

mes del Observatorio / Observatorio Report
Informes del Observatorio / Observatorio Re
mes del Observatorio / Observatorio Report
iformes del Observatorio / Observatorio Rep
es del Observatorio **/Observatorio Reports**
Inform Observatorio / Observatorio Re
nes d Observatorio / Observatorio Reports
Inform Observatorio / Observatorio Re



ISSN 2372-840X (online)

000-05/2014EN

About ...

1

Informes del Observatorio / Observatorio Reports

Presentation

Informes del Observatorio / Observatorio Reports is a journal published by the Cervantes Institute of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Harvard University, which was established as an “Observatory of the Spanish Language and Hispanic Cultures in the United States.” Readers interested in the Spanish language, Hispanic cultures and the Latino population in the United States will find this publication useful.

The *Observatorio* is a center for research, prospective analysis and diagnosis of the state of the Spanish language and Hispanic cultures in the United States, paying special attention to the social evolution of Spanish as well as to its relationship with other languages. The *Observatorio*'s mission is to analyze and reflect on every dimension of the Hispanic presence in the United States. To this end, the *Observatorio* provides a forum for studying, discussing and exchanging ideas between scholars from Harvard University and other US universities, as well as scholars from all Spanish-speaking countries.

The content of the *Informes del Observatorio / Observatorio Reports* is divided into four broad areas: language, minorities, education and culture.

Language: In the area of ‘language’ special attention is given to the linguistic form and its use, the contact of Spanish with other languages, its status as a dominant or minority language in different environments or to the attitudes toward Spanish observed among its own speakers or in speakers of other languages. The Spanish language, in all its manifestations, is undoubtedly the main object of study of the *Observatorio* in all its sociological and dialectological complexity as found in the Spanish-speaking communities in the United States and elsewhere. However, since Spanish coexists with other languages in different environments, other linguistic varieties may also be studied and analyzed,

2

especially if their speakers are part of minority communities within the United States. Matters of language use are complemented with those related to acquisition, development and intergenerational transmission of Spanish.

Minorities: The study of the Spanish language in the United States is necessarily linked to the study of minorities of all types, in particular ethnic, religious and, of course, linguistic ones. Due to its status as the country's largest minority language, Spanish requires special attention in this regard. Analysis of the political, social, demographic and economic factors affecting this large minority group are also interesting for the *Observatorio*, which is concerned about all “Hispanic” minorities converging on U.S. soil, as well as the national diasporic communities they form.

Education: Education is a field of study and debate of enormous importance for the Spanish language, for it is one of the decisive factors in the consolidation of Spanish as a second language in the United States. Bilingual education has become a contested and controversial topic in the United States. Teachers and specialists in the teaching of Spanish, concerned about issues of identity, socialization and, of course, education, have shown a special interest in the language of heritage speakers. This special interest highlights the importance of the field of education and the need to address the topic with accuracy and fairness.

Culture: The fourth area of study and analysis of the *Observatorio* is as wide as it is essential: Hispanic culture and thought expressed in Spanish in any field of work whether humanistic, technical or scientific, including the media in Spanish. Culture is a powerful and striking mark of identity for Hispanic communities. Literature itself is an instrument, as well as an exponent, of the interplay of influences that exist between Spain, Hispanic America and the United States.

3

Spanish and Hispanic-American literatures acquire in the United States a hemispheric and transatlantic dimension which is worthy of study. This line of analysis emphasizes that Spanish is a prestigious language in which the most complex and contemporary knowledge can be expressed.

Informes del Observatorio / Observatorio Reports publishes reports, articles, studies, reviews and other texts dealing with the Spanish language and Hispanic cultures in the United States from different points of view, subjects and epistemologies. Texts offered in this publication are intended for the general, educated public and, thus, while their intellectual and academic accuracy is preserved, they do not necessarily include the critical or bibliographical apparatus associated with academic publications, although the information will be properly referenced and verified. Reports may originate either in research developed within the *Observatorio* itself, in works by guest scholars in various fields, or works submitted by experts for publication.

4

Francisco Moreno-Fernández

General Editor of *Informes del Observatorio / Observatorio Reports*
Executive Director of the Instituto Cervantes at FAS - Harvard University

Advisory and Editorial Boards Members

Advisory Board Members

Diana Sorensen. *Dean of Arts and Humanities, James F. Rothenberg Professor of Romance Languages & Literatures and of Comparative Literature. Harvard University*

Luis Fernández Cifuentes. *Robert S. e Ilse Friend Professor of Romance Languages & Literatures and Harvard College Professor. Harvard University*

Kay Kaufman Shelemay. *Chair of the Committee on Ethnicity, Migrations, Rights. G. Gordon Watts Professor of Music and Professor of African and African American Studies. Harvard University*

Doris Sommer. *Ira Jewell Williams Professor of Romance Languages & Literatures and Professor of African and African American Studies. Harvard University*

Davíd Carrasco. *Neil L. Rudenstine Professor of the Study of Latin America Studies. Harvard University*

Lorgía García Peña. *Professor Romance Languages & Literatures and of History and Literature. Harvard University*

5

Editorial Board Members

María Luisa Parra. *Senior Preceptor of Romance Languages & Literatures. Harvard University*

Tessa Lowinske Desmond. *Academic Advisor Committee on Ethnicity, Migration, Rights. Harvard University*

Francisco Moreno-Fernández. *Executive Director of the Observatorio. Professor of Spanish Language. University of Alcalá (Spain)*

Guidelines for Contributors

Informes del Observatorio / Observatorio Reports accepts unpublished original texts from scholars and professionals from various fields and disciplines that match the objectives of the *Observatorio* and of this publication. Manuscripts should be sent to our email address, together with a brief *vita* of the authors (200 words), including their address, an abstract (200 words) and a list of keywords. The length of the articles should be of approximately 6000 words. References should follow the American Psychological Association (APA) guidelines.

Authors are responsible for compliance with intellectual property laws in regards to the copyrights of their sources. Ownership of the texts published by the Instituto Cervantes at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences of Harvard University belongs to the authors, but the editors reserve the right to refuse in a reasoned manner any permission requested in writing by the authors to use their work for other purposes. The editors will not consider any manuscript being evaluated by other publishers or publications. Under special circumstances and by specific prior arrangement, previously published work may be considered for publication.

All works published in *Informes del Observatorio / Observatorio Reports* must receive a positive evaluation from a majority of the members of the Advisory Board, which evaluate them anonymously. The processing of texts and their evaluations will be overseen by the Editorial Board.

6

Masthead and Policies

Title: *Informes del Observatorio / Observatorio Reports*

General Editor: Francisco Moreno-Fernández

Publisher: © Instituto Cervantes at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences of Harvard University.
USA

Address: 2 Arrow St. 4th fl. Cambridge, MA. 02138. USA

Email: info-observatory@fas.harvard.edu

ISSN 2372-840X (English) (online)

ISSN 2373-874X (Spanish) (online)

DOI prefix 10.15427

Informes del Observatorio / Observatorio Reports is a periodical, free online publication, available through the website <http://cervantesobservatorio.fas.harvard.edu/>

Cite as (example):

Fernández Cifuentes, Luis, “Lengua y literatura en los Estados Unidos: tres momentos estelares”. *Informes del Observatorio / Observatorio Reports*, 001-05/2014SP. doi: 10.15427/OR001-05/2014SP.

The “Observatory of the Spanish language and Hispanic Cultures in the United States”, name adopted by the Instituto Cervantes at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences of Harvard University, is a non-profit organization founded by an agreement between the Instituto Cervantes of Spain and the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Harvard University in 2013.

Instituto Cervantes at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences of Harvard University does not necessarily share or sympathize with the opinions and views expressed by the authors. This publication adheres to the [Committee on Publication Ethics](#) for periodical publications.

The text and content of this publication cannot be reproduced, transmitted or distributed, in whole or in part, by any means or mechanism, or stored in databases or information retrieval systems, without explicit mention of their authors and their original source.

7