The Madrid Institute for Advanced Study (MIAS) is a research centre that has been created jointly by the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid—as part of the development of the UAM-CSIC International Campus of Excellence—and Casa de Velázquez.
The mission

MIAS is the first Institute for Advanced Study in the Iberian Peninsula, as well as in the Spanish-American area. Its purpose is, by means of a policy of invitations to prestige guest researchers, to reinforce and internationalise research, chiefly in the sphere of Humanities and Social Sciences.

It aims at enhancing national and international scientific environments, with a view to achieving due recognition in the coming years as one of the most attractive Institutes for Advanced Study in Europe. This is why it participates in various European and worldwide networks of Institutes for Advanced Study, such as NetIAS (Network of European Institutes for Advanced Study), of which it was admitted a full member in April 2019, or UBIAS (University-based Institutes for Advanced Study).

Its policy, based on invitations, intends to put together a community comprising individual researchers, who are free from any academic or administrative duties during their residency, and who will pursue an innovative project in an environment conducive to scientific debate among the different disciplines and civilisations. The Institute supports fundamental research across the entire range of Humanities, Social and Legal Sciences, with a transversal perspective extending from the Iberian world to the global dimension.

To that extent, MIAS coordinates the European project FAILURE: Reversing the Genealogies of Unsuccess, 16th-19th centuries within the framework of the H2020 Marie-Skłodowska-Curie-Actions Programme, RISE call (Grant Agreement number 823998), financed by the European Commission. This project intends to offer a space for multidisciplinary dialogue in the Hispanic sphere on the processes of attribution, negotiation and reversibility of the label of failure in the personal, group and state spheres, through the organization of international seminars and symposiums.
Call for applications

MIAS’s annual call for applications, open to all nationalities, values the presentation of proposals that enhance the international visibility of the UAM-CEI International Campus of Excellence, as well as Casa de Velázquez’s research guidelines. Considering its international talent recruitment policy, the Institute does not require candidates to provide evidence of knowledge of Spanish or of prior research experience in Spain. The annual call for applications consists in several programs divided between annual and short-stays.

Programme Conditions

- **Tomás y Valiente**
  Researchers who obtained their doctorate from 3 to 10 years ago and whose work requires a 3 years scientific residency in Madrid (renewable for an additional 2 years, according to specific conditions)

- **Marcel Bataillon**
  Researchers who obtained their doctorate from 3 to 10 years ago (junior) or more than 10 years (senior) and whose work requires a 10 months scientific residency in Madrid

- **Lucienne Domergue** (in collaboration with the Institut français d’Espagne)
  Researchers who obtained their doctorate from 3 to 10 years ago and whose work requires 3 to 6 months scientific residency in Madrid

- **François Chevalier**
  Post-doctoral or experienced researchers whose work requires a 3 to 4 months scientific residency in Madrid

- **SMI-CNRS**
  CNRS researcher or professor-researcher attached to a UMR whose work requires a 3 to 9 months scientific residency in Madrid

- **DFK Paris/MIAS**
  Researchers living in Latin America holding a Ph.D. for more than 3 years

- **MESRI** Research leave
  Experienced professors (thesis defended for at least 10 years) from a French University with the intention of presenting a national or european project

Residency

Following acceptance through a strict selection process, residents are allowed full autonomy to pursue their research projects, though they are encouraged to interact with one another and with the scientific community locally, regionally and nationally. MIAS’s scientific community as such consists of 25 researchers in Human and Social Sciences, whose stay in Madrid varies from 3 to 10 months, as well as longer-term resident researchers. There is a monitoring committee to provide scientific follow-up for all MIAS residents and facilitate cross-disciplinary exchanges among them by means of periodic meetings, in direct contact with the scientific communities at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid and at Casa de Velázquez.

To encourage the exchanges and connections between its fellows, the Institute holds meetings and communal meals at Casa de Velázquez or at the UAM campus approximately every week. MIAS also offers its residents the possibility to organise an international seminar during their stay, alternatively at the dedicated spaces of the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid or Casa de Velázquez, on a subject relevant to their research project. These seminars are held every Monday, and permit the fellows to know more about their colleagues’ works, and enhance synergies between them. In the organisation of these seminars, MIAS fellows receive the scientific support and advice from the members of the MIAS Executive Committee.

More informations: madrid-ias.eu
The Seminars

During their stay, all of the MIAS fellows are invited and encouraged to present their research project within the framework of the weekly seminars that are held on Monday mornings (with the exception of public holidays when they are occasionally placed on Tuesdays) on a semi-present mode, some of the audience being present, alternatively on the UAM campus or at Casa de Velázquez, others following by way of virtual seminar programmes. They are free to invite colleagues working on related themes or disciplines from other universities in the Madrid area or members from the EHEHI present at the Casa de Velázquez.

All seminars are announced in advance on the MIAS website:

https://www.madrid-ias.eu/whats-going-on/science-events/
The creation of a Scottish colony in Darien stands as a paradigmatic example of territorial expansion and commercial projection in America in the Age of Mercantilism. The foundation in 1695 of the Company of Scotland Trading followed the model of other worldwide-trading nations, after the demise of the monopolistic hegemony of the Iberian powers. In an attempt to enter the overseas commercial circles, the Scottish merchants set their sights on the Isthmus of Panama, which was under the sovereignty of Charles II. Considerable historiographical attention has been paid to this episode, beginning in the 19th century. However, the Spanish response, the Monarchy’s efforts to preserve its territories that were strategically critical for the flow of goods and precious metals, is much less well known. This project explains the multi-layered reaction —political-diplomatic, financial and military— of a suppos edly decadent monarchy. Based on the latest research trends, it shall combine different factors and variables to explain the process of occupation and the eventual abandonment of the Scottish colony in Darien, their failure and the Spanish imperial power in the context of the succession’s crisis.

Bio
Cristina Bravo Lozano has a Ph.D. in Early Modern History from the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. She has been a post-doctoral researcher at the Universidad Pablo de Olavide (Seville). Among her topics of research, the Spanish-Irish relations in the 17th century, the diplomatic and cultural activity of the Spanish embassies in London, The Hague, Copenhagen and Hamburg after the treaties of Westphalia (1648-1702), and the confessional politics of Charles II in Northern Europe stand out. She is author of a monograph and has co-edited six books. She has published the results of her research as articles in journals and contributions to collective volumes. She has participated in different seminars and congresses, national and international, and has organized scientific meetings in Spain, France, Portugal, Germany and Hungary. All of this academic activity has been combined with teaching at bachelor, master and doctorate levels at different European universities.

Research
The creation of a Scottish colony in Darien stands as a paradigmatic example of territorial expansion and commercial projection in America in the Age of Mercantilism. The foundation in 1695 of the Company of Scotland Trading followed the model of other worldwide-trading nations, after the demise of the monopolistic hegemony of the Iberian powers. In an attempt to enter the overseas commercial circles, the Scottish merchants set their sights on the Isthmus of Panama, which was under the sovereignty of Charles II. Considerable historiographical attention has been paid to this episode, beginning in the 19th century. However, the Spanish response, the Monarchy’s efforts to preserve its territories that were strategically critical for the flow of goods and precious metals, is much less well known. This project explains the multi-layered reaction —political-diplomatic, financial and military— of a suppos edly decadent monarchy. Based on the latest research trends, it shall combine different factors and variables to explain the process of occupation and the eventual abandonment of the Scottish colony in Darien, their failure and the Spanish imperial power in the context of the succession’s crisis.

Bio
Silvia González Soutelo has a Ph.D. with first Class honours in Classical Archaeology from the Universidad de Santiago de Compostela (USC), awarded with an Extraordinary prize for her doctorate; she has also a Higher Degree in Archaeology from the Universitat de Barcelona. She has participated in a large number of National and International research projects and has taken part in the interdisciplinary European project CROSS-CULT (H2020-REFLECTIVE-6-2015).

Research
In the study of bathing buildings in Antiquity, there is a significant lack of knowledge about spas using mineral-medicinal waters. These establishments show a series of specific characteristics that must be analysed from an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary perspective, based on the best preserved and well documented examples in the context of the Roman Empire. Building on research that has been carried out until the present day (mainly in the Iberian Peninsula), we propose a larger scale project in which a detailed study of the most significant aspects of these complexes, from around the Roman Empire, will be undertaken.

To this end, the documentation relating to these establishments will be thoroughly reviewed, and an international collaboration will be promoted. Furthermore, considering the peculiarities of each territory and working mainly from an architectonic and functional point of view, we will develop a specific methodology to establish an interpretive proposal for these thermal buildings. The final goal will be to foster a European project in the study of Roman thermalism.

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Since 2012, she has also been a coordinator of the archaeological project “Marmora Galicia” for the study of the exploitation and use of marble in Antiquity in the Northwest of the Iberian Peninsula.

Selected publications

The project asks: What does it mean for parliamentary democracies to rely on scientific expertise? In parliaments, deliberating on the potential effects and risks through several procedural stages means applying the available information for a multitude of scenarios and making decisions while not knowing exactly the final political outcome. During the pandemic, executives strapped with time tended to sideline parliamentary deliberation to produce quick decisions. Instead of relying on critical scientific knowledge, political decisions can be taken with ease solutions offered by private consultants and lobbyists who have specialised knowledge but might try to set the agenda of public debates for their own benefit. The project examines how scientific knowledge has been presented and handled in parliaments in the EU during the pandemic. It aims to provide an informed understanding of the political knowledge of parliaments forged in a more informed understanding of the pandemic. It aims to provide an informed understanding of the political knowledge of parliaments forged in the pressure presented by the executive and public debates, and offers suggestions for procedural reforms.

José Enrique López Martínez
Reception of Spanish prose fiction of the 16th and 17th century in France: bibliography, translations, adaptations, polemics, theory

Bio
José Enrique López Martínez was awarded a Doctorate in Spanish Philology at the Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona in 2011. In his postdoctoral stage he has worked at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, the École Normale Supérieure de Lyon, and the Universitat de València. He is a specialist in editions and the study of Spanish Golden Age theater and prose. He has published critical editions of Salas Barbadillo, Lope de Vega and Tirso de Molina, and various studies in journals such as Anales Cervantinos, Boletín de la RAE, NRFH and La Perinola. He is a member of the Editorial Board of the Atalanta journal and is a regular collaborator to Anuario Lope de Vega, Studia Aurea and Hispania Felix. Since 2004, he has participated in conferences on 24 occasions, and is the General Director of the International Conference “The theatre within the theatre in Spanish Golden Age Comedia” (UNAM, Mexico, 2013). Since 2008 he has been a collaborator of the Prolope research group, and most recently of the Artelope group of the Universitat de València.

Research
This project proposes to update the studies on the reception of texts of baroque Spanish fiction in France.
On the one hand, the project will produce significant studies on specific works and authors, with the aim of advancing the knowledge of translations and adaptations of Spanish fiction into French; and on the role of literary historiography in the construction of a national thought concerning the development of French literature and the influence of other countries.
On the other hand, the project will create important tools for researchers, specifically a comprehensive bibliographic catalogue of translations and adaptations of Spanish narrative texts in France, and additionally a complete bibliography of critical studies on the subject, from the 17th century to the present.

Selected publications

Taru Haapala
The political knowledge of parliaments. Science, political debates and democracy

Bio
Taru Haapala has a PhD in Political Science from the University of Jyväskylä, Finland, where she holds the Title of Docent. Previously, she has been a Marie Curie fellow within the InterTalentum MSCA-COFUND programme at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. Her research interests range from political rhetoric, European integration history to parliamentary studies. She was a visiting scholar at the Center for European Studies (Harvard University), the European University Institute (EUI) in Florence, the Queen Mary Centre for the Study of the History of Political Thought (University of London) and a visiting professor in the Erasmus+ Joint Masters Programme in Parliamentary Procedures and Legislative Drafting (EUPADRA) at the LUISS Guido Carli University in Rome and the Erasmus+ teaching staff exchange at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. She has managed EU-funded projects as Working Group Leader of the European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) Action RECAST and Executive Committee member of Jean Monnet Network OpenEUdebate. She is the Editor-in-Chief of open access book series Pro et Contra. Books from the Finnish Political Science Association.

Research
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Selected publications
Understanding Parkinson’s disease: how integral cognition models are plotting a new roadmap

Research
Spain does age. Ageing is the main risk factor for neurodegenerative diseases, such as Parkinson’s disease. Parkinsonian patients debut with motor symptoms but 8 out of 10 patients present cognitive impairments that may eventually reach dementia status. Clinical and cognitive features progress at different paces, creating varied profiles of the same disease. Each of these profiles is characterized by key specific cognitive impairments, high or low intensity in depressive mood or anxiety, variable motor patterns, different perception of quality of life or expectancies, etc. All of these aspects determine the type of patients, being highly relevant to assess the treatment that better fits the same disease. Each of these profiles is characterized by key specific cognitive impairments, high or low intensity in depressive mood or anxiety, variable motor patterns, different perception of quality of life or expectancies, etc. All of these aspects determine the type of patients, being highly relevant to assess the treatment that better fits the type of patients.

Cristina Nombela

Cristina Nombela is a psychologist working for more than 15 years in understanding the cognitive disturbances in neurodegenerative diseases, particularly in Parkinson’s disease, which is a priority within the Horizon Europe program. Her work has covered two main research lines: i) Cognition: description of characteristics that depict cognitive impairments in Parkinson’s disease and healthy controls using Neuropsychological and Neuroimaging techniques; and ii) Treatment: assessment of non-pharmacological tools in cognition (Cognitive training and surgical treatment). Her research has been undertaken in the UK (University of Cambridge from 2010 to 2014), Italy (Università degli Studi La Sapienza di Roma), France (Hôpital de la Pitié-Salpêtrière, Paris) and Spain (Universidad de Murcia, Hospital Clínico San Carlos de Madrid). Future research aims concern exploring new cognitive paradigms by combining neuropsychology & neuroimaging, mainly focusing in cognitive and clinical profiles in patients with Parkinson’s disease.

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Selected publications
María SOTO QUESADA
MobiLithics: Fingerprinting the Exploitation of Stone Resources

Research
MobiLithics is a multiscalar project aimed at characterising the subsistence practices among *Homo sapiens* starting from its origin in Africa and their later expansion through the European continent. This project will provide high-resolution data through the investigation in two key scenarios, the Middle Stone Age – Later Stone Age Transition in the Ain Beni Mathar–Guefaiet basin (Western Morocco), and the Middle-to-Upper Palaeolithic Transition in the NE of the Iberian Peninsula. Spatial modelling, petrographic, geo-chemical and multivariate statistical analyses of the exploited lithic resources during the Upper Pleistocene (50-23 ka BP) will determine the procurement strategies and management of raw materials for manufacturing stone tools. These will become the archaeometric keys for understanding the territorial structure, mobility and occupation patterns, as adaptive responses of our species to changing climatic, cultural, and biologic dynamics on a global scale.

Bio
María Soto Quesada has obtained an Erasmus Mundus Master in Quaternary and Human Evolution (2010) and a European Doctorate in Quaternary and Prehistory at the University Rovira i Virgili (2015). She has been a Post-doctoral Associate at the Institut Català de Paleoecologia Humana i Evolució Social (IPHES, 2016), and at the University of Calgary (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada) associated to the project 'Stone Tools, Diet and Sociality at Olduvai Gorge (SDS)' (2017-2019).
Her research lines are focused on the definition of the procurement strategies, mobility patterns and territorial exploitation of the Palaeolithic groups, through the physical-chemical characterization of rocks (Thin sections, ESEM, XRD, FT-Raman, EDXRF) and the GIS modelling in key archaeological sites for human evolution such as Olduvai Gorge (Tanzania) and Sierra de Atapuerca (Spain). She is a member of 19 international R&D projects, including innovative outreach programs in Human Evolution. She is the author of several scientific papers (e.g. J.Arch. Sci, QSR and AAS), and book chapters, and a Guest Lecturer in different Undergraduate and Master Programs.

Selected publications

Laura VILLA
The Politics of the Spanish Language During Franco’s Regime (mid-1950s-1960s)

Research
This project studies the politics of the Spanish language and public discourse on language in the context of the gradual opening of Franco’s regime since the mid-1950s. Taking the economic and political circumstances of the period into account, this project examines the strategies to position the Spanish language vis-à-vis other languages spoken in the country, as well as Spain’s efforts to promote the Spanish language and its institutions in order to regain a leadership position in the Hispanic community. The goal is to understand the co-construction of linguistic processes and historical processes, i.e. the ways in which social identities were negotiated, political subjectivities were constructed, language hierarchies were naturalized, and social inequalities were reproduced. In addition, the project has an applied dimension because it offers a historical reconstruction of language policies, attitudes, and ideologies that have their roots in Francoism but are still very relevant today.

Bio
Laura Villa received her Ph.D. from The Graduate Center [CUNY] in 2010 and was an Assistant Professor at the University of Dayton and Queens College (CUNY). Her research interests revolve around the intersection of language and politics. Her main line of study examines the development of standard norms in mid-nineteenth-century Spain, a period of deep political and economic transformations marked by the emergence of a constitutional monarchy, an incipient capitalist system, and a new postcolonial order. She has also studied the international promotion of the Spanish language (especially in Brazil) led by the geopolitical and economic interests of Spain’s companies and governmental agencies in the global era, the teaching of Spanish as a heritage language to Latinx in the US, or the exploitation of bilingual workers in the US labor market facilitated by the neoliberal discourse of the economic value of languages. Laura Villa is co-editor of *Anuario de Glotopolítica*.

Selected publications
Tomás y Valiente fellow

Eugenio ZUCHELLI

The intergenerational transmission of risky behaviours

Bio
Eugenio Zucchelli is an empirical micro-economist with broad research interests in the economics of health and human capital. He has been a Senior Lecturer in Health Economics at Lancaster University, UK, and a Research Fellow at the Centre for Health Economics at the University of York, UK.

He is an IZA Research Fellow, a Faculty Associate at the Canadian Centre for Health Economics, University of Toronto; an external affiliate to the Health, Econometrics and Data Group, University of York; and a Fellow of the UK Higher Education Academy. Between 2013-16, he was an Advisor for the UK National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) Research Design Service. He has held visiting positions at the University of Barcelona (UB), Carlos III (Madrid), CEMFI (Madrid), Curtin (Perth), Monash (Melbourne) and Toronto (UofT). He contributed in various capacities (principal investigator and co-investigator) to several externally funded competitive grants awarded among others by the NIHR [UK], ESRC [UK], Comunidad de Madrid and National I+D+i Programmes (Spain). He holds a Ph.D. in Economics awarded by the University of York, UK.

Research
His Tomás y Valiente project concerns the intergenerational transmission of risky behaviours. The research focuses on the identification of both determinants and mechanisms triggering the transmission processes of three different behaviours: criminal behaviour; consumption of addictive substances such as tobacco, alcohol and illicit drugs; and obesity. The project centres on three interrelated pieces of empirical work and employs state-of-the-art econometric methods applied on multiple panel datasets, including the US National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health and the National Income Dynamics Study of South Africa. This study exploits innovative causal mediation analysis methods to explore causal mechanisms within the intergenerational transmission of risky behaviours. His broader research interests include the economics of addiction; the economics of ageing; the socioeconomic causes and consequences of mental health; and the relationship between health and labour supply.

Pierre-Marie DELPU

Martyrs of the Revolution. Politics and religion in nineteenth-century southern Europe

Bio
Pierre-Marie Delpu holds an agrégation and a Ph.D. in history, specialising in 19th century Southern European revolutions. His research focuses on the forms and practices of liberal politicisation, paying attention to revolutionary episodes and more fluid conjunctures and being particularly interested in the participation of ordinary people in political life. After having devoted his doctoral thesis to the construction of the liberal movement in the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies on the eve of Italian unification, he is now focusing on political martyrdom in 19th century South European societies. During his post-doctorate at Casa de Velázquez in 2020-2021, he has begun to open his work to Spain in the central decades of the 19th century, in a perspective of comparison with the Italian states of the same period. He seeks to understand the phenomenon of political martyrdom in a broad, transnational and interdisciplinary way, in order to resituate it within the transfers from the religious to the political that structured the societies of southern Europe in the early years of the contemporary period.

Research
In the continuity of numerous works in social sciences related to contemporary political religions, his research project aims to study the processes of dialogue between religion and politics in the 19th century, marked both by the spread of revolutions and by the secularisation of Western societies. The study will be focused on the figure of the martyr, borrowed from the religious universe for its pedagogical function and transposed into the political arena. Focusing on South European societies, particularly Spanish and Italian, and on the middle decades of the 19th century, he would like to analyse the emergence of the figure of the martyre as a revolutionary ideal-type, studying the discourses and the practices of politicisation. Focusing first on the published written production (a rich corpus of martyrloges, funeral orations, chronicles, and publications of immediate history produced by contemporaries), and comparing them with the occasional archival analysis, his project aims to understand the deployment of the cults of revolutionary martyrs in order to place them in the emotional, confessional and ideological regimes of the century of revolutions.

Selected publications

Selected publications

Marcel Bataillon fellow
Research
When Spaniards took over the Louisiana, in the aftermath of the Seven Year’s War, the region of the Mississippi Basin was a little-known frontier space for them. However, for Amerindians, Frenchmen, and Britons, it had long been a site of inter-imperial encounter and confrontation. During the fifty years it spent under Spanish rule (1762-1802), the territory articulated by the Mississippi river continued to be a borderland shaped by multiple experiences of mobility, including those of Afro-descendants, Amerindians, intruding British settlers, French colonist who had accepted Spanish rule, and displaced Acadians and exiles from Saint Domingue and the British North American colonies following their respective revolutions. Yet, most studies of these experiences have so far focused on individual groups and paid only limited attention to how differences in class, occupation, gender, and race affected individuals. This research project studies experiences of mobility on the west bank of the Mississippi river under Spanish rule, using an intersectional perspective.

Bio
Pablo Hernández Sau is a global historian working on eighteenth-century Iberial[s]. He got his Ph.D. from the European University Institute (Florence, Italy), and he worked as a Research Associated at the University of Manchester. Before, he was fellow at John Carter Brown library (Providence, USA), and visiting doctoral researcher at the Leibniz institute for European history (Mainz, Germany). During his Ph.D. time, he developed a study on the mobility of the Bouligny family, looking to understand how globalization was ancored in the Bourbon Spanish Empire. This research was a global micro-history study focused on a specific family of French retailers settled in Alicante, who spread around the world during the second half of the eighteenth century. His major interests are global-local dichotomy; spatiality; mobility; the role of institutions in the Bourbon Spanish Empire; and the parallels between the Iberian empires. He is interested on developing global comparative studies on Iberian empires, state-building, mobility, and globalization during the long-eighteenth century, i.e. 1640s until 1820s.

Research
The project in which Uriarte will work during his stay at MIAS, “Fluvial Poetics in the Amazon: Displacement, Infrastructure, Modernization”, proposes a comparative exploration of diverse narratives of the Amazon during the first two decades of the last century, in close dialogue with the field of environmental humanities. The aquatic imaginary is an essential part of Amazonian peoples, but it also intrigued intellectuals, travelers and statesmen who have written about the region, trying to understand and/or transform it. In this new project he is interested, then, in studying the presence, roles and connotations of rivers in the writings of various intellectuals during the first decades of the 20th century. The uses and connotations of rivers can let us learn different ways of telling aquatic stories, of conceiving of navigation, fluidity and displacement. The Amazon is a fragile and sometimes confusing or dissonant chorus of voices that speak through its waterways. Listening attentively to them in order to disentangle and dive into its various meanings and poetics is one of the objectives of this project.

Bio
Javier Uriarte is Associate Professor of Latin American literature and culture in the Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures at Stony Brook University. He holds a Licenciatura en Letras from the Universidad de la República de Uruguay, and a Ph.D. from New York University. He is interested in theories of space and place, war studies, environmental studies and in the intersections between literary studies and history, geography, philosophy, and politics. He specializes in the study of travel narratives, territorial imagination, war and representation, the Amazon, state consolidation and cultural production in nineteenth century Latin America, infrastructure and water, representations of nature and labor. In his first book, The Desertmakers, he carries out a comparative study of the role that war played in the processes of state consolidation in the Southern Cone and Brazil in the last decades of the nineteenth century. The Spanish version of The Desertmakers won Uruguay’s 2012 National Prize for Literature in the unpublished literary essay category.

Selected publications

Marcel Bataillon fellow

Pablo HERNÁNDEZ SAU

MIS_MOVILIDADES. Experiences of mobility on a fluid frontier, the ‘Hispanic’ Mississippi (1762-1802).

Selected publications

Marcel Bataillon fellow

Javier URIARTE

Fluvial poetics in the Amazon: displacement, infrastructure, modernization

Research

When Spaniards took over the Louisiana, in the aftermath of the Seven Year’s War, the region of the Mississippi Basin was a little-known frontier space for them. However, for Amerindians, Frenchmen, and Britons, it had long been a site of inter-imperial encounter and confrontation. During the fifty years it spent under Spanish rule (1762-1802), the territory articulated by the Mississippi river continued to be a borderland shaped by multiple experiences of mobility, including those of Afro-descendants, Amerindians, intruding British settlers, French colonist who had accepted Spanish rule, and displaced Acadians and exiles from Saint Domingue and the British North American colonies following their respective revolutions. Yet, most studies of these experiences have so far focused on individual groups and paid only limited attention to how differences in class, occupation, gender, and race affected individuals. This research project studies experiences of mobility on the west bank of the Mississippi river under Spanish rule, using an intersectional perspective.

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Selected publications

Paul BERNARD-NOURAUD
Université Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne
Migratory imaginaries. Study and critical analysis of the representations of migration dynamics in the Mediterranean basin over the period 2000

Research
This research project focuses on migratory collective imaginations in the Mediterranean Area for the last twenty years (from 2000 to 2020). “Migratory collective imaginations” designates representations of migrations artists produced in the Mediterranean Area during this period. The perspective is historical, i.e. it studies how contemporary artists sollicitate or not previous representational models of wandering, of the boat, the wall, and the border. It aims to be a critical survey in the way it offers an evaluation of the novelty or, on the contrary, of the stereotypes that the artists are mobilizing, and the different publics they are addressing their artworks: the artistic and academic spheres, migrants themselves, the political domain, etc. The investigation’s development aims to be interdisciplinary since it studies both the production and reception of the considered artworks, and the sociocultural context it determines.

Bio
Paul Bernard-Nouraud is an art historian, graduated from Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne University, and a Aesthetics Ph.D. from the School of High Studies in Social Sciences of Paris (EHESS). His research fields primarily deal with the relationships between the memories of Auschwitz and contemporary art, which he studied in France, the United-States, and Israel. He also worked in different publications on the specific Works of Rembrandt van Rijn, Francisco de Goya, William Kentridge, Gerhart Richter, Oscar Muñoz or Ceija Stojka. He paid specific attention to the uses of archives by contemporary artists, and is interested in the topic of translations in Art History. More recently, he dedicated his research to the representations of international migrations in contemporary art. Paul Bernard-Nouraud is the author of three books, and numerous academic publications.

Selected publications

Luca PITTELOUD
Universidade Federal do ABC, São Paulo
The limits of language in ancient philosophy: non-contradiction, identity and ineffability in Damascius

Research
Are there some things beyond language? Many religious traditions posit that some entities cannot be adequately described in human language and so cannot be grasped by human reason: God in the Abrahamic tradition; in the Dao ancient Chinese Daoism; ultimate reality in Mahayana Buddhism. Often, the ‘mysticism’ of these traditions is set against the ‘cold rationality’ of Ancient Greek philosophy, with its firm commitment to logical principles and argument. This contrast may explain why Ancient Greek treatments of the limits of language have been neglected. In this project, I wish to trace the connections between the three laws of classical logic (the principle of non-contradiction, the law of excluded middle and the principle of identity) and ancient Greek ideas that there are some things that cannot be spoken of or thought about. The main philosopher under scrutiny will be Damascius. For him, in order to grasp the first principle of all things, what he calls the Ineffable, we must go beyond the three laws of logic and accept to step into the void.

Bio
Luca Pitteloud is professor for ancient philosophy at the Federal University of ABC in São Paulo, Brazil. He did is Ph.D. at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland. Between 2013 and 2016, he was a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Brasilia (UnB), at the Federal University of Pará (UFPA) in Belém (Amazonia) and at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ). In 2019, he was a visiting professor at the CNRS in Paris. He works mainly on the history of ancient philosophy, metaphysics and cosmology. He is a member of the editorial team PLATO JOURNAL: The Journal of the International Plato Society.

Selected publications
Aude Plagnard’s project is part of an investigation into the cultural and political relations between Spain and Portugal in the modern age, based on their literary production. She is interested in the paradoxical case of epic production, which has been assigned by critics to a nationalist and colonialist discourse, despite its highly nuanced characters and positions in the Portuguese case between 1580 and 1640. The aim is therefore to depict how the epic constitutes a tool for conceptualising Castilian domination over Portugal in that crucial period and to situate the range of positions held by the authors within the framework of contemporary political literature. This research has the threefold objective of describing this little-known and highly nuanced characters and positions of recent history in prose and verse, and the political implications of historical fiction. In another line of research, she explores the articulation between the literary field common to Spain and Portugal in the modern period and the relations between the two monarchies. Within this framework, she co-directs [with J. Roussies] the collective project Poligrafaria, dedicated to the figure of the bilingual polygraph Manuel de Faria e Sousa. She also supervises the digital edition of texts related to the polemic about Góngora’s poetry within the framework of the Pólemos project (coord. Mercedes Blanco, OBVIL, Sorbonne Université).

After a Ph.D. in Spanish literature from the Sorbonne University, Aude Plagnard is an associate professor in comparative literature at the Université Paul-Valéry de Montpellier since 2016. In line with her doctoral research [awarded by the Chancellerie des Universités de Paris], she studies modern epic in Romance languages, the narration of recent history in prose and verse, and the political implications of historical fiction. The research is based on a socio-anthropological and interdisciplinary approach, and from a comparative perspective.

Research
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Selected publications

Bio
After a Ph.D. in Spanish literature from the Sorbonne University, Aude Plagnard is an associate professor in comparative literature at the Université Paul-Valéry de Montpellier since 2016. In line with her doctoral research [awarded by the Chancellerie des Universités de Paris], she studies modern epic in Romance languages, the narration of recent history in prose and verse, and the political implications of historical fiction. In another line of research, she explores the articulation between the literary field common to Spain and Portugal in the modern period and the relations between the two monarchies. Within this framework, she co-directs [with J. Roussies] the collective project Poligrafaria, dedicated to the figure of the bilingual polygraph Manuel de Faria e Sousa. She also supervises the digital edition of texts related to the polemic about Góngora’s poetry within the framework of the Pólemos project (coord. Mercedes Blanco, OBVIL, Sorbonne Université).

The research “Political participation in Latin America and Europe: potentialities and challenges of participatory democracy in recent history under the effects of the COVID-19”, aims to address the transformations that have recently taken place in the field of political participation in Latin America and Europe (Argentina-Spain), paying special attention to the processes of direct democracy and gender approach. This research focused on democratic innovations and political mechanisms that provide alternatives to the regular practice of democracy and that are directly linked to the expansion of citizen involvement in public affairs. In fact, the research aims to analyze the relationship between participation, direct democracy and gender as dimensions, which, when interconnected can be key to strengthening democracy and governance in the pandemic and the post-pandemic context. Thus, she proposes to analyze the new political practices, government programs, democratic innovations and mechanisms that emanate from the civil society. From the methodological point of view, research is based on a socio-anthropological and interdisciplinary approach, and from a comparative perspective.

Research
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Bio
Since she majored in Social Anthropology at the National University of Rosario (Argentina) and she worked as a researcher, Cristina E. Bloj has had a wider interest in various aspects on the complex societies, social inclusion, and development process in Latin America. After holding a Doctoral Program in “Contemporary Latin American Studies” (UCM-Spain) over the last decades, she has become more strongly interested in the research on social and political participation, local governance, and social movements; especially their implications as democratic innovations and with gender approach. She has been working in several projects as senior consultant for international organizations related to these researches; she has coordinated regional studies on indigenous and Afro-descendent women’s political participation, parity in elected positions and equal access to education. She emphasizes that she puts the focus on ethnographic methods and qualitative data from an ample range of sources, mainly from fieldwork. In addition, the dialogue with other disciplines, such as history and political sciences, as well as the general knowledge about Latin America and Europe, has always been very fruitful for her research.

Selected publications
Research
How was religious conversion carried out in Spain under Visigothic rule and during the first period of Islamic domination and what were the cultural and political consequences? In CONVERSIO, she will investigate the processes of religious conversion in Early Medieval Spain during the Visigothic Kingdom from the 5th to the 8th century and the subsequent period of consolidation of Islamic domination until the 9th century. CONVERSIO has a twofold objective: first, to shed light on the historical and anthropological approaches to religious conversion and on cultural interaction in the Medieval period, focusing on the interaction between Christians, Jews and Muslims; second, to understand and analyze the tension between conversion and apostasy. The Visigothic Kingdom of Spain, which lasted from the 5th to the 8th century, and the period immediately after its downfall provides an interesting and well-documented setting for developing a project on religious conversion which also includes apostasy as a practice that could mirror the process of conversion. Apostasy is a rich, crucial and neglected concept that can profoundly illuminate the study of social and religious relations.

Bio
Lilian R. G. Diniz has a Ph.D. in Medieval History from the University of Padua (Italy) and the University of Vienna (Austria). She is currently a post-doc fellow at the Freie Universität of Berlin, financed by the program PRIME of the German academic exchange service (DAAD). This project investigates written and material sources that attest to the development of popular religion and unorthodoxy in Early Medieval Galicia. Her research interests are religious conversion and popular piety from Late Antiquity to the Early Middle Ages, with a focus in subversive religious behaviour, people’s agency, syncretism and religious crafting. With a background in archaeology, she is also interested in material culture and how to relate its testimony with written sources. She has been a visiting researcher at the centre AnHiMA – Anthropologie et histoire des mondes antiques at the center (CNRS, UMR 8210), the OEAW - Austrian Academy of Sciences in Vienna, and the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. She was recently awarded a Junior fellowship at the Roman-Islam centre of the University of Hamburg.

Selected publications

Research
This project studies the role of rumors as political weapons in the context of the Cold War in Latin America in the 1960s. It reveals the particular case of powdered milk donated by the United States to Latin American public schools as part of the development program “Alliance for Progress” (1961-1970), and how this “sterilizing gringo milk” generated discursive resistance promoted mainly by Leftist groups. These attacks on the Alliance’s milk were made through rumors that circulated widely in popular sectors and were linked to other anti-American practices. The project concentrates on the case of Colombia, as an example of a trend that can be detected throughout Latin America. Why was it possible to make a credible case for what was imagined as “poisoned milk”? The explanation seems to rely on the sterilization anxiety generated by the promotion of birth-control practices in the region, which took the form of conspiratory theories oriented towards regulating the growth of Latin American populations. This helped to connect U.S. milk donations with a strategy of biocontrol exerted through a fictional non-consulted program of sterilization across the region.

Bio
Alberto G. Flórez-Malagón holds a B.A. in Political Science from Universidad de los Andes and an M.A. and a Ph.D. in History from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Before his appointment with the University of Ottawa he was a Senior Program Officer in the Program of Peace, Conflict and Development at the International Development Research Centre, IDRC, in Ottawa. He has worked in Colombia as an associate professor at Javeriana and Los Andes universities, as well as for the Colombian Institute for Development of Science and Technology (COLCIENCIAS) where he directed the National Social Sciences and Humanities Program. He was a visiting fellow and lecturer at Universidad Andina in Ecuador, and Laval, Concordia and McGill universities in Canada. He has published several books and articles on local dynamics of conflict, rural studies, environmental history, historiography, cultural studies and transdisciplinarity in Latin America. His current research interests revolve around cultural and power issues, mainly the strategies for the historical construction of ideologies and identities with emphasis in Latin America.

Selected publications
- 2019. Ustedes los pobres, nosotros los ricos. Las industria culturales extranjeras y el gusto social en Bogotá, Colombia (1940-1970) [Centro Editorial Javeriano], 320 pp. [Forthcoming].
Research
Considering the contemporary trends of international migration in Europe and Latin America, as well as the reinforcement and multiplication of borders, this project proposes a comparative, cross-country and multi-scope analysis of policy and practice related to migration mapping between Europe and Latin America, taking Spain and Argentina as case studies. We will give evidence on a) the main country-differences regarding the ways in which migration and mobility are conceived and represented in maps and cartographic devices produced by official and private agents; b) the nature, and characteristics of the ways in which organizations working directly with young migrants conceive and represent migration and mobility; c) the impacts of the experience of discrimination and racism in urban contexts for the life trajectories of young migrants. The research uses a mix-method methodology, combining complementary research strategies such as policy and institutional analysis, organisational case studies, collective mapping and life stories.

Verónica Hendel
Universidad Nacional de Luján – CONICET
Counter Geographies of Mobility and Borders, Latin-American Young Migrants’ urban experience in Argentina and Spain

Bio
Verónica Hendel is a researcher at the National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET). With a degree in Sociology and a Ph.D. in Social Sciences she also works as a Professor at Luján National University and Buenos Aires University in Argentina. Her current ethnographic research and writing explores the dynamics of Latin American migration among young people linked to the government of human mobilities and the production of territories, borders and identities in educational and communitarian contexts. She is particularly interested in young migrants’ experience of urban space and uses collective mapping and narrative cartographies as a critical approach to these dynamics. In 2011, she was awarded an AUIP scholarship and she participated as a Fellow at the 2019 Summer School organized by the Institute for Critical Social Inquiry (New School for Social Research). She is currently part of three collective research projects and participates in national and international research networks. She has participated actively in the design, implementation and analysis of the First National Migrant Survey in Argentina (2020).

Selected publications
- 2019. "Migration, school and territory. Experiences of the space left and the inhabited space in community and school contexts" (co-author: Gabriela Novaro), Revista lICE, 45, pp. 57-76.

Miriam Hernández Reyna
Université Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne
From Memory for Identity Recognition to Anti-colonial Memory: The Commemoration of the 500th Centennial of the Conquest of Mexico

Research
This project analyzes the formation of an anticolonial memory in Mexico on the 500th Centennial of the Conquest (2021) and examines its reception in Spain. I particularly focus in the administration of the new Mexican president elected in July 2018, Andrés Manuel López Obrador. During this political change, a new imaginary about the colonial past begins to be expressed through official rhetoric on the reparation of the past and the demand for historical apologies. In order to study this phenomenon, I use the perspective of a critical history of memory and the theory of memory regimes. This allows me to consider the social arena in which the new meaning of the past makes sense, as well as to identify the actors and vectors of this memory. The methodology is the collection of press, official speeches, public controversies, observation of the commemoration and the comparison of these elements with similar data collected in Spain. I also put the case of Mexico into perspective in relation to other countries where the colonial past is still a burning topic of debate. By doing this, I observe the memory as a global concept based on the idea of the imprescriptibility of the past.

Bio
Miriam Hernández Reyna is a philosopher and historian, specialist in the history of the present time. She is currently a postdoctoral researcher at the Centre d’histoire sociale des mondes contemporains (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne/CNRS). She has been a lecturer at the Sorbonne University in Paris, as well as at various French and Mexican universities, where she has taught history and Latin American studies. In 2019 she was also visiting scholar at Columbia University in New York. Her work deals with the construction of a postcolonial memory of the indigenous past in contemporary Mexico and in the framework of cultural diversity politics. This research is at the crossroads of a critical historiography of memory and political philosophy and, beyond the Mexican case, it focuses on a general reflection on the globalization of memory as a predominant interpretation of recent or distant pasts. Her current project proposes an analysis of the politics of memory on the 5th Centenary of the conquest of Mexico, particularly related to the emergence of new anti-colonial claims based on re-readings of the past and on specific conceptions of social identities.

Selected publications

Verónica HENDEL
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Selected publications
- 2019. “Migration, school and territory. Experiences of the space left and the inhabited space in community and school contexts” (co-author: Gabriela Novaro), Revista lICE, 45, pp. 57-76.
François Chevalier fellow

Wai-yip HO
Education University of Hong Kong
Imagination of Chinese Muslim on Al-Andalus

Research
Wai-yip Ho is a Correspondent Fellow of Nantes Institute for Advanced Study; Honorary Research Fellow at the Institute of Arab & Islamic Studies, University of Exeter. He is Foundation Member, China Advisory Team, Christian-Muslim Relations: A Bibliographical History 1500-1900 (Brill) and the author of Islam and China’s Hong Kong: Ethnic Identity, Muslim Networks and the new Silk Road (Routledge: London, 2015, paperback). He was a Marie Curie Fellow of the European Union at Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS); Visiting Fellow at Karl Jaspers Centre for Advanced Transcultural Studies, University of Heidelberg; Sir Edward Youde Fellow; Visiting Scholar at Centre for Muslim-Christian Studies at Oxford and Visiting Research Fellow in Zentrum Moderner Orient (ZMO) at Berlin, etc. His research interests include Islamic Studies, China’s Christian-Muslim relations, New Media and China’s Islam, Gulf-China relations and contemporary Muslim youths in Chinese context.

Bio
During the Ming and Qing Dynasties of Imperial China, Muslim Chinese scholars translated and transmitted Islamic thought from Persian-Arabian texts to Chinese readership through the intellectual framework and vocabularies of Confucian Chinese tradition. This intellectual thought in Islamic literature was called Han Kitab (Sino-Islamic texts) and those thinkers are known as Confucian Muslims (Hurui). Through this new perspective of Islamic-Confucianism, he proposes to carry out a pioneering research project to investigate how leading Confucian Muslims (Hurui) responded, interpreted, and criticized Christian doctrines in the writings of Han Kitab. By selectively translating and analysing Sino-Islamic texts in dialogue with Christianity, this research project attempts to retrieve Muslim Chinese scholars’ responses towards Christian missionaries and the Christian doctrines. Through translating and analysing Han-Kitab, this research project aims at reconstructing the formative encounters and characteristics of Confucian Muslim-Christian relations in the context of Sino-Islamic intellectual tradition.

Selected publications

François Chevalier fellow

Germán JIMÉNEZ MONTES
University of Groningen
Belonging to the Sea: Integration and Identity of Northern European Shipmasters in Modern Andalusia

Research
This project examines how foreign shipmasters negotiated their identities with local and royal institutions in late-sixteenth-century Seville, which at the time was the economic capital of Spain’s maritime empire. The research has two main objectives. Firstly, it analyses the integration of foreign shipmasters into the Andalusian economy and their participation in local and royal institutions in Spain. Secondly, it examines to what extent shipmasters strengthened their foreign identity or, alternatively, concealed it when dealing with Spanish institutions. This project, in short, seeks to shed light on the strategies developed by foreigners to integrate into the Spanish maritime empire, as well as the emergence of categories of belonging and foreign identities in early modern Spain.

Bio
Germán Jiménez Montes obtained his Ph.D. in history at the University of Groningen in 2020, with the dissertation “A Dissimulated Trade: Flamencos and the Trade of North European Timber in Seville (1554-1598)”. He studied History at the University of Seville (2009-2013) and the University of Ghent (2012-2013), and graduated with honours in the Master of Estudios Históricos Avanzados at the University of Seville (2013-2014). He has lectured at the University of Groningen in the period 2018-2020. His research explores trade and migration in the early modern period, with a focus on the role of western Andalusia in the Atlantic world. He is the author of several works on the trade between Seville and northern Europe in the late sixteenth century.

Selected publications
- Forthcoming. A Dissimulated Trade: Northern European Timber Merchants, Leiden; Boston, Brill.
Research
The project Comfort and Domestic Space in Spain from the Civil War through the Transition examines the real and symbolic meanings of domestic space in Spain during the period 1939-1982 through a critical analysis of the media-driven concept of comfort. Working under the assumption that comfort is a particularly complex cultural and political narrative closely related to ideas about modernization, the nation, class conflict, the right to housing, intimacy, the body and the family, this research unpacks the meanings of everything from the aspirational and futuristic images of the interiors of Spanish homes to the social criticism of the potential dangers of domestic space found in architectural plans, manifestos and a variety of forms of mass media such as journalism, advertising, comics, trade magazines, film and literature.

Bio
Susan Larson received her Ph.D from the University of Arizona and is the Charles B. Qualia Professor of Romance Languages in the Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures at Texas Tech University. Her research, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Fulbright Commission, lies at the intersection of Spain’s urban culture, cultural geography, historical avant-garde and film and literature since 1900. She is the author of Constructing and Resisting Modernity: Madrid 1900-1936 (Vervuert / Iberoamericana, 2011) and editor of Kiosk Literature in Silver Age Spain: Modernity and Mass Culture (Intellect Books, 2016 with Jeffrey Zamostny) and Visualizing Spanish Modernity (Berg Press, 2005, with Eva Woods Peiró). She is the Executive Editor of the Romance Quarterly and co-edits (with Benjamin Fraser) Palgrave Macmillan’s Hispanic Urban Studies book series.

Selected publications
Research
Several authors have noted the growing use of culture as an agent for both the socio-political and economic improvement of societies. This notion of culture as a tool can be understood within a process of politization of culture, where the meaning of culture is disputed in different arenas of power. This project proposes to investigate from an anthropological perspective, differential appropriations of art for social transformation in Madrid and Buenos Aires. With this aim, social and political uses of art will be investigated based on the study of experiences of community theatre conducted in Madrid (Spain). Additionally, we will study the relationships established between these initiatives and the experiences of community theatre developed in the city of Buenos Aires (Argentina). The study of the potential presented by the artistic approach to social problems from an anthropological perspective is still an area of research that has seldom been addressed on an international level. Community theatre is a phenomenon scarcely studied in Spain nor have the relationships between European and Latin American experiences of art as social transformation been systematically studied.

Bio
Camila Mercado is a Professor, Graduate and Doctor in Anthropological Sciences from the University of Buenos Aires (Argentina), where she has served as a teacher giving seminars in the area of Anthropology. Since her pre-doctoral years, she has been investigating the social practice of community theatre in Buenos Aires in its organizational, aesthetic and socio-political dimensions. In her doctoral thesis, she analyses the relationships that groups of community theatre in Buenos Aires establish with the state and with international funding bodies and the negotiations and conflicts that arise regarding which meanings of art as an agent for social transformation and/or inclusion prevail. After her doctoral studies, she has worked as a postdoctoral scholarship holder at the National Council of Scientific and Technical Research in Argentina with the project “Performance and cultural rights. Artistic uses of public space in the City of Buenos Aires”. She has also trained as an actress and multiplier of the Teatro de los Oprimidos tool.

Selected publications

Pamela RADCLIFF
University of California, San Diego
Mapping the Politics of Municipalism in 19th-20th century Spanish Political Culture

Research
This research project aims to map the historical arc of municipalist movements in Spain, from the early 19th century to the present. The central hypothesis is that there has been a consistent municipalist tradition in Spanish political culture that has formed an important counterweight to the hegemonic political movements of the contemporary era, which framed the State as the architect of the nation and the defender of individual citizens. Instead, municipalist movements sought to root political authority and legitimacy in autonomous local communities. Within this logic, the combination of autonomy and the proximity of local government to the citizens made local government the ideal conduit for self-government, representation of community interests and direct participation. By analyzing the elements of a recurring municipalist discourse, this project seeks to challenge the assumption of a normative chronological shift in the locus of political authority, claims-making and citizenship from the pre-modern local scale to the modern central state. Instead, municipalist, regionalist and statist political movements have continued to debate the territorial contours of political membership in the modern state.

Bio
Pamela Radcliff has been a Professor in the Department of History at the University of California, San Diego since 1990. She received her B.A. from Scripps College (1979) and her M.A. and Ph.D. from Columbia University (1990). She is the author of several books and numerous articles on popular mobilization, gender and women’s politics, and civil society in 20th century Spain, from the Restoration to the Second Republic and the Transition. Her current project explores the long term tradition of municipalist political movements in contemporary Spanish history. She has published three single-authored books: From Mobilization to Civil War: the Politics of Polarization in the Spanish City of Gijon (Cambridge University Press, 1996), Making Democratic Citizens in Spain: Civil Society and the Popular Origins of the Transition, 1960-1978 (Palgrave, 2011) and the History of Modern Spain, 1808-Present (Wiley Blackwell, 2017, Spanish edition with Ariel, 2018), as well as a co-authored volume with Victoria Enders, Constructing Spanish Womanhood: Female Identity in Modern Spain (SUNY, 1999). She also currently serves as the President of the Association for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies (ASPHS).
This project will illuminate the role that educational attainment plays in reducing or exacerbating inequality in Spain and the United States, two countries with distinct approaches to postsecondary and workforce preparation. Using large, randomly sampled datasets on the workforce entry of young adults in Spain and the U.S., the study will estimate the education-wage premia in both countries over time, with a focus on differences between individuals from more-and-less advantaged family backgrounds. To address the endogeneity of educational attainment and labor market success, the analysis uses doubly-robust adjustments for a rich set of individual and family background attributes. It leverages region-by-year variability in economic conditions to disentangle the effects of educational attainment from local economic conditions. The study will illuminate how the availability of vocational pathways in Spain may contribute to economic opportunity, shedding light on policies that can facilitate social mobility in diverse 21st century economies.

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Selected publications
- 2020. Steele, J. L., Steiner, E. D., Hamilton, L. S., “Priming the leadership pipeline: School performance and climate under an urban school leadership residency program.” Educational Administration Quarterly, 57(2), 221-256.

Bio
Dr. Jennifer L. Steele is an Associate Professor of Education at American University in Washington, DC, where she studies education policy and the economics of education. Her current research examines school-to-career transitions and the effects of information disparities in students’ career planning. Her other studies have estimated the costs and causal achievement effects of dual-language immersion education; the effects of alternative pathways for school leader preparation; teachers’ responsiveness to financial incentives; implementation of the Post-9/11 GI Bill; effects of competency-based education; and effects of education access in correctional settings. Dr. Steele’s work has been funded by the U.S. Department of Education, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the American Council on Education, among others, and has appeared in outlets such as the Journal of Policy Analysis and Management and the American Educational Research Journal. She previously worked as a policy researcher at the RAND Corporation and as a classroom teacher. She earned her doctorate in Administration, Planning, and Social Policy from Harvard University.

Luca Valera has been Assistant Professor in Philosophy from 2015 and Associate Professor from 2020; from 2018, he is Director of the Center for Bioethics at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. In 2013 he received his Ph.D. in Bioethics and Philosophy from the Università Campus Bio-Medico di Roma (UCBM), Rome (Italy). His main research interests are the field of Bioethics, Environmental Philosophy, Ethics, Philosophical Anthropology, and Philosophy of Technology. He has been Visiting Scholar in Philosophy and Applied Ethics at the Department of Philosophy, Universidad de Valladolid, Valladolid (Spain) in 2018, Visiting Scholar in Bioethics at the Australian Catholic University in 2019 and Visiting Professor in Bioethics, at the Department of Educational Sciences, Università degli Studi di Roma Tre, Rome (Italy). He published more than 70 peer-reviewed papers and book chapters and 3 books in Italian, English, Spanish, and Portuguese.

Bio
Luca Valera has been Assistant Professor in Philosophy from 2015 and Associate Professor from 2020; from 2018, he is Director of the Center for Bioethics at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. In 2013 he received his Ph.D. in Bioethics and Philosophy from the Università Campus Bio-Medico di Roma (UCBM), Rome (Italy). His main research interests are the field of Bioethics, Environmental Philosophy, Ethics, Philosophical Anthropology, and Philosophy of Technology. He has been Visiting Scholar in Philosophy and Applied Ethics at the Department of Philosophy, Universidad de Valladolid, Valladolid (Spain) in 2018, Visiting Scholar in Bioethics at the Australian Catholic University in 2019 and Visiting Professor in Bioethics, at the Department of Educational Sciences, Università degli Studi di Roma Tre, Rome (Italy). He published more than 70 peer-reviewed papers and book chapters and 3 books in Italian, English, Spanish, and Portuguese.

Selected publications
- 2015. Arne Naess. Introduzione all’ecologia, Pisa, ETS.
Research

The objective of this project is to investigate the exchanges and interrelationships between Latin American and European photography between the 1970s and the early 1980s. It will focus on the references made to Latin American photography in the editions published between 1971 and 1981 in the French edition of the Swiss magazine Camera and in the Spanish magazine Nueva Lente, analysing their published content, both as regards to what was published about Latin American photography and how this content could have promoted any cultural transfers between Latin America and Europe. The first two Latin American Colloquia of Photography in Mexico City in 1978 and 1981 established one of the first and most effective attempts to form and unify a discourse on photography produced within the territories of Latin America. Brazilian photographers who participated in the Colloquia often mention the importance of the dialogue between Latin America and Europe during the late 1970s. All testimonies show that, in addition to the great changes happening in Brazil and Latin American photography during the late 1970s and early 1980s, there was also an intense exchange between Brazil and Europe, focused on France and Spain, among other countries. From the Brazilian point of view, this is a key chapter in the history of national photography.

Bio

Erika Zerwes’s BA was in Philosophy at the Universidade de São Paulo. For her Masters and Ph.D. she moved to the History department at UNICAMP, Brazil. She also developed a Post Doc at the Museum of Contemporary Art of the University of São Paulo. The researches she conducted during the Ph.D. and Post-Doc were developed working extensively with Brazilian and international archives, using the multiple perspectives offered by the notion of Visual Culture and borrowing conceptual instruments from Philosophy, History of Art and Critical Studies, especially the links between aesthetics and politics established by authors such as Agambem and Ranciere. During her Ph.D. she had the opportunity to have a séjour doctoral at the EHESS in Paris, where she furthered bibliographical and archival researches. She continued some paths of research opened by the Ph.D. during the three-year Post-Doctoral research, titled The notions of humanism in documentary photography, at the Museum of Contemporary Art of the University of São Paulo.

Selected publications

Connected Margins? Borderlands and Iberian Circulations (Northern and Amazonian Confines of the Ibero-American world, 18th – 21st century) is a project that aims at studying borderlands in a long-term perspective. The research will focus on “marginalized territories” in the Iberian world in order to examine the secondary networks behind the structuration of these peripheric regions. This way, it will be possible to examine the delicate balance between isolation and connection that can be observed in these regions from the colonial era to present days. A comparative approach, geographical and chronological, will be adopted to show the social dynamics that characterize these regions and the terms of their insertion into larger circuits of mobility. The goal of this approach is to reexamine the notion of margin, and the relationship between center and periphery. This way, it should be possible to gain a better understanding of the dynamics of circulation and recombination that affect these so-called “marginalized territories” in a long-term perspective.

Selected publications

Research
Connected Margins? Borderlands and Iberian Circulations (Northern and Amazonian Confines of the Ibero-American world, 18th – 21st century) is a project that aims at studying borderlands in a long-term perspective. The research will focus on “marginalized territories” in the Iberian world in order to examine the secondary networks behind the structuration of these peripheric regions. This way, it will be possible to examine the delicate balance between isolation and connection that can be observed in these regions from the colonial era to present days. A comparative approach, geographical and chronological, will be adopted to show the social dynamics that characterize these regions and the terms of their insertion into larger circuits of mobility. The goal of this approach is to reexamine the notion of margin, and the relationship between center and periphery. This way, it should be possible to gain a better understanding of the dynamics of circulation and recombination that affect these so-called “marginalized territories” in a long-term perspective.

Bio
Soizic Croguennec is presently an Associate Professor in Early Modern History at the Université de Guyane. She obtained a Ph.D. with les félicitations du jury from the Université Toulouse 2 Jean-Jaurès in 2011 and published her thesis in 2015 under the title Sociétés minières et monde métis. Le Centre-Nord de la Nouvelle-Espagne au XVIIe siècle. Doctoral fellow (2009-2011) then post-doctoral fellow (2016-2017) at the Casa de Velázquez, she focuses on 18th century New Spain and Spanish Louisiana. The inner workings of multicultural societies, evolving identities, and circulations have been at the center of a research that constantly plays with different scales (at imperial, atlantic, regional, local level). In the line of a growing focus on borderlands, she is currently developing a transdisciplinary project entitled Connected Margins ? Borderlands and Iberian Circulations (Northern and Amazonian Confines of the Ibero-American world, 18th – 21st century).

Selected publications

Research
Margarida Barroso’s project aims to analyse the intersections of gender, migration and illiteracy in contemporary European societies, and to give evidence on policy and practice developments for the social integration of migrant women with low literacy in Europe. Building on the existing literature and research evidence, GEMILLI proposes an intersectional, comprehensive and integrated approach, able to advance knowledge further and to inform social policy in the context of the European Union. Considering the present trends of international migration in Europe and the political and scientific challenges brought by the so-called migration crisis and by the increasing inflows of migrants from countries with high illiteracy, this project proposes a comparative, cross-country and multi-scope analysis of policy and practice between old and new immigration countries, taking Spain and France as case studies. GEMILLI will give evidence on a) the main country-differences regarding the social integration of migrant women with low literacy levels; b) the nature, characteristics and functioning of the local organisations working directly with migrant women with low literacy levels and in charge of training, alphabetisation, language learning, and social integration actions; c) the impacts of the intersections of gender, migration and illiteracy for the life trajectories of women. The research design contemplates both the qualitative and quantitative dimensions of the phenomenon and considers macro (institutional/policy), meso (organisation/practice) and micro (individuals/biographies) levels of analysis. It uses a mix-method methodology, combining complementary research strategies such as policy and institutional analysis, organisational case studies and life stories.

Bio
Margarida Barroso obtained a Ph.D. in Sociology in 2013 from the University Institute of Lisbon (ISCTE-IUL) with a doctoral thesis on the Quality of working life in organisational contexts from North and South Europe. This work received the Honorable Mention for a doctoral dissertation, Award António Donnélas, GEPE - Portuguese Ministry of Work, Solidarity and Social Security, 2017. She then focused on a project concerning the Organisational strategies to adjust to the economic crisis in Portugal, Spain and Greece. She is now a Researcher at the Centre for Research and Studies in Sociology (CIES, ISCTE-IUL, Lisbon, where she develops a project on the Quality of life in contemporary societies: Work, Gender and Education, in partnership with the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology.
**Presentation REVFAIL**

**REVFAIL** is a RISE (Research and Innovation Staff Exchange) network coordinated by the Madrid Institute for Advanced Study. It brings together 11 participants in 10 different countries of Europe and the Americas and is designed to offer pathbreaking insights on failure on an interdisciplinary, transnational perspective. REVFAIL moreover aims to provide critical tools to analyse and revert self-imposed and external narratives of failure.

The dynamics between inclusiveness and the failure to integrate is not only a key social problem of our present, but also one with deep historical and philosophical roots. Discourses on failure are present in many aspects of contemporary societies, and range from those regarding the individual entrepreneur, to programs to minimize the failure of regional economies at the expense of larger and more populated areas, and ideas on international leadership. But quantitative approaches to development and integration need to be supplemented with critical awareness of the consequences of attributing failure to groups, individuals or even nations (sometimes as a covered synonym in racist and Eurocentric discourse).

Inclusiveness, and integration in all social institutions are challenges that demand reassessing the criteria used to identify failure. At the same time, it is necessary to promote a clear understanding of the temporary nature of failure and the possibilities of reversing and challenging it. These reversals are both a matter of fact and the result of changes in social conceptions of success, taste and well-being. While failure is a heavy and paralyzing category, a concept crafted to perpetuate colonial dominion and legitimize inequalities, positive psychology, engineering and philosophy among other disciplines have nevertheless pointed to several positive aspects and effects of failure and recovery.

**The REVFAIL project is organized in four different analytical layers (WPs 1-4) and will implement a broad communicative strategy to facilitate transfer of knowledge within the network and dissemination of results to different publics:**

- WP1 deals with philosophical concepts and discursive practices related to failure.
- WP2 examines narratives of individual failure, as manifested by the particularly rich and direct testimony of egodocuments and (auto)biographical accounts.
- WP3 refers to communal attributions of failure and stigmatized groups that are particularly prone to be identified with failure.
- WP4 analyses the phenomenon at the level of complex polities (including diplomatic relationships) and abstract notions (such as economic or large-scale educational programs).
- WP5 is a comprehensive strategy for dissemination and communication and aims to raise awareness within society at large as to the relevance of this topic.

You can follow us on twitter @FAILUREPROJECT1 and consult our latest activities on our webpage: failure.es/