, and missionaries). Ultimately, my objective is to analyse how the myriad of relations established allow for a better understanding of European settlement. It is not a one-way story of domination, exploitation or 'pacification', but a combination of periods of conflicts and peace, learning and integrating cultural difference in order to negotiate with the other, and finding a *modus vivendi* that, at least for a limited period of time, worked for all parties.

S13 Settler colonial experiences in Latin America

Post-neoliberal protest in Latin America as struggle over the name of “the people”

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If the “move to the left” in the 2000s in Argentina and Brazil was the result of a longer process of contentious mobilisation from below enacted primarily during the latter part of the previous decade, what sort of social imaginaries have been enacted in the newest wave of discontent and what is its likely effect on the Post-neoliberal form of governance? The argument put forward here is that the newest wave of social protest elicits the re-enactment of the liberal imaginary indirectly expressed under the notion of the republic. This operation tends to undermine the bases of post-neoliberalism, i.e. “the popular”, “the national-popular” and “anti-neoliberalism”, the imaginaries that defined the move to the left in the region. There is a new activated public, associated to middle class sectors, that raises new demands and do not identify with the “anti-neoliberal” camp. In as much as this activation means a dispute over the name of the people, it signals a slowdown in the efficacy of existing populist formation to deepen the movement towards more radical reforms.

S23 Middle-class activism and politics in contemporary Latin America

Professional Learning Communities in Chile: How to best approach or local realities?

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As part of the trending topics for school improvement and capacity building, the idea of 'Professional Learning Communities' (PLCs) refers to supportive groups which interrogate, investigate and learn about their own practice and development from a critical perspective, focussing on improving students’ learning. Considering the value that PLCs give to local school agents in their own processes of change, it is clear that the sense that a PLC can acquire in practice depends largely on the context in which it is developed. However, although research about PLCs is growing in different places, most of the investigation has been developed in countries like the US, the UK and Spain, which raises the need for more contextualized approaches. Currently in Chile there are being implemented some PLC projects, which are fundamentally top down initiatives coming from external realities to the Chilean one. Hence, it is challenging to think in effective strategies for standing up the intrinsic bottom up sense of PLCs. From a qualitative perspective, and using the results from a pilot study about PLCs’ implementation in Chile, this presentation will focus on the analysis of the best ways to approach schools developing PLCs, in order to create worthwhile data collection techniques that recognize the particularities of the Chilean context and the contributions that local agents can offer from their own ways of being a PLC. Therefore, this work will contribute to the research of this growing topic in Latin America, in a more significant way for our local realities.

S29 Education, Environment, Inequality, and Social Mobility

From private to public? Chavism and the media in Venezuela

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Although the censorship in Venezuela ended with the overthrow of the dictator Marcos Pérez Jiménez, during *puntofijismo* the media remained faithful to the government formed by AD and COPEI. This close relation was confirmed by offering Congressional seats to publishers in exchange for favourable coverage, that included silencing Caracazo in 1989. The situation changed with Hugo Chávez’s rise to power in 1998. The private media did not support the new government, acting on behalf of the opposition. The climax of the tension between Chávez and the private media was the coup d’état attempt in 2002, nicknamed media coup because of deep involvement of the private media in the plot. Although the conspiracy failed, it led to the new media policy in Venezuela based on strengthening public media. It was started with launching TeleSur in 2005 and then continued with the creation of TVeS, a new TV channel that took the frequency that previously belonged to one of the private channels - RCTV. In 2009 the government also closed around 60 radio channels, distributing their frequencies among the community media. The paper aims to explore the changes in media landscape in Venezuela during the governments of Hugo Chávez and Nicolás Maduro. The analysis of political decisions and their consequences will help to determine whether the enforcement of the public media turned out to be successful and if the discussed changes threaten freedom of speech and balance of information in Venezuela.

S38 Politics and the Audio-Visual: Transmedial Relations in Film and TV

Global Maradona - (different) perceptions in Argentina, Spain, Italy, England and Dubai.

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This paper deals with Diego Armando Maradona, one of the most well-known footballers in history. He was an actor (subject) and a product (object) of football globalization, and he continues to be an important person in collective memory on a global scale. I will compare the impact of this figure in the national contexts of Argentina, Spain, Italy, England and Dubai. Maradona became famous worldwide because of his role as the leader of the albiceleste team during the mundial of 1986. However, his goals were perceived in a very different way in Argentina, England and the rest of the world, as was his role as a football player in Argentinian, Spanish and Italian clubs. The aim of this paper is to reconstruct in the five countries under consideration the perception of this famous football player and to compare his function as a tool for collective identity construction. The comparison shows clearly the different impact of this figure which can be cast by a glocalization approach. Moreover, images about Argentinian and Latin American football are reconstructed through the lenses of this figure. The broader approach of my paper relates to glocalization; I see “Maradona” basically as a discursive construction and as a narrative about a body.

S24 Latin American Sports in the Global Arena

Pentecostal Understandings of Violence, la Misión Iglesia Pentecostal, and Military Authoritarianism in Chile, 1973-1990

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The violent overthrow of the democratically elected government of Salvador Allende on September 11th, 1973 represented the worst political breakdown in the history of Chile. Its repercussions touched all aspects of life in the country. Pentecostal reactions to the coup d’état and the ensuing violent repression have been viewed as overwhelmingly supportive of the regime. In official and public meetings with military authorities, many religious leaders offered recognition and legitimation. At the same time, a small but vocal minority, who felt misrepresented by the political agenda of conservative leaders developed clear stances and discourses in opposition to the repressive character of the dictatorship. This paper investigates the development of these voices and their reactions to cases of political torture through the lens of one such group - la Misión Iglesia Pentecostal (Pentecostal Mission Church - MIP). For many members, the interpretation of their faith and what it meant to be truly faithful could not be understood without reference to violent context in which they were embedded. This paper situates the development of new understandings of religion, torture, and interruptions in lived religious experience within la vida cotidiana (everyday life) during the dictatorship.

S4 Breaking down conflict: understanding and reframing Latin American experience

Cultural brokers and ‘urban articulators’ at the boundaries between core and periphery in Rio de Janeiro: strategies, goals and the role of digital technologies

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Digital communications channels have been heralded worldwide in recent years for their role in contesting hegemonic narratives and influencing governmental action, often forging new articulations between the local, the national and the international in the process. Whilst levels of digital access retain links to income and geography, in Brazil, appropriation of digital technologies - often by younger segments of the population - has increased the visibility of territories, citizens and issues that previously experienced a poverty of representative channels. Much of this can be traced to Gilberto Gil’s period as Minister for Culture (2003-2010) and policies developed at that time, in particular the ‘Pontos de Cultura’ initiative. This paper focuses on two NGOs (Observatorio das Favelas and Catalytic Communities) operating in Rio De Janeiro, and the ways they employ digital tools as they attempt to effect changes to both the conceptual construct of the city and its lived urban environment. Postgraduate fieldwork research carried out in Brazil is analysed in reference to the concept of ‘cultural brokers’. These are defined by Jezewski (Jezewski&Sotnik, 2001:17) as actors engaged in “bridging, linking or mediating between groups or persons of differing cultural backgrounds for the purpose of reducing conflict or producing change.” I will argue that both organisations can be understood as part of an emergent generation of cultural brokers or ‘urban articulators’ engaged in activities which set out to bridge popular, academic and political discourses seeking to represent ‘peripheral’ areas and populations in Rio de Janeiro.

S27 Violence, Politics and the Sacred

Between archive and a hard place: “Found Footage” Film in Experimental Argentine Video

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In the last decades, cinema has become a recurring inspirational source for video art. It is used not only as primary source for new productions, in a found-footage-film style, but also as a referent that contributes to its language re-signification and to its re-positioning within the Arts and audio-visual fields respectively. The exhibition and publication in the United States of Cut: Film as Found Object in Contemporary Video (2004-2006) demonstrated the need for written work that delves into the complexities of using someone else’s work in the construction of new moving-image art works. In Argentina, from the beginning of the new millennium, video has spread at great speed. As a means of artistic expression, it has often referred to other media – including cinema – as an inherent element of its practice and formation. This paper aims to explore contemporary Argentine video productions that use cinema as an inter-trans-medial dispositive and, thus, as a source of renovation. Among others, the works of artists/filmmakers such as Galuppo, Guzmán, Costantino, Macchi and Denegri will be analysed.

S3 (Re)viewing the Archive in Latin American Cinema

Analysing ex-narcos narratives on poverty and exclusion: do we really need a war on drugs?

Karina Garcia
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This paper explores how former narcos’ (shorthand for narcotraficantes) narratives about poverty and experiences of relative deprivation contribute to the understanding of the ongoing drug-related violence (DRV) in Mexico. Dominant scholarly approaches explain the onset and escalation of drug-related violence focusing on four main issues: a) the democratisation process in the 1990s and 2000s; b) systemic corruption of the judicial and legislative institutions; c) a weak rule of law across the country and d) the Mexican ‘war’ on drugs launched by former president Felipe Calderón (2006-2012). Such approaches, however, fail to account for the interplay of the pre-existing social conditions, everyday experiences and subjectivities of the participants of such violence. This paper, therefore, contends that neoliberal discourses such as those stemming from the culture of consumismo influence and nourish DRV in Mexico. Through an approach informed by the principles of Grounded Theory, the framework of this paper responds to the significance of poverty and strict socially-structured class roles in the self-reported life stories of thirty-three men who used to work for drug cartels. The interviews were carried out from October 2014 to January 2015 in Coahuila, Mexico.

S7 Making sense of neoliberalism in Latin America today: Narratives on violence, exclusion and resistance.

Media and Hegemony: Rearticulating Equivalential Chains in a Changing Cuba

Sara Garcia Santamaria
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The Cuban Revolution has faced different moments of crises that have endangered the revolutionary consensus. Drawing on Ernesto Laclau’s theory of discourse, this paper aims to discuss the way in which the Cuban mainstream media has helped rearticulate the meaning of the Revolution in periods of national crises, and national debate. The paper will focus on two moments: the call to the IV Congress of the Cuban Communist Party (CCP) in 1990-1991, and the call to the IV Congress of the CCP in 2010-2011. A content analysis of Cuban newspapers suggests that the leadership has used two main legitimising articulations, disseminated through the hegemonic control of the mainstream media. First, it has constructed a homogeneous Cuban people united around the revolutionary project, represented by the Party. Second, it has constructed a clear enemy, embodied in the United States. The media construction of a Manichaeon opposition between a united people (‘us’) and their enemies (‘them’), and its rearticulation in times of crises, has historically filled the Revolution -an empty signifier in Laclaunian terms- with a hegemonic meaning. However, interviews with Cuban media scholars and journalists suggest that the depth of current changes and the appearance of alternative voices in digital media projects are dislocating the cohesive force of previous articulations. Therefore, the data indicates that the paradigms of ‘unity’ and ‘sieged society’ are now losing their hegemonic power, giving way to more subjective and nuanced debates about the future of a post-Castro, post-embargo Cuba.

S18 Cultural Transformations in a Changing Cuba: Media, Communication and the Remaking of Cuban Identity

Migration Crisis in the Americas: „The Beast” as its Visual Representation.

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This study proposes to examine various aspects of the passage of undocumented Central American migrants through Mexico, viewing the situation from the perspective of human rights violations and social exclusion. Driven by extreme economic conditions, civil unrest and violence in their home countries, and, in some cases, the desire to reunite with relatives already living in the United States, adult individuals, families, and even unaccompanied children and adolescents embark on this perilous journey. In doing so, they risk falling victim to abuse, extortion, sexual assault, and other forms of violence at the hands of brutal gangs, organized crime, and corrupt officials. Many lose their lives. The study will address the specifics and realities of the migrants’ dangerous journey north, and review the main factors that lead these people, mostly from the so-called “northern triangle”, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, to leave their home countries atop freight trains that are referred to by names such as “The Beast” or “The Train of Death.” The experiences of Central American migrants have been the subject of several recent feature films and documentaries which provide both a narrative and visual representation of the journey north through Mexico. This study will analyse the way the films El norte (1983), Sin nombre (2009) and La jaula de oro (2013) illustrate the harsh realities that undocumented migrants face while attempting to reach the United States and the extent to which they provide insight into the lives and experiences of the migrants.

S10 Feminism, violence, and migration in Latin America

Stitching gender identities: embroidery and the definition of Mayan womanhood between globalisation, tourism and migration in the Yucatán Peninsula

Claudia Giannetto
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Embroidery is a fundamental activity among Mexican Mayan women; it sustains the definition of Mayan womanhood in the same manner the cornfield defines the Mayan man. But embroidery is also a source of income, part of a Mayan family spectrum of economic activities. In the Yucatán Peninsula the production and selling of embroidery increased since the 1970s, when the initiation of a major tourist development project in Cancún generated a growing market for handcrafted items. While Mayan men migrated to the Mexican Caribbean coast in search of job, a number of women started to trade their embroideries for tourist consumption. In few years more women grouped in cooperatives that rapidly sprung up throughout the Peninsula. Although the expansion of tourism has pushed many Mayan women into the commercial production of embroidery, this occupation is submerged in a series of assumptions that set a limiting framework for their professional and personal development. It is said that a woman works to help her husband, an evaluation that portrays women engaged in embroidery as “non-workers”. Despite this prejudice in Yucatán many women are now the main family breadwinners. This shift in the distribution of power affected the gender relations and altered the structure and function of the traditional Mayan family. Focusing on the experiences of Mayan women from the community of Xocén, I will explore the ways women use embroidery to redefine their gender identity and negotiate their presence and power both in their “local” communities and in the “global” market.

S36 Representations of Indigeneity and Community Resistance

Political activism as a means of coping with exile

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Drawing on interviews with Chilean exiles in the UK this paper explores the centrality of political activism to life in exile. Many exiles now view their activism as a means of coping with life in the UK and it brought them into contact with new people and new ideas and for some it offered opportunities to ‘move on’ in life.

S12 Solidarity Campaigns and Latin America

From Warriors to Scholars: Manuel Querino’s Contribution to Black History

Helen Gledhill
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The focus of this paper is on the tactics of the Afro-Brazilian scholar Manuel R. Querino (1851-1923) for combating the veiled racism prevalent in Brazil during his time and ours. Based on my PhD thesis, it will discuss Querino’s efforts to demonstrate that blacks contributed to Brazil’s national defence as soldiers, as well as being scholars and artists, thereby undermining the prevalent image that all blacks were poor, illiterate and generally ‘backward’ by European standards. The paper also includes an overview of Querino’s biography, the scientific racism he sought to combat, and the tradition of black vindicationism to which he contributed with works such as “O colono preto como fator da civilizacao brasileira” (1918).

S1 Rethinking whiteness in Latin America

Re-imagined communities: Neoliberal multiculturalism, identity, memory and the literature of pueblos originarios

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In the last decades, one of the punchlines that has sought to legitimize neoliberal political discourse in Latin America is that of a harmonious multicultural community resulting from the recognition of cultural difference. However, progressive multicultural policies are routinely confronted with neoliberal economic mandates and prevalent socio-economic inequalities grounded in dominant criollo-mestizo culture. In this context, the multicultural policies of many of the region’s governments achieve little when it comes to improving the lives of indigenous peoples. Neoliberal multiculturalism may come to constitute a disciplinary framework deployed against indigenous groups to enforce political and economic demands. This paper analyzes the ways in which some indigenous communities, namely the Maya in Mexico, the Mapuche in Chile and Afrocolombians on the Pacific coast, deal with and challenge these multicultural politics in their countries. Governmental efforts to promote multiculturalism may result in important limitations, as in the case of ambiguous legal procedures to define who can be represented as part of an indigenous culture. This paper proposes that one of the ways indigenous communities (here we took Afrolatinamericans as well as indigenous people) have found to challenge neoliberal intercultural policies is to re-imagine their culture identity through memory and literature. Constructing a discourse of self-recognition as a different “imagined community” from the hegemonic criollo-mestizo group within the territory of the Nation-State they inhabit, they articulate a counter-narrative that not only challenges the infamous narratives about them inherited from the Colonial era, but also challenges those of recent times dictated from above.

S15 Neoliberalism, resistance and popular cultures

The Political Ecology of Voice in Peru

Adrian Gonzalez
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This paper will explore Latin American conflict and violence through an interlinked focus on natural resource extraction (specifically oil) and environmental problems resulting from its production. The author will set out to explore how the relationship between resource extraction industries (REIs) for local citizens and other stakeholder groups (community based organisations (CBOs) and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) can be one major factor in causing environmental-based conflict and violence. To illustrate this point, the paper will present an innovative theory termed the “political ecology of voice” (PEV). PEV can be defined as the study of a specific temporal political, economic, social, and geographical environment in which stakeholder’s utilise their voice over an environmental issue. The paper will show how these various strands of PEV interconnect to form the theory which will be illustrated through two case-studies conducted in Peru’s Loreto region; the first in a pueblo community adjacent to Iquitos’s Petroperu refinery and the second in a pueblo located next to the North Peruvian oil pipeline.

S4 Breaking down conflict: understanding and reframing Latin American experience

Liquid Spirit: Defending the Communal Control of Water in Ecuador

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Ecuador is one of a small number of Latin American countries that has broken with the neoliberal orthodoxy over the last decade. The change in the direction of policy has been electorally successful but has created new tensions around the use and control of natural resources. Conflicts have been particularly intense over water. The Correa government’s attempt to introduce a new water law in 2009 and 2010 sparked a long-lasting dispute with indigenous and peasant communities, organisations and movements. The conflict was multi-faceted but revolved around the increased role the state was expected to perform in the management of water. Indigenous and peasant leaders feared the centralization of decision-making within state agencies would threaten the communal control of water, limit the resolution of conflicts at the local level, and facilitate the granting of water concessions to agroexporters, mining companies and hydroelectric plants. Waves of protests forced the government to shelve its original plans and hold a prelegislative consultation on the issue. Following the completion of the consultation, a revised version of the law was introduced in 2014. Indigenous and peasant pressure forced some modifications. Yet tensions remain over the concentration of power within state agencies. Drawing on preliminary research undertaken in Ecuador in 2010 and 2015, this paper explores the conflict, focusing on the clash between communal and state control of water and the cultural and ecological dimensions of the struggle.

S25 Building bridges between social, cultural and environmental studies: States, social movements and natural resources in Latin America.

Building Bridges Between Paulo Freire’s Pedagogy of the Oppressed, and European Alternative Educational Methods.

Anna Isabella Grimaldi
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Paulo Freire’s Pedagogy of the Oppressed states that the dominant educational approaches of today, based on the understanding that children are blank slates waiting to be ‘deposited’ with information, are of an oppressive nature, and explores how the limitations, censorship, and fear of this method puts harmful restraints on society as a whole. Although not the specific focus of Freire’s work, which mostly refers to peasant masses, I will use the theme of childhood education to begin approaching Freire’s philosophy on oppression. To Freire, the oppressed are a people who internalize, through learning, the consciousness of an authoritative other. This process hinders free thought and praxis in relation to the ‘oppressed’s’ own reality or ontology. Paulo Freire’s Pedagogy of the Oppressed was first published in Portuguese in 1968, and two years later translated into English. On translation, the book gained considerable popularity overseas. However, as I will argue in this presentation, there are limitations to this popularity which must be re-considered in light of ongoing European debates regarding education. This presentation will explore how some key ideas in Freire’s work resonate in some of its contemporary development in Europe, as well as where it diverges from them, surpasses them, and offers solutions where they might become conflicted and problematic. The aim is twofold: on the one hand this will demonstrate how Freire’s work has been unnecessarily overlooked, and on the other how it should be given more credit, especially considering some of the problems, worldwide, the education system faces today.

S29 Education, Environment, Inequality, and Social Mobility

The ‘police-isation’ of Brazil’s military? Feedback effects between UN Peacekeeping and domestic deployments of soldiers.

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King’s College London, London, UK

In order to counter severe public security issues, Latin American governments frequently rely on their Armed Forces. Yet, conventional wisdom suggests that the military is ‘trained to break things and kill people’ while police officers should be better prepared for a restricted use of violence. Despite this theoretically reasonable objection, the reality in many Latin American countries, particularly Brazil, demands a closer evaluation. Brazil’s regular police forces are infamous for serious abuse such as extralegal killings, racist behaviour or corruption. Federal and state governments have tried to introduce forms of community policing and to address structural causes for police violence. Still, they also facilitated more ‘guaranteeing law and order’ (GLO) operations, during which the Armed Forces can actually replace the police. The most notable example is the military occupation of entire neighbourhoods during Rio de Janeiro’s Pacification campaign. Arguably, policing tasks performed by soldiers in GLO operations are strikingly similar with their role in the UN Stabilisation Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), where Brazil has been the largest troop contributor since 2004. With thousands of soldiers in recent GLO operations being drawn from MINUSTAH veterans, I suggest that reciprocal learning processes are affecting soldiers’ abilities in policing tasks. Based on questionnaire-based surveys and interviews with veterans as well as observations in dedicated training centres for Peacekeeping and GLO missions, this paper seeks to find out whether soldiers are capable of internalising the necessary restrictions of police duties or if they resort to a role understanding as warriors when facing critical situations.

S27 Violence, Politics and the Sacred

Including US-Latino Literature in Latin American Studies: Junot Díaz’s This Is How You Lose Her

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‘When I first saw you... I knew I’d call you Flaca. If you’d been Dominican my family would have worried about you, brought plates of food to my door. Heaps of plátanos and yuca, smothered in liver or questo frito.’ Junot Díaz’s collection of short stories This Is How You Lose Her is primarily written in English, for a US audience. Díaz himself is a professor of literature at MIT, Boston, and his narratives are firmly located in the US. This paper, however, argues for the inclusion of his works into a broader definition of ‘Latin American Studies’ which would incorporate works in English which are heavily influenced by an aspect of Latin America. Díaz and his characters are Dominican-American and, as the above quotation suggests, conduct their lives in a bilingual and bicultural manner. While the Dominican Republic is overtly present in this work, it also haunts the background of these stories, the characters, and their narratives. Whether these recall a journey to or from the country, a present relationship with it, or more generally play with stereotypes surrounding what ‘Latinness’ is in the US context, it is clear that this work is inextricably linked to Latin America. As such, this paper will begin by briefly contextualising US-Latino literature, before examining Díaz’s work in more detail. It will analyse the linguistic and cultural Dominican influences on This Is How You Lose Her, before considering other concepts which are played with in this collection such as machismo and the family.

S34 Insiders and Outsiders in Society, Film and Literature

Beyond the Blog: Cuban Independent Digital Media, Emergent Civil Society, and Changing United States Policy

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Despite a state monopoly over the mass media and very low Internet access, Cuba has recently witnessed the emergence of a rich variety of independent digital media projects, many of which are embedded in its extensive diaspora in both the United States and Spain. This paper analyzes the challenges these projects face to establish their legitimacy, maintain their autonomy, and become visible and accessible to the Cuban public in a polarized and highly controlled media environment. While a number of these projects began as individual or collective blogs, here we chronicle the process whereby many have consciously moved “beyond the blog” to embrace the challenge of producing news and information for the Cuban public in a more systematic, coordinated, and entrepreneurial way, meeting the demand for reliable and objective reportage unmet by the propagandistic official media. Finally, the paper seeks to gauge how the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Cuba might alter the island’s moribund mass media environment and provide new opportunities to Cuba’s emergent independent digital media.

S18 Cultural Transformations in a Changing Cuba: Media, Communication and the Remaking of Cuban Identity

Bridging worlds: translating the law in Peru

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New legislation on language rights in Peru has given rise to a government-led initiative whereby the 2011 ‘Language Act’ (Ley de Lenguas) has been translated from Spanish into a wide range of Andean and Amazonian languages. Based on in-depth interviews with translators (speakers of Aymara, Quechua, Shipibo and Ashaninka), we shall explore the linguistic and cultural challenges posed by this task, and some of the strategies adopted to overcome them. The process of translation is never a case of mere linguistic transference. In translating a legislative text from a European to an Amerindian language in a postcolonial country like Peru, the problems are compounded. The legal language of the original text is technical and specialised, with no easily identifiable equivalent terminology, and no equivalent register, in the cultures of the target languages. The transfer from Spanish to the Amerindian languages is made in writing, and yet the writing systems of the latter are in early stages of development, and writing is a less frequent medium than orality for transfer of information. The translated texts do not have the legal status of law as in the original Spanish. The overriding motivation of translators is to get the message of the law across to members of the receiving communities. The strategies they adopt to achieve this communicative aim requires a broad understanding of what ‘translation’ can be taken to be. The paper is based on research funded by the AHRC’s ‘Translating Cultures’ programme, our thanks to the Research Council for their support.

S9 Bridging languages, knowledge systems, and identities in contemporary Latin America

“We’ll trade a gold for some plata”! The role of Cuba’s sport for development outreach in training athletes in the Americas and beyond.

Robert Huish
Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia, Canada

Cuba has a long-standing track record of elite sport achievement in the Olympics, the Pan American games, as well as in other regional competitions. Even in times of economic crisis, Cuba achieved outstanding medal counts as compared to other countries of similar economic standing. Recently, however, other countries in the Americas are giving Cuban athletes a run for their money. Cuban coaches are working to train foreign athletes for elite performance in the same competitions that Cuban athletes compete in. What’s more, Cuba is also exploring relations with professional sporting associations in the U.S. to receive Cuban athletes. Taken together, Cuba is entering an unknown dimension of sport for development where coaches, and occasionally players, serve the interests of foreign nations against the ambitions of their own domestic athletes. This paper discusses two scenarios that this situation brings forth. First, there is a nationalist / cultural challenge of Cuban coaches training foreigners to compete against Cuban athletes. Second, there is an increasing tension in the desire for acquiring much-needed hard currency from off-shore sport activities. Taken together, Cuban sport is reconceptualising its place in the Pan American landscape from proving its own national merit in sport to being a Pan-American engine of sport for good. Based on interviews with Cuban coaches in Mexico, and Cuban sport administrators in Havana, this paper unpacks the tensions and opportunities in this new dimension of Cuban sport for development.

S24 Latin American Sports in the Global Arena

Listening to the silences: towards a feminist theorisation of violence in Central America

Mo Hume
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International organisations widely agree that a gendered perspective should be ‘integral’ and ‘crosscutting’ in policies to promote citizen security in the region (UNDP, 2014). However, mainstream violence debates remain characterised by their silence on gender issues. Enduring gendered silences have implications for how we analyse, as well as what we analyse as violence. Feminist praxis has long challenged the gendered silences and masculinist bias in scholarly research on violence. Much of this work has understandably been concerned with ‘breaking the silence’ in order to provide a framework for women to be able to ‘name’ gendered forms of violence. In this paper, I am interested in drawing feminist connections between the different ‘types’ of violence that shape everyday life and I draw on longitudinal ethnographic research from El Salvador. I argue that silences and silencing both shape and are shaped by the violent everyday, and this forecloses an analysis of violences as connected. Without ‘listening’ to these everyday silences, our understanding of violence and its effects are necessarily limited.

S10 Feminist engagements with violence in Latin America

Did Ebola save the day? How medical cooperation in West Africa made for healthy relations between Canada and the United States.

Robert Huish
Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada

What opened up relations between Cuba and the United States? Was it President Barack Obama’s awakening of consciousness? Was it Raul Castro’s pragmatism? Pope Francis’ Devine Intervention? Or did a deadly virus in West Africa help to bridge the gap? While there is much attention focused on the high-level politics and diplomacy to normalize relations with Cuba and the United States, the case of Cuban physicians working in U.S.-built hospitals during the Ebola pandemic provides an important example of how person-to-person diplomacy also factors in to the equation. This paper argues that U.S.-Cuban cooperation during the Ebola crisis provided an important opportunity for transactional diplomacy, cooperation, and direct defiance of U.S. State Department aggression against Cuba. This is significant as it demonstrated a working example of foreign outreach where the two countries worked in conjunction with each other, and not against each other. Notably, the Ebola cooperation directly challenged the U.S. State Department’s aggressive “Cuban Medical Parole Program,” a strategy to undermine the work of Cuban physicians, and replace it with an important cooperative framework. Indeed this experience has lessons for emerging U.S.-Cuba relations and for international development policy more broadly.

S11 The Changing Dynamics of Cuban Healthcare: The New Role of Health

Ethnificating the people and the land: the emergence of a ‘new’ indigenous geography in Chile

Katy Jenkins
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The neoliberalisation of Chile since Pinochet’s dictatorship is a well-known process: repression of society, deregulation of the economy, privatisation of the national resources and companies, and the imposition of free-market through legal reforms, among others. The political ecological project of neoliberalism in Chile has been also highlighted during the last years: the massive transformation of land to be specialised in the production of raw materials (copper, forestry, and fishery, among others), the creation, privatisation and concentration of water rights, the penetration of transnational capital, the expansion of large investment projects and the rapid urbanisation. However, there has been little attention about the impacts of these processes among the indigenous population. Our study is focused on the process of urbanisation of the indigenous population and the emergence of territorial claims in the context of extractivism. The cases of study are the North, where the Aymara and Quechua indigenous population is concentrated and there is conflict with large mining companies, and the South, where the Mapuche people is clashing with the expansion of the forestry industry and hydroelectric projects. The hypothesis is that the urbanisation of indigenous of people was not their holocaust (as some anthropologist pointed out) but the possibility for a new process of self-identification, organisation and the construction of a ‘new’ indigenous geography, where the ancestral territory has been constructed from science, environmentalism and imagination. This research present the analysis of mixed methods, putting together surveys, GIS and remote sensing, and interviews conducted in the studied areas.

S25 Building bridges between social, cultural and environmental studies: States, social movements and natural resources in Latin America.

Victims, Agency and Reparation: Reconsidering the Notion of “Victim” in Discourses on Mexico’s Contemporary Violence

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Discourses on contemporary violence in Mexico have emphasised the relevance that the notion of “victim” has in understanding the possibilities for restoring peace and conditions for justice in contexts marked by violence. Victim-centred conceptions of political violence analyse the relationship between victims of violence and the state -as guarantor of justice for these victims- in terms of the process of reparation that makes possible the transition from the victim-condition -or victimhood- to a subject-condition for the full exercise of people’s civil and political rights. In other words, these conceptions analyses the conditions for reparation in terms of reaching citizenship in a political sense. In this presentation I will analyse, first, the thesis that states that victimhood means, at least, that the political condition of people is damaged (or at risk to be damaged). And, second, how discourses on contemporary violence identify different processes or strategies to transform victimhood into well-being in terms of the exercise of political liberties or, more precisely, in terms of restoring the conditions for being a citizen or a political agent.

S6 Enforced Disappearances in Mexico: Continuities and Ruptures in the Civil Society-State Relationship

The place of the peasant community on Peru’s northern coast?

Andrew Jobling
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This paper explores the contemporary dynamics of peasant communities on Peru’s northern coast. Ongoing processes of socio-economic differentiation and change in a context of capitalist expansion and globalisation appear potentially to threaten the historical continuity of these communities. Simultaneously, hegemonic discourses and policies, including the continued roll out of a liberal, individualist institutional and legal framework; the transfer of land and water resources to expand the agribusiness frontier; and the persistence of spatialized narratives of development that depict the coastal region as the locus of Peruvian modernity, render coastal peasant communities as anachronistic and out of place. However, this paper argues for a more nuanced reading of the current experiences and practices of coastal peasant communities, encompassing complex and sometimes contradictory processes of adaptation and resistance as well as marginalisation. In so doing it contests simplistic and compartmentalised readings of Peruvian geography to assert the social diversity of the northern coastal region.

S36 Representations of Indigeneity and Community Resistance

More than samba, football and carnival? The ‘Demonstrations Cup’ under the global spotlight.

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LSE, London, UK

Following years of economic growth and political stability, the hosting of both the World Cup and the Olympic Games was seen by many as the ‘coming out party’ for Brazil in order to become a global actor. Both events, in particular, were considered as communicational platforms that would allow Brazil to project a more modern and neoliberal image of itself for foreign audiences. According to some documents by the Brazilian government, the Confederations Cup of 2013 would be one of the key events in the attempt to portray a ‘new’ image of Brazil, given that it would be a dress rehearsal for the World Cup of the following year. However, in an unexpected twist, a series of protests that had started weeks earlier against an increase in public transportation fares, reached their peak precisely during the Confederations Cup (later nicknamed the ‘Demonstrations Cup’), constituting the biggest social unrest witnessed in Brazil in more than two decades. Drawing on original research gathered in more than 60 interviews with Brazilian journalists, foreign correspondents, activists and representatives of the Brazilian government, this paper will focus on the tensions surrounding the media coverage of Brazil by local and foreign journalists during those weeks in June 2013. In particular, this paper will pay attention to the efforts carried out by different groups in order to construct and project a specific image of Brazil aimed at getting the attention of foreign audiences, as well as the different struggles behind the development of these mediated representations.

S24 Latin American Sports in the Global Arena

'Bridges across heartlands': comparing the depiction in films of indigenous peoples in Argentina with minority peoples in European contexts.

Dilys Jones
University of Manchester, Manchester, UK

The portrayal of 'original peoples' (Maldonado 2010) seems relatively neglected in analyses of Argentine film. Through an analysis of changing ways that original peoples have been portrayed in the work of directors such as Ulises De la Orden, Miguel Pereira, and Lucrecia Martel this paper explores possible similarities with the portrayal of other minority peoples in films of other minority nations. Drawing on a threefold system of film classification developed in relation to Welsh, Basque and Catalan cinema, it discusses differences and similarities in characterisation, plot and the depictions of everyday social, cultural and political life, and how these shape changing narratives of identities. Collapsing distinctions between documentary and feature film, in particular it focuses on similarities and differences in ways that minority peoples characterise land or territory. From Kolla, Diaguitas, Wichí, and Guaraní issues of land rights, through notions of heartlands and nurturing landscapes to discordant landscapes associated with postnationalism which has been developed in analysis of Welsh and Basque film, this paper traces a possible trajectory in the changing relationships between minority peoples and landscape. It draws attention to how peoples and landscapes co-construct each other, and also highlights differences in how land itself is characterised in the films depicting peoples with territory and degrees of autonomy, and films depicting those struggling to reclaim territory. It concludes by pointing towards possibilities for building bridges between the experiences and situations of indigenous peoples in South America and minority peoples in other places, contexts and situations elsewhere in the world.

S34 Insiders and Outsiders in Society, Film and Literature

Policing Street Children in Sao Paulo, Brazil: Relations of Violence and Exclusion in the City

Daniel Jupp Kina
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This paper will explore the social, spatial and temporal nature of the relation between police and street-children in the streets of Sao Paulo, Brazil. The field work took place in the city centre of Sao Paulo city where the concentration of street-children is at a historic high. According to a survey completed in 2007 (Sao Paulo, 2007), 805 children were found living on the streets and it is estimated that this number has significantly grown since then. The increase of this population coupled with the difficulties local and national authorities face to develop effective social policies has intensified the encounters between the police and street-children (Sales 2012; Ribeiro 2008; Drybread 2013). The research participants were composed of 3 groups: street-children, police/security officers, and key informants (academics, practitioners, etc.). The methodology included three main forms of data input: Ethnography, Collective Mapping, and Semi structured interviews (on site / walking interviews). Data analysis is ongoing but preliminary analysis indicates that police violence is still very present in street-children. The data also provides information about the types of violence that have been practiced and the different people involved in violent actions. It is possible to observe a qualitative change in the forms of violence as a result of the militarization of the civil metropolitan police and the legitimisation of the lethal power of the military police. Reflections around the relation between the increase of violence and wider societal process such as the gentrification process is another important aspect raised by the participants.

S27 Violence, Politics and the Sacred

Between the back and the front stage - the political strategies of Central American business groups

Yuri Kasahara
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Historical accounts on the development of the Central American democracies place major emphasis on the role of the elites and their sources of wealth for the evolution of democracy. Differences in ideologies and inclination to support democracy are often viewed as determined by whether the elite is a landholding class, engaged in export processing, commerce or industrial production. This paper discusses the political strategies of current diversified business groups (DBGs) in the context of recent economic transformations including transnationalization. It asks how these strategies are affected by the shift in the sources of income from agriculture and industry towards services, and their increasing transnational activities. However, it is not only the case that political institutions are affected by DBG strategies; DGBs are also crucially affected by political institutions. We discuss the impact of political institutions on business group strategies focusing particularly on informal and formal institutions affecting the relationship between the executive and the legislative, and how that impacts on the business group strategies towards presidents pursuing agendas that are challenging or accommodating to their interests. More specifically, we research strategies 1) aimed at controlling the executive, and 2) strategies of confronting executive powers perceived to pursue an agenda that counter their interests. We find that there is a clear pattern that where institutions are weak and presidential control over congress is also weak, the DBG leaders will attempt at destabilization. Moreover, there is a connection between generally strong institutions, relationship of cooperation between government and DBGs and a low propensity to transnationalize.

S39 Elites, governance and democracy in Central America: changes and continuities in the faces of power

The Evolution of Cuban Medical Internationalism under Raúl Castro

John Kirk
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Under Raúl Castro there have been significant efforts to modernize the economy, to make the state more efficient. Since the exportation of medical services is the main source of hard currency for the government (generating almost three times the amount resulting from tourism), it is important to analyze the impact which his modernization platform has had upon the delivery of foreign medical services. This paper, based upon extensive interviews in Havana, examines the approach employed by the government of Raúl Castro to maintain medical cooperation abroad, and studies both changes implemented to date and the constants in medical internationalism.

S11 The Changing Dynamics of Cuban Healthcare: The New Role of Health

Health and Well-being: The Next Stage of Cuban Healthcare

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For decades the Cuban healthcare system has been internationally lauded, and its health rates celebrated. Indeed, for a population of 11.2 million, there are some 83,000 doctors—one of the highest doctor-to-patient ratios in the world. International health specialists have also often noted the country’s success in the field of health. The Director General of the World Health Organization, Margaret Chan, noted on her last trip to Cuba that, “I keep a special place in my heart and recognize the effort of the Cuban government to establish health as an essential pillar to development”. The system and its evolution have been studied at length, as scholars have examined the system’s development. However, since 2008 the healthcare system and the island’s understanding of health have changed significantly. This paper will explore the next stage in Cuban healthcare. Instead of the a system focusing almost exclusively on social determinants of health, since 2008 the system and its practitioners have increasingly focused on the importance of well-being and how it engages with individual and national health rates. The development of the next stage in Cuba’s healthcare system will be explored, and the contemporary understanding of health throughout the island will be analyzed. Why has the healthcare system in Cuba changed? And what is the new understanding of health and its role in society?

S11 The Changing Dynamics of Cuban Healthcare: The New Role of Health

White Privilege? Migration, Belonging, & the Fragility of Costa Rica’s Whiteness Myth.

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Costa Rican elites and intellectuals have long defined their nation as unique in the Central American isthmus through the formulation of a remarkably durable, multilayered, official national narrative that celebrates Costa Rica as Central America’s white republic. This teleological master narrative holds that during the colonial period Costa Ricans, who are of ‘pure’ European extraction, forged a peaceful, egalitarian, though impoverished society far away from the colonial centers of power. Like all national mythologies, Costa Rica’s exceptionalist rendition draws upon some undeniable realities. The widely embraced master narrative, however, distorts as much as it illuminates the experience of contemporary and historical actors. Moreover, for Costa Ricans who find themselves residing in the United States and are “read” by their host society as non-whites, the experience can be a difficult one. Interestingly, for those Costa Ricans who are in fact read as “white” by non-Latinos in the U.S. the experience can at once confirm their sense of national belonging, but also places into question what precisely it means to be “white” and what is “white” privilege in both the U.S. and Costa Rica.

S1 Rethinking whiteness in Latin America

The Politics of Land Use in Costa Rica’s Southern Rainforest

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Costa Rica’s Osa Peninsula has been circumscribed as a “wild” and “remote” place where opportunity and socio-economic transformation await. This peninsula has historically been the site of much conflict over land use including exploitation by US companies like United Fruit and Osa Productos Forestales (OPF). After OPF’s controversial tenure bullying campesinos (subsistence farmers) off their lands, the company was finally expropriated. The company’s absence, however, was only to be filled by a new policing force – state conservation initiatives. These new environmental initiatives manifested as Corcovado National Park and the Golfo Dulce Forest Reserve. Neither managing body inspired much trust amongst the campesinos in the area. Instead, the presence of the state was viewed as an invasion, as capitalist forms of resource exploitation and violent coercive tactics were supplanted by bureaucratic management and the legitimization of the nation’s land grab. Costa Rica is unique in the manner that it centralizes environmental concerns and creates a space where political discourse, socio-economic transformation, and environmentalist rhetoric are entangled. This paper will place this dissent from environmental concerns within Costa Rica’s national context and in relation to the burgeoning interests surrounding ecological stewardship. I propose to illuminate the perspectives of campesinos affected by the violence perpetrated by OPF and the subsequent state policing. The views held by Osa residents complicate normative notions of “opportunity” and the ethics of socio-economic transformation by demonstrating how differing types of knowledge collide. Ultimately, what does it mean to make political claims based upon an understanding of space?

S29 Education, Environment, Inequality, and Social Mobility

Exploring the sphere of leisure and gender in contemporary Latin American cinema

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This paper aims at presenting my current doctoral research’s goals and methodological considerations, as well as the main questions it attempts to answer. The work analyzes a corpus of Argentine and Latin American movies from 2002 to 2014, with the goal of exploring fictional projections of the socio-sexual universe. The focus is a comparative study of the figures of women, which reveal changes in customs and everyday life. The specific goal is to analyze the construction of scenes and figures linked to various experiences of leisure. We ask: Which audiovisual and narrative procedures are used to show the various ways to represent the sphere of free time and cultural consumptions? How is that construction linked with aesthetic and socio-cultural images related to contemporary transformations of gender and sexuality relations? From a micro-social perspective, the premise is that, in order to analyze movies in terms of production and distribution, a detailed study of particular cases is necessary. The paper leverages a series of key studies to understand films in historical, political and aesthetic terms. Two main axes of analysis have been assumed: the first one takes into account the cross-disciplinary nature of film studies as regards the socio-cultural field of knowledge; and the second considers film and gender studies exploring the matter of the body and sexuality as a paramount location for the production of new forms of subjectivity.

S38 Politics and the Audio-Visual: Transmedial Relations in Film and TV

La épica de los trabajadores: los relatos documentales de fábricas recuperadas

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Uno de los momentos de mayor producción del cine documental en Argentina coincidió y fue producto del estallido social y político que tuvo su máxima expresión en diciembre del 2001 con la crisis política-económica y la renuncia del presidente Fernando de la Rúa. Los márgenes de la población fueron retratados de forma insistente, las imágenes de las protestas del 20 de diciembre de 2001 y las causas que las generaron comenzaron a convertirse en un tópico común en las pantallas y su impacto, por esta misma razón, comenzó a disminuir. La lucha por la recuperación de fábricas al borde de la quiebra por parte de los trabajadores fue una de las narrativas privilegiadas durante los primeros años de la década. Los mismos fueron retratados por grupos de intervención política como Boedo Films, Ojo Obrero y Alavío, en una serie de videos que funcionaron principalmente como registros de sus luchas, sin proponer una narración articuladora en la mayoría de los casos. Por este motivo proponemos trabajar a partir de tres largometrajes documentales argentinos realizados entre los años 2003 y 2008: Grissinopoli. El país de los grisines (Darío Doria, 2004), Fasinpat, fábrica sin patrón (Daniele Incalcaterra, 2004) y Corazón de fábrica (Ernesto Ardito y Virna Molina, 2008). En ellos prima un relato épico de la lucha por la defensa del trabajo, que se articula a partir de estructuras clásicas de crisis y personajes colectivos que emprenden batallas titánicas contra los patrones a la vez que demandan la ayuda del Estado.

S38 Politics and the Audio-Visual: Transmedial Relations in Film and TV

Gael García Bernal: Staging Transnational Stardom

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Gael García Bernal is an international and transnational star whose work encompasses acting, directing, producing and activism. Like many Mexican actors before him, including Dolores del Río and Salam Hayek, García Bernal has achieved success in Mexico and in Hollywood, as well as playing characters whose nationalities range from Spanish, in Pedro Almodóvar’s La mala educación (2004); Cuban, in Walter Salles’ The Motorcycle Diaries (2004); and Chilean in Pablo Larrain’s No (2012). This paper examines whether the stereotypical representations of Latin Americans in Hollywood productions has moved on the from the era of the so-called Hispanic Hollywood. It focuses in particular on whether García Bernal, like many other Latin American or Spanish actors, is relegated to a narrow range of ‘ethnic’ roles or if his star power and behind the scenes producing and directing credits have allowed him to play more varied and nuanced roles that transcend ethnic or national labels.

S21 The Transnational Circulation of Mexican Celebrity and Stardom

Anita Brenner, Intellectual Tourism, and Nation-building in Post-revolutionary Mexico

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Anita Brenner was a central figure in Mexico’s cultural renaissance: a writer of now canonized works on Mexican art and history (Idols behind Altars (1929) and The Wind that Swept Mexico (1943)). Brenner was also an inveterate traveller and travel writer throughout her long publishing career in Mexico and the United States. This paper considers Brenner’s role in intellectual and commercial networks at two stages of her career and at key moments of Mexico’s experience of modernity. The first is her involvement in a coterie of writers and artists (including Rivera, Jean Charlot and Tina Modotti) who contributed to Mexican Folkways (1925-1937), edited by the North American anthropologist Frances Toor. The paper suggests that this activity served as a period of apprenticeship for the later launch of Mexico, This Month (1955-1971) edited by Brenner in Mexico City and sponsored by the so-called Comité norteamericano pro-México. The paper, drawing on unstudied archival material as well as those periodicals’ contents, situates both projects – each bi-national and/or bi-lingual, part state-, part privately- funded enterprises – within a burgeoning magazine culture that functioned to affirm and commodify ‘Mexican culture’ during the country’s extended period of national reconstruction after the Revolution. It considers the continuities and breaks evident in the two magazines, drawing attention especially to their mutual investment in commerce as much as social democracy in Mexico, and examines their and Brenner’s contributions to a process of nation formation that, as Rick López (2010) and other cultural historians have observed, was profoundly transnational.

S5 Transnational Intellectual Networks in Latin America

#YoSoy132 and digital ICTs: The ambivalent character of an ‘anti-neoliberal’ practice

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The social movement known as #YoSoy132 emerged in Mexico in 2012 during the presidential campaign towards general elections. Triggered by the visit of the candidate and current president Enrique Peña Nieto from the political party denominated Partido Revolucionario Institucional to a private university, this movement was mainly composed by students. It initially stand against the manipulation of information and the imposition of the PRI’s presidential candidate by media corporations and political groups but soon defined itself as ‘anti-neoliberal’. Proposing a ‘systemic transformation’ #YoSoy132 was nevertheless vehemently concerned with the democratization of media and electoral participation. Its more general expressions endorsed the use of digital platforms and mobile technologies in demanding such transformation. In so doing, the movement was committed to freedom of speech, freedom of information and access to the Internet as a constitutional right but never consistently questioned the digital platforms and institutions.

S7 Cultural Transformations in a Changing Cuba: Media, Communication and the Remaking of Cuban Identity

The Falklands/Malvinas sovereignty dispute. Is British-Argentine reconciliation a possible scenario?

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Being located in the South Atlantic, The Falkland Islands archipelago (in Spanish-speaking countries called Islas Malvinas), has been the subject of dispute between the United Kingdom and Argentina for years. The UK has been exercising control over the islands since 1833. However, Argentina has laid claim to them, which finally led to the war between both states in 1982. The dispute cannot be considered as resolved even now, despite numerous attempts to mediate and made bilateral talks. Tensions over the Falklands Islands have become particularly intense over the past years, during the presidency of Cristina Fernández de Kirchner (2007-2015). The Argentine president have recognized the Falklands sovereignty issue as a key priority of Argentine national interests, trying to strengthen its position in the South Atlantic,change the nature of the dispute from bilateral into multilateral and discredit the British actions in the area. The British, however, do not agree to undertake any negotiations on the sovereignty of the Falklands Islands. The issue has been in deadlock, posing a challenge for international relations in the Southern Hemisphere. The main goal of the paper is to analyze possible scenarios of the development of the British-Argentine dispute, trying to answer the question of whether the UK and Argentina will ever reach reconciliation over the Falklands. To do that, the author will outline the nature of the dispute from both theoretical and practical perspective and provide ideas of what can be done to facilitate the cooperation between the states.

S28 International Perspectives on the Politics and History of Latin America

Gauging the impact of solidarity campaigns: Pinochet’s Chile

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This paper discusses how far international solidarity campaigns can affect political developments in a targeted country. It considers the paradox of the Pinochet regime in Chile, which generated a historically unprecedented number of international campaigns against it, yet was one of the longest-lasting dictatorships in Latin American history. It considers the case of the British Chile Solidarity Campaign which successfully persuaded the Labour governments of 1974-79 to impose a number of sanctions against the Pinochet regime, including an arms embargo. It gauges the effect of these measures in Chile, in the light of the varying actions taken by other foreign governments. The paper concludes that domestic factors are crucial to explaining the durability of the Pinochet regime and, in this context, aims to identify the types of solidarity action that can have the most impact on their target country.

S12 Solidarity Campaigns and Latin America

The United States and Latin America: Decline of power or decline in interest?

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It is commonly asserted that the United States no longer holds the dominant position it once did in Latin America. This decline is credited to several factors: a global decline in U.S. power, lower levels of U.S. attention to the region, the entrance of new extra-hemispheric challengers, and more “assertive” Latin American leaders. This paper seeks to test the implicit hypotheses regarding U.S. decline. First, using a variety of metrics, it will ask whether U.S. power in the hemisphere has declined relative to to regional and extra-regional actors. Second, it will assess U.S. involvement in Latin America-that is, attempts to assert power. Finally, it will examine the outcomes of these attempts to exert U.S. power. The decline of U.S. power can easily be overstated. The autonomy and influence of Latin American states was long understated, sometimes leading to comparison against a fictitious past. However, there have been real changes. First, the geographic concentration of U.S. power and involvement away from South America has intensified. Second, there has been a long-term shift in the means of U.S. power away from military intervention (particularly direct use of force) and towards structural power. Finally, the nature of the Chinese involvement in the hemisphere does not, as most analysts assume, threaten U.S. power. All three of these trends are likely to continue.

S19 America or Americas? New opportunities and pressures on regional governance

Recreating Welshness in Patagonia

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Whilst the aim of the promoters of Welsh migration to Patagonia was to create ‘A New Wales in South America’ removed from British influence, this utopian vision was superseded by the stark reality of full allegiance to the Argentine Republic. Nevertheless, the Welsh were not yet another European immigrant group arriving in the country; as the first state-sponsored venture south of the 40th parallel, the Welsh settlement holds a special place in national history as the first permanent population centre which substantiated Argentina’s claim to Eastern Patagonia. It is thus not surprising that Gŵyl y Glaniad [the ‘Festival of the Landing’] should have been the first public holiday enacted by the brand new Province of Chubut in 1958 to mark the anniversary of the arrival of the first contingent of Welsh settlers on 28 July 1865. This paper will focus on the festivity as celebrated in Chubut in order to explore how a sense of Patagonian Welshness is recreated in the annual commemoration, whose narrative rests upon the ‘friendship’ between the settlers and the original Tehuelche. Attention will also be devoted to different readings of the commemoration at different times throughout its history, with an emphasis on the issues it mobilises today.

S13 Settler colonial experiences in Latin America

Towards an Updating of Communication Policies in Cuba: Rethinking the Management and Sustainability of Journalistic Organisations

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In a context of changes in the structure of the Cuban model of society promoted by the government since 2008, the debate about the functions of journalism and public communications has increased notoriously. However, these discussions are timid about subjects like management and sustainability of journalistic organizations. The reforming process demand a detailed and critical study about production of cultural contents and creative industries in economies dependent of sectors based in knowledge. Regarding that, contributions of a discipline like Political Economy of Communication and Culture are vital, because it has warned of possible deviations to narrow paths and utilitarian notions in the analysis of contribution of culture in social development.

S18 Cultural Transformations in a Changing Cuba: Media, Communication and the Remaking of Cuban Identity

Ecuador’s growing conflict over difference: the case of ‘indigenous’ education

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The implementation of current national education policies in Ecuador reflects an ideological imperative of providing equal access to a national standardizing and centrally controlled education project for all. This has led to a highly tense political scenario uniting the indigenous movement and the national teachers union over claims to violations of collective indigenous and workers rights. Many community schools have been shut or are under threat of closure; also at stake is whether the school can be of the community or simply in the community. Against this standardizing education project indigenous political discourse currently appears trapped. Locked in a battle over who can and should deliver ‘difference’, there is little space for reflection. I argue that the legitimate demand for ‘our education too,’ as ‘our language, our pedagogy, our science,’ implies demonstrating difference framed as a mirror image of a Eurocentric construction of the Subject (G. Spivak, 1988). This is unable to create a space to disrupt the underlying conceptualization of personhood as framed within a single episteme (M. Foucault, 1969/2012). The result is that classroom practice has no means of legitimizing difference as ‘ways of being,’ continuing to leave the school as a place of silencing. Formal education as a historical process of access to a form of agency embedded in a singular episteme (M. Blaser, 2009), as the only means for claiming autonomy, may have resulted in an impossible project of ‘indigenous’ schooling.

S9 Bridging languages, knowledge systems, and identities in contemporary Latin America

Collective Action and Party System Fragmentation: Opposition Parties in Argentina

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Since Argentina’s redemocratization in 1983, the Peronist party (or PJ) has dominated national politics, winning all but two presidential elections. On the provincial and legislative levels, the PJ has similarly shown to be the only viable party that can win without forming broad coalitions. Partisan opposition on the left and right have been forced to form alliances that have had mixed results at the ballot box and often regressed back to ideological divisiveness after a single electoral defeat. Currently, the Kirchner-led Front for Victory (FpV) branch of the PJ secures around 30 percent of Argentine voters yet its candidate is favored to win the presidency in October 2015. With 70 percent of the electorate outside the FpV and the general political environment marked by extreme political polarization after twelve years of FpV political dominance, what factors are preventing collective action among opposition parties? This paper challenges the widely accepted view that attributes the PJ’s electoral success to its political acumen alone. The paper draws on interviews with opposition leaders in the weeks prior to the mandatory national party primary held in August 2015 (a dry run for the final vote in October 2015). Results of the open primary (voters can vote for any candidate) again revealed a fractured partisan opposition more than an institutionally flexible PJ connecting with voters, as FpV candidate Scioli won with only 28% of the overall vote.

S14 Collective Action Successes and Failures in 21st Century Argentina

How to Institutionalize Youth Movements: Examining the History and Causes of Youth Activism in Argentina

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Throughout the twentieth century, poltical movements in Argentina that centered around youth have had a tumultuous relationship with the government. Student action reached its peak with the formation of violent guerilla insurgencies and the occurrences of both the Night of the Long Sticks and the Night of the Pencils, where the latter saw the deaths of several high school students. Moreover, the advent of the global sixties and the proliferation of a coherent youth culture and student activism has been historically connected to robust political action amongst young people in Argentina, which often incited violence from the military. However, in light of this history, the 1990s through the 2010s have been noticeably less violent. Most youth organizations are now wings of institutionalized political parties and incentives for military intervention in politics have been reduced. In light of these factors, how has the formation of an Argentine youth culture, the effects of Peronism, and de-militarization influenced youth activism? To answer these questions, this paper will look to Argentina’s formation of a coherent youth culture, which originate in the mid-twentieth century, government interaction and state violence against Argentine youth, and Argentina’s adoption of Third-wave democratization. Lastly, although the global formation of youth culture is largely seen as a transnational phenomenon, thi s paper will argue that it was local processes that had the biggest effect on Argentina’s trajectory of youth movements and activism.

S14 Collective Action Successes and Failures in 21st Century Argentina

A Wayuú Perspective on the Symbolism in Gabriel García Márquez’s Literature.

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This paper examines the influence of the Wayuu culture on the work Gabriel García Márquez: found in the interlinked themes of dreams, divination and the afterlife, as well as concepts of time and symbolic binary values associated with utopian and dystopian discourses. Referring to the results of reader-response survey carried out on members of the Wayuu community in September 2015, it will discuss the Wayuu’s interpretation of these elements. How does the bilingual Wayuú community receive and reconstruct the meanings and functions of such themes articulated in Spanish by GGM? Do they continue to relate them to the original narratives of communal identity and memory? Or does the transference of such symbols from Wayuunaiki to Spanish, affect their received meanings? These issues will be explored within the parameters of theories of bilingualism and translation. According to sociolinguistic theory (Kroskrity 2001; Mercedes, 2008) bi-lingual identity is a dynamic process of negotiation, conflict and re-creation between two cultural and linguistic spheres. In contrast, the traditional stance of translation theory (López García, 1996 at al) proposes a process of radical change and incommensurability between languages. How do bilingual communities function in and in between two languages and cultures?

S9 Translations of Indigenous Traditions in Latin American Literature

‘Social security lite’ and the informalisation of citizenship in Brazil

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In 2008, the Brazilian government introduced the individual micro-entrepreneur scheme, or MEI. This is a contributory social security scheme intended to overcome some of the inequalities between formal and informal workers. Workers without signed labour cards can contribute around R\$40/month to cover sick pay, maternity leave and a pension. Yet a majority of informal workers cannot afford the MEI, and it has been criticised by the international NGO Streetnet for sidestepping the more urgent issue of licencing. Maira Vannuchi of Streetnet notes: ‘the government creates a device to collect the tax from street vending...but takes no responsibility for decent work and the right of labour’. This paper argues that the MEI amounts to a ‘social security lite’ which not only sustains the divide in citizenship between formal and informal workers but also threatens formal sector labour relations by legitimising informality. Drawing from interviews with street vendors in Rio de Janeiro and participant observation with a workers’ rights NGO, I consider how the MEI changes the political significance of informality in Brazilian citizenship. I suggest that the MEI is an outcome of two contrasting trends: an informalisation of the labour market more generally in an ongoing neoliberal economic model, and a demand for stronger citizenship rights by a highly politicised population and a relatively receptive ruling party. I consider the plausibility of this combination of neoliberal employment policies with ‘pink tide’ approaches to inclusive citizenship in terms of the needs articulated by informal vendors.

S16 Exploring bridges between the formal and informal (sectors) in Latin America

Visual Navigations: The Poetics of Data

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In the field of networks and big data, data visualization has become very popular in recent years. Scientists, artists, and software designers are working collaboratively using elaborate ways to communicate data, and visual design is playing a substantial role by making the language of science more accessible and comprehensible, through visualisations, in the form of infographics, sculptural objects, installations, sonifications and applications. In this presentation I will introduce practice-based creative research where I explore data visualisation for poetic expression. Starting with the investigation of maritime data and the design of Apps the research has evolved into historical events of the Spanish Civil War and the Historical Memory including Spanish and Chilean Memory. It is with projects like these, that Electronic literature serves as a means to explore open data as cultural material, as a way to instigate new forms of communication to discuss social and political issues and bring transparency through hybrid forms of visual art, language and technological advances.

S20 Latin American Digital Culture: Repositioning the Field

Movements Matter: Indigenous Movements and Electoral Politics in Peru

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Movement-party relationships are an increasingly pertinent phenomenon. Social Movements in Latin America helped to mobilise support for leftist parties during the region’s Left Turn. Beyond Latin America, social movements have mobilised and engaged with electoral politics in Europe in light of the Eurozone Crisis. However, few empirical studies exist which examine the nature of movement-party relationships, and in particular, the impact on electoral politics. This paper provides unique insight into movement-party relationships across two electoral cycles in Peru using original interview data. Specifically, it presents the ways in which indigenous social movements mobilised their bases to support Ollanta Humala in the 2006 and 2011 elections. The mechanisms through which the movements mobilised their bases, their motivation for doing so and the impact of this support on electoral results are all discussed. The findings demonstrate that the movements mobilised their bases in favour of the left along programmatic linkages. This marks a turning point in the relationship between the indigenous base and parties in Peru, and one that was driven by the movements. The implication is that movements play a direct role in electoral politics thus challenging the assumption that they operate within a non-party space. This role not only mobilises valuable party support, it is also advantageous for democracy by (re) establishing programmatic, rather than clientelistic linkages. Movements therefore, matter and further empirical investigation into their relationship with parties and impact on elections is required in Latin America and beyond.

S36 Representations of Indigeneity and Community Resistance

Collective Action and Public Resource Mobilization - Have Argentines Learned to Tax Themselves?

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Latin America ranks as the world’s least taxed region since WWII, and among the larger countries, Argentina’s tax-to-GDP ratio often ranks last. Consequences of low taxation include underinvestment in human capital and infrastructure as well as monetary laxity. However, after 2002, the Argentine tax-to-GDP ratio rose annually, recasting it from a low to a high tax country that could soon supplant Brazil atop the region. Academic and multilateral research explains why, historically, Argentines refuse to pay taxes. Neither Argentina’s military nor its democratically elected governments proved adept at collecting taxes despite numerous efforts to do so. How did Argentina achieve collective action in the area of taxation after 2002? Did state capacity improve? Did public attitudes shift? Did international circumstances change? This paper uses IDB tax data and focuses on two particular issues: first, recent changes in the taxing of consumption, specifically the Value Added Tax (VAT), because it accounts for the lion’s share of Argentine taxation. In Argentina, innovations in consumer behavior that encourage more formal (and less informal) everyday transactions together with constitutional rules concerning VAT and fiscal federalism appear to combine in a way that favors collective action. Second, Argentine tax collection after the regional commodity boom crested in 2010 merits careful examination because between 2010 and 2014 tax-to-GDP fell or remained flat in Chile, Brazil and Uruguay yet it continued to rise in Argentina. What factors accounts for this variance, and can Argentine tax-to-GDP growth continue if global commodity prices remain low?

S14 Collective Action Successes and Failures in 21st Century Argentina

Constructing the White Cholo. Racial Sincerity or Colour-Blindness?

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In Lima few people feel or interact as equals. Markers of class, race and ethnicity are used to pigeonhole others according to social imaginaries exacerbating distance and segregation. This division is obvious in music. Music racialization and the notion that musical expression is racially embodied tacitly establish who is allowed to play and listen to certain music genres. In the aftermath of Peru’s twenty-year internal war, a feeling of ‘togetherness’ permeated Lima and motivated part of the white upper classes to approach previously rejected aesthetics and individuals through cultural consumption. White upper class musicians also fused these genres with foreign ones and, through intercultural and interracial onstage collaborations, began to explore their own role in society, challenge the social conventions of ‘good taste’ and attempt to articulate themselves socially in an inverse aspiration process where the privileged aspired to experience their city in the same way as the less privileged majority. This transgression of racialised boundaries allowed for music empathetic interactions and white upper class identity reconfigurations creating hybrid self-representations like ‘white cholos’. Through ethnographic examples, this paper will analyse how race and phenotype are perceived as, and constitute, social barriers to creativity and musician mobility, and how contemporary fusionistas challenge and subvert them. Furthermore, it problematizes the discourse used by white upper class musicians to validate their new fused identities as they negotiate empathy, social solidarity, authenticity and, in some cases, racial colour-blindness while advocating for social change.

S1 Rethinking whiteness in Latin America

Metal Governance in El Salvador and the Cultures of Legality Thereof

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Conflicts over metal governance in El Salvador have increasingly taken on legalistic and law-like expressions. In 2009 the Canadian Pacific Rim Mining Corporation and the US-based Commerce Group each filed lawsuits against the Salvadoran state through the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), a World Bank institution that arbitrates disputes between private investors and states. With these lawsuits, Pacific Rim and Commerce Group denounced the Salvadoran state for establishing a moratorium on all exploration and exploitation concessions after the two companies had already invested in mining projects in the country. The two corporations sought economic compensation and a lifting of the moratorium from the Salvadoran state. Meanwhile, the Mesa Nacional frente a la Minería Metálica, an alliance of grassroots movements and NGOs, has become salient since the mid-2000s, in tandem with a rise in metal exploration in the country’s northern regions. In the face of the two lawsuits against the state that could result in the lifting of the moratorium, members of the Mesa Nacional- with the support of national and international NGOs specialising in legal issues and litigation-have likewise resorted to legal instruments, in this case in order to assert their position against mining. This paper will explore the cultures of legality that have developed through these actors’ initiatives and the implications of legal arenas having become a locus of conflicts over resource governance.

S17 Building bridges between social, cultural and environmental studies: States, social movements and natural resources in Latin America.

‘Y se hundió en el otro rostro’: renderings of La Malinche in contemporary Mexican fiction

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Cristina Rivera Garza’s novel Verde Shanghai (2011) has been explored in terms of how the feminist alterity available in the novel acts as symbol for feminist and postructural perspectives (Rodríguez, 2013); as a Chinese box, using language to hide and expose at the same time (Sabugal, 2011); as well as an exploration of the relation between self and other, and between Latin Americans and Chinese, demonstrating an interest in the meeting of Hispanic and Asian cultures (Prince, 2014). However, there is yet no analysis which explores possible re-readings of Mexican myths which the novel may allow. This paper seeks to explore how the unstable notion of identity available in Verde Shanghai allows for a new rendering of the Mexican figure ‘La Malinche.’ The paper argues that this is permitted not only because the protagonist shares Malinche’s Christian name, Marina, but also because of their shared experience of the border. Read through Jean-Luc Nancy’s concept of ‘being singular plural,’ (2000) Gloria Anzaldúa’s notion of ‘borderland,’ (2007) and Bjørn Thomassen conceptualisation on the ‘liminal’ (2014), Verde Shanghai, through the figure of Marina, will be proposed to highlight the notion of unfixedness and coexistence as constitutive of the Latin American subject. Marina opens up the possibility of less rigid gender and racial distinctions. Through Marina’s exposure of notions of gender and race as unfixed and ambiguous, the novel will be suggested to simultaneously recall and challenge the histories and contemporary structures of power upheld in Mexico today.

S2 Questions of Identity and Post-identity in Latin American Studies

Psychology, capitalism and the making of neoliberal selves in Mexico

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Since the 1970s, academic debates have considered how psychological discourses may legitimize or challenge capitalist forms of social organization. However, these debates have largely focused on the USA and Western Europe. The roles which psychological discourses play in contemporary popular cultures in Latin America remain poorly understood. Here, I use an analysis of the Mexican self-help publishing industry to examine the roles which psychological narratives may play in constructing, bolstering or subverting neoliberal subjectivities. Self-help books, my subject matter, are widely read in Mexico and at the international level. They therefore constitute a nexus through which the narratives of self and social relationships of academic psychology percolate into popular culture. In Mexico, self-help publishing involves, first, the translation and sale of texts written elsewhere, often in the USA, Europe and other Latin American nations, and, second, the sale of books by Mexican authors. This gives the Mexican self-help industry a distinctively hybrid character, as a variety of interpretations of self-improvement compete with each other for a readership. Here, I contrast self-help texts that blend psychological concepts with Christian nationalism with secular accounts that rely on pseudo-scientific and philosophical arguments to formulate a moral vision of a successful life. In spite of their narrative diversity, I argue that neoliberal understandings of self, choice, and personal responsibility are pervasive in self-help texts. The organization of the self-help publishing industry according to neoliberal economic principles and the refashioning of authors as competitive self-help entrepreneurs may explain this narrative convergence to some extent.

S15 Neoliberalism, resistance and popular cultures

Construyendo Hegemonía: nuevas/viejas formas de presión a la gobernabilidad en América Latina y el Caribe

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Si tratamos de pensar y dialogar sobre las nuevas formas de presión a la gobernabilidad en América Latina, se puede deducir existir otras formas anteriores de esa practica. Desde la interdisciplinariedad y la comparación, este articulo busca presentar una historicidad de las formas de presión adoptadas a partir de la relaciones entre los países del continente americano, de finales del siglo XIX a la actualidad. Esa lectura propicia evidencias de una trayectoria de larga duración, con distintos momentos y periodos, en tiempos y espacios específicos, que revelan formas y políticas de la hegemonía para presionar o desestabilizar gobiernos en la macro-región. Desde la idea del Binomio Integración-Seguridad, se presentaran las particularidades de cada momento - Panamericanismo/Big Stick; Interamericanismo/Buena Vecindad; Interamericanismo/Contrainsurgencia; Alianza para el Progreso/Anticomunismo; Neoliberalismo/Anti Narco-Terrorismo-, llamando especial atención para la complejidad del momento actual, con los cambios globales de las ultimas décadas y las nuevas tecnologías. Para eso, se propone una mirada desde los Estudios Latinoamericanos, pero en constante diálogo con la Historia, la Geopolítica, las Relaciones Internacionales y las Ciencias Sociales. Se busca ofertar elementos para una observación macro-regional de la temática, así como proporcionar el dialogo y debate sobre las particularidades de cada momento, con mayor atención a las practicas y formas en curso en la actualidad.

S19 America or Americas? New opportunities and pressures on regional governance.

Bare life in contemporary Mexico: Popular religion and everyday violence

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Popular religion is frequently considered as the remains of “pre-modern” times. To some it may seem anachronistic in an era of highly developed technologies and urban life styles. However, in Mexican society, new types of religious practices and the devotion to secular saints are associated with the drug world and the informal sector at the margins of urban life. These new forms of popular religion are a sign of a changing Mexican society that has been deeply impacted by globalization and neoliberal economics. This paper explores this contemporary religious phenomenon by using Giorgio Agamben’s notion of “bare life”. The worship of Jesús Malverde, La Santa Muerte and other laic figures is gaining popularity among those who are abandoned by the mainstream and involved in the informal sector, where they remain exposed to danger and violence and abandoned by the law. The role of new religious icons is to provide protection, identification and a sense of community without authorization by the Catholic Church the traditional system of Christianity. Practitioners of these forms of popular religion may be accused of justifying illicit activities and reproducing the culture of fear and everyday violence. This study discusses these controversial practice in order to examine a social environment in which the informal sectors have been condemned illegality while nonetheless constructing their own culture, identity and ways of life.

S15 Neoliberalism, resistance and popular cultures

From Precarious Inclusion to... Precarious Inclusion? The ‘Container Law’ and the Containment of Waste and Workers in Montevideo

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For the last decade, informal sector recyclers (cartoneros, clasificadores, catadores) in Latin America have increasingly been the target of social policy interventions from the state and third sector. Policies have focused on the collectivisation, formalisation and associated ‘dignification’ of waste work and the strengthening of workers’ organisations, even if recognition of previously invisible labour has not always translated into improvements in income. Waste scholarship in Uruguay has posited a relationship of exploitation between the formal sector recycling industry and informal sector clasificadores who provide raw materials for low prices whilst risking health without social security cover. Recent Uruguayan government policy has shifted from encouraging clasificador cooperatives to the construction of inter-institutional recycling plants supported by the state and private sector. This has involved a process of ‘dual formalisation’: workers enter the formal sector, paying taxes and social security contributions, but so do recyclable materials which are sold directly to industry instead of informal sector intermediarios. This paper, based on a year’s ethnographic fieldwork, explores the bridges between the formal and informal in the Uruguayan recycling sector and evaluates the transition of one group of workers from an ‘informal cooperative’ to a formal sector recycling plant. Is the relation between the informal and formal purely one of ‘hidden exploitation’? Has formalisation benefited workers and in what ways? Has the state been successful in ‘containing’ workers and waste material within the formal sector? And is the dignity of work dependent on it being carried out collectively in the formal sector?

S16 Exploring bridges between the formal and informal (sectors) in Latin America

Repositioning the Genre?: Questioning Truth in Rogelio Guedea’s Detective Trilogy.

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In Mexico’s recent history, violence – and the impunity of its perpetrators – has often been debated. Rogelio Guedea’s detective trilogy (Conducir un tráiler: 2008, 41:2010, and El crimen de Los Tepames: 2012) exposes Mexican society as having experienced corruption on a long-term and wide-ranging basis, much alike the genre’s socio-critical American hard-boiled counterpart. However, rather than conforming to American generic norms, this paper argues that Guedea’s work provides the reader with an unusual, demanding, and original take on the archetypal detective novel. Rather than guiding the reader through an obstacle course of clues to a satisfying solution, Guedea’s work leads the reader into inescapable darkness, leaving us with an overwhelming sense of anxiety. This paper posits that Guedea’s rejection of unveiling truth – a vital tradition within detective fiction – parallels Mexico’s socio-political background of lies and corruption. Such an original interpretation of the genre, achieved in part by creating a distressing plot based on historical events, draws our attention to the corruption currently at the heart of Mexican society. Furthermore, Guedea’s work also demonstrates how Latin American authors are capable of repositioning and mutating original genres in order to provide readers with a greater understanding of the society in question.

S27 Violence, Politics and the Sacred

The space between oil and gold: A case of indigenous empowerment through extractive resources in Venezuelan Amazonia.

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This paper offers a counter case to the regular tales of conflict and resistance to extractive activities in Latin America. Drawing on the case of the Sanema of Venezuelan Amazonia, the paper tells of the widespread but largely untold phenomenon of indigenous participation in wildcat gold mining, an activity that is often enthusiastically embraced due to its capacity to facilitate immense wealth accumulation, regional prestige, and expressions of kin compassion through manufactured gifts. The back-story to indigenous participation in gold mining in Venezuela has its origins in another important resource integral to Venezuelan identity: petroleum and its ubiquitous refined product petrol, which is so highly subsidised that it is almost free to purchase. Petrol has become essential to the endemic illegal mining occurring in this region because it powers the water cannons required to access colluvial gold deposits in the sub-soil; and indigenous actors become key facilitators in this small-scale extraction because the current inclusionary ideology of Bolivarian socialism bestows indigenous peoples with a monthly quota of fuel often covertly used for this purpose. In this way, native Venezuelans find themselves willingly occupying a valuable space between these two intimately interrelated resources - oil and gold; and their story can shed light on the complex dynamic between social, environmental and political factors surrounding extractive resources in Latin America.

S25 Building bridges between social, cultural and environmental studies: States, social movements and natural resources in Latin America.

The oracles of the past framing the future: decoding the intellectual narratives over war in Colombia

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Colombian intellectuals are clearly one of the most vigorous sectors regarding the production of academic narratives about the ongoing war in that country. Since the sixties they have discussed many interpretative frames and presented different representations about the war through competing accounts. In this line of thought, fourteen Colombian experts were invited by the Colombian government and the FARC-EP guerrilla in the current peace negotiators with the mission the contribute to the elucidation of the origins, multiples causes, principal factors and conditions that have facilitated / contributed to the persistence and critical impacts of the armed conflict. In this context, the objective of this paper is to discuss the meaning and significance that those intellectual narratives assign to the war in Colombia, focusing on the construction of the exclusion and the resistance as a way to frame (or not) the use of violence. The paper will present two rival narratives regarding this topic. The first one, close to the hegemonic view of the government, gives analytical weight to the idea that the conflict in Colombia is an expression of individual wills and greed. The second one emphasises in the grievance element and in the structural conditions that generated the violent outcome. Thus decoding the ways in which the intellectual narratives can reproduce or challenge hegemonic accounts of violence and subversive events.

S7 Making sense of neoliberalism in Latin America today: Narratives on violence, exclusion and resistance.

The influence of international solidarity in Chile’s politics during the 1970s. Exiles in western Europe

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After the 1973 military coup in Chile, one of the first measures taken by the regime of Pinochet, in order to control the opposition, was to exile leaders of the main political parties that formed the Popular Unity Alliance headed by President Allende. The destination of the exiles varied greatly. Regardless of the context in which they arrived, a worldwide solidarity organization emerged almost instantly to condemn the regime and to keep the Chilean case at the top of the international agenda. Of particular importance was the solidarity organization that emerged in Western Europe, which managed to surpass the Cold War divisions and to build bridges between east and west in order to denounce the Pinochet regime and to support the exile’s struggle in the international arena. This positive reception in Western Europe coincided with a very well organized Chilean community which managed to rebuild their party’s structure in exile. In parallel of this transnational activism, the Chilean left in exile started a profound process of political debate regarding the circumstances that lead to the Popular Unity defeat. A robust exchange of political and ideological writings circulated among the Chilean exiled trying to decipher the mistakes made and to elaborate on a strategy to defeat the military regime. The main aim of this paper is to analyze how the international solidarity campaigns affected the political and intellectual processes experienced by the Chileans in western Europe, giving special focus to the process called ‘Renovation’ within the Chilean Socialist Party.

S12 Solidarity Campaigns and Latin America

Viral Latinidad and Beyond: Lozano-Hemmer, Gómez-Peña and Navas

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In 2003 critic Jon Beasley-Murray argued that Latin-American-ness was no longer to be located in a discrete and bounded region south of the Río Grande but could perhaps more accurately be described as ‘viral latinidad’ in its popular circulation around the globe. The current paper explores Beasley-Murray’s concept by offering close readings of two works by Latin(o) American cultural producers that currently circulate online: a performance text by Rafael Lozano-Hemmer and Guillermo Gómez-Peña that narrates the Latin(o) American expansion into cyberspace entitled ‘Tech.illa Sunrise (.txt dot con Sangrita)’ (2001) and Eduardo Navas’s mash-up of the Willie Colón and Rubén Blades salsa smash hit ‘Plástico’ and data from the Info Please website, recast in a Flash animation as ‘Plástico_2002_upDate’ (2002). In each case, the cultural producers appear to be arguing for an ‘updating’ of outdated, discretely bounded models of latinidad which, in many ways would seem to coincide with Beasley-Murray’s concept of ‘viral latinidad’. Nevertheless, there are also ways in which we might see these works as offering more thorough-going or more subtle visions of the ways latinidad might work in the information society.

S20 Latin American Digital Culture: Repositioning the Field

‘Cine Bajo Tierra’: Ecuador’s Booming Underground Cinema in the Aftermath of the Long Neoliberal Night

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In recent years Ecuador has grown a very vital underground cinema industry that relies on three key factors for its current success: First, its strong independence from the traditional and centralized film industry and the exclusiveness of education and means for filmmaking since the production of these underground films is in most of the cases run by non-professional crews (from script writing and direction to acting and post-production). Second, these films have placed their production and reception arena out of the economic and political centers of Quito and Guayaquil, giving space to “lo local” to be represented, but also to be watched on the screen by the same people in their own space of projection. This is due the use of mostly local, legal and pirate, distribution channels. Finally, as we analyze this movement, we propose that what is behind the success of the new “Cine Bajo Tierra” is a vigorous response to, and sometimes a critique of, the disastrous consequences of the application of neoliberal policies in Ecuador. Boasting titles such as Sicarios manabitas, Doble trampa, El regreso del llanero vengador, Drogas: el comienzo del fin, Avaricia, and El ángel de los sicarios, these films depict scenarios of crude violence, poverty, and merciless surviving behaviors that have found an “appreciation” from their local viewers as a dialectical relationship of self-awareness between filmmakers and audiences who ultimately have suffered the same under the long neoliberal night.

S15 Neoliberalism, resistance and popular cultures

Indigenous State” and the Frustration of Indigenous Self-determined Development in Bolivia

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The indigenous self-determined development, understood as non-imposed forms of development in accordance with own aspirations and needs, as well as with cultural identities, traditions and institutions of indigenous peoples is not possible without autonomous decision-making. The election of Evo Morales as Bolivia’s first indigenous president brought about the incorporation of one of the most advanced and far-reaching set of indigenous rights in Latin America, including right to self-determination, territorial autonomies and prior consultations. By focusing on extractive sectors as a source of state revenues and supply for social redistribution, the Bolivian state puts in question the authenticity of its pro-indigenous agenda and contradicts the official utopia of vivir bien. The need for undisturbed resource exploitation and the acceleration of state-led extractive enterprises go at the expense of the most fundamental indigenous rights. This “pragmatic retreat” undermines rights to territorial and resource self-control and to decide about indigenous own model of development and environmental policy. The struggle for the real recognition of indigenous self-determination is at the forefront of social-ambiental conflicts with the Bolivian state, but the indigenous peoples are far from united. The discrepancies in interests between various indigenous groups fuel different approaches to the very theme of indigenous rights and government’s policy. Moreover, thanks to its organic ties to social movements, the government represents itself as legitimate incarnation of indigenous power and natural advocate of indigenous peoples’ interests. The “indigenous state” has re-appropriated indigenous agenda, discursively transforming it to fit into its own development and economic priorities.

S17 Social-Environmental Conflicts and Human Rights in Latin America

British Shareholders within the Colombian Railway Sector

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Historians in both Britain and Latin America have portrayed British Railway companies as agents of British imperialism. Cain and Hopkins point to a class of “gentlemanly capitalist” as being the driving force behind British expansion overseas. Dependency theory caricatures a class of exploitative financiers working to extract profit from the railways of the region whilst using the networks to exploit and extract the regions natural resources. Yet neither side attempts to ask the following question: Who were these financiers? Is it acceptable to simply portray them as faceless representations of British Imperialism? How many shareholders were involved in British railway companies, and, how great were their individual investments? Can this information help us to better understand their motivations for investment in the Latin American railway sector? This paper seeks to contribute to these questions within the context of a case study of the Colombian railway sector. Using shareholder registers for British railway companies the paper will illustrate the make-up of shareholders of these companies. The paper will analyse the preponderance of large and small shareholders to demonstrate whether the railways were ruled by a clique of wealthy financiers, or whether they were predominantly owned by small shareholders seeking a return on their savings. The shareholders will be analysed geographically to test the argument of Cain and Hopkins that British imperialism overseas was dominated by “gentlemanly capitalists” within London and the South Eastern Home Counties.

S28 International Perspectives on the Politics and History of Latin America

A New Benchmark for Green Criminology: the case for a Community-Based Human Rights Impact Assessment of REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation plus Conservation and Sustainable Development)

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This paper makes the case for a series of community-based human rights impact assessments (HRIA), which we argue make for sound alternative benchmarks within green criminology, in order to thoroughly understand the potential harms associated with the Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation plus Conservation and Sustainable Development Programme (REDD+) mechanism. We analyse the problems surrounding REDD+ and the repercussions for the rights and interests of local forest communities, as well as the implication a specific link between human rights and REDD+ would have on the promotion and protection of forest people’s human rights. Theoretically, the discussion is located within the relatively new area of green criminology, which provides a useful lens through which to analyse discourses and empirical contexts involving environmental harm, laws and regulation. Increased awareness of the interconnectedness between issues of such global importance, as climate change and deforestation, has led to acknowledgement of the need for interdisciplinary insight and cooperation between different areas of expertise, both academic and non-academic, in the study of environmental harm. One such methodological approach, this paper proposes, is a HRIA, which can act as an alternative benchmark for green criminological inquiry to legally defined ‘crime’.

S17 Social-Environmental Conflicts and Human Rights in Latin America

Challenging the Traditional Concept of the Melting Pot: Peronism, Jewish Argentines and the Seeds of Multiculturalism

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This paper looks at Peronism’s efforts to mobilize support among Jewish-Argentines. The leaders of the Jewish section of the Peronist movement (O.I.A) advocated the social integration of Jews, emphasizing their Argentine nationality but without repudiating either their Judaism or their Zionism. On the contrary, they emphasized their sentimental ties to their imagined homeland of Israel. In this way, and with the support of the government, they challenged the prevalent concept of the melting pot. All newcomers, according to the traditional view, were expected to abandon the customs and idiosyncrasies they had brought with them from their countries of origin in favor of the new culture that was emerging in the immigrant society of Argentina. Prior to the emergence of Peronism, Jews, Arabs or Japanese were not always considered part of the Argentine polis, civitas, or demos. Granting formal citizenship to all indigenous people and immigrant groups did not mean much in a society where elections were rigged and the elites viewed popular and immigrant culture with contempt. It was Peronism that paved the way for new definitions of citizenship. With its inclusion of ethnic minorities that had previously languished on the margins of society (such as Jews and Arabs), Peronism transformed many of these ciudadanos imaginarios into an integral part of Argentine society. Perón’s policies acknowledged the legitimacy of claims to collective ethnic and, by the same token, multiple identities. Precisely by looking not just at individual but also at group rights, he paved the way for today’s multicultural Argentina.

S13 Settler colonial experiences in Latin America

The Rise and Decline of the British “Investment” Community in Argentina

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British investment in Argentina led by the railways created a second British settler community to succeed its early nineteenth century predecessor founded on trade and agrarian settlement. Comparing the two groups indicates contrasting ethnic and social origins. The former mainly comprised artisans and former smallholders and included female settlers; they were commonly of Celtic origin. The second consisted of well-educated young men who arrived under contract and unmarried. They were often recruited from private schools in the south of England. By the 1870s and 1880s, the two occupied different social levels: most of the “old” were poor and undergoing cultural assimilation. The “new” became a privileged suburban middle class committed to the defence of its ethnic identity. Some new young men found wives in the “old” community; others returned to Argentina with spouses from England or Scotland. My paper focuses on the second group, extending the discussion to the Anglo-Argentines. I am interested migration and assimilation patterns and in the internal and external factors bearing upon them. I discuss the British schools in Argentina and school curricula—leading into issues like imperialist attitudes and World War I volunteers. Approaching the 1930s and 1940s, the eras of the depression and of Peronism, assimilation gathered pace; I shall discuss some its main aspects. Topics include the collapse of foreign recruitment, the decline of the schools, and the assimilationist drive of the Peronist movement.

S13 Settler colonial experiences in Latin America

Media and Economic Elites in Central America:Convergence, Conflict and News during Presidential Campaigns in Costa Rica and El Salvador (2014)

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Do media elites and economic elite’s interests converge in times of political campaigns? If so, how do these convergences influence the news? And what conflict emerge from this relation? These are central questions to understand the relations between media and economic elites. Mass media is key source to access and hold power, politically and economically speaking. The maintenance of their privileges and their capacity to block the emergence/ permanence of new elites depend on their capacity to promote their views through the media. This paper analyzes the relations between media and economic elites in times of presidential campaigns in Costa Rica and El Salvador. In the last presidential election in 2014 mass-media played a decisive role framing the political arena, circulating ideas and giving information. I examine the news on the elections from three newspapers from Costa Rica and three from El Salvador using content analysis. I also interviewed media elites, journalists, and economic elites to expose other strategies that were utilized indistinctly by them to foster or halt political parties, such as: informal and family ties, censorship and intimidation campaigns.

S39 Elites, governance and democracy in Central America: changes and continuities in the faces of power

Fighting and living with dignity in a neoliberal era: Dynamics of disagreement, recognition and social criticism in the Urban Housing Movement (Movimiento de Pobladores en Lucha) in Chile

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The urban housing social movement (Pobladores’ movement) played a key role in the fight for democratization under Pinochet’s dictatorship in Chile. However, with the arrival of political democracy and the deepening of the neoliberal agenda imposed during the 70 many social movements, including the housing movement, tended to decline. Either by the institutionalization of some of its demands or by the erosion of its organizational bases, by the end of the 90s movements’ Pobladores’ movement was almost completely disarticulated. Since 2006 however, the urban housing movement has burst onto the social and political scene, showing the limits of the neoliberal subsidized housing policies and the emancipatory potential of a fight whose horizon is not only a house but the possibility of living with dignity. By contesting the commodified character of social rights, redesigning the places and allocations of the city through occupation of lands, and by proposing alternatives ways of living in local areas (poblaciones), the urban social movement went from being merely an object of policies to a subject of rights able to exercise power over its local territory. Drawing on a discourse analysis of the narratives of housing movement’s participants, this paper aims to show the extent to which the movement has contributed to politicise Chilean society, creating a scene of political disagreement regarding the neoliberal policy order, recognition of the social right of housing and criticising the neoliberal ways of understanding the city.

S7 Making sense of neoliberalism in Latin America today: Narratives on violence, exclusion and resistance.

Beijing+20: A Retrospective and a Forward Look at Women’s Political Representation in Latin America

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In the Spring of 1995, the United Nations convened in Beijing a historic meeting that gathered women from all over the world. At this meeting, a Platform for Action was unveiled with a call to governments around the world to increase the political representation of women in their parliamentary bodies. The goal was to have a minimum 30 percent women in their respective legislatures, with the ultimate goal of some day achieving parity with men. On the 20th anniversary of the Beijing meeting, the numbers in legislative bodies across Latin America are impressive. Most of the countries in the region have adopted and institutionalized successful quota systems that have in many cases surpassed that minimum 30 percent, with some even approximating parity. This presentation will offer a retrospective on 20+ years of scholarly work on women’s political representation in Latin America, extending the analysis from the legislative branch to that of the executive (my current primary research), particularly in light of the fact that in recent history the region has had several women presidents and a low to modest number of female governors and city mayors.

S22 Looking Back to the Future: 40+ years of Thinking About and 'Doing' Latin American Research and Fieldwork.

Cool Party: Pocket Utopia. Social Uses of Audiovisual Projects in Havana

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In the past five years, various groups of young people in Cuba have been identified with imaginaries linked to the culture of the club, the international music and nascent entertainment market not directly managed by state mechanisms. This trend is due, to some extent, the existence of a singular phenomenon ascending audiovisual projects: groups of young entrepreneurs who have flooded the nightlife, mainly in Havana. Based on ethnographic fieldwork, and from the theoretical assumptions of Cultural Studies and Political Economy of Communication, this study systematizes the main symbolic references that appear in the social uses of the areas managed by these groups. Such uses express the emergence of a kind of cultural capital in Cuba, associated with changes in patterns of social stratification resulting from the new economic and social realities. Cultural consumption is the stage where for getting through a desired objective social space. The adoption of patterns from the mainstream of global culture and cultural hierarchies associated with economic power, is reproducing the cultural capital that legitimates ritualized and translational tendencies. Those practices demonstrate how patterns of entertainment and cultural consumption in Cuba have been displaced with regard of traditional outlines, that is intended for the use of leisure time of youth within the aesthetic and ideological frameworks defined by the socialist project.

S18 Cultural Transformations in a Changing Cuba: Media, Communication and the Remaking of Cuban Identity

Worker Power and Community Development in Argentina

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In 2001 Argentina experienced a massive financial collapse. There were a variety of grassroots responses to this crisis. Among these we find the emergence of empresas recuperadas—cooperatives formed by workers to prevent the dismantlement of enterprises through bankruptcy proceedings. Despite the overall restabilization of the economy over the past decade and a half, the network of cooperatives under worker control has continued to grow, from 161 in 2004 to 311 by 2013, according to a 2014 report issued by the Universidad de Buenos Aires. In addition to securing productive resources and preserving the earning-power of the workers, many of these cooperatives have established bridges to their larger community, opening up the space of the enterprise for activities designed to enhance the life of the communities in which they are based. Among these initiatives we find the establishment of alternative high schools, popular clinics, and cultural centers. In this process the workers in these enterprises are taking a leadership role in promoting grassroots community development. This paper provides a general introduction to the topic of the empresas recuperadas, goes on to discuss numerous concrete experiences in the Greater Buenos Aires area of worker cooperatives engaging with the broader community, and comments on the social implications of these experiences.

S16 Exploring bridges between the formal and informal (sectors) in Latin America

Demián Bichir - Constructions of Mexican masculinity and othering across the border.

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Demián Bichir comes from a family of actors and has had a long career acting in Latin American films and telenovelas, but this paper will focus on his work portraying Mexican characters in the United States and, particularly, on the film *A Better Life* (2011) and the TV series *The Bridge* (2012-14). His acting roles will be analysed in relation to a new construction of Mexican masculinity which differs from the idea of masculinity originating in the Mexican Revolution and which introduces a sense of othering. His role in *A Better Life* as the undocumented migrant Carlos Galindo, working as a gardener and struggling to keep his son away from joining violent gangs gained him a nomination for the Academy Award as Lead Actor. He was the first Mexican actor to be nominated in this category since Anthony Quinn. In *The Bridge* detective Marco Ruiz presents a mixture of masculine and feminine behavioural traits, which lead the audience to understand of his character as 'other' in connection to his border crossing and his difference.

S21 The Transnational Circulation of Mexican Celebrity and Stardom

The support and promotion of Stephen Harper government to the Canadian-owned mines in Latin America

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Stephen Harper's rise to power as the Prime Minister of Canada in 2006 brought the increasing presence of Canadian-owned mines in several countries of Latin America, generating diplomatic issues in the region. This paper analyses these developments in the cases of Honduras, Paraguay and Mexico, where the promotion and defense of Canadian investment in the mining industry has been controversial and inconsistent with the traditional foreign policy principles sustained by Canada over the last decades. In Honduras and Paraguay, the Harper administration supported the Canadian mines, despite these had been reported for diverse irregularities and abuses. In the case of Mexico, the structural reforms modified the energy sector legislation in 2013, imposing new conditions on Canadian-owned mines, which generated threats from the Canadian officials to their Mexican counterparts and a number of Canadian mines decided to leave the Mexican territory. The active role of the Canadian government as a supporter of Canadian-owned mines operating in Latin American countries represents an attempt to impose a new form of governance in the region, sponsored by foreign capital and conservative governments. Similarly, the diverse reactions of Latin American governments -to counter such offensive-, reveal their influence in the governance of the region through diverse institutional capacities.

S19 America or Americas? New opportunities and pressures on regional governance.

James Trail, Scientific Networks and Amazonian Exploration in the late Nineteenth Century

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While the names Spruce, Agassiz, Wallace and Bates all bring to mind Amazonian exploration, James Trail has been largely forgotten as one of their number. Yet Trail (1851-1919), a Scottish medical doctor, spent eighteen month surveying the region, in the mid-1870s, as part of the first foreign and commercial expedition given permission to explore the Amazon. Using unpublished manuscript journals, amongst other archival material, and building on the extensive literature on scientific networks, this paper will situate Trail's naturalising, collecting and observations in the context and networks of nineteenth-century Amazonian exploration. This approach to Trail's field science practice and scientific production functions both as a necessary addition to our understandings of Amazonian exploration but also analyses Trail's work through a framework he himself used. Trail frequently met local people who had known these earlier explorers and the publications from earlier expeditions helped him orient his own work and frame his expectations. Trail also used his Amazonian specimens to strengthen his UK networks, sending gift specimens to British individuals and institutions. Despite his efforts to build and cultivate his network, Trail was not able to use his personal collection, writings and experiences to forge a lasting place amongst Amazonian naturalists. Instead, his life lived out in the remote Scottish city of Aberdeen suggests that there were significant barriers facing provincial naturalists who sought to participate in the global circulation of scientific knowledge, illustrating the limitations of Trail's networks.

S5 Transnational Intellectual Networks in Latin America

Contested Spatiality? Exploring Ambivalent Geographies of Social Movement Dynamics in the Drug War

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The social Movement for Peace with Justice and Dignity (MPJD) challenges the official government version and hegemonic discourses around the so-called Drug War in Mexico and beyond since its emergence in 2011. The Mexican State predominantly produces and circulates imaginations of the Drug War that draw on seemingly clear boundaries between state forces fighting cartels on one side of the conflict, while civil society is constructed as an outside observer of those confrontations. In this context and against such a purified image, activists and (relatives of) war-victims mobilize on a transnational scale in order to visualize ongoing state violence manifested in human rights violations ranging from forced disappearances to torture and murders of civic persons all committed under the disguise of the Drug War. From a spatial perspective, this paper investigates the mechanisms and effects around the kind of civic knowledge production implemented by MPJD. Drawing on combined insights of the spatial epistemologies of place (Agnew 1987), place-framing (Martin 2003) and mobility (Cresswell 2004), I focus on the implications of the translocal protest-dimension to the construction of shared activist knowledge and its associated impacts on challenging official versions of the Drug War. Hereby, I will discuss an ambivalent role of place: On the one hand, mobile protest events enable activists to effectively combine knowledge of distinctive civil organisations and lived social realities in different places. On the other hand, especially different political claims and goals of mobilisation of those multiple actors complicate the formation of an even broader social movement.

S6 Enforced Disappearances in Mexico: Continuities and Ruptures in the Civil Society-State Relationship

Imagining National Frontiers Through Printed Narratives In South America: A Methodological Approach For A Global History Of Styles Of Play.

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This paper proposes a methodology being developed for a global history of the styles of play, or a cultural history of football’s national frontiers. Arising from this original research, which examines how, in the 1920s, Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil evolved as newly formed nations by defying the British, inventors and first global promoters of the game, at the same time negotiating their own fierce regional rivalries/ alliances, two key concepts will be explored: 1) that the narratives emerging from a football match can be seen in terms of translation from the language of the game into various social discourses - taking translation in the broad sense of interpreting any symbolic manifestation, verbal or non-verbal, by way of commentary: what we shall name here narratives of style; 2) that football only reaches its full meaning as historically rooted media narratives: the narratives of style create serialized and permanently renewed tales that amalgamate community identities.

Whereas Benedict Anderson speaks rather abstractly of printed narratives (newspaper texts, but also novels) as the basis for the national imagined frontiers, the press reports we analyse in this research provide actual narratives of foundation (and re-foundation) or consolidation of community identities. Football’s “form” (in symbiosis with the media) and “content” (the playing/ communal event as a basic source of storytelling) suggest, finally, that the game works for the culture of modern competitive sports as does the novel, originally published as serialised stories in newspapers: namely, for literary culture at large.

S24 Latin American Sports in the Global Arena

Depatriarchalizing the gaze on the Andean political cinema of the 70s: The case of Ukamau and Kuntur groups.

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Bolivia and Perú are countries without a stable film industry. During the 70s, in a period characterized by violence and political instability, filmmaking in the Andean region was an artisanal, but heroic task. In that situation, two groups of militant filmmakers composed of entire families, Ukamau (Bolivia) and Kuntur (Perú), conducted their work collectively and collaboratively. However, only a few names, mainly of its male directors (Jorge Sanjinés and Federico García Hurtado), have entered into Film History. This paper aims to recover the actual cinematic practices of these collectives regarding the entire filmic process: idea, planning, production, post production, distribution, popular or mainstream exhibition and self-representation in festivals and media. Focusing in power relations, gender and class roles within the crews. Depatriarchalizing the gaze means not only giving visibility to those women participants (most of them wives or partners of the male members of the crews), who were instrumental in the development of the political and artistic cinematic projects, but also to those men involved in subaltern tasks who also have been made invisible by film studies, so far. And, ultimately, highlighting the uneven importance given to the different roles in the film process, and the sexual and class division of labour associated with these roles, even by emancipatory film practitioners and progressive academics. The ultimate aim of this paper is, hence, to contribute to the subversion of a patriarchal construction of Andean Film History.

S38 Politics and the Audio-Visual: Transmedial Relations in Film and TV

The production of “popular economy”: forms of activism and collective organization of work among popular sectors in Argentina

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During the last decade in Argentina numerous organizations and social movements that recognize themselves as rising from the struggle against neoliberal policies in the 90’ have turned to the development of production, commercialization and work practices among popular sectors. These practices have given shape to an extended field of reflection and political action known as “popular economy”. This process took place in the context of the implementation of a series of public policies oriented to the “social inclusion” of the “socially vulnerable” and their “incorporation to formal economy” through the creation of worker cooperatives and other modalities of registration of individual and familiar forms of labour. Within this framework “creating cooperatives” and “presenting projects” have defined a way of practicing politics in which languages associated to work became fundamental for legitimising demands and fighting for public resources (Fernández Álvarez, 2010). In this presentation I will analyse the forms of activism (militancia) and collective organization involved in the development of these “popular economy” experiences. I would like to suggest that these practices cannot be understood as an “alternative economy” - both to the market and State regulation - as some authors have defined it in relation to what has been historically considered informal sector work, but rather as the production of individual and collective political subjectivities through the mobilization of languages an imaginaries associated to formal work and to the struggle for “rights”.

S16 Exploring bridges between the formal and informal (sectors) in Latin America

Institutions and Gender Policies in Michelle Bachelet’s Second Administration

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This paper seeks to shed light on the main institutional challenges faced by the executive’s policymakers driving the gender policy agenda of the second Bachelet administration between 2014 and 2016. The first Bachelet administration (2006-2010) made gender a centre piece of its political and policy commitments for greater equality in the country. The evaluation of those initiatives has provided a mixed view on the importance of having a female-led executive power, versus the importance of persistent influential political institutions within a political system. The second Bachelet administration therefore provides a unique opportunity for a deeper analysis of the impact of a female president on the executive as an institution driving policy change for gender equality. This paper analyses and compares three main gender policy processes: the bill for the decriminalisation of abortion, the passing of a bill for quotas, and the bill for same-sex civil unions. The paper focuses on the impact of political institutions on gender change initiatives and provides an evaluation on the inner-workings of the executive and the legislature as gendered institutions in the policy process. The institutional lens used provides a clearer picture on the scope of the executive’s power to push for gender change in an increasingly hostile political environment and decline of President Bachelet’s public approval. The paper will try to show how the gendered nature of all political institutions involved, including the figure of the President itself, has a deep impact on the outcomes of these policies.

S2 Questions of Identity and Post-identity in Latin American Studies

Exploring the contradictions between Brazil’s role in the global climate change regime and its position in regional environmental governance

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Similar to other developing countries Brazil’s position on climate change emphasises national sovereignty and the principle of “common but differentiated responsibilities”. However, in recent years Brasilia has also announced voluntary reductions in carbon emissions, making Brazil one of the leading emerging countries in its approach to climate change, while enhancing its international reputation and legitimacy. Compared to its neighbours Brazil has older and more developed domestic environmental institutions and movements. Yet, Brazil’s global leadership on climate change does not translate into a similar role in regional environmental governance. In the 2000s Argentina and Uruguay became embroiled in a bitter environmental conflict involving a shared natural resource, the Uruguay River. Brazil not only refused to mediate, but also kept it out of regional forums insisting on the conflict’s bilateral nature. Furthermore, Mercosur’s environmental agenda has progressively become eroded while Brazilian-led Unasur lacks an institutional framework dedicated to environmental concerns. This indicates that environmental concerns are far more important for Brazil’s global image than for its role as a regional leader. It also highlights the limited scope of the climate change negotiations which focus narrowly on reducing carbon emissions, without taking wider concerns over energy generation or environmental and social justice into account. Brazil has promoted hydropower generation, portrayed as “clean” energy. Yet, these projects have sparked strong domestic and regional civil society opposition due to their social and environmental costs which make it difficult for Brazil to claim a regional leadership role on environmental concerns.

S17 Social-Environmental Conflicts and Human Rights in Latin America

Governance opportunities for Mexico related to its presence in Central America.

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Mexican attempts to strengthen its relationship with other Latin American countries have been evident in the last years. More recently, Mexico aspired to project a more robust regional profile complementary to a renewed regional identity, boosting its activities in Central America and establishing a strong collaboration with the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC). This implies the possibility of diversification for its historical diplomatic and economic ties, reorienting its strategies from North to South in collaboration with emerging countries and prioritising topics on security and migration. This paper focuses on Mexico’s attempts to adapt to the transforming patterns of global and regional governance and its renewed pro-activism in Central America on a multilateral and bilateral level. Mexican diplomatic, political and economic activities will be evaluated in light of the transformations that global governance is undergoing in Latin America and considering the opportunity for Mexico to exert a relevant role in the region. Recent changes in the traditional equilibrium in the continent, determined by the transformation of Latin American alliances and the new placement of the United States in the Caribbean, are representing an interesting challenge for Mexico.They provide the opportunity to raise more independent positions and reinforce Mexico’s profile in Latin America, enabling the country to propose alternative approaches to regional integration with a special focus on Central America’s social, economic and infrastructural development and to play a substantial role in the changing patterns of global governance.

S19 America or Americas? New opportunities and pressures on regional governance.

Argentinean Cartoneros: from informality to a ‘vernacularized’ integral solid waste management model

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In 1978, the Argentine military dictatorship established a centralized and regional waste management system in Greater Buenos Aires. The decree which created the system also banned ‘waste picking’, leading the majority of waste pickers (cartoneros) to conceal their activity, as they moved from daylight work in the centre of the city to nocturnal work in the periphery. In 2001, the Argentine economic crisis stretched unemployment to previously unseen levels of 20%. As the dollar skyrocketed, so too did the price of recyclables, leading many unemployed workers to scour the city for valuable materials. The number of cartoneros, and the magnitude of the phenomena, began to attract the attention of society and policy-makers. A reconsideration of the illegality and informality of waste picking was one of the first measures taken by post-crisis state agencies. As new laws were created, hegemonic waste practices were reconfigured and cooperativisation became the preferred method for the formalisation of cartoneros. The idea of Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) was also incorporated into government waste policy as a new ‘ideal’ for the treatment of Buenos Aires’ waste. The aim of this presentation is to analyse, drawing on doctoral research fieldwork with two recycling cooperatives in Greater Buenos Aires, the way that this newly constructed ‘waste hegemony’ facilitated the construction of a ‘vernacularized’ ISWM model which, in contrast to those implemented in developed countries, integrated cartoneros as central actors in a policy of waste reduction that was oriented to the universal (Tsing, 2005) of “sustainable development”.

S16 Exploring bridges between the formal and informal (sectors) in Latin America

Televisión por cineastas: nuevas series ficcionales en la Argentina.

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La presente ponencia se propone reflexionar sobre la incursión cada vez mayor de cineastas y dramaturgos que traspasan a la ficción serializada televisiva, algunos elementos que definen su poética autoral mediante una reformulación del realismo. Con la aparición del Nuevo Cine Argentino, directores como Bruno Stagnaro y Adrián Caetano trasladaron a la televisión sus estéticas y temáticas cinematográficas. Okupas (2000, Stagnaro) inauguró una estela de representación seguida por series que manejaron códigos similares, como Tumberos (2002) y Disputas (2003), ambas dirigidas por Adrián Caetano. Tras estos casos aislados, con el ciclo de telefilms “200 años” de Canal 7 (2007) se retoma —en un flujo continuo hasta nuestros días— la congregación de directores teatrales y cinematográficos en el espacio televisivo. La proliferación de las series —emitidas principalmente por la televisión pública— es favorecida por el Estado a partir de diversos proyectos de fomento, formando parte de un proceso de cambio estético, institucional y tecnológico que legitima la ficción televisiva argentina contemporánea a partir de productos denominados de calidad. Nos centraremos en esta oportunidad en el análisis de La Casa (2014, Diego Lerman), serie que explora la historia argentina a través de las sucesivas décadas del último siglo mediante diferentes géneros, estéticas y material de archivo.

S38 Politics and the Audio-Visual: Transmedial Relations in Film and TV

Almost American: Reading the Memoirs of Esmeralda Santiago - When I Was Puerto Rican (1994) and Almost a Woman (1999)

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Esmeralda Santiago’s memoirs portray her move from the Hispanic Caribbean to the US in 1961, and her subsequent life in New York City, thus affording important perspectives on US culture in the 60s and 70s by portraying it from the point of view of a Hispanic migrant. Nonetheless, Santiago’s work has received little critical attention in comparison to that of other Latina writers. This paper responds to that lacuna by providing contextualised readings of Santiago’s work which underline its value to understandings of Puerto-Rican/US cultural relations and, as a corollary, to the place of Hispanic migrants within the contemporary US context. It examines how Santiago’s memoirs map her experience of burgeoning selfhood onto life in New York during decades of rapid social change, when discourses of race, gender, immigration and acculturation began to shift dramatically - and in tandem with her own self-development. It explores the author’s examination of her life then as one lived out in the incongruence of an in-betweenness at the level of identity that was mirrored in the tumult of the era: neither Puerto Rican nor American, yet both, neither white nor black, yet both, and almost, but not quite, a woman. Ultimately, the paper aims to initiate a dialogue between Santiago’s dualistic portrayal and current-day thinking about Latino/a Caribbean identities, thus to argue for the value of her texts as ones that speak not only of the history of identity politics in US culture, but also to the multicultural, Hispanic future of the United States.

S34 Insiders and Outsiders in Society, Film and Literature

The Past is Future: Representations of Moxos’ “millenarian” past in political campaigning in lowland Bolivia

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Archaeological explorations in the Moxos flood plains in southern Beni, Bolivia have established an extensive network of structures was built to manage the seasonal inundations. These include raised roadways (terraplenes), navigation canals, raised mounds, channeled fields (camellones) and artificial lagoons. All of these indicate an extensive human presence in the region before the European invasion of the Americas, though little is known about the practices or political organization of these societies. Nevertheless, present-day political campaigns and state-sponsored development agendas in Mojos represent this pre-conquest era as a “productive” past, in implicit contrast to an unproductive present. They call for the recreation of this imagined past, in order to further an agenda of increasing national production. This paper will analyze these discourses, which treat particular present-day indigenous populations as “unproductive” obstacles to development, and redirect an imagined local past to the service of national “progress.”

S36 Representations of Indigeneity and Community Resistance

Uruguayan Films as Archives: and Opportunity to Access Previous Productions

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Securing access to Uruguayan Cinema made before the turn of the millennium is often challenging. Films and videos are dispersed far and wide and, most of the time, they are still kept in obsolete carriers. However, sequences of older films have been made available in the work of some filmmakers who have incorporated them as archival footage in their productions. This paper explores the use of archival footage not only as a practice that allows us to reflect upon history and the tension between past and present, but also as a practice that invites the viewer to peep into the archive of Uruguayan cinema. I suggest that in the case of cinemas such as that of Uruguay, in which there is no established filmmaking tradition and where access to the archive is restricted, incorporating sequences of archival films fulfils an exhibition role which necessarily acknowledges and gives visibility to the work of previous practitioners, while contributing to the construction of the film archive.

S3 (Re)viewing the Archive in Latin American Cinema

Victims of the Spaniards: The portrayal of the Latin American Immigrant in La venta del paraíso (Emilio Ruiz Barrachina, 2012) and Evelyn (Isabel de Ocampo, 2012).

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This paper will look at how the portrayal of the Latin American immigrant is often still linked to a prevalent element of victimization, especially when considering immigrant women. Although this discourse arises as the result of the filmmaker desire to give a voice and tell particular struggles, the paper will question whether this point of view might contribute to the stereotyping of the immigrant and their categorization as “Other”, despite any positive outcomes such as increasing awareness of certain issues. First, it will briefly engage with a summary of previous research on the representation of the immigrant in Spanish film, especially work by Santaolalla (2005), Castiello (2005), Ballesteros (2006, 2015) and Deveny (2012). The presentation will consider the films La venta del paraíso (Emilio Ruiz Barrachina, 2012) and Evelyn (Isabel de Ocampo, 2012) and explore through this and other examples the extent to which the Latin American immigrant is often victimised on screen. These films have been chosen because they were released on the same year, their plotlines are centred on Latin American female characters, and the main characters arrive in Spain after being deceived by or under the command of Spanish people. However, the films’ style and narrative arc after this common starting point could not be more different: whilst the first one creates a fairy tale, the second one constructs a drama with hopeless ending. Finally, and to conclude, the paper will ponder the potential effect that this “victim discourse” might have in the audience.

S34 Insiders and Outsiders in Society, Film and Literature

Building Bridges Between Disciplines: Negotiations Between Digital Culture and Latin American Studies

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This paper will explore building bridges as regards digital culture theory, and the specifics of Latin American cultural production, arguing that the two fields of knowledge are mutually enriching, and that setting the two in dialogue is essential to the future directions of Latin American studies. The paper takes as examples the poetic output of Belén Gache, one of the leading authors of experimental fiction in Argentina, and Marina Zerbarini, artist and author of multimedia works. The paper argues on the one hand that our current understanding of digital genres - predominantly built on an Anglophone model - must take into account a rich Hispanic tradition of artistic and literary experimentation which informs its practice, and provides precursors to many of our present-day genres. On the other, the paper also argues that an engagement with the implications of digital technologies brings us to question some of the nation-based assumptions underpinning our research practice as Latin Americanists, and can provide for a nuanced approach to our area of study.

S20 Latin American Digital Culture: Repositioning the Field

Exploring the ambiguities of the settler subject: the Welsh in Patagonia

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This paper explores the way that settlers who are colonized 'at home' (like the Welsh) are caught up in the logic of colonial expansion (the Conquest of the Desert in Argentina's Patagonia). It is based on archival research into the Welsh colony of Chubut, which was founded in 1865 and enjoyed 20 years of relative autonomy from the Argentine state. Whilst never avoiding the fundamental reality of colonial oppression, this research reveals the complexities of human relations between settlers and indigenous communities, relationships which are neither binaried nor straightforward. It uses excerpts from diaries and memoirs to explore moments of encounter and the sometimes ambiguous power relations of lived experience. It argues that a decolonial politics should not only foreground indigenous agency in colonizing settings but also cast aside settler caricatures in order to unsettle the 'usual histories' of the conventional historical cannon.

S13 Settler colonial experiences in Latin America

Putting Absence into Words: The Disappeared in Mexico

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On the 26th of September 2014, 43 students were abducted by the local police in the state of Guerrero, Mexico. The case gained national and international attention within weeks and the media started talking about the 43 disappeared students. Naming them desaparecidos is not a coincidence, but the result of a decades' long struggle of the relatives of the disappeared and human rights organisations. This paper will analyse how the victims of disappearance have been named in Mexico throughout the years. Firstly, from the "detenidos-desaparecidos" in the 1970s and 1980s, to the "desaparecidos políticos" or the "desaparecidos" later on. And secondly, from the "levantados" to the "desaparecidos" again in the context of the so-called "War on Drugs" of the mid-2000s. The changes in what this reality is called reflect a history of struggle in which the relatives of the disappeared and human rights organisations have played a fundamental role. Their demands to the government, as well as their local, national and international struggles shall be identified as the motor that drove these changes to happen. Analysing how these crimes have been named, together with the different positions that have been taken towards these designations, will shed light on how this phenomenon has evolved and on the struggles over meanings surrounding it.

S6 Enforced Disappearances in Mexico: Continuities and Ruptures in the Civil Society-State Relationship

Las Félix: Celebrity, Stardom and Guns in Mexico

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This paper will consider two women from different eras. The first, María Félix (1914-2002), was the best-paid actor of the Golden Era of Mexican cinema (1930-50s). She starred in many of the studio-made films of the Revolution as a gun wielding leader and warrior, most notably La Cucuracha (Ismael Rodríguez, 1959) and Juana Gallo (Miguel Zacarías, 1961). Films that were poorly received by critics and often dismissed as inauthentic and shallow representations of the conflict. Yet, her characters can be read as radical challenges to traditional Mexican womanhood, in part, because she was armed. The second figure is Claudia Ochoa Félix (1987-), who had a brief flurry of fame on social media in 2014 when she was reported to have taken over the Ántrax gang, purportedly members of the Sinaloa Cartel. Nicknamed the Latina Kim Kardashian, she frequently posed with her possessions that displayed her luxurious lifestyle as well as ostentatiously displaying custom-designed guns of different calibers. Her star turn as a celebrity figure occupies a similar terrain to that of María Félix, where taste and gender come into play in the assessment of her presentation of a self that centers on Ochoa Félix's attraction and sexuality. This paper will consider these different Félix's through focusing on a selection of key images, will analyse how a woman with a gun persists to be a shift in gender roles and how both women play with these shifts.

S21 The Transnational Circulation of Mexican Celebrity and Stardom

The policymaking of wage policies: The political economy patterns in democracy and the challenges from different MW-collective bargaining models in Chile and Uruguay.

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The nature of the policymaking process (PMP) in Latin American countries changed during the 2000s, especially in the Southern Cone. This new PMP approach had an impact on the relationship between minimum wages (MW) and collective bargaining (CB) in Uruguay and Chile. In Uruguay, the policy approach included the promotion of unionisation and the extension of collective. In contrast, even though Chile implemented several reforms in the labour market during the 2000s, employment relations have remained largely unchanged. This paper seeks to contribute to the institutional economics approach to MW and CB, considering explicitly the effect of the PMP on the MW-CB policymaking using the qualitative nature of the theoretical framework established by Grimshaw and Bosch to analyse MW-CB relations. The authors include three key components (social dialogue, competing policy objectives and degree of regulatory compliance) of MW-CB relations for the analysis at country and sector levels. This paper uses this framework in the political and economic context of Latin American countries, especially the transition from dictatorship and liberal reforms towards a more democratic policymaking structure. In doing so, this research agenda will use Uruguay and Chile as comparative case studies. This paper applies qualitative analysis, using semi-structured interviews to key informants to analyse how social actors interact in a macroeconomic and political shift, influencing the pattern of MW-CB policies and their connection to other social policies. The study also introduces a reflection of how institutional and ideological constraints can force certain patterns of MW-CB schemes.

S16 Exploring bridges between the formal and informal (sectors) in Latin America

Development as Dignity? The ‘Critical Distance’ of Contemporary Cuban Medical Internationalism

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This paper contrasts contemporary development efforts by Cuba with conventional and Western approaches. It posits that many conventional development solutions are often unsuccessful due to the inability to overcome ironic distance in policy and praxis. Additionally the conventional Western approach is often seen as development as charity, where NGO and UN efforts often stem from good intentions, but are distanced from the lived realities of the people most impacted by issues of ill health and poverty. In contrast, the Cuban approach focuses on capacitation, rooted in the island’s own understanding of health and healthcare. By coming from a more egalitarian society and a position of material poverty, Cuba is able to close this ‘ironic’ distance in their contemporary development initiatives and relate to the lived realities of the populations most effected by development issues. Thus, Cuban medical internationalist efforts in Haiti, Venezuela and Timor-Leste have often been more effective than UN or NGO health care efforts since its development as dignity approach involves the capacitation of the most vulnerable. Cuba has succeeded in many cases by instituting free universal public health care systems; decentralizing and locating health centres in previously underserved areas; scaling up the local medical workforce; and broadening the very praxis of what health means in a Latin American social medicine approach. Based on the Cuban healthcare system, by training the most impacted by ill health — the poor, rural and marginalized populations — possible lessons may be learned for international health care efforts from other countries.

S11 The Changing Dynamics of Cuban Healthcare: The New Role of Health

Going back to Move Forward: Revisiting and Learning from Fieldwork Sites 40 years On

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Having begun fieldwork in recently formed informal (squatter) settlements in Mexico in the early 1970s, I, and a few of my colleagues, have the opportunity and privilege to look back at who we were, what and how we thought, and what did or did not accomplish at that time. And, in some cases, to revisit those very same field sites during the course of our careers in order to evaluate both intrinsic changes in the neighborhood as well as responses and household strategies as communities sought to respond to conditions of growth, austerity, globalization and exposure, overarching state control and, from the early 1990s, democratization. Focusing upon Mexico and former research sites revisited, the paper will explore some of the policy challenges faced by these (now) highly consolidated settlements in the city inner ring, that all too often, do not form part of the current policy agenda. These settlements are home to second and third generation families of the original pioneers, yet there is little policy preparedness of preparation for inheritance and housing rehab. This research is derived from a multi-country collaborative research project (www.lahn.utexas.org), and forms part of a major volume target the next UN-Habitat III meeting to be held in Quito in October 2016.

S22 Looking Back to the Future: 40+ years of Thinking About and ‘Doing’ Latin American Research and Fieldwork

¿Aquí viven genocidas? Reframing State Terror in Human Rights Discourse in Argentina

Laura Webb
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During the military dictatorship period of 1976 to 1983 in Argentina, an estimated 30,000 people disappeared. Human rights groups have been instrumental in the pursuit of truth and justice, both during the dictatorship period and in the tumultuous years following. The revelation of the true extent of the human rights abuses committed by the military and police authorities during the repression has been a lengthy process, complicated by long and drawn out legal proceedings and a lack of commitment on the behalf of various government administrations. During the years following the end of the dictatorship, human rights discourse has evolved, notably in its description of the events of the repression, now widely referred to as genocide. But was there really genocide in Argentina? This paper examines the arguments in favour of and against this judgement, and considers the consequences of redefining Argentina’s ‘Dirty War’ period as genocide.

S4 Breaking down conflict: understanding and reframing Latin American experience

British Understandings of Haitian Independence: Emperor Faustin I of Haiti and the Illustrated London News.

Jack Webb
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In 1852 Faustin I of Haiti commissioned the Imperial Album d’Haïti, a series of photographs of the Haitian Royal Family, in celebration of his coronation. The album was distributed across the Atlantic, seemingly intended as a forceful reminder of Haitian independence under the rule of a proud monarch. A former French colony, Haiti had maintained a tenuous independence from European powers since its Revolution (1791-1804) in which slavery was abolished, reinstated and abolished again, and the armies of France, Spain and Britain were expelled. Haiti thus became the Atlantic’s first ‘black state.’ In this paper I examine the reception of the Album in one of Britain’s most widely distributed newspapers. The interpretation of the image of Faustin I by the Illustrated London News suggests that Haitian independence was not readily accepted by British readers interested in matters of empire. The newspaper published an image of Faustin I, based on the Album, but with the distortion of giving the Emperor some European features, rendering the image of the Haitian emperor like that of the newly coronated Napoleon III of France. Rather than recognise Haiti as independent, under the rule of a black leader, the presentation of this hybrid form indicates the idea that Haiti remained under the influence of France - if no longer by empire, then through blood lines. Assertions of Haitian statehood were, then, ignored by the British press and redeployed to critique the perceived failures of French forms of government.

S28 International Perspectives on the Politics and History of Latin America

Unpacking local political economies of violence: feminist insights and framings

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This paper proposes a framework for understanding the gendered political, economic and social dynamics of violence, drawing on urban Brazil. In response to feminists’ calls to recouple economic, social, political, and cultural analysis (True 2012), I examine how violence can be constructively analysed within a feminist political economy approach. The framework foregrounds the vested economic and political interests of gendered actors and institutions, and how these shape opportunities to engage in or respond to violence. It argues that violence against women is not theoretically and empirically distinct, but rather integral to the local political economy of violence.

S10 Feminist engagements with violence in Latin America

Black Diamonds: Football and the Perpetuation of Brazilian Racial Democracy.

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The performance of Brazilian striker Leônidas at the 1938 World Cup in France brought acclaim from European spectators and journalists alike. As the tournament’s leading scorer, his goals helped Brazil to their best ever performance on the international stage and marked the creation of an image of Brazilian football as essentially mulatto. Such an image was cultivated by Brazilian writers and intellectuals as well as the international media of the day, and has been perpetuated as the dominant image of the nation’s football team since that time through international superstar players such as Pelé, Ronaldo, Marta and Neymar. In an era of global flows of images and identities, this paper will consider the manner in which the depiction of Brazil’s star players in the global arena enters into a dialogic relationship with their iconic status within Brazil itself. Through an examination of literary texts, newspaper articles and online representations of the players, consideration will be given to the interplay between Brazilian football and its global presence, as well as to the manner in which such factors contribute to shaping perceptions of the country inside it and beyond.

S24 Latin American Sports in the Global Arena

Mapping the Absence: Participatory GIS in the Afro-Geographies of the Colombian Caribe

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The non-white Colombia hidden beyond the Andes is in a process of continuous loss, not only of lives taken by violence but also of territories. Along with the indigenous resguardos, this Colombia also includes Afro-geographies subject to territorial dispossession since colonial times. San Basilio del Palenque and La Bonga are examples of these geographies because more than 200,000 hectares have been lost to these communities since the early part of the twentieth century. Therefore, this paper aims to reveal the depth of this process by reconstructing the history of dispossession through the use of participatory Geographical Information Systems (GIS). The use of this method may also serve to produce evidence to inform the community mobilisation for territorial justice. In this sense, San Basilio and La Bonga are currently part of this research project that aspires to map their geographies of dispossession by first collecting data in archives and through interviews, as qualitative sources and as a basis for the participatory mapping. Accordingly, colonial and states archives are utilised to identify and critically analyse the maps of San Basilio and La Bonga, and to compare these records with the significance and experience of these territories from the point of view of their inhabitants. This community significance and experience is captured by dialoguing with participants while walking the territory, collectively demarking their sites and photographing their places. The participatory mapping ultimately provides a community-based version of San Basilio and La Bonga which may be juxtaposed with the hegemonic version of their territories.

S36 Representations of Indigeneity and Community Resistance

Moving beyond “revolts of rising expectations” and “middle-class discontent”. Young middle-class people in Lima discussing their city’s problems.

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This paper draws on a recent research project on political and civic discourses and practices among young middle-class people in Lima. It explores interviewees’ narratives of the city, with particular emphasis on challenges, hopes, and fears. Media reports on recent middle-class protests in Latin America and beyond have focused on “discontent”, dubbing them “revolts of rising expectations”. Middle-class protests are understood to reflect anger at living conditions and government practices no longer matching the new-found status and self-image of an emerging middle-class - especially public services, such as transport, education, health services and security, as well as corruption and authoritarian government responses to protest. This discourse has contributed to a broader narrative that paints middle-class people in the region as more interested in their individual comfort and progress than in wider social and political problems. While transport and education are central concerns for the young people interviewed in my study, they are only one side of the coin: less visible in public protest, but equally important were narratives of fragmentation, segregation, and division between different sectors of society on the one hand, and narratives of hostility, aggression, and violence on the other. Several discussed education, and even transport, with a view to their impact on inequality and division and their potential for overcoming these wider social problems. These relational problems of a highly unequal society were crucial to their civic and political discourses and challenge a predominant notion, which stresses middle-class desire for segregation, differentiation, distinction, and individual social mobility.

S23 Middle-class activism and politics in contemporary Latin America

Paper abstracts

The role of subnational governments in North America’s governance.

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Since the last decades of the 20th century, both the increasing economic globalisation and political transition, leading to global governance, have generated unprecedented challenges which in most cases overcome the capacity of maneuver of national states. Thus, new spaces of action and decision-making emerge. In this context, subnational states have become one of the most relevant actors in the international sphere. Nation-states have been incapable to solve the new global problems, which have found ways of solution in the supranational, regional and subnational avenues. This paper analyses the interactions between the subnational states in North America and the dynamics of governance in the region, characterized by commercial, political and social relations, mostly developed in the subnational level. Such relations and links have developed between Mexico, Canada and the United States after the onset of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). This paper examines the increasing relevance of subnational actors in these countries, as a result of the diverse developments taking place in the region, such as political decentralization -from national to subnational governments-, economic globalization, considering free trade regions, and transnational spaces of political cooperation, as well as the dismantling of the national state generating spaces of governance in the region. This paper focusses on the relations between the subnational governments in Mexico and their counterparts in Canada and the United States with regard to various issues such as migration, security, natural resources and environment. It is significant to assess and evaluate these dynamics of governance in the region.

S19 America or Americas? New opportunities and pressures on regional governance.

Building bridges between natural and cultural struggles: The Frente de Mujeres Mazahua en Defensa del Agua, Mexico.

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Under the interdisciplinary framework of nature-culture studies, this research presents some preliminary outcomes of a case study that bridges across political socio-ecology, feminism, and social movements studies. It focuses on a rural-urban indigenous women-driven social-environmental movement that links both traditional and challenging female identities and their representations (as farmers, mothers, feminists, and organized Zapatistas). The Frente de Mujeres Mazahua en Defensa del Agua has strategically manipulated actions, ethnicity, gender, and political discourses to challenge both the power of the state and of patriarchal structures within its own community. In 2003, severe floods caused by the Cutzamala Water System’s overflowing in the State of Mexico resulted in a total crop loss for the local Mazahua indigenous community. The FMMDA was created as a support struggle in appearance to assist men’s fight for justice. Nevertheless, this radical, transformative ‘hope movement’ rapidly lead to the encompassing of wider social, environmental and human rights’ requests for the pursuit of awareness, participation, organization, equality and policy change. Moreover, the most recent developments within the Mazahua movements - including a joint legal action against the National Water Commission for ‘ecocide’ -, and the very adverse 2015 new federal law on water, provide further aspects for reflection on complex social strategies and struggles for both the prefiguration and the realization of joint human and environmental well-being and natural-cultural rights.

S25 Building bridges between social, cultural and environmental studies: States, social movements and natural resources in Latin America.

