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Bio:

Sylvia Fernández holds a Ph.D. in Hispanic Studies from the University of Houston. Currently, she is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow with the University of Kansas. Her research is on Mexican and Latino/a Literature with a focus on Border Studies, Women's, Gender and Sexualities Studies, Hispanic Archives, and Digital Humanities. Among her DH collaborations, she cofounded Borderlands Archives Cartography (BAC), is part of the core team of Torn Apart / Separados, and the ongoing project of United Fronteras.

Presentation Title:

Intersectional and Interrelational (Trans)border Panoramas through Digital Humanities

Abstract:

In Roopika Risam's recent book *New Digital Worlds* (2019), she proposes that "those of us who are equipped with the capacity for humanities inquiry [and are committed to social justice] have a responsibility to intervene" in the legacies of colonialism by "creating projects to challenge the exclusions in the record of digital knowledge" (139-140). It is imperative to bring this call to action to the abundant legacy of colonialist production in regards to the borderlands and its inhabitants' representations. It is crucial to reclaim the humanity of communities, such as the ones along the Mexico-U.S. border, by critically contextualizing and reshaping knowledge production through the use of digital methods and tools, as well as collaborative and interdisciplinary practices. With the intention of deconstructing negative stereotypes of border women's identities and toxic national discourses about the Mexico-US region, this presentation will bring to the forefront a series of visualizations, based on archives, cultural and digital records and border literature, to expose the creation of intersectional and interrelational (trans)border panoramas. Through literary, historical, cultural and political contexts, these cartographic and network analysis visualizations led to understand the fluidity of borderlands identities, as well as migration flows, immobility and transborder dynamics on both sides of the border region.