

TWO-DAY SEMINAR ON CONTEMPORARY SPANISH CULTURE

ALCESXXI October 25-28, 2018

Toward a Critical Reassessment of the Objectives, Outcomes, and Audience of our Field(s)

ALCESXXI invites all interested persons to participate in a two-day meeting at the University of Minnesota for the weekend of October 25-28, 2018.

1. Goal: To reassess the purpose, objectives, and target audience of our field in the 21st century

2. Description:

As market forces continue to impact the university, the humanities and the field of Hispanic Studies—as well as the rest of society and our world ecology at large—many scholars are increasingly questioning the meaning and purpose of their work as educators, researchers, and service providers. Under such circumstances, we must examine the role that we, as Hispanists, play within the context of today's academic world and society in general. What purposes should prevail in today's context? What objectives and learning outcomes should we be striving to achieve, and why? What kinds of content should we be emphasizing in our teaching and research? What audience(s) are we presently serving through our research, our teaching and our service activities? What are the most effective ways to reach these different populations so as to achieve our goals? How can we best promote the values of global (and local) citizenship today? During this two-day seminar, members of ALCESXXI will critically address such topics. On the first day, participants will examine the state of the profession and will address some of the most salient research trends within the field. On the second day, participants will work in groups to produce model syllabi and bibliographies informed by some of today's most pressing research topics. These materials will then be shared through an online repository hosted by ALCESXXI.

3. Objectives for this meeting:

- Share research agendas of members of the ALCESXXI Collective (Urban Studies, Ecofeminism, Social Ecology, Media Studies, Historical Memory, LGBTQIA+, etc.)
- Create working groups to work on a series of syllabi, for graduate and undergraduate students. These syllabi will treat interdisciplinary societal issues consistently posed by ALCESXXI in its meetings and publications
- Continue fortifying the ALCESXXI community

4. Program

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25:

Introductions, formal presentation of the two-day workshop, and welcome dinner

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26:

- Morning session: Each person explains her or his research agenda (briefly, speaking clearly and without a script; this is not a mechanical reading of a paper), followed by Q&A.
- Lunch: Continue conversations from the morning session
- Afternoon: Working groups form and initiate the brainstorm process for the design of courses we want to develop, implement, and share
- Group dinner

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27:

- Morning: Compile materials and create syllabi
- Afternoon: Final discussion, along with upload of all new materials to newly-created repository
- Farewell Dinner

5. Accommodations

Note: The weekend of October 27-28 there are two big sports games in Minneapolis, so it is a good idea to reserve a room soon, because hotels are going to fill up soon.

1. The Graduate Hotel, Minneapolis (within Campus, closest to the conference, about 3 blocks)

Info [here](#)

10 rooms have been reserved for ALCES XXI, for Oct. 25-28. You can stay the number of nights you want. The special rates will be honored through Sept 25, 2018. After that, there is no guarantee of getting this rate. You need to make your reservations directly with them. Mention the special rate for ALCES XXI (through the Department of Spanish and Portuguese Studies at the University of Minnesota).

Rate: \$189 plus tax per night (standard deluxe guestroom: either 1 king, 2 queen or 2 double beds)

How to reserve a room:

Guests can call the hotel directly at 612-379-8888
Ask for the "ALCES XXI block"

Guests can also reserve online at <http://www.graduatehotels.com/minneapolis>

1. Click on "Book Now"
2. Enter your dates of stay. We are holding rooms for October 25th, 26th, & 27th, 2018.
3. Under "Group Code", enter **102518ALCE** and click "check availability"

2. Days Hotel by Windham (a bit farther away, about 9-10 blocks)

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Rate: \$92 plus tax per night (either 1 queen or 2 double beds)

How to reserve a room:

Reservations should be made directly through the Days Hotel on University Sales Department at (612) 623-9303. When making the reservation, mention the ORGANIZATION/GROUP NAME: ALCES XXI / UofM Spanish and Portuguese,

3. The Wales House (about 7 blocks from the conference)

Info [here](#)

A guesthouse where people coming to the University often stay, feels more like a home. There are no rooms specifically reserved for our conference, you can call for availability. Normal rates apply.

Rate: Rooms with private bath: \$95 plus tax per night (1 queen bed)

Rooms with shared bath: \$85 plus tax per night (1 queen bed)

How to reserve a room:

Call and see about availability: 612 331-3931

4. If you want to look for options in Airbnb, you can look for options close to the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Campus, East Bank. The following address is where we will be on Friday (we will be in another building very close to this one on Saturday):

Nolte Center, 315 Pillsbury Drive Southeast, Minneapolis, MN, 55455