

Interdisciplinary Conference on Travel Literature and Transatlantic Encounters: “The Iberian Peninsula as seen from North America” (1850-1950)

4-5 June 2020, University of Alicante (Spain)

Deadline for the submission of proposals: 29 February 2020



This conference is part of the research project "Exotic Spain: American Travel Literature about Spain (1900-1950)" (ATLAS) funded by the Research and Knowledge Transfer Office of Alicante University (GRE18-14 A). The project focuses on the study of a corpus of American authors who traveled to Spain in the first half of the twentieth century, especially on those texts that look beyond the vision of Spain related to the experience of the Spanish Civil War.

ATLAS addresses, from an interdisciplinary perspective, a variety of literary texts and analyzes how the vision of Spain has been constructed and how the uses and customs of the chroniclers—as opposed to local uses— influenced their writing and their representation of the territory. Following Mieke Bal, who in *Travelling Concepts in the Humanities* (2002) invites us "to explore the intellectual excitement of interdisciplinary cultural analysis", ATLAS plays with the boundaries between literature, linguistics, history, geography, visual arts and philosophy to explore the perception of Spain within a particular historical context, which deserves further critical attention. The project also traces the routes drawn in the different travelogues to construct the authors' literary cartographies with an informative and pedagogical purpose in mind.

This conference aims to be not only a discussion forum on the project itself, but also an opportunity to further explore both the physical and intellectual journey that these traveling experiences involved. For this purpose, we welcome paper and round-table proposals that deal with the presence of writers, intellectuals and American travelers in the Iberian Peninsula between 1850 and 1950 including, but not restricted to, the following topics:

- Literary creations—fictional and non-fictional—based on traveling.
- Testimonial and autobiographical writing, literary chronicles, travel writing.
- Contrastive studies on travel writing.
- Traveling and chronicles in times of war and postwar.
- Travel experiences and their correlation with visual arts.
- Philosophical approaches towards travel experiences.
- The “Self” and the “Other” in travel experiences.
- Traveling and travel experiences from a gender-based perspective.
- Spatial criticism, representations of rural and urban spaces.
- Artistic and architectural tourism.
- Studies on corpus linguistics and travel literature.
- Traveling and travel experiences from an ecocritical perspective.
- Traveling and geography: geocriticism and geolocalization; literature and cartography and study of the territory.
- Approaches towards travel experiences within a historical framework.
- Sociological, anthropological, ethnographic approaches towards travel experiences.
- Travel literature and digital humanities.

The following plenary speakers have been confirmed:

Dr. Pere Gifra Adoher (Pompeu Fabra University)

Dr. Eulalia Piñero Gil (Autonomous University of Madrid)

Please, submit your proposals in English or Spanish (250-300 words and 3-5 keywords) to alicante.atlas@ua.es by February 29, 2020.

Organizing Committee

Sara Prieto García-Cañedo, U. de Alicante

Lorraine Kerslake Young, U. de Alicante

Remedios Perni Llorente, U. de Alicante

José Antonio Sánchez Fajardo, U. de Alicante

Scientific Committee

Xavier Amat Montesinos, U. de Alicante

María Encarnación Carrillo García, U. de Murcia

Alba M^a Gálvez Vidal, U. Católica de Murcia

Benito García Elías, U. de Alicante

Macarena García-Avello, U. de Cantabria

Raquel García-Cuevas García, U. of Kent

Eva Espinar, U. de Alicante

Helena Establier, U. de Alicante

Terry Gifford, Bath Spa University

Lourdes López Roperó, U. de Alicante

Elena Martínez-Acacio, U. of Michigan

Mónica Moreno, U. de Alicante

Jorge Olcina Cantos, U. de Alicante

Robert Tally, Texas State University

Raúl Travé Molero, Ostelea, E. de Turismo

Website: <https://web.ua.es/es/atlas>

Twitter: @ATLAS_Alicante