



**Idaho State
University**

CFP ARCONEXIONES 2026

**The conference of the Master's of Spanish students in the Department of
Anthropology and Languages at ISU**

Weaving resilience: literature and culture in times of crisis

**"Crisis takes place when the old has not finished dying and the new is not
yet born."**

- Bertolt Brecht.

Virtual

Idaho State University

Saturday, February 7, 2026.

9am-4pm Mountain Time

Keynote Speakers:

Dr. Heidi Backes

Missouri State University

Dr. Jason Kemp

**University of Wisconsin-Madison,
WIDA**



Literature and culture, in their various manifestations, have historically played a fundamental role in the processes of resistance, transformation and social reconstruction in the face of crisis situations. From the darkest periods of history to contemporary crises, literary narratives and cultural practices have been powerful vehicles of resilience, resistance and the creation of new ways of life. In moments of identity crisis, whether individual or collective, such as the tensions surrounding the definition of nation and belonging in Latin America after the dictatorships of the 20th century or the economic crisis in Argentina in 2001 or that of Spain in 2008, new forms of writing and cultural production emerged that explored precarity, disillusion, and the search for alternative communities. Contemporary migration crises have also given rise to transnational narratives that question borders, identity, and memory, while the environmental and housing crises have spurred artistic forms that denounce inequality and promote more sustainable ways of life. In all these contests, literature and culture act not only as reflections of reality, but also as tools to imagine other possible futures.

In this vein, for the third edition of the Arconexiones conference, we invite graduate and advanced undergraduate students from ISU, as well as other universities, to present works in the fields of cinema, literature, cultural studies, theater, pedagogy, critical theory, social studies, visual art, music, performance, etc., to reflect on the concepts of crisis and resilience in the context of peninsular Spanish and Latin American cultural production. The objective of this conference is to delve into the ways in which literary narratives, artistic productions, and various cultural expressions contribute to the construction of new forms of hope, resistance and solidarity in times of adversity.

Suggested thematic areas include, but are not limited to:

- **Narrative resilience in contemporary literature:** Studies of literary works that address the experience of crisis and recovery.
- **Popular culture as refuge and resistance:** Analysis of cultural products such as cinema, music, visual arts or theater as spaces of resilience.



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- **Literature and crisis in colonial and postcolonial contexts:** Reflections on how literary narratives address historical crises and their vestiges in today's societies.
- **The voice of minorities and cultural resistance:** The representation of the struggles of marginalized groups in times of crisis.
- **The role of traditions and collective memory in times of crisis:** Exploring how traditional cultural practices contribute to community resilience.
- **Digital technologies, literature and resilience:** The impact of digital media on literary and cultural production during periods of crisis.
- **The environmental crisis and cultural and literary responses:** Analysis of the relationship between environmental crises and their representations in literature and the arts.
- **Education and literature as tools of resilience in times of crisis:** Studies on the role of teaching literature and the arts as acts of resistance.
- **Challenges faced in the field of second language acquisition.** Tools and strategies for teachers and students of language facing crises in the contemporary climate.

Those interested can send a summary of their original research work (or proposal) of 200-250 words, accompanied by a title, through the [following form](#). Presentations in English or Spanish of a duration of 15 minutes (approximately 8 double-spaced pages) will be accepted with additional time for questions and comments. The deadline for submitting proposals will be **the 8th of December, 2025**.

For more information, please contact us at marinlaufenberg@isu.edu or visit the conference website: [Arconexiones: Master's Student conference of the Department of Anthropology and Languages at ISU](#).

Submit your proposals using this link by **Monday, December 8, 2025**:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd1IDahCcRuBZHhR0rDeiCyx0h4Vmxgxb-lueH_QHkpZRmcpw/viewform?usp=header