2022 Modern Languages and Literatures Bellini Colloqium

Thursday, October 20th 3:30 to 5:00 Washington Hall 315

The Global South in biodiversity collections: A Latin American perspective on the Biodiversity Heritage Library

This presentation constitutes a reflection around the (de)colonial practices of online libraries and archives affiliated to the Global North but that incorporate epistemologies pertaining to the Global South. By focusing on the collections of the Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL) and the case of Latin America, this talk highlights colonial dynamics in networks of bio-diverse knowledge production and explores the importance of multilingualism and multicultural representation in terms of access, audiences, curation, and epistemic production. By discussing BHL's possibilities for decolonization vis-á-vis Latin America, this presentation argues for a non-Anglocentric, non-Global-North-centric approach to archival practices that aims for the diversification of bio-diverse narratives, breaks with the colonial roots of (digital) archives, and promotes a cycle of bio-diverse knowledge production in and from the Global South.



Dr. Lidia Ponce De La Vega Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Environmental Humanities

Apr 2020 - Jun 2020 💿 Worldwide		
BHL biodiversitylibrary.org	Notiversidad.gob.mx	
Country	Traffic Share	Competitive traffic share
(•) Mexico	44.50%	97.9%
👙 United States	9.88%	92.0%
Germany	3.93%	98.6%
📀 Brazil	2.92%	99.0%
() France	2.59%	97.0%
🗕 Colombia	2.57%	28.0% 72.0%
Australia	2.57%	98.3%
🕀 United Kingdom	2.44%	95.8%
() Peru	2.31%	31.2% 68.8%
Spain	1.86%	72.2% 27.8%