



People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
Université Abou Bekr Belkaid- Tlemcen
Faculty of Languages and Literatures
Department of Spanish

National Conference

February 14-15, 2024

**Latin American studies in Algeria:
State of the art and perspectives**

Conference Chair

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**LATIN
AMERICA**

Argument

Latin America is the linguistic, geographical and political space that includes countries of America whose main language derives from Latin. There is growing interest in this area, not only in "the Global South" studies but also in country-specific studies.

Scientific interest in this area, which is becoming increasingly important in the international arena, is now regarded as an intellectual necessity. Understanding our present requires a reflection on one's past and its civilizations, on the discovery of the New World by Europeans and the colonization that followed, which had many political, socioeconomic and cultural repercussions.

In Algeria, relations with Latin American countries have been characterized by cooperation and a liberalized struggle against imperialism and colonialism long before the country's independence. Eminent Latin American authors learned about the Algerian people's struggle for independence as were the Nobel laureates: Gabriel García Márquez or Mario Vargas Yossa. Before independence, the voice of the Algerian struggle in Latin America, was heard and supported by many Latin American countries. Since independence, relations have been strengthened and intensified through bilateral political dialogue and multilateral international forums (non-aligned countries, League of Arab States, United Nations, etc.).

Likewise, economic relations between Algeria and Latin American countries are being consolidated. Two of Algeria's top ten trading partners in 2021 were Brazil and Argentina. Added to this is the partnership and the investments of SONATRACH, the Algerian hydrocarbon company, increasingly prominent in several countries of the new continent.

Last but not least, American studies are not limited solely to historical studies, but also to the literary outputs that originated in this region, which inspired many Algerian writers, whether through major literary currents such as fantastic realism or magical realism, as well as through the inspiring realities of Latin America and areas of narrative development in the Algerian novel. These novels include in French Rachid Boudjedra's *"Les mille et une année de nostalgie"* (The Thousand and a Year Nostalgia), and Lamine Benallou's *Les vies 'multiples' d'Adam* (The 'Multiple' Lives of Adam); and in Arabic, Waciny's Laredj novel "حارسة الظلال" (The Guardian of Shadows), Kamal Karour's *حضرة الجنرال*, and Dirau Datsida's "أرهقتني المكسيك يا ماروشكا" (Mexico has exhausted me Marouchka).

In the light of this global panorama, the objective of this conference is to shed light on the studies and scientific research conducted in Algeria on the Latino-American world in various disciplines and in accordance with different approaches. This scientific event will, hence, be an opportunity to bring together researchers on the different proposed research areas to discuss this space, its literature and dynamics. The ultimate aim of this conference is also to make scientific connections with Latin America to better understand its diversity and intellectual production, as well as to study its past and present relationships with Algeria.

In an attempt to address the problem, this conference aims to assess the efforts that must be undertaken to promote and develop Latin American studies in the Algerian universities and its research centers.

Potential topics may include but are not limited to:

1. The Indies: between discovery, colonialism and resistance.
2. Socio-political dynamics in colonial America (16th and 18th centuries).
3. Independence movements in Latin America (19th century).
4. Latin America and the World's Liberation Movements (twentieth century).
5. The history of relations between Algeria and the Latin American world.
6. Relations between Algeria and the Latin American world today.
7. Economic relations between Algeria and the Latin American world.
8. Study of Latin American authors and works in Algeria.
9. The impacts of Latin America on Algerian literary production.
10. Teaching Latin American studies in Algerian universities.

Scientific committee

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Organizing committee

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Important information/timeline

- **Conference date:** February 14-15, 2024

- **Venue and location:** Faculty of Letters and Languages. University of Tlemcen- Algeria.

- **Proposal submission deadline:** 300 word summary (specifying the case study, the research question(s), the theoretical framework and the methodology used): January 20, 2024).

- Evaluation of proposals by the Scientific Committee: 21-30 January 2024.

-**Notification of acceptance:** January 31, 2024.

-Proposals may be submitted in Spanish, Arabic, French or English.

Proposals, as well as any requests for additional information, should be sent to alarg2023@gmail.com

-You can participate in the online conference through Google Meet and Zoom