

## Unit 2: Writing in the Social Sciences

### Unit Outcomes:

1. Recognize, interpret, and compose work that reflects the style and genre of the Social Sciences
2. Refine abilities to present an evidence-based analysis and synthesize interdisciplinary theories
3. Engage with film as a multimedia primary source

### Unit 2 Assignments Overview:

Unit 2 will focus on the intersection between Social Sciences and Latinx studies. As a group, you will aim to define the term Latinx, consider how ideas of Latinx cultures and identities are shaped by the notion of borders, and use social theories to inform your understanding of these intersections. The unit project and feeder assignments will require you to engage with social theory and Latinx studies, analyze audiovisual text, synthesize what you've learned through writing, and share your perspective with the database's audience.

The Unit project will be centered around the film *Ya No Estoy Aqui (I Am No Longer Here)*. You will watch the film and then apply your knowledge of border theory and Latinx studies to consider how they can be applied to the narrative and themes of the film. The final product will be an essay that you write for an online film database that will be used as a resource for a public audience and for continuing ENGL 105 classes. The unit project and feeder assignments will require you to engage with border theory and Latinx studies, analyze audiovisual text, synthesize what you've learned through writing, and share your perspective with your webpage's audience.

### Rhetorical Chart

Role	Audience	Purpose	Genre	Rhetorical Situation
Content creator for Film database	A mix of general audience and scholars	To inform your audience about intersections between Latinx studies, sciences, and film through both curation of material and written work.	Essay	You are tasked with creating content to populate an online film database that will be used to inform general audiences, researchers, and other English 105 classes.

**Feeder 2.1:** Watch *Ya No Estoy Aquí (I Am No Longer Here)* and write a response that is 500 words minimum, around 2 pages in total. As you watch the film, take notes on the plot, characters, and events you think are significant. Include details in your notes: instead of broadly summarizing, focus on what stands out to you. As you are watching, consider the readings we've discussed and the representation of borders, migration, and Latinx identity in the film. Your response must address the following questions:

1. What is your subjective reaction to the film? What did you enjoy about the film? Do you have any critiques of the film?
2. Identify and describe a portrayal of a border in the film. Why do you think the film includes this portrayal and what does it communicate? A border, for example, can be a physical border or a language barrier. You can be creative with your interpretation of borders.
3. How does the film depict Latinx identity and/or experience? Consider this quote from *Finding Latinx*:

'...Latinx is transcending all imaginable borders. All the borders that separated us by race, age, gender, issue, nationality, sexual orientation and identity. All the ones that divided 'us' from 'them' ...'(Ramos 8).

How would you interpret this quote in light of *Ya No Estoy Aquí*?

4. Focus on the technological or methodological aspects of the film. How does film, as a medium, influence your experience as a viewer? How does visual narrative influence the narrative structure as a whole?

**Format:** Turn in your 500 word response on a word document that is written using 12pt. Times New Roman font. Double space your pages. In the top left corner of the first page write your name, the class section, your instructor's name, and the date (day, month, year). Cite your sources using [APA formatting](#) and include an APA header (if applicable—i.e. if you choose to cite a source in your response). Label your saved document using your last name, first name and feeder number. For example: Howard\_Izzy\_Feeder2.1.docx

**Due Tuesday October 4 at 11:59pm on Canvas (Upload a Word file)**

**Feeder 2.2:** Decide on the topic for your essay on *Ya No Estoy Aquí* and confirm your topic with me by **Tuesday October 11**. For your essay you will need to consider the film alongside ideas of borders and/or latinx studies. You can be creative with your definition of border: a border can be linguistic, geopolitical, socioeconomic, etc. Use the aspect of border and/or identity to either talk about a social science subject of your choice or use a social science subject to inform your reading of the film. The information you research and the way you decide to link the film with theories of border/latinx identity and social sciences will be up to you. The [Bibliography](#) .docx in the Unit 2 folder contains some texts that we've read that may be helpful in fortifying your argument. Your essay will be used on the film database website, so keep that in mind as you plan and write your outline. Your outline should contain:

1. A clear thesis statement stating the aspect of border theory and/or Latinx studies in the film that you will be focusing on in your analysis and its significance. For example:

'Ultimately, this study observes that within the past few decades, the imaginary concept of Latina/o identity is shifting to accurately reflect the authentic nature of Latina/o identity while acknowledging that remnants of stereotypes persist due to the demands of popular culture.' from Angela Arenivar. [Reimagining Latinidad in Mexican-American Biopics](#). 2019

Be specific by using descriptive verbs and by building off of each phrase or thought. A good model for this is to argue: 'because of x evidence based on the text you think y and z is why it matters.'

2. Two body paragraph outlines. These body paragraph outlines must each contain a topic sentence that supports sentences that expand upon your thesis statement and explain it further. Below the individual supporting sentences of your two body paragraphs, include three supporting points related to your topic sentence.
3. Your outline must include 2 concrete examples from the film (each of your body paragraphs can be about these direct quotes) and a bibliography of 3 secondary sources (for example, check out this you have consulted. One of these sources must relate to a theme, technique, or aspect of the film itself, and one of these sources must relate to the particular theory you will be discussing.

**Format:** Turn in your response on a document that is written using size 12 Times New Roman font. Double space your pages and include proper formatting (i.e. indentation). In the top left corner of the first page write your name, the class section, your instructor's name, and the date

(day, month, year). Your outline should have a separate page that includes a bibliography (using APA guidelines) of your sources but that is not included in the word count. Draft a title for your outline and avoid writing the assignment name as a title. Label your document using your last name, first name and feeder number. For example: Howard\_Izzy\_Feeder2.2.docx

**Due Friday October 14th at 11:59pm**

**Unit 2 Project:** Write an essay that is 2,500 words long on *Ya No Estoy Aquí* that approaches the film using a social sciences (geography, politics, sociology, etc) lens that explores Latinx identities and/or borders. Consider that these definitions can be interpreted metaphorically as well as literally: for example, you can focus on the 'border' between English speakers and non-English speakers, the relationship between gender and Latinx identity, etc.

Your essay should consist of a clear introduction, body and conclusion and include a bibliography of 5-10 secondary and primary sources. Your writing should be informative, analytical, and should demonstrate rhetorical and interpretive skill. The content of your essay should clearly link your topic relating to Latinx identity and/or borders with *Ya No Estoy Aquí* and provide evidence-based analysis that parses these connections. Your essay should also feature secondary research that informs your interpretation. Your sources should all be properly cited using in-text citations and footnotes in APA style.

**Format:** Turn in your response as a PDF document that is written using size 12 Times New Roman font. Double space your pages and include proper formatting (i.e. indentation). In the top left corner of the first page write your name, the class section, your instructor's name, and the date (day, month, year). Your outline should have a separate page that includes a bibliography (using APA guidelines) of your sources but that is not included in the word count. Draft a title for your outline and avoid writing the assignment name as a title. Label your document using your last name, first name and feeder number. For example:  
Howard\_Izzy\_Unit2Project.pdf

**Due Thursday Oct 27 at 11:59pm**