

EAAS Postgraduate Grant Report (2024)

Pedro Mora-Ramírez

University of Seville, COIDESO, University of Huelva (Spain)

Visiting researcher at the University of Limerick (Ireland)

pedmorrml@alum.us.es

My PhD thesis analyzes different forms of resistance in contemporary post-9/11 novels and audiovisual texts. My aim is to examine how these works articulate resistance through vulnerability, Masculinities Studies, Space Theory and utopian/dystopian backgrounds. During my stay at the Ralahine Centre for Utopian Studies and the University of Limerick (UL), which was funded by the European Association for American Studies (EAAS) from October 1st to November 1st 2024, I have been able to work closely with foundational texts in Space Studies, such as Michel de Certeau's *The Practice of Everyday Life* (1980), and Utopian Theory using Tom Moylan's *Becoming Utopian: The Culture and Politics of Radical Transformation* (2021). I will use these theories for the theoretical framework of my PhD thesis. Thanks to the support of EAAS and the University of Limerick, I have been able to present some results of my work on forms of resistance at the 47th AEDEAN conference held at Pablo de Olavide University (Seville, Spain).

With funding from the EAAS postgraduate grant and other funds granted after my stay by my research group "Teoría y Estudios Culturales" (HUM 409), the University of Limerick and the representative members of the Ralahine Centre for Utopian Studies allowed me to extend my stay for the academic year. This enabled me to devise an outline of the project and start writing a first draft. I expect to publish some

results of this research next year, acknowledging the support of the EAAS postgraduate grant 2024.

The most significant aspect of my stay at the University of Limerick and the Ralahine Centre for Utopian Studies so far has been the opportunity to conduct lectures in the spring semester. I would like to acknowledge the support of Dr. Mariano Paz and Professor Michael Kelly for introducing me to members in the School of English, Irish & Communication. In particular, I would like to thank Dr. Clair Sheehan and Dr. Laura Ryan, with whom I had the opportunity to join in meetings with the English Department. They have helped me with revisions of a work intended for publication, in which I will acknowledge the EAAS postgraduate grant. They have also encouraged me to deliver some guest lectures in the spring semester. Most of my day-to-day work has consisted of browsing references at the library. The University of Limerick hosts considerable references needed for my project, which were unavailable to me in my home institution, the University of Seville.

Additionally, I was invited to attend meetings with members of the School of English. The invaluable help and guidance of Dr. Clair Sheehan and Dr. Laura Ryan allowed me to discuss my project with them. Thanks to the EAAS postgraduate grant, I interviewed Dr. Tony Vinci (Ohio University) as part of the III 'In Conversation' series organized by the Spanish Association for American Studies Young Scholars (SAAS YS).

This research stay has enabled me to work on my theoretical framework and start drafting my PhD thesis in a coherent manner. What I value most is the faculty members, the extensive bibliographical resources available at the library, and the openness of the library members. The University of Limerick and the Ralahine Centre for Utopian Studies are permitting me to progress in my PhD thesis, and this could not

have been possible without EAAS and the EAAS postgraduate grant 2024. I am deeply thankful to EAAS, UL and the Ralahine Centre for Utopian Studies for this opportunity and for helping me find ways to improve and extend my work.