Thank you to the following reviewer and Women’s and Gender Studies History Month Conference Program Committee Members:

Olga Avant-Mier
Naomi Fertman, IGNITE faculty mentor, Women Who Ran, Co-Chair
Mohammed Iddrisu, graduate writing intern
Raneem Karboji, IGNITE
Maissa Khatib, WGS faculty
Ruth McDonald, marketing
Hilda Ontiveros, WGS faculty
Ann Horak, WGS faculty, YWCA Board member
Gina Núñez-Mchiri, Program Co-chair, Chair of Women’s and Gender Studies
Efe Plange, graduate writing intern

A special thank you to our Conference Sponsors:

IGNITE students and volunteers
Student Government Association
Angie Reza-Turres, Femme Frontera Film Festival
Steve Varela, website design and support
Robert Stakes, UTEP Library staff and administrators
Dorothy Ward, Entering Student Programs
Samuel Brunk, Department of History
Areli Chacón-Silva, Leadership Studies
Dennis Bixler-Marquez, Chicano Studies
Gary Edens, Student Affairs
Jane Evans, Languages and Linguistics
Stacey Sowards, Department of Communication
Maria de los Angeles Flores, UTEP Communication Department and students
Adren Warling, redesigned Women’s and Gender Studies conference logo
Dean Denis A. O’Hearn, College of Liberal Arts
Catie McCorry-Andalis, Assoc. VP/Dean of Students
Women’s and Gender Studies faculty, staff, researchers and volunteers
All Sessions will be on the 3\textsuperscript{rd} floor of the Union East & Plenaries/Film in the Tomas Rivera Conference Center (TRCC)

### Monday, March 11, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00am-10:00am</td>
<td>Morning Session 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am-11:00am</td>
<td>Morning Session 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30am-1:00pm</td>
<td>YWCA State of Women Report, TRCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00pm-2:00pm</td>
<td>Afternoon Session 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm-3:00pm</td>
<td>Afternoon Session 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00pm-4:30pm</td>
<td>Frontera Film Festival at the TRCC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Tuesday, March 12\textsuperscript{th}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9am-10:20am</td>
<td>Morning Session 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30am-11:50am</td>
<td>Morning Session 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00pm-12:30pm</td>
<td>Group photo with Dr. Natalicio at Centennial Plaza outdoors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 to 2 pm</td>
<td>Women Who Ran at the Tomas Rivera Conference Center at TRCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 pm to 3:20 pm</td>
<td>Afternoon Session 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 pm to 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Dr. Natalicio at the TRCC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Monday, March 11, 2019**

**8:00 am - 5:00 pm** Registration: Tomás Rivera Conference Center

Sessions will be in the Union East, third Floor

**9:00 am – 10:00 am** Morning Session 1

1. **Destigmatizing Women’s Health**
   **Workshop/presentation:** Elkins Room 314  
   **Presenter:** Laura Alcantar

2. **Texts, Symbols, Communication and Rhetorical Practices**
   **Panel Presentation:** Ray Room 309
   **A. Using a Text Mining Technique to Study Gender Communication Research: A Longitudinal and Thematic Analysis Synopsis**  
   **Presenter:** Kenneth C.C. Yang
   **Presenter:** Efe Plange

3. **Gender, Shame, Perseverance, and Resistance**
   **Panel:** Smiley Room 310
   **A. Religious shame, female sexuality and concepts of purity in Progressive Christianity**  
   **Presenter:** Sabrina Bustilos
   **B. Yet, They Persevere: Understanding Veiled Muslim Students’ Challenges and Triumphs on College Campuses.**

**10:00 am to 11:00 am** Morning Session 2

4. **Mental health and Pregnancy on the Border**
   **Roundtable Discussion:** Wiggins Room 315
   **Participants:** Carina Heckert, Victoria de Anda, Sabela Solis, Daniela Mata, and Jesus Aleman

**5. Book Presentation: Inventos Mios**
   **Presentation:** Elkins Room 314  
   **Presenter:** Rubi Orozco

6. **Escritura de Mujeres Fronterizas**
   **Poetry Reading/Presentation:** Ray Room 309
   **Presenters:** Maria Lorena Sosa, Irma Nikicicz, and Alessandra Narváez Varela

7. **Keeping Women in STEM: Long-term commitment to development and Empowerment**
   **Workshop/presentation:** Smiley Room 310
   **Presenters:** Gina Moreno

8. **Rise Up, Speak Out!**
   **Workshop/Presentation:** Wiggins 315
   **Presenter:** Leilani Salu
Monday, March 11, 2019

11:30 am to 1 pm    Plenary Session

9. YWCA El Paso del Norte Region: The State of Women Address

Location: Tomas Rivera Conference Center (TRCC)

Presenters: Dr. Sylvia Acosta, CEO of the YWCA El Paso del Norte Region, Dr. Ann Horak, and Azuri Gonzalez

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm    Afternoon Session 3

10. Rethinking Environmental Preservation: Indigenous Knowledge as an Alternative (individual paper)

Presentation: Elkins Room 314

Presenter: Nadia Kyeremeh


Workshop/presentation: Ray Room 309

Presenter: Perla Galindo, Planned Parenthood

12. Family and Intimate Partner Violence among LGBTQIA+ identifying individuals

Presentation and Discussion: Smiley Room 310

Participant: Adren Warling

13. Ya basta! Enough is Enough! Women’s Voices Against Violence

Performance/Workshop: Wiggins Room 315

Participants: Wise Latina International, Yo Soy Teatro/Ya Basta Teatro members

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm    Afternoon Session 4

14. Let’s talk about what we otherwise risk ignoring: Sexual health among women who have sex with women

Roundtable Discussion: Elkins Room 314

Presenter: Denise Delgado

15. Study Abroad Experiences on gender and health among Moroccan women.

Roundtable Discussion: Ray Room 309

Presenters: Belinda Diaz, Gloria A. Rios, Adriana Aleman

16. Coming Out in Someone Else’s Shoes

Workshop/panel/presentation Roundtable: Smiley Room 310

Presenters: Rainbow Miner Initiative members and staff

17. Gazing through the Prism of Color: The Impact of Colorism as it Relates to Media

Workshop/presentation: Wiggins Room 315

Participants: Aubrey Oliver & Avery Oliver
**Monday, March 11, 2019**

**3rd Annual Femme Frontera Film Showcase**

**Time:** 3 pm to 4:30 pm  
**Location:** Tomas Rivera Conference Center, Third Floor Union East  
**Presenter:** Roberto Avant-Mier, Department of Communication  
**Participant:** Angie Reza-Tures, Frontera Film Festival  
**Question and Answer Session to Follow**

---

**Tuesday, March 12th**

**9:00 – 10:20am**  
**Morning Session 5**

18. **Changing Women: A Discussion on Tradition vs. Modernity in Relation to Native/Indigenous Women’s Roles and Sense of Self**  
**Roundtable Discussion:** Elkins Room 314  
**Presenters:** Arise: Cheyenne Lozano, Sasha Pina, Sarita Lopez, Brenda Gutierrez, and Stephanie Paz

19. **The Women of Smeltertown**  
**Book presentation:** Ray Room 309  
**Presenters:** Mimi Gladstein

20. **Women, Personhoods, Leadership, and Borders**  
**Panel:** Smiley Room 310  
A. **Maestras transfronterizas**  
**Presenter:** Maria de la Piedra  
B. **Women tweeting and leading ENGOs: A Generative Criticism approach**  
**Presenter:** Sergio Reyes Ruiz  
C. **Fearless Women/Fearless Leaders, Building the City of El Paso’s Workforce**  
**Presenter:** Claudia Lujan, City of El Paso  
D. **A person’s a person”: The Catholic Church, Personhood, & Abortion**  
**Presenter:** Emily Guerra

21. **Feminist Research on Gender, Equity, Education, and Advocacy**  
**Panel presentation:** Wiggins Room 315  
**Presenters:** Diana Becerra, Karla Corral, Annel Mena, Sofia Valenzuela
10:30 am– 11:50 am  Morning Session 6

22. Women in business and in the workforce

Panel Presentation/Workshop: Elkins Room 314

A. The Simple Truth About the Gender Wage Gap: Addressing Equality for Women in the Workplace
Presenter: Meghan Martinez

B. The Rights of the Female Entrepreneur
Presenter: Denisse Olivas, Center for Hispanic Entrepreneurship

23. Deeds not Words” Sex Positivity in Sexual Health Education

Presentation/Workshop: Ray Room 309
Presenters: Ana Hernandez

24. The Whitewashing of Diversity and Immigration

Presentation: Smiley Room 310
Participant: Kaelin Walker

A. The Whitewashing of Diversity: A Pecha Kucha Presentation

B. Immigrants... dance piece


25. Women, Water, and the Environment at the International Boundary and Water Commission

Roundtable Discussion/Question & Answer Session: Wiggins 315
Presenters: Jayne Harkins, Irasema Coronado, and Ivonne Santiago

12:00 noon to 12:30 pm  Picture with Dr. Natalicio

Group photo Wearing Dr. Natalicio’s 30 year celebration t-shirt at the Centennial Plaza

12:30 noon to 2:00 pm  Women Who Ran Plenary Session of Women involved in political processes

Location: Tomas Rivera Conference Center, Union East 3rd floor
Panelists:
• Wendy Davis, Former State Senator
• Brianna Carmen, National Organizer for Voto Latino
• Jody Casey, Campaign Manager for Beto O’Rourke
• Kathryn Hairston, School Board, Ysletta Independent District
• Kristen Ahumada, Former President of UTEP SGA
Event hosted by IGNITE

2:00 pm -3:20 pm  Afternoon Session 7

26. Conversion Therapy: History and Harms

Presentation/Dialog: Elkins Room 314
Panel Presenter: Dr. Ann Horak, Rainbow Miner Initiative and Student Engagement and Leadership Center

27. Intersectionality, ADA, and (Dis)ability Etiquette

Presentation/Workshop: Ray Room 309
Presenters: Corene M. Seymour and Nena Rios, UTEP Center for Accommodation and Support

28. CARE’S Healthy Relationships, UTEP CARE
Presentation: Smiley Room 310
Presenter: Justin Tompkins
Tuesday, March 12th 3:30 pm – 5pm
Reception to Celebrate and Honor
Dr. Diana Natalicio’s
30 Years of Visionary Leadership

Location: Tomas Rivera Conference Center. Union East, third floor

Hosted by IGNITE, Student Government Association, and other women’s organizations at UTEP

Come celebrate with cake, lemonade, and coffee.
Conference Abstracts:

1. Destigmatizing Women’s Health

Workshop/presentation: Elkins Room 314  
Presenter: Laura Alcantar, MSN, RN, FNP-C currently at Texas Integrative Medicine and Cardiology, doctoral candidate in the School of Nursing at the University of Texas at El Paso

Sex gender differences matter and healthcare is a sector where ignoring these differences can be a matter of life and death. Women are more likely to die from a heart attack, develop Alzheimer’s disease and autoimmune disorders as well as suffer mental health issues like depression and anxiety. Is it just outdated medicine, personal/systemic bias, gender ambivalence, or just plain carelessness? Medical research has excluded women by avoiding the complexity that hormone cycles play on research design, as well as claiming the protection from risks posed on reproductive aged women. In addition, clinicians often misdiagnose and mistreat women based on stereotypes or by simply assuming certain treatments will work on women as they do on men. Symptoms are commonly dismissed or plain ignored assuming women are attention-seeking or emotionally unstable. These disparities have been too costly for women, and not enough action has been done to correct them. From discussions about pain, sex, and hormones, to stressors, incontinence, and cholesterol, opening lines of communication, demanding quality care, and empowering women to become strong self-advocates for their care is the first step in the destigmatizing of women in healthcare.

2. Texts, Symbols, Communication and Rhetorical Practices

A. Using a Text Mining Technique to Study Gender Communication Research: A Longitudinal and Thematic Analysis Synopsis”

Presenter: Dr. Kenneth C. C. Yang, Professor, Department of Communication, The University of Texas at El Paso, U.S.A.  
Email: cyang@utep.edu and Dr. Yowei Kang, Assistant Professor Department of Oceanic Cultural Creative Design Industries National Taiwan Ocean University, Keelung, TAIWAN  
Email: yoweikang@mail.ntou.edu.tw

Gender research has been an important area of communication study. Recently, communication scholars have employed a text mining technique to process a large amount of data systematically, without biases, without human errors, and more objectively (Lin, n.d.). The objectives of our study are to demonstrate what this computational data processing technique can do in identifying longitudinal thematic trends in the literature. In terms of research method, this study firsts searches Communication and Mass Media Complete (EBSCO), Sage Premier Journal Collection, and ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global (PQDT Global) (ProQuest) by the keywords, “Gender Communication” to generate our research corpus. We later used QDA Miner and WORDstat to identify main keywords, topics, and themes, and relationships between these extracted terms to explain the longitudinal development and emerging trends of gender communication as represented in our corpus. 

Our data attempt to answer the following questions:

Research Question 1: How is the text mining method relevant and instrumental to gender communication research?
Research Question 2: What are recurrent keywords, topics, and themes in our corpus? Research Question 3: What will be the longitudinal and emerging trends in gender communication research? Theoretical and methodological implications are discussed. The main take-aways of our presentation will be 1) to learn how text mining research can help gender researchers, 2) to track longitudinal thematic changes in gender research as demonstrated in our corpus.

Keywords: Gender Communication, Longitudinal Analysis Research Method, Text Mining Method, Thematic Analysis


Presenter: Efe Plange

3. Gender, Shame, Perseverance, and Resistance

Panel: Smiley Room 310

A. “Shameless” An Appropriation of Purity for Progressive Christianity

Presenter: Sabrina Bustillos

As an advocate for “progressive” Christianity, Pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber has actively promoted initiatives that challenge traditionally homo-exclusive and sexually oppressive concepts within the Christian faith. Directly targeting purity pledges promoted by the Christian association True Love Waits, Weber’s 2018 “Shameless” project issued a call to action for women that had previously vowed to remain sexually pure to participate in a protest against abstinence. Participants of the project were asked to mail in their purity rings to be melted and crafted into a statue of a vulva. In exchange, participants received a silicone “Shameless” ring, and certificate of impurity. Through this project, Weber appropriates the traditional social and rhetorical construction of “purity” to create a physical reclamation of female anatomy and autonomy. While purity is a topic conceptualized toward both men and women, rhetorical ultimatums projected through purity pledges demonstrate slut shaming that targets women specifically on a social level. Utilizing feminist theories of appropriation, this essay analyzes the rhetorical construction of purity and the harmful effects of heterosexist ideologies that underpin evangelical Christian doctrine. This essay yields implications that transfigure traditional Christianity, as well as redefine conversations about female leadership and empowerment in the church. This essay has implications for gender, sexuality and the way they coincide within religious institutions.

B. Yet, They Persevere: Understanding Veiled Muslim Students’ Challenges and Triumphs on College Campuses.

Presenter: Mohammed Iddrisu

Dressing communicates an individual’s membership of a community and establishes a visual communication before a verbal interaction ensues (Shirazi, 2000). Haddad, Smith and Moore (2011) assert that the American public conceptualizes the hijab in three ways: as an inferior representation of cultural difference, a threat to secularism or an expression of deep religious beliefs and identity. Therefore, they contend that the hijab wearing Muslim occupies a symbolic position in the “clash of civilisations” and her life in public “has far-reaching political and social implications” (p. 39). Given how veiled Muslim students’ identities are visibly marked, this study explores their challenges and triumphs in two college campuses in southern Texas. I employ critical incident methodologies and semi-structured interviews for data collection. Theoretically, I invoke Foucault’s concept of biopower to analyze different technologies of power that veiled Muslim students negotiate and ways in which such exercise of power affect their everyday lives on campuses, and feminist standpoint theory to highlight how veiled Muslim students assert their agency by
challenging dominant discourses that seek to define their realities. Key findings in this research include perceptions of veiled Muslim students as cultural and security threats; hijab as a resistance to American social expectations of clothing and hijab as self (re)definition. Through this presentation, students will understand the need to accommodate and respect diversity and difference in their everyday lives on university campuses.

4. Mental health and Pregnancy on the Border

Roundtable Discussion: Wiggins Room 315
Participants: Carina Heckert, Victoria de Anda, Sabela Solis, Daniela Mata, and Jesus Aleman. Contact: checkert@utep.edu

Mental Health and Pregnancy on the Border This roundtable will involve a discussion of ongoing research related to the emotional experience of pregnancy among immigrant women in the El Paso border region. Past research shows that maternal stress is associated with a range of adverse maternal and infant health outcomes, including pre-eclampsia, preterm birth, and low birth weight. Further, an emerging body of literature shows periods of heightened stress over immigration policing are associated with higher burdens of emotional distress in immigrant populations and a higher prevalence of negative birth and maternal health outcomes. The focus of our current research is on women’s emotional experiences, with attention to how women see social experiences related to being an immigrant as triggering emotional responses and the ways they feel like these emotional responses impact their health during pregnancy. As this research is ongoing, we have currently completed 21 out of a planned 35 in-depth interviews with pregnant and postnatal women in El Paso. Our roundtable will involve an interactive discussion of the themes that have emerged during the interviews along with our preliminary analyses of these themes. We plan for this to be an interactive discussion with the audience. Panel participants will include the UTEP faculty PI and four student research assistants who have been involved in data collection and analysis.

5. Book Presentation: Inventos Míos

Presentation: Elkins Room 314
Presenter: Rubí Orozco, orozco.rubi@gmail.com

Rubí Orozco Santos grew up listening to her grandmother improvise poems about the landscapes of Puebla. She sees poetry as an ancestral tradition that is an integral part of radical self-care: a means of reclaiming voice and space, of articulating truths to make them visible. She is a graduate of UTEP and UC Berkeley, and studied creative writing throughout her public health academic career at both institutions, as well as from community-based poetry and improvisation masters. In 2017, she was awarded the Artist Incubator Program grant by the El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Department, which supported Inventos Míos (released August 2018), a bilingual collection of poetry and prose inspired by the practice of nixtamalization in the borderland. In February 2019, Inventos Míos received the 2019 Tejas Poetry Book Award from the National Association of Chicana and Chicano Studies.

6. Escritura de Mujeres Fronterizas

Poetry Reading/Presentation: Ray Room 309
Presenters: María Lorena Sosa, Irma Nikicicz, and Alessandra Narváez Varela. Contact: Maria L. Rodríguez Sosa, mlsosarodri@miners.utep.edu

Lectura de poesía Escritura de mujeres fronterizas La geografía en la escritura creativa, es un factor que delinea la poética en el escritor. La propuesta de escritoras en el borde tiene como objetivo dar lectura a sus poemas o cuentos y abrir la conversación para hablar sobre los
7. Keeping Women in STEM: Long-term commitment to development and Empowerment

**Workshop/presentation:** Smiley Room 310  
**Presenter:** Gina Moreno  
**Contact:** gemoreno3@miners.utep.edu

Personal story as a minority woman in STEM and my different experiences and hardships during my internships in aerospace, defense and automotive industries, working with white males during all meetings in which I was the youngest, that involved my projects and major decision making in the companies. The focus is on retention of women in STEM (and careers with other gender gaps such as leadership positions) rather than the recruitment. There is a focus in two ways to retain women in the STEM workplace: the first is shifting workplace culture by long-term commitment to diversity and second is providing opportunities of personal and professional growth aimed toward women.

**Part I:** It is necessary to shift culture to establish gender equality first by: Anti-bias policies and trainings, pay equity commitment, trainings on empathy, integrity and inclusion and workplace flexibility.

**Part II:** Building a platform of empowerment to women in the workplace by giving a spotlight to women leaders, creating leadership development programs for women, mentorships programs, and networking opportunities with other females and minorities.

8. Rise Up, Speak Out!

**Workshop/Presentation:** Wiggins 315  
**Presenter:** Leilani Salu  
**Contact:** ljsalu@utep.edu

This interactive workshop is to provide a platform for women and gender non-conforming individuals a safe, inclusive space to express themselves through spoken word. Through exercises, a brief history, and showcasing women of color in spoken word, this workshop will provide alternative methods to coping with issues that women face, as well as providing an accessible route in educating globally about women's issues. The goal of this workshop is to essentially give women the necessary tools to talk about women's issues in different mediums and present information which is accessible and understandable to the larger community. Participants will essentially be crafting their own works of art through exercises that allow the individual to focus on the message they want to convey as well as
providing a rhythmic, soulful delivery. Participants will also engage with symbolic performances by other spoken word artists through different mediums, interpreting and critically analyzing their work, as well as developing an understanding of how they would like their own works of art to look, feel, etc. Lastly, participants will be given the chance to perform the pieces in the workshop, share stories, and open discussion about how this type of performance is important, impactful, and useful in higher education and educating the larger community.

9. YWCA El Paso del Norte Region: The State of Women Address

Location: Tomas Rivera Conference Center (TRCC)
Presenter: Sylvia Acosta, CEO YWCA El Paso del Norte Region, Dr. Ann Horak, and Azuri Gonzalez.
Contact: Ann Horak: annhorak@sbcglobal.net

CEO of YWCA Sylvia Acosta and YWCA board members Ann Horak and Azuri Gonzalez will be presenting the results of a study commissioned by the YWCA to study the economic status of women in El Paso. This presentation invites conference participants to learn about local economic and quality of life issues affecting women in hopes of addressing these challenges through community-university partnerships, service learning, internship opportunities, and creative problem-solving.

10. Rethinking Environmental Preservation: Indigenous Knowledge as an Alternative (individual paper)

Presentation: Elkins Room 314
Presenter: Nadia Kyeremeh, nadiakyeremeh@gmail.com

Public attention on environmental preservation efforts over the past few years has centered on climate change, air, land, and water pollution (Sumner, 2008). The prevalent issue of what can be done to change the tendency of humans to exploit the environment they inhabit is upon us (Darko, 2014). This study discusses indigenous knowledge and beliefs as a way to mitigate the over-exploitation of the environment in Africa. Using theories of indigenous knowledge systems and ecofeminism as theoretical frameworks, this study demonstrates how African communities in the pre-colonial era used indigenous knowledge to conserve the environment and suggests what can be learned from these precolonial practices. Through ecofeminism, this presentation will argue that women have a stake in ending the “domination of nature in healing the alienation between human and non-human nature” (King, 1983). The methodology for the study included both interviews about folklore in indigenous knowledge among participants from different African countries and secondary sources. The key findings include the conceptualization of the environment as sacred in indigenous knowledge and how that prevented African people from exploiting the environment, an understanding of the inseparability of mankind from the environment in precolonial times and a rethinking of the colonial idea of the environment as a resource to be exploited for economic benefits. These findings call for the need to decolonize knowledge making in environmental communication and highlight the role of women in preserving the environment.

Key words: ecofeminism, indigenous knowledge, African communities, environmental communication/preservation.

**Workshop/presentation:** Ray Room 309  
**Presenter:** Perla Galindo, Planned Parenthood

Planned Parenthood 101- Introduction of Planned Parenthood as a health service provider to the El Paso community. Provides some history to our organization, as well as projects and upcoming legislative initiatives Planned Parenthood would like to be a part of. Encourages students to sign up and learn more about our organization and possible collaboration avenues with student groups.

12. Family and Intimate Partner Violence among LGBTQIA+ identifying individuals

**Presentation and Discussion:** Smiley Room 310  
**Participant:** Adren Warling, dwarling@miners.utep.edu

The purpose of this study is to present undergraduate research from an anthropological perspective that examines the context of Family and Intimate Partner Violence among LGBTQIA+ identifying individuals across the spectrum. This work aims to identify some of the gaps of information regarding family and intimate partner violence and the LGBTQIA+ identity spectrum in the current literature. This study is based on the examination of personal narratives focusing on family violence and intimate partner violence. These narratives intersect with laws and social attitudes regarding family violence and LGBT+ identities, particularly the social process involved in "coming out". This work consists of an in depth literature analysis and synthesis of past and current research on LGBTQIA+ experiences with family violence to identify risk/causal factors for violence and how this identity impacts the way these individuals navigate available services and seek help from personal support networks or legal services.

13. Ya basta! Enough is Enough! Women’s Voices Against Violence

**Performance/Workshop:** Wiggins Room 315  
**Participants:** Wise Latina International, Yo Soy Teatro/Ya Basta Teatro members Sofia Valenzuela, Elena Vargas, Gina Núñez-M.  
**Email:** gggunnez@utep.edu and lizchavez@verizon.net

Ya basta! Enough is Enough! This women’s theater group presents one-minute monologues in the form of testimonios to address intimate partner violence, domestic violence, and structural violence on the US-Mexico border. After the monologues, we follow with a workshop to encourage members of the audience to write their own stories in the form of testimonio. We ask for volunteers who wish to share and respect those who do not. Referrals to local services will be available.

14. Let’s talk about what we otherwise risk ignoring: Sexual health among women who have sex with women

**Roundtable Discussion:** Elkins Room 314  
**Presenter:** Denise Delgado

Sexual health research suggests that women who have sex, or have had sex, with women (WSW) are at a higher risk for negative reproductive health outcomes, however, WSW are less likely to use preventive reproductive health care than heterosexual women. This research aims to examine the constructions of knowledge and risk perceptions of sexual health practices and sexual health behaviors among WSW in the US. Sexual health practices and sexual health behaviors measures were based on self-reported sexual health knowledge, sexual health perceptions, and sexual activity. A convenience nationwide sample of 260 WSW participants recruited through online LGBTQIA+ social groups completed a confidential and anonymous online survey. The data present a diverse group of participants with a mean age of 38.3 (SD=11.8). 10.3% of participants are racial minorities and 16% of
participants are Hispanic/Latinx. The mean household income is between $40,000 and $49,999 and the mean level of education is a 4-year degree. Bivariate/multivariate analyses of these data will begin February 2019.

15. Study Abroad Experiences on gender and health among Moroccan women.
Roundtable Discussion: Ray Room 309
Presenters: Belinda Diaz, Gloria A. Rios, Adriana Aleman
Contact: Belinda Diaz, bydiaz2@utep.edu

This roundtable discussion provides narratives of the experiences of three students who enrolled in Dr. Maissa Khatib’s Study Abroad classes in Morocco. Students will be presenting on issues that address inequality, health promoters, family violence and non-profit organizations. As a sociology master student, inequality and gender are relevant issues for Belinda Diaz; this opportunity to study in Morocco helped her to learn about the global aspect that women face in health, family violence and inequality. Gloria has been in the study abroad program and toured Morocco two times. Gloria notes “studying abroad in Morocco has been the most wonderful experience I’ve ever had in life and I can definitely say with high confidence that the immersion in another culture changes people’s perspective of the world as it has changed mine. The main objective of studying abroad was educational purpose, but how can I define education if I did not only learn from textbooks and my great professors but also from the great people in Morocco and the daily life experiences that transformed me into a more caring and understanding individual. I learned by comparing and contrasting cultures and customs from the United States, Mexico and Morocco that we are very similar and require life essentials and not only that as humans face many challenges specially women.” (Gloria Rios).
Adriana Aleman broadened her insights on social solidarity and women’s networks. As a Women’s and Gender Studies major, she has gone on to volunteer with a local non-profit organizations addressing immigrant and refugee related issues in the El Paso- Cd. Juarez border region.

Keywords: Global Feminisms, inequality, health promoters, family violence and non-profit organizations

16. Coming Out in Someone Else’s Shoes
Workshop/panel/presentation Roundtable: Smiley Room 310
Presenters: Rainbow Miner Initiative members and staff
Contact: Rainbow Miner Initiative, rmi@utep.edu

This presentation will talk about the coming out experience. Participants will go through a workshop scenario that talks puts them in the experience of a LGBTQ identified individual that is coming out to 5 different groups (Family, Friends, Community Group, Work, self). It will reflect both positive outcomes of acceptance as well as negative outcomes that represent the current number of LGBTQ+ individuals that commit suicide because they do not feel accepted. This presentation will also define terms, clarify doubts and aim to provide resources or best practices to be allies to individuals that are coming out.

17. Gazing through the Prism of Color: The Impact of Colorism as it Relates to Media
Workshop/presentation: Wiggins Room 315
Participants: Aubrey Oliver & Avery Oliver
Contact: Oliver, Aubrey S, asoliver@miners.utep.edu

We aim to have an interactive workshop that seeks to educate the audience on the impact of colorism in communities of color. In part, our presentation will consist of an informative PowerPoint that displays a general overview of colorism. We will also encourage audience participation by posing questions and inviting the audience to share any personal experiences. In an article published by Landor et al. (2013), colorism refers to “the allocation of privilege and disadvantage according to the lightness or darkness of one’s skin” (Burke, 2008, p.17) and generally privileges lighter skin over darker
skin individuals within and across racial and ethnic minority groups” (Allen, Telles, & Hunter, 2000; Hunter, 2008; Sahay & Piran, 2997). Our presentation discusses the role the media plays in promoting colorism and the impact that colorism has had, particularly for women of color. While our primary focus addresses the historical nature of colorism in America and its effects on Black women, we will also provide a brief we will also provide a brief discussion on the impact of colorism for Latino and Asian women.

**18. Changing Women: A Discussion on Tradition vs. Modernity in Relation to Native/Indigenous Women’s Roles and Sense of Self**

Roundtable Discussion: Elkins Room 314  
Presenters: Arise: Cheyenne Lozano, Sasha Pina, Sarita Lopez, Brenda Gutierrez, and Stephanie Paz.  
Contact: cheyanne.lozano@gmail.com

The Dine/Navajo belief of Changing Woman is an important character of the tribe’s creation story. In the Navajo tradition, her strength of character is so revered that she is integral to the Navajo Puberty Ceremony and is seen as a guide for young Navajo women. Specifically, the teachings of Changing Woman play a role in the design and direction of the responsibilities and duties all Navajo women were expected to perform. A Changing Woman figure exists in many diverse Native cultures regardless of the variation of women’s roles in society. However, women’s roles soon changed as the result of the larger Euro-centric American society that gained prominence while repressing the Native people. Direct and indirect actions of imperialism throughout time have put Native women specifically in a limbo between traditional and modern beliefs. How then have the roles of Native American women changed in the 21st century now that traditional teachings struggle to apply to modern society? The answer is different for every woman. This roundtable discussion will consist of presenters who live up and embody Changing Women. Sasha Pina, Sarita Lopez, Brenda Gutierrez, and Stephanie Paz will speak on their experiences as Native Women and their struggles to make a positive effect on their communities in a society that, at times, continues to repress and even threaten their efforts.

**19. The Women of Smeltertown**

Book presentation: Ray Room 309  
Presenter: Mimi R. Gladstein  
Contact: mgladstein@utep.edu

Marcia Hatfield Daudistel and UTEP Professor, Mimi R. Gladstein discuss a place called Smeltertown, as the largest industrial city on the banks of the Rio Grande. The smokestacks of the American Smelting and Refining Company, which polluted the air for three miles in every direction, grew so tall over the decades that they became a landmark just inside the El Paso side of the US-Mexico border. In a community of small adobe houses, many with dirt floors and without indoor plumbing, both the men employed at the smelter and the women who raised families and made homes there form the history of Smeltertown.

**20. Women, Personhoods, Leadership, and Borders**

Panel: Smiley Room 310

**A. Maestras transfronterizas,**

Presenter: Maria de la Piedra  
Contact: mdelapiedra@utep.edu

Maestras transfronterizas presentations draws on sociocultural theories of education to learn from students and their maestras in two dual language programs. I present data collected during two ethnographic studies in two elementary schools in El Paso, Texas (2009-12 and 2016-2018). I highlight the teachers’ roles as
neplantleras (Anzaldúa, 1999) when using their bilingualism, biliteracy, and biculturalism in teaching, as well as the significance of their actions for their emergent bilingual students’ schooling experience. Finally, the audience will engage in critical conversations about their roles as teachers of Latinx students in the US-Mexico border.

**B. Women tweeting and leading ENGOs: A Generative Criticism approach**

**Presenter:** Sergio Reyes Ruiz, sreyesruiz@miners.utep.edu

This study examines messages from the Twitter accounts of Dr. Leonora Esquivel (México), Dr. Catia Faria (Spain), and Dr. Núria Querol (USA) three women with salient positions in NGOs that promote environmental activism and non-human animal rights – over a period of 16 days, addressing gaps in the literature, proposing two affirmations to contribute to the academic discussion, and suggesting some methodological guidelines. This project addresses the question “What are the main discourses of three women leading ENGOs in their Twitter accounts?,“which is in line with questions posted by the scholarly community for future research, using the Generative Criticism approach as developed by Dr. Foss as methodology. The narratives and discourses these women deploy is relevant since Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations (ENGOs) use web pages and social media to address both actual and potential members and allies (and even adversaries), to share key information to the public, to collaborate with and support other causes, and to call for collective action, whether activism or cyberactivism. Non-profit organizations are considered early adopters of new Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs), using those tools for both internal coordination and public relations and advocacy, especially when those ICTs are taken as alternative paths to work outside hegemonic power structures (gender-oppressing structures included) or government surveilled platforms. Twitter has showed to be a platform that fosters pluralistic debates and contributes to push environmental related agendas, allowing women to share empowering discourses and defend their challenging points of view.

**C. Fearless Women/Fearless Leaders, Building the City of El Paso’s Workforce**

**Presenter:** Claudia Lujan, City of El Paso

**Contact:** LujanCA@elpasotexas.gov

Mrs. Claudia Lujan is working on a women’s leadership initiative to provide leadership training and talks in the City of El Paso. Through collaboration with UTEP, we aim to share resources and best practices to improve the leadership skills and opportunities for women in the city.

**D. A person’s a person”: The Catholic Church, Personhood, & Abortion**

**Presenter:** Emily Guerra

**Contact:** guerraeemily894@gmail.com

In 1968, Pope Paul VI published the encyclical Humanae Vitae, which clarified that as ordered by God the purpose of (heterosexual) marriage is creating children. For many Catholics, personhood is ascribed on a fetus at conception and doing anything that prevents that fetus from living is akin to murder. Current Catholic personhood gives full agency to the fetus while denying the humanity of the woman carrying; the Church can be seen as anti-woman in that it reinforces outdated gender notions that all women must be mothers and confines women to the domestic sphere, limiting their political and social activism. The main question that this paper seeks to answer is: how does the Catholic Church’s definition and understanding of “personhood” influence its stance on birth control and abortion, and how does this contribute to the position of women within the Church? This paper draws upon the growing body of
literature on the anthropology of Catholicism and uses examples from pro-life Catholic-based organizations to provide potential answers. This paper will trace how Humanae Vitae cemented the Church’s position on birth control and abortion (and to an extent women), which created a particular type of Catholic morality. The connections between personhood and anti-abortion beliefs have manifested in pro-life Catholic blogs and billboards, which are physical acts that refer to a particular language and morality. The paper will conclude by offering up further research on how the Catholic Church, personhood, and abortion are interlinked.

21. Feminist Research on Gender, Equity, Education, and Advocacy

Panel presentation: Wiggins Room 315
Presenters: Diana Becerra, Karla Corral, Annel Mena, Sofia Valenzuela
Contact: svalenzuela9@miners.utep.edu

This panel comes together to discuss issues of gender, equity, education, and advocacy. The panel will begin by talking about women continuing to face sexual discrimination in the workplace regardless of Title IX that was passed in 1972. Then, the second section of the panel aims at providing information about the prevalence of domestic violence/intimate partner violence, how to identify if you are a victim living under an abusive environment, and providing information about the many resources available in the community. The third section of the panel will discuss why it is important that people do court observations to send a nonverbal message that the court of law is being watched. Finally, the last section of the panel will educate over the topic and aspects of sexual health in order to advocate for educated sexually healthy relationships. At the end of the presentation, the audience will be able to identify aspects of healthy and unhealthy relationships, as well as resources to combat and protect themselves against gender abuse and discrimination.

22. Women in business and in the workforce

Panel Presentation/Workshop: Elkins Room 314
A. The Simple Truth About the Gender Wage Gap: Addressing Equality for Women in the Workplace

Presenter: Meghan Martinez

Women in Business Association strives to advocate for equality for women in the workplace through awareness, activism, education and empowerment. WBA’s vision is to develop confident leaders who are equipped and passionate about advocating for women in the workplace. We hope to lead these members to believe they are capable of leading any type of organization or business domestically or internationally. We work to contribute to a society where women leaders will be viewed equally and are necessary assets to their profession. We are also a chapter of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) promoting equity and education for women and girls. The Simple Truth About the Gender Wage Gap addresses the meaning of the Gender Wage Gap relevant to our local area we go on to show women how they are being affected. Salary negotiation is then introduced and we try to achieve these women to gain confidence in the negotiation style through facilitated discussion and role-play and learn. Our objectives include: How to identify and articulate your personal value. How to develop an arsenal of persuasive responses and other strategies to use when negotiating. How to conduct objective market research to benchmark a target salary and benefits.
B. The Rights of the Female Entrepreneur

Presenter: Denisse Olivas, Center for Hispanic Entrepreneurship
Contact: dolivas@utep.edu

This presentation addresses research on female entrepreneurship and the obstacles and successes involved in starting or growing a business. Ms. Olivas is a lecturer of Marketing and Director of the Center for Hispanic Entrepreneurship at UTEP.

23. Deeds not Words” Sex Positivity in Sexual Health Education

Presentation/Workshop: Ray Room 309
Presenters: Ana Hernandez
Contact: Ana Hernandez, ana@westfund.org

Deeds Not Words will aim to bring awareness to the importance of sex positivity as it relates to sexual health education, access to contraceptives and healthy relationships through a presentation and a workshop. We will be presenting on sex positivity and how cultural attitudes may promote ignorance, and false narratives around sex, and gender. This will be followed by a discussion on how sexual health has been affected by stereotypes, misinformation, and lack of sexual health education. The presentation and the workshop will serve to educate participants about the effects of sex positivity in our lives, and how bringing awareness to the broader umbrella of reproductive justice can have widespread effects.

24. The Whitewashing of Diversity and Immigration

Presentation: Smiley Room 310
Participant: Kaelin Walker
Contact: klwalker@miners.utep.edu

A. The Whitewashing of Diversity is a six minute long presentation in the form of a pecha kucha—a presentation format of 20 visual slides, each lasting the duration of 20 seconds. Authored by women’s and gender studies major Kaelin Walker, who habitually gets cast in Asian roles in stage productions. The presentation addresses the ways that race is portrayed on the American stage, how non-white identities are perceived by American society and how the typecasting of ethnic bodies in theatre can perpetuate racial stereotypes and what an individual can do to address the issue. Especially relevant in a city and university where people of color are the majority, and in a country where racial discrimination is an all-too-hot topic, Walker relates her personal experience as a performer at UTEP and in El Paso, her identity as an Asian woman and an American citizen, and where she fits in the performing arts.

B. Immigrants... is a five minute dance piece directed by women’s and gender studies major and immigrant Kaelin Walker, choreographed by herself and three other students, and featuring a cast of dancers of various ages, sizes, race, and nationalities. Choreography by Kaelin Walker, Melanie Elliot, Damian Padilla, and Jennifer Morales. Dancers: Margo Amezcua, Jessica Cardoso, Cierra Chenault, Alejandra Delfin, Sarah Fuentes, Daniel Alejandro Molina Garcia, Jennifer Morales, Yazmin Norris, Bailee Rodriguez, Lizbeth Sanchez-Mendez, Veronica Santibanez, Marayah Vigo, Kaelin Walker

25. Women, Water, and the Environment at the International Boundary and Water Commission

Roundtable Discussion/Question & Answer Session: Wiggins 315
Presenters: Jayne Harkins, Irasema Coronado, and Ivonne Santiago
Contact: Irasema Coronado, icoronado

The International Boundary and Water Commission is the premier institution on the US-Mexico border that deals with water and
sanitation issues. Jayne Harkins, is the first woman appointed to serve as commissioner of this august institution. During this panel, Drs. Ivonne Santiago and Irasema Coronado will interview Commissioner Harkins. She will share with us her professional trajectory as an engineer, civil service and diplomat.

26. Conversion Therapy: History and Harms

Presentation/Dialog: Elkins Room 314
Panel Presenter: Dr. Ann Horak, Rainbow Miner Initiative and Student Engagement and Leadership Center
Contact: abhorak@utep.edu

This panel is presented in conjunction with the Queer Series, a program of the Rainbow Miner Initiative and the Student Engagement and Leadership Center. We will discuss the history and philosophy behind conversion therapy as well as the stories of persons harmed by this therapy. The medical community’s condemnation of this style of therapy will be covered. This panel, requested by RMI as part of their Quench series, will also discuss the importance of communication in the coming out process and resources for support for the Queer community.

27. Intersectionality, ADA, and (Dis)ability Etiquette

Presentation/Workshop: Ray Room 309

Presenters: Corene M. Seymour and Nena Rios, UTEP Center for Accommodation and Support Services

Presentation will discuss DA and disability etiquette with intersectionality of gender, gender identity and disability. We can do some basic demonstrations including basic ASL and information on cross section of disability and gender being more likely to be victim of sexual assault and violence. We will address basic language when working with disability populations through person first language as well as best practices for working with mobility disabilities, hearing/deaf community and vision loss/blind community.

28. CARE’S Healthy Relationships, UTEP CARE

Presentation: Smiley Room 310

Presenter: Justin Tompkins
Contact: jjtompkins@utep.edu

CARE’S Healthy Relationship presentation allows for individuals to recognize the warning signs of an unhealthy or abusive relationship as well as provide the necessary steps to effectively intervene and assist those who have been victim or are currently experiencing Dating/Domestic Violence.

NOTES/People to Follow Up with: