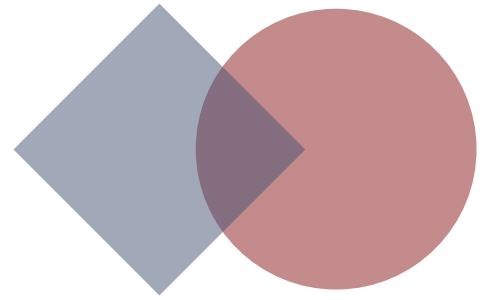


International Conference (Online)

**BORDER** 2021  
**SEMINAR** 2021



*(re)thinking border studies*  
*/communication across borders*

lectures, presentations, performances, roundtables, IBSC launch, lounge...

**May 25-27, 2021**  
**University of Gdańsk**

Border Studies and Borderlands Studies  
Work in the age of covid-19  
Collaborative performances in the virtual world  
Launch of International Border Studies Center  
Animality and murder    Border activism  
Dementia    Colonial theatricality  
Communication across the Iron Curtain  
Translanguaging    Hospitality    Porosity  
Dispatches from the borderlands    Spectrality  
Humans and machines    Translating nature  
The New Lloronx    Polish colonialism

**Organizers: Border Studies Group**  
**at the Institute of English and American Studies**  
**International Border Studies Center**

**ibsc.ug.edu.pl**  
**grzegorz.welizarowicz@ug.edu.pl**

Conference hosted on Zoom. Follow links for each session.  
All sessions will be recorded and made available on the  
International Border Studies Center's website.

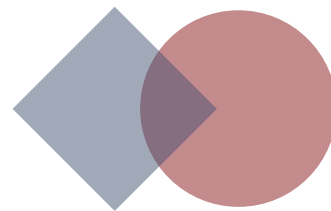
Participation in the events means that you agree to the above.



UNIVERSITY OF GDANSK

Border Studies Group  
and the International  
Border Studies Center  
at the University of  
Gdańsk present

# BORDER SEMINAR 2021



*(re)thinking border studies*  
*/communication across borders*

**TUESDAY May 25** (ZOOM SESSIONS)  
University of Gdańsk

**11:00-13:00 – OPENING AND SPECIAL SESSION:**  zoom

*Keynote Lectures: Border and Borderlands Studies*

- 1/ Grzegorz Welizarowicz (UG) – welcome and opening statement
- 2/ Ross Aldridge (UG) – *Border Journeys: Exploring the Language, Concepts and Themes of Border Studies*
- 3/ Elżbieta Opiłowska (UWr) – *Advances in Borderlands Studies: Theoretical and Methodological Approaches*

**13:15-14:45 – SESSION:**  zoom

*Linguistics, Actor Network Theory, Virtual Performance in Education*

- 1/ Maciej Rataj (UG) – *Bi-accentism, Translanguaging or just a Costume? What Margaret Thatcher and the Portrayal of her Speech in Popular Culture can Tell Us about Linguistic Boundaries and Ideologies*
  - 2/ Magdalena Bielenia-Grajewska (UG) – *The (in) visible border between humans and machines. The application of Actor Network Theory in Border Studies*
  - 3/ Martin Blaszk (UG) – *A Performative Educational Practice in the Virtual World*
- Moderated by Maciej Rataj

**15:00-16:30 – SESSION:**  zoom

*Colonialism, Theater, Artivism*

- 1/ Marta Grzechnik (UG) – *Fitting within borders. The interwar Polish colonial plans as an aspiration of civilisational advancement*
  - 2/ Maiza Hixson (Doctoral Fellow, UCSB) – *Resisting Neo-Settler Colonial Performance in Santa Barbara*
  - 3/ Ewa Antoszek (UMCS) – *Border Artivism and Communication across Borders at the U.S.-Mexico Border*
- Moderated by Grzegorz Welizarowicz

**18:00-20:00 – SPECIAL SESSION:**  zoom

*IBSC Launch - Inauguration of the International Border Studies Center Grab a glass of champagne (or whatever) and let's celebrate!*

- 1/ Anna Mazurkiewicz (UG) – *opening and mission statement*
  - 2/ Team IBSC – *presentations*
  - 3/ *Open discussion*
- Moderated by Anna Mazurkiewicz



UNIVERSITY OF GDANSK



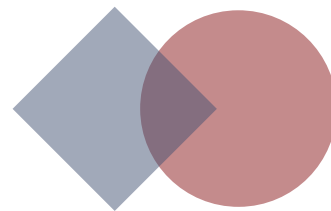
INTERNATIONAL  
BORDER STUDIES  
CENTER



Wydział Filologiczny  
Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego

Border Studies Group  
and the International  
Border Studies Center  
at the University of  
Gdańsk present

# BORDER SEMINAR 2021



*(re)thinking border studies*  
*/communication across borders*

**WEDNESDAY May 26** (ZOOM SESSIONS)  
University of Gdańsk

**11:00-13:00 – LECTURE:**  zoom

*Border and Borderlands Studies*

1/ Julian Wolfreys (UG) – *How Many Borders Must We Cross to Reach Home? The Politics and Poetics of Porosity*  
Moderated by Ross Aldridge

**13:15-14:45 – SESSION:**  zoom

*Sociology and Translation Studies*

1/ Elżbieta Czapka (UG) – *Challenges related to caring across the borders for parents with dementia*  
2/ Wioleta Karwacka (UG) – *Anthropocentric overtones in translating the voices of nature - a few notes on anthropomorphism, intentionality and deontic modality in translating popular science*  
Moderated by Anna Mazurkiewicz

**15:00-16:45 – SPECIAL SESSION:**  zoom

*Blurred boundaries of work in the age of covid-19. The Sociological Perspective*

1/ Magdalena Żadkowska (UG) and Jacek Gądecki (AGH) – *Borders between work and family at home. Segregation or integration? COVID19 pandemic as a trigger to define new borders at home in terms of space, gender and social roles*  
2/ Adam Mrozowicki (UWr) in cooperation with Markieta Domecka, Karol Muszyński and Valeria Pulignano (CESO K Leuven) – *COVID-19 pandemic and the social boundaries of work: what can we learn so far?*  
3/ Dorota Mroczkowska (UAM) and Małgorzata Kubacka (UAM) – *On the Treadmill of Pandemic Everyday Life: Work-Life Boundary Dynamics in Three Types of Organizations in Poland*  
Moderated by Bartosz Mika (UG)

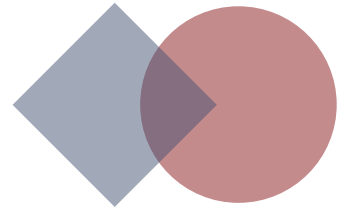
**17:30-20:00 – SPECIAL SESSION:**  zoom

*Gilberto Rosas's The New Lloronx and "TRUMPUS CAESAR" Screening and Discussion with the Artists*

1/ Gilberto Rosas (UIUC) – *The New Lloronx*  
2/ "TRUMPUS CAESAR" – *screening of the 2020 satirical tragicomedy by Carlos Morton followed by live discussion with the creators: Jorge Huerta (UCSD), playwright Carlos Morton (UCSB), Irwin Appel (UCSB), Luis Moreno (veteran of El Teatro Campesino), Maiza Hixson (UCSB). TRUMPUS CAESAR begins at 18:00*  
Moderated by Grzegorz Welizarowicz

Border Studies Group  
and the International  
Border Studies Center  
at the University of  
Gdańsk present

# BORDER SEMINAR 2021



*(re)thinking border studies  
/communication across borders*

**THURSDAY May 27** (ZOOM SESSIONS)  
University of Gdańsk

**11:30-13:00 – LECTURE:**  zoom

*Sociological, Historical and Literary Approaches*

- 1/ Monika Mazurek (UG) – *Our Home is Our Castle: Words Change Meaning during the Pandemic of Covid 19*
  - 2/ Anna Podciborska (UG) – *Messages of Hope Surfing through the Waves: Communication Across the Iron Curtain*
  - 3/ Izabela Morska (UG) – *Animality as an excuse for murder: David Grann and Killers of the Flower Moon*
- Moderated by Anna Mazurkiewicz

**13:15-14:45 – LOUNGE:**  zoom

*The IBSC Coffee Hour and Border Studies Group Roundtable*

Roundtable: *Border Studies projects, collaborations, ideas and recommendations for theme of next conference*  
Moderated by Anna Mazurkiewicz

**16:00-17:30 – SESSION:**  zoom

*Dispatches from the Borderlands*

- 1/ Santiago Vaquera-Vasquez (UNM) – *This is Not an Exit: Dispatches from the Borderlands*
  - 2/ Grzegorz Welizarowicz (UG) – *Rituals of Hospitality in the Greater San Diego Area*
- Moderated by Grzegorz Welizarowicz

**18:00-20:00 – SPECIAL SESSION:**  zoom

*"CROSSING / ACROSS BORDERS": Live Virtual Performance by Students of Valdosta State University  
and University of Gdansk*

Live virtual collaboration and performance of "CROSSING/ACROSS BORDERS" collectively-created by students of  
the Valdosta State University and the University of Gdansk.

Moderated and directed by Martin Blaszk



UNIVERSITY OF GDANSK



Wydział Filologiczny  
Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego

## Book of Abstracts (in alphabetical order):

### **Ross Aldridge** (UG) – *Border Journeys: Exploring the Language, Concepts and Themes of Border Studies*

This paper will sketch a broad outline of the Border Studies landscape, not as an attempt to narrowly define the field of study, but rather to introduce some of the language, concepts and themes that have emerged in this still nascent discipline, and which will serve to elucidate our subsequent explorations of borders.

The presentation will focus on three related issues. Firstly, the development of Border Studies an area of academic study and research will be briefly outlined. Although the 1990s appeared to be a key period when a renewed interest in borders took hold among geographers and other social scientists, the advent of globalisation and its political ramifications also initiated a phase of new thinking and research about borders.

Secondly, some of the important language and concepts used to discuss borders will be sketched. For example, it may be more useful to reject the idea of national borders as both a physical and static manifestation of state power, and instead conceptualise a process of 'bordering', as well 'debordering' and 'rebordering'.

Lastly, this paper will suggest some themes that may be useful for thinking about borders, and which are related to some of my own research interests. For example, borders can be contested places of conflict, as well as peace, pacification and cooperation. They are militarized and demilitarized, as well as being sites of protest, ritual, ceremony and performance. The experience of border crossing can be criminal and deadly, but sometimes liberating, or at other times a daily necessity or an everyday commute. And borders have had a prominent place in the nationalist imaginary, often playing a role in propaganda and political discourse.

These themes and ideas will be discussed as a means to open up our subsequent exploration of the border and encourage a comparative approach to the many diverse ways of thinking about borders that will follow.

### **Ewa Antoszek** (UMCS) - *Border Artivism and Communication across Borders at the U.S.-Mexico Border*

The U.S.-Mexico border has for a long time been regarded as "a paradigmatic case of global border development" (Ganster xvi) illustrating the continuing "importance and divisiveness of borders" (Ganster xv). Growing militarization of the U.S.-Mexico border has been fortifying that space and reinforcing its divisive character. At the same time numerous efforts have been undertaken to counter these phenomena. Researchers have been supported by artists and activists in their undertakings to re-write the story of borderlands. The aim of this presentation is to examine how selected examples of border artivism (Schierbecker) challenge the divisive power of the political line and enable communication across borders.

**Magdalena Bielenia-Grajewska** (UG) - *The (in) Visible Border between Humans and Machines. The Application of Actor Network Theory in Border Studies*

The aim of this presentation is to present the interdisciplinary nature of modern border studies by discussing the world of humans and the world of machines in modern technology through the perspective of Actor-Network-Theory. ANT is the approach stressing the role of non-human entities in creating and maintaining the performance of human beings, situations and organizations. The popularity of ANT in discussing various issues is connected with the multidimensional perspective embedded within it. Actor-Network Theory does not have to be applied to notions or phenomena that look like a network (Latour, 2005); it can be used to discuss people or things that do not have the visible "network" features. What the mentioned entities share is the interrelatedness of their elements. The relation component of ANT is stressed in the following definition: "an actor-network is a set of relationships between human and nonhuman entities drawn together by a particular activity of concern" (Moreira, 2010, p. 7). There are different reasons for the adoption of ANT in the studies on borders. First, ANT stresses the lack of strict and fixed boundaries between various realities, such as social, natural and technical environments (Murdoch, 2005). What is more, the position of one type of realities is not privileged since technical and social places are equal (Adam & Tatnall, 2010).

### **Magdalena Bielenia-Grajewska** (UG) - *The (In) Visible Border between Humans and Machines. The application of Actor Network Theory in Border Studies.*

The aim of this presentation is to present the interdisciplinary nature of modern border studies by discussing the world of humans and the world of machines in modern technology through the perspective of Actor-Network-Theory. ANT is the approach stressing the role of non-human entities in creating and maintaining the performance of human beings, situations and organizations. The popularity of ANT in discussing various issues is connected with the multidimensional perspective embedded within it. Actor-Network Theory does not have to be applied to notions or phenomena that look like a network (Latour, 2005); it can be used to discuss people or things that do not have the visible "network" features. What the mentioned entities share is the interrelatedness of their elements. The relation component of ANT is stressed in the following definition: "an actor-network is a set of relationships between human and nonhuman entities drawn together by a particular activity of concern" (Moreira, 2010, p. 7). There are different reasons for the adoption of ANT in the studies on borders. First, ANT

stresses the lack of strict and fixed boundaries between various realities, such as social, natural and technical environments (Murdoch, 2005). What is more, the position of one type of realities is not privileged since technical and social places are equal (Adam & Tatnall, 2010).

**Martin Blaszk** (UG) - *A Performative Educational Practice in the Virtual World*

The first part of the paper addresses the necessity, in the recent pandemic, to take a performative educational practice into the virtual world. In doing so, it uses theorizing and research done in the domain of performance as research (PAR) to present ideas about what the performative entails when the body is not present, as well as the “readjustments” that might have to be made to ensure a performative and embodied presence in the virtual world. In the second part of the paper, examples of how the author has taken a performative practice into the virtual world are given. The author also suggests that crossing the border into the virtual world means that activity that was once understood implicitly has to be expressed explicitly and that, among other things, this has implications for online classroom management.

**Crossing / Across Borders** (VSU-UG) is about meeting other people, sharing stories and histories. It is about a wealth of experiences that may enrich, contradict and challenge as we try to make sense of them. **Crossing / Across Borders** is about having an embodied presence in an online virtual world. It is about finding out what can be done with technology to facilitate Communication Across Borders in May 2021. **Crossing /Across Borders** is an **online performance** devised and enacted by students and staff of Valdosta State University and the University of Gdańsk.

**Elżbieta Czapka** (UG) - *Challenges Related to Caring Across the Borders for Parents with Dementia*

Many contemporary families are characterised by spatial separation, which is often caused by migration. However, it does not cause mutual caring obligations and expectations to disappear. Migration makes people re-define their caring roles, develop new caring strategies and negotiate the scope of care with the family in the country of origin. The main aim of the paper is to describe the challenges associated with transnational care to people with dementia. Transnational caregiving itself poses many challenges for the families but caring for a person with dementia can be especially difficult.

The qualitative data was collected in 2018 as part of a larger study “Aging, dementia and the need for care. A qualitative study of experiences and responses to cognitive impairment among families of different cultural backgrounds living in Norway”. The participants experienced numerous challenges related to provision of care across the border to their parents with dementia. Some of the challenges were typical for transnational caregiving and were associated with care and gender regimes in countries of parents’ and participants’ residence, motives for providing care, participants’ socio-economic situation and family relations. The other challenges were due to specific care needs of people with dementia.

**Marta Grzechnik** (UG) *Fitting within Borders. The Interwar Polish Colonial Plans as an Aspiration of Civilisational Advancement*

“Poland must have colonies!” – declared, in April 1938, a popular Polish monthly journal *Morze*. This dramatic appeal was to mobilise the journal’s readers to spread the message about and actively participate in “Colonial Days”, a mass festival which took place all over Poland the same month. The festival, arranged by an organisation called Maritime and Colonial League, which was also responsible for publishing *Morze*, was meant to propagate the idea that possessing overseas colonies was necessary for Poland’s economy and its citizens’ wellbeing.

Only twenty years earlier, Poland had itself been dominated by foreign powers, which has been often compared to being colonised. Why, then, did this nation that until recently had to fight for its own self-determination, seek to gain control over overseas territories? As I argue in this paper, the Polish aspirations to acquire colonies were not in contradiction to Poland’s own position as an until recently occupied nation at the margins of Europe, but, on the contrary, they were the result of these experiences. The ambition to become a (colonial) empire followed from the precarious position of the newly independent nation surrounded by stronger and hostile neighbours. An examination of the rhetoric of the Maritime and Colonial League, in its numerous publications, reveals multiple sets of borders: between modern and backward, norm-setter and norm-follower, industrialised and rural, coloniser and colonised, power and overpowered, seafaring and land-based, and – last but not least – white and non-white. To be European was understood as possessing colonial empires, with all the political, economic and cultural privilege that followed, and thus the aspiration to become a colonial power was the aspiration to be recognised as truly European. Therefore, the League did not seek to contest these borders, but rather for Poland to be recognised as falling within, rather than without them, and the colonial programme was a way to achieve just that.

**Maiza Hixson** (Doctoral Fellow, UCSB) *Resisting Neo-Settler Colonial Performance in Santa Barbara*

In a concerted effort to brand Santa Barbara as a Spanish Colonial resort town, the city stymies critique of “off-brand” themes, such as urgent calls to decolonize Santa Barbara, thus furthering California’s idolatry of art and architectural symbols of racial and structural inequality. In keeping with this scenario, I contextualize the city of Santa Barbara as a theatrical stage, a practiced place, in which the City historicizes its own idealized performance of New Spain through laws and texts that employ

theatrical performance, architecture, and art as props for that narrative production. Border Seminar 2021 provides a critical platform for theorizing performative and historiographic interventions in such damaging patterns of “creative placemaking” within and beyond California borders.

**Wioleta Karwacka** (UG) - *Anthropocentric Overtones in Translating the Voices of Nature - a Few Notes on Anthropomorphism, Intentionality and Deontic Modality in Translating Popular Science*

The language of science and scientific popularizations tends to carry anthropocentric elements, which means that natural phenomena may sometimes be named, discussed or interpreted in terms of human experience. This presentation focuses on anthropocentric overtones in popular scientific texts and films translated from English to Polish. The main aim is to discuss shifts in anthropomorphic effects, orders of intentional systems and deontic modality.

**Monika Mazurek** (UG) – *Our Home is Our Castle: Words Change Meaning during the Pandemic of Covid 19*

The aim of the study is to analyze how the perception of a home has changed during the pandemic. Earlier, the home had been a secure place, an asylum, a refuge. It had been a place that one could leave at any time. A perfect place to rest and invite friends. In March 2020, everything changed.

#stayathome changed the perspective of our lives. The home has become a place of separateness, a place from which it is impossible to leave – the Place of the Quarantine.

The boundaries between home and the world were once flexible, labile, even contradictory. Our houses were open. Now - closed. The boundaries are stiff, hard to cross, separating us from the world. We got stuck in the prison of “our sweet, sweet homes.” Similarly, national borders once open are now closed. Very often it is impossible to travel. Nomad life has almost died out.

**Izabela Morska** (UG) - *Animality as an Excuse for Murder: David Grann and Killers of the Flower Moon*

*Killers of the Flower Moon*: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI by the American journalist David Grann presents a series of murders of suddenly wealthy members of the Osage tribe, committed by unknown perpetrators at the beginning of twentieth century. Grann’s investigation—apparently more accurate than the one perfunctorily performed by FBI agents on their first grand mission since the agency was founded in 1908—proves without doubt that white neighbors conspired against their Native American neighbors in a multilayered scheme involving poisoning, arson, deception, and complex inheritance maneuvers. The Osage people became wealthy after the oil deposits was discovered in the hilly and uninhabitable land which the tribe resignedly had moved into after more than the whole century of misfortunes befalling Native American tribes.

Having been presented with one of the perpetrators, the jury, as well as the Osage County community, as Grann’s research proves, appeared unwilling to consider punishing “another white man for killing an American Indian.” Some observers noted rather shamelessly that “[t]he attitude of a pioneer cattleman toward a full-blood Indian is fairly well recognized.” But what kind of attitude was it, exactly? A prominent member of the Osage tribe summed it up: “The question for them is to decide is whether a white man killing an Osage is murder or merely cruelty to animals.” Indeed, the law proved lenient; although some perpetrators were eventually convicted, some others never faced trial.

As Eva Meijer in *Animal Languages* asserts, “for animals [it is a given] to have no rights and not to be heard by humans; human society prioritizes the wants and needs of humans” (10). Almost in the same breath she expands on the issue: “The problem is that humans determine the lives of many animals ... wild animals deal with human influence, with human populations occupying or polluting their territory” (11). Grann’s nonfiction account prompts us to examine how the supposed animality of victims is employed to excuse genocide tendencies, whether driven by the state policy or conducted voluntarily by individual perpetrators.

**Dorota Mroczkowska** (UAM Poznań) and **Małgorzata Kubacka** (UAM Poznań) - *On the Treadmill of Pandemic Everyday Life: Work-Life Boundary Dynamics in Three Types of Organizations in Poland*

The theoretical concept of border areas is presented from the perspective of Border and Boundary Theory, indicating the main features of boundaries, their setting as well as styles and tactics of their management. Based on the concept of boundaries, we present a model of researching the dynamics of work-life domains, one which integrates aspects so far considered separately: boundary features, their location, boundary work, individual and organizational dimension.

We then examine the subject of boundary work and management in the pandemic, taking into account the employment mode and family status of the researched participants. We present (1) changes the coronavirus pandemic has caused in lives of men and women as well as (2) responses and adjustments to these changes, including undertaken institutional and non-institutional alleviating measures, through the lens of the linkages between work and non-work aspects of their lives.

We discuss implemented border management strategies undertaken during the pandemic by researched participants: the strategy of rational regulation of work-life interface as well as various strategies of contesting and blurring work-life boundaries. Our presentation is based on research project (ethnographic interpretive paradigm) during which 12 people (6 women and 6 men) were examined. The respondents were selected on the basis of quota sampling with the type of organization (family

micro-businesses, non-governmental organizations which work on project base mode, and corporations) and their family situations (families with dependent relatives and without them). Participants were asked (1) to keep a diary for one week, (2) to provide a story completion, (3) to take part in an In-Depth Interview.

**Adam Mrozowicki** (UWr) in cooperation with **Markieta Domecka, Karol Muszyński and Valeria Pulignano** (CESO K Leuven) – *COVID-19 Pandemic and the Social Boundaries of Work: What Can We Learn so Far?*

The paper presents the selected aspects of discussion on the social and symbolic boundaries of work in the context of the transformations of labour triggered and, arguably, accelerated by the socio-economic crisis caused by the COVID19 pandemic. At the theoretical level, in line with acceleration theory (Rosa 2015) and growing body of research (Zakaria 2020), the paper proposes to explore the pandemic as the catalyst of the trends that have been present in the labour market at least in the last 30 years. Based on the literature review supplemented by the Eurofound data on “Living, working and COVID-19” and the analysis of pilot interviews with trade unionists and workers in Poland (education, health care and logistics sectors) carried out within the National Science Centre in Poland project “COV-WORK. Socio-economic consciousness, work experiences and coping strategies of Poles in the context of the post-pandemic crisis” (UMO-2020/37/B/HS6/00479), three claims are explored.

Firstly, it is argued that the (post)pandemic socio-economic crisis leads to the reproduction and deepening of the existing social inequalities at work. The latter are conceptualised as “social boundaries of work” understood in terms of “unequal access to and unequal distribution of resources” (Lamont and Molnár 2002: 168). The pandemic demonstrated that the “global human community is equally precarious”, yet, it also proved the radically unequal exposure of various categories of individuals to the emergent risks “within the pandemic zones.” (Butler 2020). Similarly to 2008+ economic crisis, the further, uneven, gendered and classed decline of job quality following pandemic can be expected, with young people and women being mostly affected (Eurofound 2020).

Secondly, the pandemic experiences of lockdown, changing forms and organisation of work and unequal exposure to health risks are likely to influence the ways in which individuals and groups define their working experiences, thus influence the “symbolic boundaries of work” understood as “tools by which individuals and groups struggle over and come to agree upon definitions of reality” (Lamont and Molnár 2002: 168). It pertains, inter alia, to changing patterns in organisation of work, marked by growing trend of “displacement” of a workplace by moving it to virtual space (home-offices, teleworking), which can evolve into a prominent, steady fixture of work setting in the sectors, such as education, in which it was much less present before the pandemic. In the context of massive – yet unequally accessible – switch to the working online, the need for boundary work which “consists of the strategies, principles and practices that we use to create, maintain and modify cultural categories” (Nippert-Eng 1996), such as home and work, become common experience.

Thirdly, the (post)pandemic conditions also influence the relationship between the social and symbolic boundaries of work which tend to be analysed separately in the tradition of (intersectional) class analysis and interpretive sociology of work. The ways of coping and “immunising” individuals against the precarity (Lorey 2015) indicate the relevance of various biographical and social resources (e.g. social networks, cultural capital, earlier experiences of coping with crises) and biographical work (Strauss 1993). While such strategies tend to be individualised in Poland, relying on family, individual entrepreneurship and resourcefulness (Mrozowicki and Trappmann 2020), the paper will discuss to which extent and for which occupational groups the (post)pandemic crisis created an opportunity to develop collective strategies at work aimed at redefining its social and symbolic boundaries.

**Elżbieta Opiłowska** (UWr) – *Advances in Borderlands Studies: Theoretical and Methodological Approaches*

In the last decades borderlands studies have gained increased meaning in many disciplines such as social studies, geography, cultural studies or history. However, their interdisciplinary scope presents a challenge for borderlands researchers. The aim of the paper is twofold. Firstly, to present the objectives and the framework of the Handbook of Borderlands Studies <https://leksykon.granice.uni.wroc.pl> that provides the first comprehensive study in Polish language of theoretical and methodological approaches in borderlands studies. Secondly, I will critically review the new debates on borders and boundaries that have partly arisen in regard to new rebordering trends as a consequence of European crises such as the Covid-19 pandemic crisis

**Anna Podciborska** (Doctoral Fellow, UG) – *Messages of Hope Surfing through the Waves: Communication Across the Iron Curtain*

After World War II, the Soviet Union put forth a political boundary, the Iron Curtain prevented the peoples of USSR and those living in the states subjugated by Moscow from open contact with the West. However, the militarized borders separating the Eastern Bloc from the Free World were not soundproof. The U.S. found ways to break through the Communist censorship and soon the messages of hope were surfing through the radio waves straight to the audiences behind the Iron Curtain. They created bonds, provided the oppressed with an insight into the American way of life, and promoted values grounded in Western-style liberal democracy; but first and foremost, they managed to give the captive people strength not to give up on their dreams of freedom. The Free World’s messages of hope sent across the Iron Curtain helped tear the walls down.



**Maciej Rataj** (UG) – *Bi-accentism, Translanguaging or just a Costume? What Margaret Thatcher and the Portrayal of her Speech in Popular Culture can Tell us about Linguistic Boundaries and Ideologies*

Linguistic superdiversity is an approach to the social use of language that allows us to see beyond traditional monolithic categories of language and speech community, which were often politically motivated in the nation-state discourses of the past. This realisation in itself is not surprising: the mutual intelligibility or lack of significant Abstand in some neighbouring European languages is well known. An alternative to such hard-and-fast distinctions lies in seeing ‘very variable ways in which individual linguistic features with identifiable social and cultural associations get clustered together whenever people communicate,’ (Blommaert and Rampton 2011: 4). This challenges assumptions about various normative and often ideologically-laden concepts such as that of the speech community or the native speaker (Blommaert and Rampton 2011: 4-5). As can be seen in multilingual and multicultural settings, individual features of speech had better be regarded as integrated repertoires rather than a speaker switching from one code to another, in other words a form of translanguaging (García 2009 and others). The objective of this paper is to observe whether the same redefinition can be applied not to different languages or even dialects but accents. The case analysed is the idiolect of Britain’s PM Margaret Thatcher, famous for her acquired accent and style of speaking, and the way her speech has been represented by actors, above all Meryl Streep in *The Iron Lady* (2011) and Gillian Anderson in Season 4 of the series *The Crown* (2020), where the portrayal of Thatcher’s pronunciation was widely discussed in the media. The case will serve as a tool for challenging some boundaries imposed on different styles, accents, national varieties of English and linguistic ideologies.

keywords: accent, Received Pronunciation, sociophonetics, superdiversity, translanguaging

**Gilberto Rosas** (UIUC) – *The New Llorona*

This talk draws on firsthand eyewitness accounts of family separation at the US-Mexico border, when government officials took thousands of children from migrants, refugees, and asylum-seekers. I situate these harrowing practices of White Nationalist state terror in border and Latin American folklore of “La Llorona.” She is a haunting figure in a story that border and Latino/a parents use to frighten their children of a mother figure who lost her children and haunts the US-Mexico border region searching for them. The new Llorona is a non-binary reformulation of this figure, which captures how fathers and other caregivers have become central players in such horrendous scenes.

**Trumpus Caesar** (UCSB) – **screening** of a UCSB Theater Department’s 2020 production of a satirical tragicomedy by Carlos Morton. Followed by a **live meeting and discussion** with the creators of the piece. Guests from Los Angeles, San Diego, Santa Barbara and other places in the US. Participants include: the Godfather of the Chicano/a theater scholarship Jorge Huerta (UCSD), playwright Carlos Morton (UCSB), Trumpus actor and UCSB Theater Dept’s Chair Irwin Appel (UCSB), singer/musician/actor Luis Moreno (El Teatro Campesino), actress/performer/scholar Maiza Hixson (UCSB).

**Santiago Vaquera-Vasquez** (UNM) – *This is Not an Exit: Dispatches from the Borderlands*

This presentation—a blend of critical commentary with personal memoir—is a report on border crossing, on the ghosts that we carry, on the stories that we bear and the promise that is handed on in telling them. Michel de Certeau argues that place is made up of “moving layers,” it is a type of haunted space through which people cross and sometimes inhabit. Our material realities are made up of fragments of memories, echoes and traces that give shape and depth to a place. What happens, however, in the case of border crossers who find themselves suspended in-between the memory of what was left behind with the reality of a different cultural context? Through a reading of border crossings works, this paper examines the spectres/ghosts/echoes/ traces —the oftentimes traumatic residue— that remains when crossing borders. I propose a reading of a migratory aesthetics that travels between different discursive zones, and is intercut with autobiographical reflections on my own border crossings in a project that engages with the question on the cultural consequences of border crossing, migration, and diaspora.

**Grzegorz Welizarowicz** (UG) – *Rituals of Hospitality in the Greater San Diego Area*

“Here is hospitality which forever indicates heroes” (Walt Whitman). The presentation looks at a selection of border encounters in the greater San Diego region. Drawing from historical accounts, literature and the author’s real-life first-hand experience a sketch of Southern California hospitality is drawn. An important part of the paper consists of a report from the author’s pre-pandemic participation in the California Genocide Conference organized by the San Diego State University in conjunction with the Kumeyaay Nation in late November 2019.

**Julian Wolfreys** (UG) – *“How Many Borders Must We Cross to Reach Home?” The Politics and Poetics of Porosity*

A look at the history of geopolitical and sociopolitical changes across the 20th century and which would cover the area defined by my subtitle. I’d like to focus on this through a concentration on literature, film, and art, and could for example include the films of Theo Angelopoulos and the books of Andrzej Stasiuk, as two particularly potent examples. Historically,

this would cover the end of the Austro-Hungarian era up to the Serb/Croatian wars. I've taught seminars on this material in the past and it usually proves to be successful.

**Magdalena Żadkowska** (UG) and **Jacek Gądecki** (AGH) – *Borders between Work and Family at Home. Segregation or Integration? COVID19 Pandemic as a Trigger to Define New Borders at Home in Terms of Space, Gender and Social Roles.*

Many professionals such as scholars and managers claim that the integration of home and work is the perfect strategy for creating harmony between the fields of professional work and private life. In reality, combining the spheres of private life and paid work in one significantly limited space (home) may create significant challenges. The establishment of a personal strategy of working at home depends on many factors. Generally speaking, one can distinguish between two strategies: a) segregation (involving strict internal divisions between paid work and family life at home) or, b) integration (when these boundaries are weaker) (see: López-Estrada, 2002).

The practice of remote work from home significantly changes the traditional notion of "home" commonly treated as a strictly private space. For growing group of workers and their families. Statistically, it went from being a solution available to about 5% of workers/others (GUS 2019) to one that could be used by up to 25% of workers (GUS 2020).

Our talk will be based on the study done in October November 2020 with 1000 employer and 500 employees from Pomeranian region (quantitative CATI study) and 7 FGI (qualitative study) with employees and employers divided by industry sectors. We have obtained four main conclusions: 1. Remote working is a natural reality; 2. There is no going back to the pre-pandemic world; 3. The home in a pandemic has worn out and become tired 4. Work will return, but not necessarily to the same place. These conclusions affect strongly home (space), men & women (gender) and integration of work and family duties (social roles). Our presentation focuses on new possible strategies of integration and segregation.

## Contributors

**Ross Aldridge** teaches in the Department (Instytut) of Applied Linguistics and Translation, as well as occasional courses in the Institute of English and American Studies. He specialises in teaching practical English courses (especially academic writing and study skills), as well as British History and British Cultural Studies. Dr Aldridge was educated in his native Britain where he gained a first class BA degree in History and Philosophy at Keele University, and then an MA and PhD in Modern History at Reading University. He also has a Cambridge CELTA teaching qualification and a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) from the University of East Anglia. His research interests focus on the cultural and intellectual history of twentieth-century Britain.

**Ewa Antoszek** is an Assistant Professor at the Department of British and American Studies of Maria-Curie Skłodowska University in Lublin, Poland. Her interests include American ethnic literatures with a particular focus on Mexican-American and African-American writers, women's studies and representations of space(s) in literature. Her PhD analyzed multiple ways of identity construction in Chicana literature. She is the author of *Out of the Margins: Identity Formation in Contemporary Chicana Writings* (2012) and several articles analyzing issues related to the situation of ethnic minorities in the U.S. She is also the co-editor of *Inne Bębny: różnica i niezgoda w literaturze i kulturze amerykańskiej (Different Drums: Difference and Dissent in American Literature and Culture; 2013)*. Her current research examines Latina authors and artists in the U.S. (re) writing the border. email: antoszek@umcs.edu.pl

**Irwin Appel** is Professor and Chair of the Department of Theater and Dance at University of California Santa Barbara. As a professional director, Equity actor and composer/sound designer, he has worked with the Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, Orlando Shakes, the New York, Oregon, Utah, New Jersey and Colorado Shakespeare Festivals, Southwest Shakespeare Company, The Acting Company, Theatre For a New Audience, Hartford Stage, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Arizona Theatre Company, PCPA, both the National Theatre Conservatory and Colorado New Play Summit at the Denver Center of the Performing Arts, the Bread Load Acting Ensemble, and other prominent regional theaters. In Europe, he acted the role of Pandarus in Troilus and Cressida in the Czech Republic with the Prague Shakespeare Company at the renowned Estates Theatre where Mozart premiered Don Giovanni in 1787. He is the founder of Naked Shakes producing Shakespeare's plays in the United States and internationally since 2006. For Naked Shakes, he has created two major adaptations of Shakespeare's plays: first, The Death of Kings combining eight Shakespeare history plays from Richard II through Richard III into one event that has been performed in California, Arizona and the Czech Republic. Second and most recently, he combined Shakespeare's Antony and Cleopatra and Julius Caesar, along with parts of George Bernard Shaw's Caesar and Cleopatra into one play entitled Immortal Longings. He has also led workshops and lectured about Naked Shakes in China, Greece, Switzerland, Poland, and Czech Republic. He especially loves working in Gdańsk where he had the honor of leading a workshop on the Naked Shakes model on the stage of the Gdańsk Shakespeare Theater. He is a graduate of Princeton University and the Juilliard School. HYPERLINK "<http://www.deathofkings.com>" [www.deathofkings.com](http://www.deathofkings.com)

**Martin Blaszk** is employed in the Institute of English and American Studies at the University of Gdańsk. His research interests include happening, alternatives and creativity in teaching. Martin is also involved with artistic and educational projects in Poland and abroad.

**Elżbieta Czapka** is an assistant professor at the Institute of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Gdańsk, Poland. Her research interests include: post-accession Polish migration, migration and health, transnational care practices, intercultural elderly care. A member of the Management Committee in COST Action ISO 603 „HOME” (Health and Social Care of Migrants and Ethnic Minorities in Europe 2007–2011), and in COST Action IS1103 „ADAPT” (2011–2016). The Chair of the Board of the European Network on Intercultural Elderly Care (ENIEC). A member of European Sociological Association, Nordic Migration Network, Nordisk Demens Nettverk and the Global Society on Migration, Ethnicity, Race and Health (GSMERH). ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8548-0346> E-mail: [elzbieta.czapka@ug.edu.pl](mailto:elzbieta.czapka@ug.edu.pl), <https://elzbietaczapka.com/>

**Marta Grzechnik** is an assistant professor at the Institute of Scandinavian and Finnish Studies, University of Gdańsk, Poland. She is a historian with research interests in the Baltic Sea region and Northern Europe, borderland studies, regional history, and colonial history. She obtained her PhD from the European University Institute, Florence in 2010. In 2012–2016 she was a postdoctoral researcher in the programme “Baltic Borderlands: Shifting Boundaries of Mind and Culture in the Borderlands of the Baltic Sea Region” at the University of Greifswald; in 2018–2019 German Kennedy Memorial Fellow at the Center for European Studies, Harvard University, USA.

**Maiza Hixson** is an interdisciplinary performance artist and Doctoral Scholars Fellow in Theater, Dance and Performance Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB). Hixson writes about the performative staging of cities and urban space through public art, monuments, and architecture. Investigating cultural placemaking as politically performative, she interrogates how public art both participates in and often catalyzes resistance against branded narratives and “authorized” histories of cities and place. Her recent article, “Still Life with Discontent,” published in *Magnum Opal Journal*, focuses on Louisville’s visual culture of protest in the wake of Breonna Taylor’s killing and nationwide Black Lives Matter protests over the police murder of George Floyd.

Hixson completed a Master of Fine Arts at UCSB in 2019 and a Master of Arts in Critical and Curatorial Studies at the University of Louisville in 2005. She studied Art History, Theory and Criticism at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago from 2001–2002. From 2015–2017, Hixson was Chief Curator of the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission and Co-Director of the Santa Barbara Center for Art, Science and Technology. She also served as Chief Curator of the Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts from 2010–2015 during which time she taught and lectured at Towson University in Baltimore and University of the Arts in Philadelphia. Prior to this, she was Associate Curator of Contemporary Art at the Contemporary Art Center, Cincinnati.

Hixson has exhibited and performed widely at such venues as the Little Tokyo Arts Complex and Highways in Los Angeles; the Art, Design and Architecture Museum in Santa Barbara; Brooklyn Museum of Art; Baltimore Contemporary; Soap Factory, Minneapolis; Portland Institute for Contemporary Art in Portland, Oregon; Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art in Winston-Salem, NC; Haverford College; Eugen Lendl Gallery in Graz, Austria, and many others. An affiliate of Independent Curators International, her curatorial work was featured on the EMMY Award-winning PBS TV show “Articulate” with Jim Cotter and her curatorial projects have been presented at galleries across the U.S. She has published articles and essays on contemporary art and performance in dozens of exhibition catalogues both online and in print.

**Jorge Huerta** is Chancellor’s Associates Professor of Theatre Emeritus at the University of California, San Diego. He joined the faculty of the UCSD Department of Theater in 1975 and retired from UCSD in 2009. Huerta has directed in regional theatres throughout the United States and is a leading authority on contemporary Chicano and Latinx theatre who has lectured throughout the US, Latin America and Western Europe. He has published many articles and reviews in journals and anthologies and has edited three collections of plays. Prof. Huerta published the first book about *Chicano theatre, Chicano Theatre: Themes and Forms* (Bilingual Press, 1982; as well as *Chicano Drama: Performance, Society and Myth* (Cambridge, 2000). (114 words)

**Wioleta Karwacka** is a translator and an assistant professor at the Division of Translation Studies, University of Gdańsk, Poland. Her work centres on translation and translation studies. Her research focuses on medical translation and eco-translation. She has authored articles, book chapters and conference papers on anthropocentrism and anthropomorphism in translation, and various aspects of medical translation and medical terminology.

**Monika Mazurek** is an associate professor in the Department of Anthropology in the Institute of Sociology at the University of Gdańsk, Poland. She is a sociologist and psychologist interested in ethnic/national identity, languages, memory, religion and borderland studies. Her publications include: *Język-Przestrzeń-Pochodzenie. Analiza tożsamości kaszubskiej* (2010), *W*

poszukiwaniu tożsamości : Zrzeszenie Kaszubsko-Pomorskie w oczach socjologa, (2009); Mazurek Monika, Potulski Jakub: Historical determinants of the development of Pole-Catholic identity, *European Journal of Science and Theology*, vol. 16, nr 1, 2020, s. 23-35; Wszyscy będziemy uchodźcami - czyli wstępna analiza zjawisk wywołanych zmianami klimatycznymi, *Colloquium*, nr 2(34), 2019, s. 29-46; Sekularyzacja czy może pluralizm i indywidualizacja? Rozważania o charakterze religijności Polaków (na przykładzie badań), *Przegląd Religioznawczy*, nr 3 (273), 2019, s. 31-43; "Zimny albo gorący" - prezentacja (wstępnych) badań religijności, *Przegląd Religioznawczy*, nr 3 (269), 2018, s. 59-78.

**Anna Mazurkiewicz**, Associate Professor is a historian, a graduate of UG (1999, Ph.D. 2006), chair of the Department of Contemporary History at the Faculty of History. She currently leads the work of the International Border Studies Center at the UG – an interdisciplinary unit established to foster synergies within, and broaden international cooperation outside of the UG networks. She also serves as a Deputy Dean for Research and International Cooperation for the 2020-2024 term.

She has published four books: on the American responses to elections of 1947 and 1989 in Poland, and on the role of the political exiles from East Central Europe in American Cold War politics. Her book: *Uchodźcy z Europy Środkowo-Wschodniej w amerykańskiej polityce zimnowojennej, 1948-1954* (Warszawa-Gdańsk, IPN-Uniwersytet Gdański, 2016) won the Willi Paul Adams Award, for the best book on American history published in a language other than English, Organization of American Historians, April 2019. She is also the editor of four volumes resulting from international cooperation/projects, including three in English (published in Germany and UK).

Currently she serves as the editor of the book series: "Migrations in History. Past experience, global patterns, memory" DeGruyter (Germany) <https://www.degruyter.com/serial/MIH-B/html> and the Book Review Editor for Poland, "Polish American Studies" (University of Illinois, USA): <https://www.press.uillinois.edu/journals/pas.html>

Mazurkiewicz the past President of the Polish American Historical Association (2017-2018) and a Board member since 2015. She is also a member of the Inter-faculty Committee of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences (PAU) for the Study of the Polish Diaspora as well as Committee on Migration Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences (PAN).

Recipient of numerous research grants and awards by Polish and American institutions, Mazurkiewicz was also a Visiting Scholar at the University of Notre Dame, Central European University (Budapest), Kosciuszko Foundation Scholar at the University of Minnesota, State University of New York at Buffalo, Valdosta State University (Georgia, USA) and Fulbright Senior Award, Center for Russian East European and Eurasian Studies, Stanford University, USA.

She teaches contemporary history with a special focus on the Cold War, U.S. history and U.S.-Polish relations, U.S. foreign policy, as well as offers courses in migration and diaspora studies. <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6599-2755>

**Luis Moreno** is an actor/singer/musician (and sometimes math teacher) and a veteran of *El Teatro Campesino*. He now resides in Santa Bárbara where he continues to engage in music and theatre projects. He is currently producing a CD featuring songs from the Early California Rancho Period.

**Carlos Morton** is an American playwright who has been one of the leading figures of the Chicana/o theater movement since in the 1970s. Morton is former Mina Shaughnessy Scholar and Fulbright Lecturer to Mexico, Morton holds a M.F.A. in Drama from the University of California, San Diego, and a Ph.D. in Theatre from the University of Texas at Austin. In 1999 he was inducted into the "Writers of the Pass," in El Paso, Texas. Morton's published collected plays include, *The Many Deaths of Danny Rosales and Other Plays* (1983) and *Johnny Tenorio and Other Plays* (1992) both published by Arte Publico Press. The *Fickle Finger of Lady Death* (1996, Peter Lang Press) are English language translations of four plays by contemporary Mexican playwrights *Rancho Hollywood y otras obras del teatro chicano*, (1999, Arte Publico Press & Ediciones EL Milagro) is a Spanish language collection of his plays; *Dreaming on a Sunday in the Alameda and Other Plays* (Chicana & Chicano Visions of the Americas) (2004) on University of Oklahoma Press.

**Izabela Morska** teaches in the English and American Institute at Gdańsk University. Her latest book, *Znikanie (Vanishing)* is a memoir of illness as a journey and is based on her earlier research project on Lyme disease as a political metaphor. She is the author of *Glorious Outlaws: Debt as a Tool in Contemporary Postcolonial Fiction* (2016), as well as the recipient of Julian Tuwim Award (2018) and Pomerania Literary Prize (2020). Affiliated Scholar of ISEES and Beatrice Bain Research Center at the University of California-Berkeley, as well as Yaddo and Hawthornden Fellow, Morska is interested in the narratives of marginalization and voices of the dispossessed from postcolonial and gender studies perspective.

**Adam Mrozowicki** (UWr) is associate professor and since October 2017 the Head of the Department of General Sociology at the Institute of Sociology, University of Wrocław. He received his PhD degree in social sciences in 2009 from the Centre for Sociological Research at the University of Leuven (KU Leuven, Belgium). He has worked at the Institute of Sociology (University of Wrocław) since October 2009. In 2016, he obtained a postdoctoral degree in social sciences in the discipline of sociology, specialization in the sociology of economy at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Wrocław. His research interests include sociology of work, sociology of economy, comparative research on collective labour relations, research on

precarity, critical social realism and methodology of biographical research. He is the author of the monograph „Coping with social change. Life strategies of workers in Poland’s new capitalism’ (Leuven University Press, 2011), editor of 12 collective works and journal issues, and over 60 articles and book chapters. At the University of Wrocław he managed research projects funded by the 7th Framework Programme of the EU, the Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion of the European Commission, the Foundation for Polish Science and the National Science Centre in Poland. Chairman of the Scientific Discipline Council of Sociological Sciences at the University of Wrocław in 2019-2020 and for the term 2020-2024, Vice-Chairman of the Section of Sociology of Labour of the Polish Sociological Association, member of the editorial board of the Sociological Review and Transfer: European Review of Labour and Research. Principal investigator / consortium leader of the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Wrocław and the Economic and Social College of the Warsaw School of Economics in the National Science Centre OPUS project: ‘COV-WORK: Socio-economic consciousness, work experiences and coping strategies of Poles in the context of the post-pandemic crisis”

**Elżbieta Opiłowska** is Associate Professor at Chair of Borderlands Sociology at the Institute of Sociology at University of Wrocław and Head of the Centre for Regional and Borderlands Studies. Her research expertise includes borderlands studies, memory cultures, narrative research, and qualitative methodology. Currently she is leading two research projects on *De/Re-Constructing borders - narratives and imaginaries on divided towns in Central Europe*, funded by the Polish National Science Center and *Multidimensional Dynamics of Bilateral Relations - Poland and Germany in the European Union*, funded by the German-Polish Science Foundation. Recent publications: Opiłowska, Elżbieta, Sus, Monika (eds) (2021), *Poland and Germany in the European Union: The Multi-dimensional Dynamics of Bilateral Relations*, Abington: Routledge; Opiłowska, Elżbieta (2021), The Covid-19 crisis: the end of a borderless Europe?, “European Societies” 23:sup1: S589 S600, DOI: 10.1080/14616696.2020.1833065;

**Anna Podciborska** is a 2nd year Doctoral Fellow at the Doctoral School of Humanities and Social Sciences (UG), studying history. A graduate of American Studies at the University of Gdansk; MA thesis titled “The Power of Communication: Creating a Political Image in America.” Interested in the American government’s operations in Central and Eastern Europe during the Cold War, as well as political communication, public diplomacy and U.S. social history.

**Maciej Rataj** is a Reader (adiunkt) at the Institute of English and American Studies, the University of Gdańsk. He holds a doctorate in linguistics from the University of Gdańsk (2012). Dr Rataj’s publications include a book entitled Attitudes to Standard British English and Standard Polish: A Study in Normative Linguistics and Comparative Sociolinguistics (2016), over a dozen papers and book chapters published in Poland, the UK, France and Bulgaria, and large parts of the English pronunciation textbook Say It Better (2020). He is interested in sociolinguistics, varieties of British English, cognitive linguistics, teaching English pronunciation and English for Academic Purposes.

**Gilberto Rosas** is award winning associate professor in the Department of Anthropology and the Department of Latina/o Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. He is author of *Barrio Libre: Criminalizing States and Delinquent Refusals of the New Frontier*. He has published several well-received articles and chapters regarding the militarized policing of migrant populations and the migrant resembling, law enforcement at US-Mexico border, detention, and the entanglements of racialization and criminality in what he has termed “the thickening borderlands” of Mexico and the United States. Currently, he is the lead editor of The Border Reader, now in production with Duke University Press. It will anthologize canonical work on the US-Mexico border. He is also completing and presenting on a new public facing book. It’s working title is *Ricochet: Witnessing the Edges of Refuge*. The book documents and analyzes how his hometown of El Paso became a center in immigration enforcement, culminating in the mass shooting of August 3, 2019. Professor Rosas is active in the Sanctuary and Immigrant Rights movements. He also gives expert testimony on behalf of people in asylum and related legal proceedings. Finally, he is a member of LHEAP or the Labor Health Equities Action Project at UIUC.

**Santiago Vaquera-Vásquez**: unrepentant border crosser, ex-dj, and Xicano writer. An Associate Professor of Creative Writing and Hispanic Southwest Literatures and Cultures at the University of New Mexico, he has also taught and lectured at universities across the United States, Latin America, and Europe. He has also held Fulbright Fellowships in Spain, Turkey, and Poland. His books include, *Luego el silencio* (2014), *One Day I’ll Tell You the Things I’ve Seen* (2015), *En el Lost ‘n Found* (2016), *Yabancı [Foreigner] Extranjero* (2019) and *Nocturno de frontera* (2020). Commenting on his writing, Junot Díaz has said “Santiago Vaquera is literary lightning. He impresses, he illuminates, and when he is at his best you are left shaken, in awe.”

**Grzegorz Welizarowicz** is an assistant professor at the Department of American Studies at the Institute of English and American Studies, Faculty of Languages, University of Gdańsk, Poland. His research interests include: American theater, American music, Latinx, African American and American Indian cultures, the history of the Southwest. A Junior and Senior

Fulbright Fellow (2000, 2012). Director and founding member of the Border Studies Group at the University of Gdańsk and the founding member of the International Border Studies Center at UG. ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3513-7029>  
E-mail: [grzegorz.welizarowicz@ug.edu.pl](mailto:grzegorz.welizarowicz@ug.edu.pl)

**Julian Wolfreys** is Professor of English Literature at the University of Gdansk and author and editor of numerous books on nineteenth- and twentieth-century literature, and literary theory. He is also the author of a novel, *Silent Music* (2014) and three volumes of poetry. Author of *Haunted Selves, Haunting Places in English Literature and Culture: 1800–Present* (2018).

**Magdalena Żadkowska**, PhD, Assistant Professor in Sociology Institute at University of Gdansk, focused on sociology of couple, remote work pre- and after COVID19 pandemic, diversity management, intimate relations and gender studies, women and men carriers in STEM,. Cooperates in international research projects with Norway, USA, Canada, UK, Italy, Romania, Chile and France.

**Education:** PhD in Sociology, Nicolaus Copernicus University, MA in Sociology, University of Gdansk, Poland, MA in Cultural Sciences, Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland. **Work experience in international projects and initiatives:** Expert in gender relations and status quo for: (1) Community of Practice (On the Way to Gender Equality – Community of Practice for Gender Equality in Central and Eastern Europe) of ActProject under grant agreement No 788 204 (introducing Memorandum of Understanding for establishing Communities of PrACTice for advancing gender equality in RPOs and RFOs across Europe for at UG), (2) Gender Academy European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 824585, (3) National Researcher for Gender-Sensitive Parliaments – EU 28 assessment. **Principle Investigator** for *Till death do us part... Everyday life practices of 50-64 years old couples with at least 20 years’ of common life experience*, NCN SONATA BIS 8 UMO-2018/30/E/HS6/00159. **Member of on-going projects:** (1) **Toward Gender Harmony** – Understanding the Relationship between Masculinity Threat and Gender Equality Across Cultures. NCN HARMONIA, UMO-2017/26/M/HS6/00360; (3) Gender equality in Starbios 2, (2) **MINDtheGEPs** Modifying Institutions by Developing Gender Equality Plans, (3) **RESBIOS** RESponsible research and innovation grounding practices in BIOSciences and (4) **ACT on Gender:** Community of Practice for Gender Equality in Central and Eastern Europe.