EVERYDAY BORDERS:
FIFTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BORDER STUDIES

CALL FOR PROPOSALS
Submission Deadline
March 10, 2021

October 27, 2021 - Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico
October 28-29, 2021 - Edinburg, Texas, United States

Direct Questions to:
Dr. Caroline Miles, caroline.miles@utrgv.edu

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# EveryDay Borders:

**Fifth Annual International Conference on Border Studies**

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The theme of the Fifth Annual International Conference on Border Studies is “Everyday Borders.” With this theme, the organizers seek to generate a space for conversations and exchanges among researchers, teachers, and activists in Border Studies.

We solicit proposals that contribute to the new and critical thinking on borders as ubiquitous social constructions that create, regulate, and enforce divisions and exclusions. The conference theme, Everyday Borders, implies that borders exist beyond physical walls, geographical demarcations, and state-controlled borders and affect the identities and lives of all human beings and every community of today. We seek to move away from analyzing state policies and state-defined security and instead to foreground the agency, the human security, and the social movements of migrants and communities. We invite papers that look into models of everyday hospitality, integration, and local/transnational community movements.

The organizers welcome proposals from all disciplines. Those proposals with interdisciplinary, critical, and global approaches will be privileged. Panels are preferred.
Ather Zia has a doctorate degree from the Department of Anthropology at the University of California at Irvine. She also has two Masters Degrees; one in Communications from California State University Fullerton and another in Journalism from Kashmir University. Her recent publication is titled: Resisting Disappearance Military Occupation & Women's Activism in Kashmir 2019.

Ather has been a journalist with BBC World service. She has also done a brief stint as a civil servant with the Kashmir government which in a lighter vein she refers to as her *pre-pre-preliminary fieldwork*. She is a published author and columnist. Her essays and creative work including fiction and poetry have appeared in a variety of magazines. She has also published her first collection of poems titled “The Frame.” In 2013 she won the second prize for ethnographic poetry on Kashmir from the Society for Humanistic Anthropology (American Anthropological Association).

She is the founder-editor of Kashmir Lit, a digital journal based on writings on Kashmir. She has been elected to the board of Society of Humanistic Anthropology (SHA) of the Anthropological Association of America (2015-2016) and is also the book review editor "elect" (2017), for the Anthropology News (Association for Feminist Anthropology Section). In 2011 she co-founded Critical Kashmir Studies, an interdisciplinary network of scholars working on the Kashmir region. In addition to scholarly endeavors the group strongly focuses on applied and engaged anthropology projects.

Currently she is an Assistant Professor in the Anthropology Department and Gender Studies Program at University of Northern Colorado Greeley.
Dr. Kathryn Cassidy is Associate Professor of Human Geography at Northumbria University. She is a feminist political geographer and activist, whose work explores processes and practices of bordering and ordering contemporary societies and the ways in which these are being resisted both through collective and mundane actions. Her research elucidates the ways in which borders and the processes and practices through which they are (re)made have moved from the margins into the centre of contemporary social and political life.

This research primarily emanates from a collaboration with colleagues from the EUBorderscapes (2012-2016) project, Professor Nira Yuval-Davis and Dr. Georgie Wemyss. She completed her undergraduate studies in geography at the University of Nottingham, before moving on to study for an interdisciplinary MA at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, UCL in 1999-2000. After a few years of working in the private sector, she returned to academia in 2005 to complete an MA and PhD at the University of Birmingham, which were funded by the UK’s Economic and Social Research Council and incorporated language training and fieldwork in Ukraine and Romania.

She taught at the University of Birmingham in the 2006-2007 academic year and whilst carrying out research in Ukraine, she also gave a series of lectures at Yuriy Fedkovych Chernivtsi National University. She was a research fellow at the University of Babes-Bolyai in Romania from January to July 2009. Prior to joining Northumbria in September 2013, Kathryn worked in the School of Geography at Queen Mary, University of London, initially as a Teaching Fellow and then as a Lecturer in Human Geography.

More recently, she has been focused on understanding the ways in which new solidarities are emerging to challenge and resist the extension of bordering practices into everyday life, i.e. new processes of dis/b/ordering and both state-sponsored and informal punitiveness towards marginalised populations and those who seek to support them.
Dr. Juan Manuel Mendoza Guerrero received his doctorate degree in Borderlands History from the University of Texas at El Paso. He attended the Autonomous University of Sinaloa for his Masters in United States and Canada Studies, and received a second Masters degree in Economics from the Autonomous Technological Institute of Mexico. He has taught a variety of courses at the Technological Institute of Ciudad Juarez, Autonomous University of Sinaloa, University of Texas at El Paso, Monterrey Institute of Higher Education, and Thunderbird University.

Dr. Mendoza has conducted extensive research on a range of topics. Some of his published research includes: The onsumption of Nostalgia: Latin American Immigrants and the Creation of the Hispanic Market in the United States, Mexican Immigrants Food ways in Texas, 1880-1960s: Identity, Nationalism and Community, and, Buying in Supermarkets: Race, Ethnicity, Gender and age in the Construction of the American Market in Mazatlan.

Among Dr. Mendoza accomplishments are the 2003 National Prize for Foreign Trade Research from Mexico City and the Leader of the Academic Body in Consolidation “Migratory Movements and Regional Development.” He is a member of the State System of Scientist and Technological of Sinaloa and the National System of Researchers, Level 1.
We welcome panel, round table, paper, and poster proposals. Academics, researchers, students, NGOs, activists, and others are invited to submit proposals.

Panels and Round tables: Panel proposals should be no more than 2000 words. Panels are limited to no more than 5 presenters.

Papers: Paper proposals should be no more than 1000 words.

Posters: We also welcome poster submissions from undergraduate and graduate students. Undergraduates must have a letter of support from a faculty member. Posters should be 4 feet (48 inch) wide and 3 feet (36 inch) high.

Send proposals and a two page vitae in PDF format via email by March 10th, 2021.

Proposals may be submitted in either English or Spanish. Simultaneous translation will be provided (English and Spanish) at the conference.

Only original work will be accepted. Research works that have been presented or published previously will be rejected. Each presenter may submit a maximum of two presentations. We accept two presentations from one presenter only if we have space. Submissions will be peer-reviewed by a committee of experts and presenters will be notified via email of acceptance by May 30th, 2021. Author of accepted proposals will need to send in a 50 word biography and 100 word abstract by June 15th, 2021.

Please submit proposals (and indicate your choice of panel topic) electronically by using the following link:
https://www.utrgv.edu/oge/research-and-resources/borderstudiesconf/index.htm

For proposals in Spanish please email them to: mcontrer@docentes.uat.edu.mx

Please direct questions to: Dr. Caroline Miles, caroline.miles@utrgv.edu

- Economy
- Politics
- Context and Environment
- Health
- Migration
- Refugees, Communities, and Hospitality
- Borders beyond Walls
- Global Borders
- Technology & Energy
- Sociocultural Processes
- Citizenship and Legality in Everyday Life
- Gender, Race, Class, and Intersections of Border Politics
The three-day conference will be held both in Mexico and in the United States:

**Mexico** - Wednesday, October 27, 2021, at the Auditorium of the Multidisciplinary Academic Unit of the Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas Matamoros.

**United States** - Thursday and Friday, October 28-29, 2021, at the Edinburg campus of The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

Lunch and continental breakfast will be provided on October 28 and 29, 2021 with a reception on the evening of the 28th. Participants will be expected to pay for their own travel, accommodation, and other meals. Conference fees are found on the conference website as well as information about travel and accommodations. We regret that at this time due to current travel restrictions to Mexico we cannot coordinate travel or accommodation for Mexico.

**Border Tour** - On October 29th we will host a tour of the border. The Theme is titled: Reimagining Everyday Realities of Border Life. The U.S.-Mexico border is most frequently imagined by people outside the border region as either a static geographical boundary or a zone of conflict and contention. What gets lost in these conceptions is the everyday reality of border life. On this tour we will walk participants through the experiences of border residents and show how border communities and the environment are impacted when false narratives of the U.S-Mexico frontera are circulated.

**Tour organizers:** Stefanie Herweck, Terence Garrett, Marcela Hebbard and UTRGV students from the Environmental Awareness Club.
CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS AND SPONSORS

The International Border Studies Conference series has been planned and hosted by the leaders in Global Border Studies at The Office of Global Engagement at University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and the Autonomous University of Tamaulipas since 2016. The leadership at UTRGV is particularly interested in building a critical, interdisciplinary, Global Border Studies through this conference series.

The Conference is sponsored by The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Health, Human Behavior and Methodological and Sociocultural Processes from the Autonomous University of Tamaulipas (UAT), the Migration and Regional Development of the Autonomous University of Sinaloa (UAS), the Research College of the Northern Border (Colegio de la Frontera Norte), Human Activity Lab from the University of Seville (Universidad de Sevilla).