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A Bibliography for Reimagining Borders

A Bibliography for Reimagining Borders is a collection of resources recommended by students, faculty, and staff at St. Edward's University. The list is inspired by the University's 2017– 2018 Common Theme program on immigrant voices and seeks to expand the conversation around current social and political concerns about immigration issues on campus and beyond during this critical time in our country. The recommendations are derived from diverse contexts and subject matters that expand, complicate, or make us think differently about what a border is, what it does, or who it affects.

Alvar, Mia. *In the Country*. New York: Vintage, 2016.

These stories are really good and about the Philippines.

Recommended by Joseph Ver, alum

Anzaldúa, Gloria.

Borderlands/La Frontera:
The New Mestiza. New York:
Aunt Lute Books, 2012.

This hybrid-genre book goes into the history of border culture and the constraints that borders place on one's sense of culture and race. It's a radically amazing book on new theories of social consciousness!

Recommended by Julie Anne Chaires and Miguel Escoto, students

Aquino, Eloisa. Gloria Anzaldúa. Issue 1, Vol. 7, of The Life and Times of Butch Dykes. Montreal: B&D Press, 2015.

In this biographical zine about Gloria Anzaldúa, readers see the borders this legendary figure crossed in finding her identity. By owning as simple and complex a process of owning her identity, Anzaldúa broke boundaries between cultures, races, sexualities, and stereotypes.

Recommended by Lilli Hime, student

Bowden, Charles and Alice Leora Briggs. *Dreamland: The Way Out of Juarez*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2010.

A nonfiction book containing sgraffito drawings. Looks at both sides of the El Paso/ Juarez border at the drug war and cartels, alongside US involvement.

Recommended by Elizaveta Dovgish, student

In addition to Gloria
Anzaldúa's Borderlands/La
Frontera (and with that, the
whole school of borderlands
study that arose around Chicana
feminists in the 1980s, like
Cherrie Moraga's Bridge Called
My Back, etc.), UT Press has
a whole Border Studies division
of books, including this title.

Recommended by Cory Lock, Professor of University Studies and Director of General Education The Boy in the Striped Pajamas. Directed by Mark Herman. Santa Monica, CA: Miramax, 2008.

About friendship across the fence (border) of a concentration camp.

Recommended by Emily Fahey, student

Camus, Albert. *The Plague*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1958.

Imposed borders and imprisonment's impact on those within and without.

Recommended by Mike Merrill, Global Engagement Office staff

Chomsky, Aviva.

Undocumented: How

Immigration Became Illegal.

Boston: Beacon Press, 2014.

Chomsky does a wonderful job tracing how the term illegal entered US vocabulary, and in the process, she delegitimizes the terms legal and illegal as ways of defining human beings.

Recommended by Don Unger, Assistant Professor of Writing & Rhetoric

Cisneros, Sandra. Woman Hollering Creek and Other Stories. New York: Random House, 1991.

In this collection of short stories, Cisneros focuses on the social role of women and the relationships they have with men and other women around them in Mexican-American culture. These stories are influenced by the cultural influences of Cisneros' Mexican heritage and the experiences she had growing up just north of the Mexican-American border.

Recommended by Jackie Gonzalez, student

Donovan, Nina. *Nasty Woman*, 2016.

This spoken word poem received national attention during the Women's March in January 2017. The poem pushes against ideas that women are simply dressing and are passive receivers instead of invigorative complex beings.

Recommended by Alexandra Robinson, Associate Professor of Art

Dying To Live: A Migrant's Journey. Directed by Bill Groody. Groody River Films, 2005.

This film takes a profound look at the human face of the migrant. It explores who these people are, why they leave their homes, and what they face in their journey.

Recommended by Veronica Rosas, St. Edward's community member

Dylan, Bob. "Nobody 'Cept You," 1973, The Bootleg Series, Vol 1-3: Rare & Unreleased 1961-1991, Columbia Records, 1991.

A record that reminds us that safety and care can be found in humanity is important since our lives do not exist without affecting others and being affected by others.

Recommended by Alexandra Robinson, Associate Professor of Art

El Norte. Directed by Gregory Nava. PBS, 1983.

This movie shows some of the struggles that immigrants face as they try to find better lives.

Recommended by Harris Bauman, student

Fromkin, David. A Peace to End All Peace. New York: Holt, 1989.

An in depth look at how and why Europe divided the Middle East and its lasting impacts.

Recommended by Mike Merrill, Global Engagement Office staff

Gaiman, Neil. *Stardust*. New York: Avon, 1999.

One might also look at how fairy tales or fairy tale-like stories conceptually negotiate borders through boundaries between fairyland and regular human worlds.

Recommended by Cory Lock, Professor of University Studies and Director of General Education

Grande, Reyna. *The Distance Between Us*. New York: Washington Square Press, 2013.

In this memoir, Grande describes the painful heartache she experienced when she and her siblings grew up in Mexico while her parents went to the US. While she eventually crossed the border with her siblings, the isolation felt in both Mexico and the US led to a deeper disconnect from her family.

Recommended by Jackie Gonzalez, student

Grise, Virginia. Your Healing is Killing Me: A Performance Manifesto, 2017.

Recommended by Sara Villanueva, Professor of Psychology, Diversity Faculty Fellow

Guerrero, Diane with Michelle Burford. *In the Country We Love: My Family Divided.* New York: Henry Holt and Company, 2016.

Orange is the New Black and Jane the Virgin actress, Diane Guerrero, tells her story about the struggles of living as a citizen in the United States with undocumented parents. She highlights the need for immigration reform that keeps families together.

Recommended by Edith Valle, alum and Risograph Lab Designer-in-Residence

Hamid, Mohsin. Exit West. New York: Riverhead, 2017.

This novel follows a couple as they flee their country's conflict through one of many "portals" that transport people immediately between countries. A tender, smart examination of a range of responses to sudden migration changes, the book helps us see migration from various perspectives.

Recommended by Sasha West, Assistant Professor of Creative Writing

Hedwig and the Angry Inch. Directed by John Cameron Mitchell. Killer Films, 2001.

In one of my favorite movies of all times, characters cross borders of nations, genders, and genres while singing. Did I mention it's a musical?

Recommended by Alex Barron, Associate Professor of University Studies

Joglar, René Pérez. RESIDENTE, Sony Music Latin, 2017.

In his album, RESIDENTE, René Pérez Joglar, decided to make music based on his DNA, so he traveled the world discovering sounds and uncovering stories. His music is based on the idea that we are all residents in the spaces that confine us. Only here, there are no borders.

Recommended by Edith Valle, alum and Risograph Lab Designer-in-Residence

Klein, Naomi. *This Changes Everything*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2014.

The borderless issue of climate change will change immigration patterns. Klein offers hope for how fighting climate change can change us.

Recommended by Sasha West, Assistant Professor of Creative Writing

La Haine. Directed by Mathieu Kassovitz. Canal+, 1995.

This film looks at issues of race and class, revenge and justice.

Recommended by Quentin Arch, student

La Misma Luna. Directed by Patricia Riggen. Century City, CA: Fox Searchlight Pictures, 2007.

In this gripping film, Kate del Castillo plays Rosario, a mother who immigrates to the US, and Adrián Alonso plays her son, Carlitos, who still lives in Mexico. The two have been apart for four years and the film follows Carlitos on his journey to his mother and the obstacles he faces while crossing the border and after entering the US.

Recommended by Jackie Gonzalez, student

Lorde, Audre. "The Transformation of Silence into Language and Action." Presentation at the Modern Language Association's Lesbian and Literature panel, Chicago, IL, Dec 28, 1977.

In times of crisis, the forces of silence and apathy and the forces of language and action will both pull us. In this powerful essay, Lorde reasons that it is only through the latter that we truly have a chance to conquer whatever fears that abide within and without us.

Recommended by Lilli Hime, student

Lowry, Lois. *Number the Stars*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1989.

The book mentions the distance between Denmark, which has become occupied by Nazis, and Sweden. The two places are so close the characters mention how they can see Sweden and the hope it represents for a lot of people.

Recommended by Allyson Garcia, student

Maria Full of Grace. Directed by Joshua Marston. Santa Monica, CA: HBO Films, 2004.

While this does not directly capture the experience of crossing a border, this film sheds light on the US Customs experience and also the dangerous methods some people use to enter the country.

Maria Alvarez leaves her home of Colombia as a drug mule not only for money but also for opportunity to leave her current situation in search of a better one.

Recommended by Jackie Gonzalez, student

Muldoon, Paul. Moy Sand and Gravel. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2004.

Paul Muldoon's poems in Moy Sand and Gravel are mostly about the border between Northern Ireland and the Republic, and metaphorical borders between types of activities.

Recommended by Chris Flynn, Associate Professor of English

N., Jose Angel. Illegal: Reflections of an Undocumented Immigrant. Champaign: University of Illinois Press, 2014.

Jose Angel N. reflects on his experience as an undocumented immigrant and the various struggles he faced throughout his years after coming from Mexico. N. discusses several memorable moments throughout his life, but ultimately shares the impact his education had over adversity.

Recommended by Jackie Gonzalez, student

Nazario, Sonia. Enrique's Journey: The Story of a Boy's Dangerous Odyssey to Reunite with His Mother. New York: Random House, 2007.

Recommended by Veronica Salazar, St. Edward's community member

O'Rourke, Beto. Dealing Death and Drugs: The Big Business of Dope in the U.S. and Mexico. El Paso: Cinco Puntos Press, 2011.

How American drug policy affects the growth of drug cartels. (Note: Beto O'Rourke is currently running against Ted Cruz for a Texas Senate seat.)

Recommended by Miguel Escoto, student

Pacific Rim. Directed by Guillermo Del Toro. Burbank, CA: Warner Bros., 2013.

Borders break down when aliens arrive on Earth. The response is to build a giant wall. Interesting as an allegory.

Recommended by Collin Mims, student

Pan's Labyrinth. Directed by Guillermo Del Toro. Burbank, CA: Warner Bros., 2006.

Examines the border between what is fantasy and what is real. Set during Franco's fascist rule in Spain.

Recommended by Collin Mims, student

Pimentel, Sasha. For Want of Water: and other poems. Boston: Beacon Press, 2017.

Poems that explore violence on the El Paso/Juarez border as well as how borders play out in families, belonging, and the self.

Recommended by Sasha West, Assistant Professor of Creative Writing Plato. "Allegory of the Cave." Book VII of *The Republic*. Translation by Thomas Sheehan. Independently Published, 2017.

The allegory of the cave is a great metaphor for what and how we see truth. Sometimes what we think is real or truth is really just keeping us confined and so we must constantly seek.

Recommended by Alexandra Robinson, Associate Professor of Art

Rabbit-Proof Fence. Directed by Phillip Noyce. Australia: Rumbalara Films, 2002.

Recommended by Sara Villanueva, Professor of Psychology, Diversity Faculty Fellow

Ramos, Jorge. Sin Miedo: Lecciones de Rebeldes. New York: Celebra, 2016.

Ramos' book is an eye opener for people who do not know about the struggle of being an immigrant in the US.

Recommended by Lucia Rosales, student

Regan, Margaret. The Death of Josseline: Immigration Stories from the Arizona Borderlands. Boston: Beacon Press, 2010.

Regan's book highlights the humanitarian crisis behind desperation that is created through policy that fails to understand the underlying causes for immigration and places people's lives at risk as a result.

Recommended by Joseph Ramirez, student

Rich, Adrienne. "Boundary." In *A Change of World*. The Adrienne Rich Literary Trust, 1951.

In this poem, Rich explores the absurdity and cruel implications of man-made divisions, recognizing the irony of them in a sing-song rhythm.

Recommended by Lilli Hime, student

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Rivera, Tomás. Y No Se lo Trago la Tierra (Bilingual Edition). Houston: Arte Publico Press, 2015.

Y No Se lo Trago la Tierra/
And The Earth Did Not Devour
Him by Tomás Rivera focuses
on South Texan, MexicanAmerican migrant farm workers'
stories. When we read this
work of art, we get a different
perspective of immigrant
workers; we glimpse for reality
a hidden community that is
essential to our country.

Recommended by Daniela Urda Vazquez, student

Saenz, Benjamin Alire. Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2012.

I love this YA novel about two boys in El Paso in the 1980s. It's about crossing or being on all kinds of borders; between childhood and adulthood, heterosexuality and queerness, and the US and Mexico.

Recommended by Alex Barron, Associate Professor of University Studies

Sleep Dealer. Directed by Alex Rivera. Los Angeles, CA: Maya Entertainment, 2008.

Recommended by Mando Garcia, St. Edward's University Librarian

Solnit, Rebecca. A Field Guide to Getting Lost. New York: Penguin Books, 2005.

This book presents aspects of getting lost but does so by questioning edges, paths and the blue of distance.

Recommended by Alexandra Robinson, Associate Professor of Art

Solzhenitsyn, Aleksandr. *Gulag Archipelago*. Paris: Éditions du Seuil, 1973.

Borders between humans, the human condition, how we view good and evil.

Recommended by Miguel Escoto, student

Springsteen, Bruce. The Ghost of Tom Joad, Columbia, 1995.

There are quite a few songs pertaining to border issues, cultural differences and prerogatives.

Recommended by Ryan Kellus Turner, Adjunct Professor

Thorpe, Helen. Just Like Us: The True Story of Four Mexican Girls Coming of Age in America. New York: Scribner, 2011.

Thorpe's book describes the journey of two undocumented and two documented young girls coming to age in America. This book describes the contrast and challenges experienced by undocumented immigrants.

Recommended by Joseph Ramirez, student

Urrea, Luis Alberto. *The Devil's Highway: A True Story*. New York: Little Brown, 2004.

Urrea's book describes the hazardous environment that 26 immigrants experience as they cross the Mexican-American border into Arizona. This route is known as the Devil's Highway due to the high rate of lives this journey claims.

Recommended by Joseph Ramirez, student

UndocuMedia. Accessed October 18, 2017. https:// www.undocumedia.org/.

UndocuMedia leverages digital and social media to empower the undocumented community throughout the US. They are an online and on-the-ground grassroots organization that helps the community stay informed and fight for social justice.

Recommended by Edith Valle, alum and Risograph Lab Designer-in-Residence

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The Undocumented Migration Project. Accessed October 18, 2017. http:// undocumentedmigration project.com/.

The Undocumented Migration Project combines ethnographic and archaeological work to understand the border — what the trek looks like, why people engage in it, and what happens during crossings.

Recommended by Don Unger, Assistant Professor of Writing & Rhetoric

Vanishing Borders. Directed by Alexandra Hidalgo. Sabana Grande Productions, 2014.

Hidalgo's documentary presents the stories of four American women — Yatna, Daphnie, Melainie, and Teboho — who live in New York City and are immigrants. While these women bring people from disparate cultures, histories, and linguistic backgrounds together, they also struggle to live amongst the tensions that emerge from all sides.

Recommended by Don Unger, Assistant Professor of Writing & Rhetoric

Villaseñor, Víctor E. Rain of Gold. New York: Delta, 1992.

Recommended by Pete Pascone, St. Edward's community member

Which Way Home. Directed by Rebecca Cammisa. Tarrytown, NY: Documentress Films, 2009.

This movie shows the challenges of children attempting to make their way through to the United States in search of the American dream.

Recommended by Joseph Ramirez, student

Young the Giant. *Home of the Strange*, Fueled By Ramen, 2016.

Young the Giant's Home of the Strange explores what it means to be American and an immigrant.

Recommended by Logan Stallings,

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