

UNIVERSIDAD DE COSTA RICA
VICERRECTORÍA DE INVESTIGACIÓN

Reporte de Informe del Proyecto

08/12/2020 - 9:35 am

Informe de Proyecto

C0153 LITERARY REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE BORDER: IMMIGRATION, POWER AND SUBALTERN HYPHENATED IDENTITIES AND THE AMERICAN DREAM**INFORME PARCIAL DE INVESTIGACIÓN 2020****INVESTIGADORES**

IDENTIFICACIÓN	NOMBRE	GRADO	TIPO DE PARTICIPACIÓN	VIGENCIA INICIO	VIGENCIA FINAL	HORAS
106170410	HILDA GAIRAUD RUÍZ	DR.	PRINCIPAL	01/01/2021	21/12/2021	10 HR
106170410	HILDA GAIRAUD RUÍZ	DR.	PRINCIPAL	03/02/2020	31/12/2020	1/8 T

TESIARIOS

IDENTIFICACIÓN	NOMBRE	TIPO DE PARTICIPACIÓN	GÉNERO	VIGENCIA INICIO	VIGENCIA FINAL
No hay datos disponibles					

ANTECEDENTES

In order to compare and contrast different types of subaltern subjectivities represented in literary texts, it is necessary to conceptualize certain terms and notions about the process of the construction of identities, its relationship to structures of power, subalternity, borders, life in the hyphen and immigration. The definition of the term subjectivity inhabits within diverse disciplines such as anthropology, psychology and philosophy, among others, and within critics, theorists and thinkers throughout history. Thus, the definition of subjectivity is a complex one but it presupposes the juxtaposition of the structures of the "I," a structure associated to an existential self-determination, which is always in process, and to a conscious relationship with one's self, and its

interactive relationship with another external structure referred to as the “Other.” Both of these structures, at the same time, interrelate with a social environment or context. Taylor (1997) proclaims that the conception of “I” necessarily involves an implicit or explicit acknowledgement of an external logic, a recognition of the “other” and his/her social positioning. The “I” is always subjected to an “Other” and to certain social structures that determine and condition their existence. Foucault (1984) affirms that it is within this frame of interaction, between “I” and “Other,” where the structures of power emerge, labeling individuals as either subjects or objects. The “subject” becomes an agent acting upon the “object,” and this latter is, according to Gayatri Spivak (1987), the one who falls in the designation of subordinated, marginalized populations. Among this populace, the colonized have constituted a group that have historically strived for change; thus, they have seen in legal and illegal immigration to the United States, a chance to improve their existential conditions following the “American Dream,” a myth based on the larger myth of Eden. Once in this country, the voices of the immigrants have been depicted through characters in literature and, depending on their places of origin, it is possible to compare and contrast the distinctions that have traced and marked their subaltern subjectivities. Based on their origins, characters provide a representation of hyphenated cultures, groups of people who have constituted communities called after the designation of two names the first one determined by the country of birthplace and the other one referred to “America,” meaning the United States. These terms are divided by a hyphen, a metaphorical dividing line that (de)limits the geopolitical space of existence. The hyphen is an imaginary metaphorical frontier that separates two codes (such as language), two cultures and/or two hybrid identities, the first always belonging to the representation of the object and to the realm of “Otherness.” Characters as subalterns frequently confront oppression from the mainstream hegemonic groups; in this case, represented by the Americans. However, the forms of oppression and marginalization convey similarities and differences among characters depending on the designation of the place of origin, the history and the motivations among the populations. It is the aim of this research to trace the representation of these subaltern subjectivities and their existential condition as border-crossers, subalterns and as part of hyphenated cultures in the United States.

Anotaciones:

Información no suministrada

JUSTIFICACIÓN

The recent phenomenon of massive immigration of Hispanic people to the United States, despite the strict discourse of power and politics proclaimed by the actual president of this country, of stopping their entrance, has motivated me to partake in this research. I intend to explore the lifestyles of some particular people from Latin America, such as Mexicans and Cubans, who historically have migrated to this nation and their existential conditions depicted in literature as a means to profess, through these representations, the limitations and/or benefits of living as subalterns and as part of hyphenated cultures. I will also examine how, in literature, these people have found possibilities to achieve their aspirations of ascending socially. An aim of this study is to make the pertinent topic of immigration more accessible and more sensible through the critical reading of literature. This research will also contribute to enrich the Programa en Investigaciones en Literatura Comparada (PILC), by offering to conduct research in a field of study that is extremely relevant today.

Anotaciones:

The phenomenon of massive Central American immigration will be covered in the following report. This first report accounts for the historical immigrations from Mexico and Cuba, the establishment of immigrants from these countries and their process of assimilation and/or resistance as hyphenated cultures in the United States.

METODOLOGÍA

In order to accomplish the objectives of the project, the activities below will be done

1. I will select several historical texts that provide information about the motivations and aspirations that peoples from Mexico and Cuba have had to migrate to the United States following the American Dream. For this purpose, the American Dream will also be explained based on the myth of Eden in literary studies.
2. The issues and processes of access of immigrants to the USA, their settlement and their living conditions will be studied in terms of the establishment of the theory of the Life in the Hyphen proposed by authors such as Gustavo Pérez-Firmat, Emily Hicks and the ones in the bibliography.
3. Once the existential condition of immigrants, now integrated in groups named after Mexican-Americans and Cuban-Americans is articulated, then, I will also select a corpus of literary texts that depict specific language and cultural codes that identify Cuban-American and Mexican-American border writing.
4. These texts will be analyzed, compared and contrasted. The characters, narrators and speakers in these texts will serve to depict subjectivity and its relationship to subalternity and power.

5. After the comparison between hyphenated cultures is articulated using representative literary texts, I will establish the relationships of power between the two cultures and the hegemonic one within the context of the United States of America.

6. For each part of this comparative process, I will write articles on the analysis and its results. One of the main objectives of this project is to publish these articles in national and international indexed journals. I also intend to propose a course for the Master's Program of English Literature based on this research.

Anotaciones:

In point 4. the main comparison between texts realized was depicted mainly in the literary poems in this first delivery. The relationship between subjectivity, sualterity and power was examined in Mexican and Cuban American poetry. The relationship between the hyphenated cultures Mexican-American and Cuban-American and the Anglo hegemonic one was explored within the contrast and comparison between literary texts.

POBLACIÓN DE ESTUDIO

This research will be of benefit to students, professors, researchers and people in and outside the academy interested in learning and applying knowledge about immigration, border writing and hyphenated cultures within the field of comparative literary studies, history and cultural studies.

Anotaciones:

Información no suministrada

CONVENIOS EXTERNOS

NÚMERO DE CONVENIO	ENTIDAD COLABORADORA	TIPO DE COLABORACIÓN	NÚMERO DE CUENTA	MONTO	ENTE ADMINISTRADOR
No hay datos disponibles					

OBJETIVO GENERAL

TO COMPARATIVELY EXAMINE THE EXISTENTIAL CONDITION OF SUBJECTS IN THE HYPHENATED CULTURES OF CUBAN-AMERICANS AND MEXICAN-AMERICANS DEPICTED THROUGH CHARACTERS IN LITERARY TEXTS.

Anotaciones del objetivo general:

The examination of the existential condition of subjects from hyphenated cultures was depicted not only through characters but also included other elements of analysis in literary texts.

OBJETIVOS ESPECÍFICOS

Objetivo: Describe the Cuban-American and Mexican-American hyphenated cultures in their contexts in the United States and their historical processes of immigration.

Meta 1: Selection of several historical texts that depict the processes of immigration of hyphenated cultures which have pursued the American Dream by traveling to the United States.

Avances

This objective was accomplished.

Limitaciones

An important limitation was the open access to more bibliographical resources due to the pandemic.

Plan de acción para las actividades pendientes o reformulación propuesta

For the following part of this research project, I will contemplate more options to have access to more bibliographical resources.

Objetivo: Establish the aesthetic components that convey the human condition of characters representing subjectivities living in the hyphen, in the literary texts from both cultures.

Meta 1: Articulation of aesthetic and literary devices and codes of Border Writing present in texts that depict the existential conditions of characters from hyphenated cultures living in the United States .

Avances

Only specific codes from Border Writing were analyzed such as the use of Spanish and English as required in the analysis of literary texts.

Limitaciones

Plan de acción para las actividades pendientes o reformulación propuesta

Objetivo: Compare and contrast the depiction of the human condition of characters between Cuban-American and Mexican-American literary texts.

Meta 1: Comparison and contrast the representation of subalternity among the characters of texts produced by writers from the two hyphenated cultures in the context of United States.

Avances

The comparison and contrast of these hyphenated cultures was accomplished in a "corrido" and a poem from Mexican-American writers and from two Cuban-American poets.

Limitaciones

A limitation was the scarce access to more recent bibliographical resources due to the pandemic.

Plan de acción para las actividades pendientes o reformulación propuesta

Look for more possibilities to find these resources.

Objetivo: Establish a comparative analysis of power relations between hyphenated and hegemonic cultures and groups living in the United States.

Meta 1: Development of issues on power relations of hyphenated and hegemonic cultures in the United States .

Avances

This objective was accomplished.

Limitaciones

Plan de acción para las actividades pendientes o reformulación propuesta

Nuevos objetivos propuestos

CRONOGRAMA

NÚMERO DE TAREA	NOMBRE	FECHA DE INICIO	FECHA FINAL
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1	Writing process of the historical processes of immigration from Cubans and Mexicans.	01/01/2020	01/04/2020
2	Bibliographical selection of history books that explain the process of immigration from Cuba and Mexico to the United States .	03/04/2020	01/06/2020
3	Writing the first article.	01/06/2020	01/08/2020
4	Bibliographical selection of books that explain the process of settlement from Cubans and Mexicans as part of hyphenated cultures in the United States.	01/08/2020	01/10/2020
5	Writing process of theory, history and state of arts.	01/10/2020	01/12/2020
6	Writing the second article.	01/01/2021	01/03/2021
7	Writing process of comparative analysis	01/04/2021	01/06/2021
8	Bibliographical selection of books that explain the power relations between Mexican-Americans, Cuban-Americans and Anglo-Americans.	01/06/2021	01/07/2021
9	Writing process of the description of power relations.	01/07/2021	01/09/2021
10	Presentation of third article and the course proposal for the Master´s Program in English Literature.	01/09/2021	21/12/2021

Anexos de Renovación/Ampliación

1. The selection of bibliography that explain the process of immigration from Mexico and Cuba. 04/04/2020 01/06/2020 2. The writing of the first article. 01/06/2020 01/08/2020 3. The bibliographical selection of books that explain the establishment from Cubans and Mexicans as hyphenated cultures in the United States. 01/08/2020 01/09/2020 4. The completion of writing the first article including theory, history and comparative analysis between texts. 01/10/2020 01/12/2020

Presupuesto: No

Ampliación: Sí

The research project has an effective date until the 17th of December 2021 . The publication of the first article is in process.

Fecha inicial: 2020-12-31

Fecha final: 2021-12-31

Título: "Literary Representation from the Border: Immigration, Power and Subaltern Hyphenated Identities and the American Dream"

Descripción: Publicación de artículo.

[Descargar adjunto](#)

TRANSFERENCIA DE LOS RESULTADOS DE LA INVESTIGACIÓN

PUBLICACIONES

TÍTULO	TIPO	AUTOR	FECHA
No hay datos disponibles			



DIFICULTADES ENCONTRADAS

Anotaciones:

EJECUCIÓN PRESUPUESTARIA

EQ	PARTIDA	ASIGNADO	AUMENTOS Y AMPLIACIONES	DISMINUCIONES Y DEDUCCIONES	EGRESOS	DISPONIBLE
0	No hay datos	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

¿Contó con financiamiento externo?

No

¿Contó con exoneración del fondo de desarrollo institucional (FDI)?

No

Indique los beneficios obtenidos del plan de inversión

CONCLUSIONES

Anotaciones:

REFERENCIAS BIBLIOGRÁFICAS

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ANEXOS Y APÉNDICES

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