

FROM THE PHILIPPINES TO THE WORLD

A Global Catalogue of Philippine Studies Programs Abroad
Promoting Academic Excellence and Cultural Diplomacy





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Foreword

Enrique A. Manalo

Secretary for Foreign Affairs

With great pride, I present *From the Philippines to the World: A Global Catalogue of Philippine Studies Programs Abroad Promoting Academic Excellence and Cultural Diplomacy*. This work stands as a resounding testament to the enduring vibrancy of our cultural heritage and the spirit of collaboration that binds the Philippines with academic institutions and scholars across the globe.

We are grateful for the support of Senator Loren Legarda, a stalwart of cultural diplomacy, whose unwavering commitment to promoting Philippine culture and heritage has been instrumental in shaping the vision of this project. Her leadership continues to inspire and strengthen our efforts in advancing the global recognition of Filipino scholarship and cultural exchange.

This publication is more than a compendium of achievements; it is a reflection of our nation's steadfast commitment to advancing academic exchange, fostering cultural diplomacy, and promoting Philippine Studies on the world stage. Over the years, universities and institutions worldwide have embraced and championed the study of Philippine history, culture, and society, deepening mutual understanding while enhancing their academic landscapes and cultivating their connections with our country.

The flourishing of Philippine Studies owes much to the invaluable collaboration between the Department of Foreign Affairs, through its Office of Cultural Diplomacy, and the Office of Senator Loren Legarda. Through strategic initiatives, sustained funding, and steadfast support, workshops, symposia, and cultural activities have paved the way for the growth of academic partnerships and the amplification of our shared narratives. These efforts have enriched both our diplomatic engagements and the scholarly exploration of the Philippines' diverse cultures, traditions, and contemporary contributions.

This publication seeks to illuminate these collective achievements and the profound impact of Philippine Studies on shaping cultural diplomacy and global scholarship. It underscores the pivotal role of education as a bridge between nations - a tool for fostering understanding, building meaningful partnerships, and advancing the Philippines' cultural and diplomatic aspirations.

As we look to the future, may this work inspire continued collaboration and deepen our resolve to champion knowledge, scholarship, and cultural exchange. Together, let us build a world where education serves as the cornerstone of mutual respect, inclusivity, and harmony, guided always by the shared pursuit of a more interconnected and enlightened global community

Mabuhay po tayong lahat!



Message

Hon. Loren B. Legarda

Senator
Republic of the Philippines



OFFICE OF SENATOR
LOREN LEGARDA



It is with great honor that I present the publication "*From the Philippines to the World: A Global Catalogue of Philippine Studies Programs Abroad Promoting Academic Excellence and Cultural Diplomacy*." This significant work intricately weaves the rich tapestry of Philippine history, culture, and society. As a comprehensive catalog, it stands as the culmination of years of academic research and cultural initiatives, offering an invaluable contribution to the growing field of Philippine Studies.

Since establishing the first Philippine Studies Program in 2017 at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) at the University of London, I have envisioned a future where the Philippines is recognized as a progressive nation celebrated for its diverse cultural heritage. By fostering collaborations with leading universities across the globe, the program has flourished, connecting academic communities and strengthening the Philippines' international presence. It has become a vital platform for contributing to the global discourse on Philippine scholarship.

The recent success of the "*Diálogo: Philippine Studies Goes Global*" conference underscores the significance of these efforts. This landmark event brought together scholars from various parts of the world to exchange ideas, share their research, and broaden academic discussions across disciplines. I am deeply proud to see the continued expansion of Philippine Studies programs and conferences abroad, which has been made possible through the steadfast support of the Department of Foreign Affairs' Office of Cultural Diplomacy. As a Senator, I remain fully committed to championing initiatives like these, recognizing that our nation's strength lies in its cultural heritage and its ability to share this with the world.

It is my hope that this catalogue will serve as a vital resource for ongoing efforts to explore and study the Philippines. The catalogue also highlights key milestones achieved by various universities, contributors, and scholars, demonstrating the breadth and impact of Philippine Studies. This indispensable resource will undoubtedly prove invaluable to students, scholars, policymakers, and all who wish to deepen their understanding and appreciation of the Philippines.

I invite everyone to delve into this remarkable publication and to share it widely. By supporting Philippine Studies, we not only enrich our national identity but also foster a more informed and engaged citizenry. Together, let us ensure that the scholarship of our nation is celebrated globally and preserved for generations to come.



Message

Celia Anna M. Feria

Assistant Secretary
Office of Cultural Diplomacy
Department of Foreign Affairs

As we navigate an increasingly interconnected world, cultural diplomacy has proven to be an indispensable pillar in advancing mutual understanding and fostering international cooperation. Our Philippine Studies programs, established in various esteemed universities worldwide, serve as a vital conduit for this mission. Through these programs, we promote our diverse cultural heritage and build bridges that connect the Philippines to other nations, creating opportunities for meaningful dialogue and lasting partnerships.



Philippine Studies programs are much more than academic ventures; they are links that connect the Philippines to the world, embodying the essence of cultural diplomacy. Our nation's history, literature, traditions, and artistic achievements are brought to life through these initiatives, offering profound insights that deepen international appreciation of the Philippines. These programs empower scholars and students alike to explore the Filipino experience while fostering a greater understanding of our collective human story.

With deep gratitude, we acknowledge the invaluable support of Senator Loren Legarda, whose tireless advocacy and unwavering commitment have played a critical role in expanding the global reach of Philippine Studies programs. Her visionary leadership and dedication to the pursuit of these initiatives have not only ensured the preservation of our cultural heritage but have also reinforced the importance of cultural diplomacy as a cornerstone of the Philippines' global engagements. Senator Legarda's steadfast support has been instrumental in the establishment of these programs in universities abroad, enriching both academic discourse and cultural exchange.

Looking ahead, the Office of Cultural Diplomacy reaffirms its commitment to expanding these academic and cultural exchanges, ensuring that the Filipino voice continues to resonate across continents. With the unwavering support of partners like Senator Legarda and esteemed academic institutions worldwide, we remain dedicated to building stronger ties and collaborations through culture.

Together, let us continue to champion the role of cultural diplomacy in creating a more interconnected, harmonious, and culturally enriched world.

Maraming salamat at mabuhay ang kulturang Pilipino!

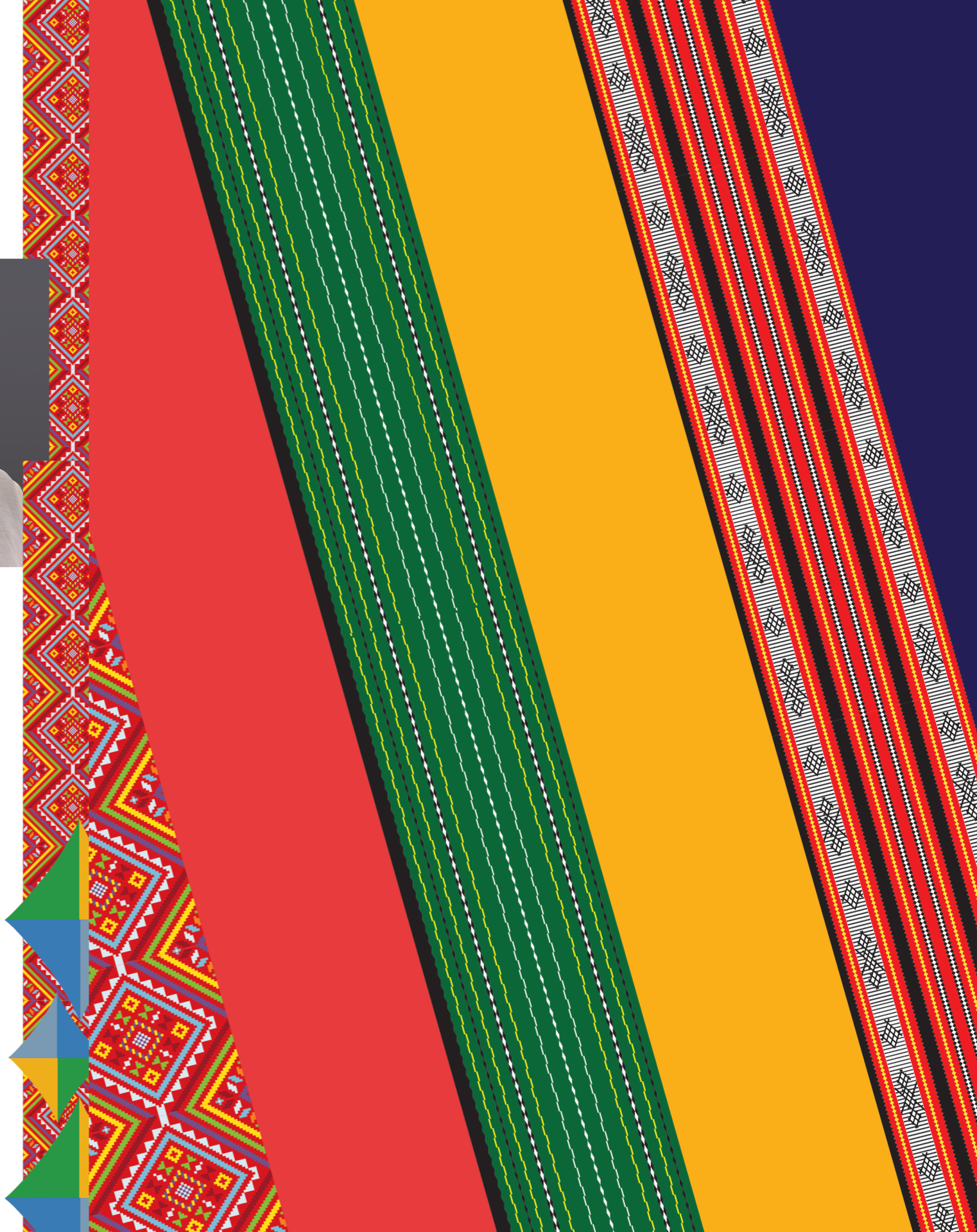


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PHILIPPINE STUDIES ACROSS BORDERS:

Insights from Its Origins, Developments, and Future Directions

by Mary Dorothy dL. Jose, PhD

Philippine Studies as a discipline has often been defined as the study of the Philippines focusing on its history, language, politics, culture, and society. While the study of the Philippines by foreigners dates back to the earliest records by Chinese chroniclers, the beginnings of Philippine Studies as an area studies has often been traced back to the field of study and research interest initiated and conducted by the U.S. even before 1898 and continued during World War II (Salazar, 1998).

The early decades of the twentieth century saw Philippine Studies being explored across various disciplines. In the field of history, Spanish documents about Philippine society and culture have been translated into English by Emma Blair and James Alexander Robertson and published from 1903 to 1907 in 55 volumes as *The Philippine Islands, 1493-1898* (Aquino, 2014), consisting of primary sources on Philippine history that remain an important resource even for contemporary historians. In the field of anthropology, Hutterer (1998) noted the remarkable interest in Philippine anthropology as attested by the increasing number of books and articles dealing with the subject during the early 1900s, regaining considerable momentum after World War II when the Philippine Studies Program was initiated at the University of Chicago in the U.S. One controversial personality that figured prominently in the U.S.' pursuit of knowledge about the Philippine Islands was Dean Worcester, Secretary of the Interior from 1901 to 1913, whose fascination with the peoples of the Philippine Islands, specifically what he called the "Non-Christian tribes," resulted in his accumulation of more than ten thousand photographs that were utilized for America's colonial project in the country (Rice, 2015).

Rizal as a Proponent of Philippine Studies

In analyzing the development of Philippine Studies, Salazar (1998) differentiated between Philippine Studies as the study of the Philippines from the external perspective (*mula sa labas*) on the one hand, and Philippine Studies as the study of the Philippines from within (*mula sa loob*) on the other hand (or *Pilipinolohiya*, which will be elaborated further in the succeeding section). Consequently, foreign interest in studying the Philippines has led to the dominance of materials written in foreign languages, particularly Spanish and English. More often than not, these materials abound with observations on Philippine society and culture using Western standards of civilization. It was against this backdrop of Western dominance in the Philippine Studies discourse that the idea of the Philippines as an area of study was born in the late nineteenth century, arising from the intellectual discourse between Rizal and his fellow Propagandists, and between Ferdinand Blumentritt, an Austrian ethnologist who was Rizal's friend and pen pal, and other European scholars researching the Philippines (Salazar, 1998).

Rizal's concept of Philippine Studies was first manifested and laid out in his letter to Blumentritt (Rizal, 1889a) when he told his Austrian friend of his plans of establishing an *Asociacion Internacional des Philippinistes* (International Association of Philippinists) to be headed by Blumentritt himself as President, with the Board of Directors to be composed of the following: Edm Plauchut (French) as Vice President; Dr. Rost (Anglo-German) and Dr. Regidor (Mestizo-Filipino) as Counselors; and Dr. Rizal (Malayan-Tagalog) as Secretary. The objective of the Association, according to Rizal, is to study the Philippines from the historic and scientific point of view, and to achieve this goal, the following strategies should be implemented: to hold an international conference on Philippine Studies; to open public contests on subjects aligned with the Association's objective; and to work for the establishment of a library and museum that would showcase Philippine objects.

The international conference was a crucial step in achieving the goal of the Association. Rizal had already formulated the tentative program of the proposed International Congress of Philippinists, to be held in Paris in August 1889, to be composed of four parts: (1) the Philippines before the arrival of the Spaniards in 1521; (2) from the arrival of the Spaniards in 1521 to the incorporation of the Philippines in the Spanish nation in 1808; (3) from the incorporation of the Philippines to the Spanish nation in 1808 to the Cavite Mutiny in 1872; and (4) linguistic part where classification of languages spoken in the Philippines would be discussed. Blumentritt accepted the leadership position offered to him, to which Rizal was extremely grateful (Rizal, 1889b). Rizal wanted to know Blumentritt's feedback on the tentative program that he formulated so that he could incorporate the necessary changes and suggested the names of Meyer, Jagor, and Czepelack to become additional members of the Board of Directors (Rizal, 1889c). However, the congress did not materialize as planned since Dr. Meyer will only be coming to Paris at the end of May while Dr. Rost will arrive in August, aside from the fact that the French government has limited the number of international conferences (Rizal, 1889c). As for the status of the Association, Rizal mentioned in his letter to Blumentritt that it was in a "latent state" and would remain so until his annotation of Morga's *Sucesos* had been completed (Rizal, 1889d). In the said letter, Rizal requested Blumentritt to write an impartial introduction to the book to show the Filipino people that he was writing for the sake of his country and not for his personal glory.

In this regard, Rizal can be rightfully considered the founder of Philippine Studies in its two directions---Philippine Studies as the study of the Philippines from the external point of view, and Philippine Studies in the form of *Pilipinolohiya* or the study of the Philippines from within (Salazar, 1998). Rizal's annotation of Morga's *Sucesos* can be interpreted as an attempt to provide the Filipino people with knowledge of their own culture and identity from a Filipino Perspective (Rodriguez-Tatel 2015). His recognition of the importance of Philippine Studies was also articulated in his letter to fellow propagandists in 1889 in which he stated that those who wish to become members of the *Asociacion Internationale des Philippinistes* should study the history, languages, usages, customs, politics of the Philippines, and that anyone who has published a book about the Philippines shall be an honorary member if he is admitted as a member (Rizal, 1889e). He also emphasized the need to study the questions that concern our country, for we are the only ones who can acquire a perfect knowledge of our country based on the knowledge of both languages and being informed of the secrets of the people (Rizal to fellow Propagandists, 1889, as cited in Jose, 1987, p. 54).

Thus, we can say that Philippine Studies has been born and reborn in different contexts. In Rizal's time, it was intended to help Filipinos discover and define for themselves who they are and what they have become; a study by the Filipinos and for the Filipinos (Rodriguez-Tatel, 2015). The failure of Rizal's Association paved the way for the dominance of Philippine Studies as the study of the Philippines from the external point of view in the context of American colonialism. After World War II, Philippine Studies has been built upon the idea of area studies, with the social sciences and humanities' primary concern being their application to the Philippine context (Salazar, 1998). The following decades also saw the rise of Philippine Studies in the US with the universities of Chicago and Hawai'i establishing Philippine Studies programs, while other American universities such as Cornell and Michigan attracted a rising number of Philippine students, with the University of Hawai'i establishing a program in 1975 that paved the way for the creation of the "Center for Philippine Studies" (Aquino, 2014). Indeed, Western hegemony in Philippine scholarship has become a springboard for some progressive Filipino intellectuals to launch the indigenization movement in the Philippine academic community, giving birth to indigenous perspectives in history (Zeus Salazar's *Pantayong Pananaw*); anthropology (Prospero Covar's *Pilipinolohiya*); and psychology (Virgilio Enriquez' *Sikolohiyang Pilipino*) (Navarro and Lagbao-Bolante, 2007). Of particular interest is *Pilipinolohiya*, which is a people-oriented Philippine Studies (Covar, 1991).

Origins and Trailblazers of Pilipinolohiya

One hundred years after Rizal's *Asociacion* failed to materialize, *Pilipinolohiya*¹ was founded at the University of the Philippines Diliman *Dalubhasaan ng Agham Panlipunan at Pilosopiya* (DAPP) or the College of Social Sciences and Philosophy (CSSP) as a school of thought and a doctorate program that tried to deviate from the focus on the Western model, paradigm, thoughts, and methodology of Philippine Studies (Rodriguez-Tatel, 2015). It was only in 1989, with Dr. Zeus A. Salazar as Dean of DAPP/CSSP and Dr. Prospero Covar as Program Director, that Philippine Studies was changed to *Programang Pilipinolohiya*, indicating a profound shift in Philippine Studies' focus toward a more indigenous perspective (Mendoza, 2002/2007). This move can be interpreted as a reaction to the criticism that the existing Philippine Studies as area studies views the Philippines as a subject of analysis from the external point of view which serves specific interests and issues of non-Filipinos (Salazar, 1998).

Covar (1991) defined *Pilipinolohiya* as the systematic study of the Filipino psyche, culture, and society, in which culture encompasses language, as well as various forms of art such as music, painting, sculpture, dance, architecture, drama, literature, films, philosophy, and religion. After being appointed as Coordinator of the Doctorate Program in *Pilipinolohiya* at the DAPP/CSSP in 1989, he immediately proposed to change the name of the program from Philippine Studies (Araling Pilipino) to *Pilipinolohiya*². Central to Covar's *Pilipinolohiya* is the concept of Filipino personhood in relation to *pakikipagkapuwa*. Filipino personhood is believed to be composed of *kaluluwa* that resides in the Filipino *katawan* (body), which is composed of *labas* (externality), *loob* (internality), and *lalim* (depth) based on the metaphor of the jar featuring the *kaluluwa* (spirit) and *budhi* (conscience) as elements found in the core of one's personhood (Covar 1995/2007).

While Covar provided the definition and scope of *Pilipinolohiya*, Salazar laid its historical basis, perspective, and direction. In the discipline of history, fundamental to the study of the Philippines from within is the development of *Pantayong Pananaw* which has often been translated as the "we perspective." It encompasses a new paradigm in Philippine history and historiography, navigating the direction of the latter towards New History, combining the ancient definition of *kasaysayan* as "*salaysay na may saysay*" (meaningful narrative) with the scientific method of history (Reyes, 2002). *Pantayong Pananaw* is the "internal interconnectedness and connections of characteristics, values, knowledge, wisdom, aims, traditions, behaviors, and experiences of a cultural whole which is enveloped by and expressed through the use of one language" (Navarro, Rodriguez, and Villan, 1997, p. 1). It has been described as "a communication-based theoretical innovation coming out of the field of Philippine historiography which refers to the normative speaking context within which scholars in the movement seek to help forge a national discourse on civilization" (Mendoza 2002/2007, p. 267). For Salazar (1998), it is only through a study of the Philippines from within that a national identity and consensus can be achieved, and *Pantayong Pananaw* provides a framework to study Philippine history from an internal viewpoint.

¹ For a more comprehensive discussion on the history of *Pilipinolohiya* in UP Diliman, see Mary Jane Rodriguez-Tatel's "Philippine Studies/Araling Pilipino/Pilipinolohiya sa wikang Filipino: Pagpopook at pagdadalumat sa loob ng kapantasang Pilipino" (Philippine Studies/Araling Pilipino/Pilipinolohiya in Filipino: Redefining context and concept within the Filipino scholarly tradition).

² *Pilipinolohiya* comes from the words *Pilipino* and *lohiya*, the former referring to a citizen of the Philippines or a member of the F/Philippino race, or the term for our national language before it was changed to *Filipino* based on the 1986/1987 Constitution; while the latter is the Filipinoized version of the Latin word *logos*, which means "systematic study" (Covar 1995/2007).

Another pioneer of *Pilipinolohiya*, Virgilio Enriquez advocated for the use of the Filipino language as a medium of instruction in UP as early as 1965 after realizing the importance of doing psychology grounded in Filipino society, culture, and language. He became instrumental in the birth of *Sikolohiyang Pilipino* (Filipino Psychology) as a form of psychology born out of the Filipino experience, psyche, and orientation, denying the allegation by Western scholars that Filipino psychology does not exist and that psychologists in the Philippines are inferior to their counterparts in the West (Rodriguez-Tatel, 2015). Central to *Sikolohiyang Pilipino* is the idea of *kapuwa* as the core of Filipino values, emphasizing its focus on the idea of unity of the self and the other person, *kapuwa* being the extension of oneself or shared self/identity which can be fully understood through different levels and modes of interacting with each other, from *paki-kitungo* (transaction/civility with) to *pakikiisa* (being one with) (Enriquez, 1978/2007).

Coming from the social sciences, Covar, Salazar, and Enriquez can rightfully be considered trailblazers of *Pilipinolohiya*, the study of the Philippines from within. From the humanities, National Artists Virgilio S. Almario and Bienvenido Lumbera from the UP *Departamento ng Filipino at Panitikan ng Pilipinas* also played a crucial part in achieving the same aspiration. Despite the seeming lack of institutional basis for the unity, one can see the convergence of their ideas and actions toward the use of the Filipino language as the primary instrument in formulating a P/Filipino discourse (Rodriguez-Tatel, 2015).

Origins and Trailblazers of Pilipinolohiya

While there has been an apparent downturn in the state of Philippine Studies in the U.S. in the first decades of the 21st century owing to the lack of Filipinologists (both junior and senior levels), Philippine Studies remains strong in the Philippines and countries such as Japan, South Korea, Australia, and China, with Filipinos preferring to enroll in these countries as U.S. funding dwindles (Abinales, 2015). With the Filipino diaspora developing its own momentum and initiatives undertaken by the Philippine government through the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Philippine Studies is expected to expand in other parts of the world as well.

Why study the Philippines? For Salazar (1991), it was clear that the study of the Philippines from within would lead to the formation of a national identity/consensus. Furthermore, "Philippine Studies is not local knowledge but knowledge of the local under the conditions of globality. It is this condition which makes it possible for the Philippines to be an object of investigation, both for Filipinos and for others" (Perterra, 1993, p. 54). While it is important for Filipinos to understand the Philippines by focusing on its culture and society as an area of investigation, it is equally important for others to gain this understanding for political, economic, and cultural purposes, and will help us establish people-to-people relations with other countries. This will eventually produce experts and specialists who possess in-depth knowledge and understanding of our people; history; cultures; languages; and political, economic, and social institutions, enabling them to be more equipped to respond to possible issues and problems that may arise in our relations with them (Lim, 1997).

In political terms, knowledge of Philippine Studies could help our neighbors understand how the Philippines has emerged as one of the most successful democracies in Southeast Asia, and how this democracy is being challenged could spark interest to study it further. In this regard, the Philippines could be a valuable case study since "it combines many Western political institutions with traditional Asian ways of both assisting and resisting them" (Perterra, 1993, p. 55). Knowledge of Philippine Studies could also lead to a better understanding of Asia, with the country being one of the founding members of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) in 1967 and the role of the Philippines in the ASEAN Integration.

In this globalized world that we live in, knowledge of other people's culture and society does not only promote stronger ties among countries but could help improve economic ties as well. The business communities in other parts of the world would benefit from a better understanding of the Philippines, especially on certain aspects of our economy such as the growing rate among its counterparts in the Southeast Asian region and the role of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) in sustaining the economy, with their cumulative remittances reaching \$34.61 billion from January to November 2024 (Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, 2025).

With more than ten million OFWs located in various parts of the world, the promotion of Philippine Studies can also play a significant role in promoting enhanced cultural understanding and respect for Filipinos that can lead to better treatment and integration of OFWs in their host countries and help alleviate discrimination and exploitation. Philippine Studies specialists can also opt to delve into the topic and use their research to lobby for policies that support the welfare of OFWs, while Philippine Studies programs abroad can help strengthen Filipino migrants' sense of nationalism and solidarity by providing a means for them to learn more about their own history and culture, as well as build support networks that can act as a safety net to Filipino migrants.

Indeed, promoting Philippine Studies abroad could enhance a greater understanding of the Philippines, which in effect could lead to better relations with other countries as well as better protection for Filipino migrants. One way of strengthening diplomatic, cultural, and people-to-people ties between the Philippines and other countries is by strengthening academic and scientific relations which could help contextualize our linkages with the rest of the world. It could also serve as an avenue to promote our country's fields of innovation and new technology. At present, Philippine Studies is no longer confined to the study of the country but also the growing Filipino communities in other parts of the world, developing their own distinct entities with particular cultural and educational needs, with ethnicity or cultural identity becoming a primary concern (Aquino, 2014).

The advantages of promoting Philippine Studies from within as well as from the external viewpoint clearly align with the goals of Philippine foreign policy: a) preservation and enhancement of national security; b) promotion and attainment of economic security; and c) protection of the welfare and interests of Filipinos overseas (Department of Foreign Affairs, 2013).

The DFA Spearheads the Establishment of Philippine Studies Abroad

The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), through the Office of Cultural Diplomacy (OCD) which has been created as an autonomous office under D.O. Vo. 2024-002 (Meñez, 2024), was tasked to forge academic cooperation agreements with other countries, starting in 2017 with the Gift Agreement between the DFA and the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), thanks to a generous donation from the office of former House Deputy Speaker and currently Senate President Pro Tempore Loren Legarda, known for championing the promotion of Philippine culture and the arts and a major supporter of this initiative. Since then, the DFA has already entered into similar agreements with other universities such as Humboldt University, Ruhr University Bochum, and University of Hamburg in Germany; Universidad Complutense Madrid (OCM) in Spain; ISEAS-Yusof Shak Institute in Singapore; and New York University (NYU) in the U.S. The donations given to these universities were utilized to fund research and publications; host events such as seminars, webinars, conferences, and film festivals; digitize Filipiniana materials; and provide scholarships, student awards, and grants for visiting Filipino scholars, among others.

From Seven to Twenty-four Recipient Universities

Building upon the program's initial success, eight more universities have been added to the existing list of recipient universities in 2022, starting with La Trobe University in Australia which signed a Deed of Gift in July 2022. Other recipient universities include Thammasat University in Thailand; Busan University of Foreign Studies in South Korea; University of Hawai'i at Manoa and University of Michigan in the U.S.; York University in Canada; Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico in Mexico; and University of Namur in Belgium. In identifying which universities would be given the grant, certain factors had to be considered, such as the university being a higher education institution that is legally and nationally recognized in the target country, has adequate infrastructure to promote a Philippine Studies program, and the presence of a potential Academic Country/Local Program Coordinator, to name a few.

To date, the list of recipient universities has been expanded and now includes nine more universities, such as the University of California, Berkeley and the University of California, Los Angeles in the U.S.; McGill University and University of Alberta in Canada; University of Applied Arts Vienna (Angewandte) in Austria; Nova University in Portugal; University of Zurich in Switzerland; Sciences Politiques in France; and University of Alicante in Spain. Currently, there are 24 universities accepting donations from the Philippine government for the establishment of Philippine Studies program abroad, and it is expected that more universities will be added to the list in the coming years until the Philippine Studies program is firmly established worldwide.

The grants given by the Philippine Government through the DFA to its partner universities abroad were used to support activities, projects, and programs aimed at the advancement of Philippine Studies abroad. These projects include conferences, seminars, exhibits, workshops, summer courses, modular lectures, digitization of Filipiniana collections, scholarships, film screenings, and other similar activities. Through this program, the DFA has proven its important role as a committed partner in developing Philippine Studies initiatives in Asia, Europe, and the U.S., as well as its willingness to help in finding opportunities for mutually beneficial people-to-people exchanges between the Philippines and other countries. Needless to say, this project helps enhance greater understanding of the Philippines and strengthen our diplomatic and cultural ties with other countries that it has started to gain the attention that it deserves both from Filipino scholars in the Philippines and those based abroad, as well as non-Filipino scholars interested in Philippine Studies.

Through the establishment of Philippine Studies programs abroad, the DFA recognizes the importance of Philippine Studies as the study of the Philippines from the external point of view, and Pilipinolohiya as the study of the Philippines from within. Perhaps the recently held international conference on Philippine Studies titled, "*Dialogo: Philippine Studies Goes Global*", at the Asian Center last November 2024 can attest to this recognition. Organized by the Office of Cultural Diplomacy of the DFA, in collaboration with the UP Asian Center, this international conference aimed at bringing together leading Filipinologists both from the Philippines as well as from other parts of the world to initiate a discourse on Philippine Studies Programs abroad as well as the academic and research programs on and in the Philippines, with lectures in both English and Filipino languages (Dialogo website 2024).

The Future of Philippine Studies

The establishment of the Philippine Studies Programs abroad being spearheaded by the DFA has the potential not only to expand diplomatic relations of the Philippines with other countries but also to foster new collaborations and promote the country's cultural diplomacy goals. The DFA's partnership with recipient universities (through the Philippine Embassies/Consulates-General) attests to the notion that "Cultural Diplomacy is a distinct and separate subject and activity conducted by government and society as a whole, and not only by foreign affairs establishments...(which) falls under the more general rubric of 'soft power'"³ (Meñez, 2024, p. 12). Through the Philippine Studies program, the Philippines can make its presence felt globally, a step towards realizing Rizal's dream of establishing a structured framework of knowledge about the Philippines to have the country become better known in the world, not for personal glory (as Rizal reiterated in his letter to Blumentritt in 1889) but to deepen our understanding of our sense of unity and identity.

³ Soft power is defined as the ability of a country to influence another country to achieve its objective, as opposed to hard power or the use of the military and arms to influence other countries (Nye, 1990).

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NOTES ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Mary Dorothy dL. Jose, PhD is an Associate Professor in the Department of Social Sciences and a former Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), University of the Philippines Manila. She was also a Research Fellow under the 2023 National University of Singapore Research Fellows (Southeast Asia) Programme. Her research interests include analyzing representations of Filipino women in colonial photography and investigating the rhetoric of Filipina suffragists in the early 20th century. Doti, as she likes to be called, earned her PhD in Philippine Studies through the Tri-college PhD Philippine Studies Program at the University of the Philippines Diliman. In 2021, she served as a Highly Technical Consultant for the Department of Foreign Affairs' (DFA) initiative to establish the Philippine Studies Program abroad. She remains an active advocate for Philippine Studies both in the Philippines and internationally, organizing events, presenting papers, and publishing on the topic.





GERMANY



ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

The Ruhr University Bochum (German: Ruhr-Universität Bochum, RUB) is a public research university situated in the southern hills of Bochum, Germany, at the heart of the Ruhr region. Established in 1962, it was the first new public university in Germany founded after World War II, with classes commencing in 1965.

As one of Germany's largest universities, RUB has a strong reputation for research and innovation and performed well in the Excellence Initiative since 2007, a nationwide competition among Germany's top universities. Although RUB advanced to the final stages of the competition, it narrowly missed being designated as an "elite university," a title currently held by nine institutions across Germany.

RUB was also among the first German universities to adopt the international bachelor's and master's degree system, replacing the traditional *Diplom* and *Magister* qualifications. These internationally recognized degrees are now offered across nearly all faculties, with some exceptions, such as law. Today, the university offers 184 diverse study programs covering a broad range of academic disciplines.



The program offers significant benefits to the Philippines, such as:

- o **Increased Awareness:** Raising appreciation for the Philippines through academic courses, conferences, and cultural events
- o **Enhanced Research Support:** Providing expanded research opportunities and resources for scholars from Ruhr University and Philippine institutions
- o **Centralized Hub Serving** as a focal point for Philippine-related projects, scholarship information, and scholar networking in Southern Germany.
- o **Expanded Resources:** Growing the collection of Philippine books, publications, and materials for German students and researchers.

These efforts aim to deepen cultural understanding, foster academic collaboration, and strengthen ties between the two countries.



15 October 2019 The Philippine Consulate General in Frankfurt and Ruhr University Bochum (RUB) signed an agreement in Bochum, Germany, to establish a Philippine Studies Program. The agreement, witnessed by Deputy Speaker Loren Legarda, a prominent advocate of Philippine culture and the project's principal sponsor, was signed by Consul General Evelyn D. Austria Garcia and RUB Rector Prof. Axel Scholmerich. It includes a donation to support academic and research activities on Philippine studies and the creation of a center to serve as a hub for Philippine-related projects.



Ruhr University Bochum, one of Germany's leading universities, is set to implement various initiatives under the agreement. These include conducting courses, seminars, lectures, conferences, and other events focused on the Philippines, as well as coordinating academic research and teaching. Additionally, the university will facilitate research exchanges for scholars between Germany and the Philippines and expand its library collection of Philippine books, journals, and publications. Full implementation of these programs, projects, and activities was anticipated by the end of 2021.

Consul General Austria Garcia praised Deputy Speaker Legarda's unwavering support and expressed gratitude to RUB officials for their strong interest in Philippine studies. She emphasized that the academic collaboration would foster a deeper understanding of the Philippines and strengthen cultural ties and people-to-people relations between the two nations.

Rector Prof. Scholmerich assured that the university would fully commit to executing the agreed-upon initiatives and expressed hope that the project would mark the beginning of a fruitful partnership.

The signing ceremony was attended by Prof. Dr. Kornelia Freitag, Vice Rector of RUB; Ms. Monika Sprung, Director of International Affairs; Prof. Roger Friedlein; Vice Consul Fatima Mejilla Mueller; and Ms. Sheree Mangunay-Infante from Deputy Speaker Legarda's office.



28 September 2020 Ruhr University Bochum (RUB) has requested a two-year extension of its agreement to allow sufficient time for the full implementation of its programs, projects, and activities. The university highlighted that the pandemic has brought academic mobility to a halt, significantly impacting the planned initiatives under the agreement.

RUB outlined the following aspects of the agreement affected by the pandemic:

1. Scholarships and Teaching: Travel restrictions in both Germany and the Philippines have delayed proposed research visits by RUB Professor Roger Friedlein to the Philippines. These visits were intended to select two Filipino candidates for doctoral studies and visiting professorships at RUB.

2. Research and Lecture Series: Plans to invite lecturers, researchers, and participants from the Philippines, Germany, and Spain have been postponed due to ongoing travel restrictions.

3. In-Person Activities: According to Prof. Friedlein, seminars, workshops, and exhibits related to the Philippine Studies Program have been hindered by the university's adherence to social distancing measures, which discourage activities requiring physical presence.

The extension would provide RUB with the necessary time to adapt and resume the implementation of these initiatives once conditions improve.

KEY PERSONALITIES



Dr. Axel Schölmerich
Former Rector, Ruhr University Bochum
(Signatory to the Philippine Studies
Donation Agreement in 2019)

Born in 1952 in Marburg an der Lahn, he is a German psychologist and Rector of the Ruhr University Bochum.

He studied Psychology and Educational Science in Heidelberg and Mainz, where he graduated 1980 after a year as a Fulbright-student at the University of Washington in Seattle. After working as a research assistant at the Technical University Darmstadt and the University of Osnabrück, where he received his doctoral degree (Dr. rer. nat.) in 1990, he was awarded a five-year Fogarty-Fellowship at the National Institutes of Child Health and Human Development in Bethesda, MD. In 1995 he received the *venia legendi* in psychology from the University of Mainz and became chair of developmental psychology at the Martin Luther - University Halle - ittenberg. The Ruhr-University Bochum offered him a chair in 1997, which he accepted. An offer of a chair at the University of Vienna was declined in 2005.

He was co-editor of the European Journal of Developmental Science, managing editor of the *Zeitschrift für Entwicklungspsychologie und Pädagogische Psychologie*, continental European editor of the *Journal of Reproductive and Infant Psychology* as well as member of the editorial board of the *International Journal of Behavioral Development*.

His scientific interests focused on cultural, social and biological contextual influences on human development during infancy, early and middle childhood with emphasis on socio- emotional, temperamental, and relationship aspects.

At the Ruhr-University Bochum, Axel Schölmerich served as dean of the Faculty of Psychology, liaison officer for the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft.

Martin Paul, born in Saarland in 1958, has been President of Maastricht University in the Netherlands since 2011. Since 2016, he has been a member of the expert committee of the German Excellence Strategy. From 1997 to 2008, he was Professor and Head of the Institute for Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology at the Free University of Berlin, University Hospital Benjamin Franklin, and from 2003 at the Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin. In 2008, he accepted the appointment to the Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences at Maastricht University. Before he was elected President, his role included dean of his faculty and vice-president of the university.



Professor Dr. Dr. h. c. Martin Paul
Current Rector,
Ruhr University Bochum

As a researcher, he has contributed significantly to a large number of scientific publications; more recently he has been focusing on university strategy and creating innovative structures for research and education. His experience in management and leadership positions is longstanding and profound, proven among other things by numerous functions and memberships in academic networks.

Martin Paul studied human medicine in Heidelberg from 1978 to 1985 and received his doctorate there. He is a medical specialist in clinical pharmacology and hypertension (high blood pressure).

He is married and has two adult children.



Prof. Dr. Kornelia Freitag
Vice Rector for Academic and
International Affairs Scientific Degrees

2001 Habilitation, Universität Potsdam,
Thesis. "Cultural Criticism in Contemporary Experimental Women's Writing in the U.S.A."

1985 Dr. phil., Universität Potsdam,
Thesis. "Die Lyrik Stephen Cranes: künstlerischer Ausdruck eines veränderten Verhältnisses des Dichters zu seiner Welt am Ende des 19. Jahrhunderts"

1981 Teaching Diploma for English and Russian
(Diplomlehrer für English und Russisch, Universität Potsdam)

Since 2002 Chair of American Studies, Ruhr-University Bochum

2011 and 2015 Visiting scholar, English Department,
University of Washington, Seattle

1981-2002, Assistant professor, Universität Potsdam

1992/93, Visiting scholar, Institute for Research on
Women and Gender, Stanford University

1997/98, Associate scholar, Institute for Research on
Women and Gender, Stanford University

KEY PERSONALITIES



Dr. Roger Friedlein
Professor, Ruhr University Bochum,
Faculty of Philologie, Focal Person for
the Philippine Studies Program

Born 1967 in Frankfurt / M., Studied Romance Philology (Spanish, French, Arabic Studies) at the University of Frankfurt / M., The Universitat de Barcelona (1990 and 1992) and at the Free University Berlin (MA in 1994). Shorter study visits to Brazil and Portugal, Spain, Romania and Syria. First specialization in medieval studies, especially the Catalan literature of the Middle Ages.

Shorter study visits to Brazil and Portugal, Spain, Romania and Syria. First specialization in medieval studies, especially the Catalan literature of the Middle Ages. Lecturer for Catalan at the Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg (1995-98). Doctorate with a scholarship from the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes to the literary dialogue form of the late medieval philosopher Ramon Llull (2001). From 1999 to 2009 employed as research associate at the Institute of Romance Philology and the Collaborative Research Center 'Cultures of the Performative' at Freie Universität Berlin. Habilitation for the staging of cosmography in the epic renaissance poetry of France, Spain and Portugal (2009).

Since August 2009 University Professor (W3) for Romance Philology, especially Spanish Literature and Cultural Studies, at the Ruhr-Universität Bochum. Journal of Catalan Studies (since 2006). Current research interests include the processes of knowledge formation in the epic of the Renaissance and the literary transformation from romanticism to modernism at the turn of the 20th century in Spain, Hispanoamerica and Brazil.



Dr. Dirk Brunke

He is currently working on his postdoc project Voyage - shipwreck - captivity. Compassion and autobiography in the era of expansion. This research project (October 2022-September 2025) focuses on the topic of compassion in a corpus of texts that comprises autobiographical narratives of the era of Spanish and Portuguese expansion to Southeast Asia and the Americas. In the first stage of the project, Dr. Dirk Brunke discussed the project's hypothesis and analytical perspectives both with colleagues from Germany (e.g. Prof. Dr. Anita Traninger, Freie Universität Berlin) and from Latin America (e.g. Prof. Dr. Myriam Merchán, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador).

The project analyses voyage, shipwreck and captivity reports, written in or about Southeast Asia and particularly, the Spanish Philippines. In historical perspective, these stories of affliction acknowledge the centrality of misery familiar from the religious context of the (com-) passio and the devotio moderna, i.e. the piety movement which, since the Middle Ages, has aspired to strengthen faith, amongst other things, by compassionately reliving the Passion of Christ. In contrast to this specifically religious function of compassion, however, the authors of the texts in question do not make use of their experiences of distress to strengthen their faith. In contrary, they employ the emotion of compassion - and, of course, other emotions like fear or astonishment - to describe affective reactions to the newly discovered cultures and spaces. The analysis of the cultural context of the functions of generating compassion will reveal that a literary dimension of compassion opens up in texts and reports which are not genuinely poetic. The fact that the experiences of affliction are put into an affective rhetorical discourse enables the suffering to be emotionally comprehended in the act of reading, and, indeed, that the reading becomes an aesthetic moment of experience for the compassionate or sympathetic reader. Thus, the experiences made overseas can be transmitted over time and distance.

Research conference "Einsatz der Affekte: Momente der Alteritätserfahrung im Schrifttum der europäischen Expansion 1460-1700" (Employing the affects: Moments of alterity in the literature of the time of European expansion 1460-1700).

The research conference took place from 30-March to 1-Apr 2022 at Ruhr-Universität Bochum. It has been funded by the Institute of Romance languages and literatures (RUB) and was organized by Dr. Dirk Brunke (RUB) and his colleague Prof. Dr. Hendrik Schlieper from the University of Paderborn. The 12 participants of the conference discussed various topics, authors and texts from different perspectives and countries (Spain, Portugal, France, Italy). The results will be published in spring 2024.

Christine Moll-Murata studied sinology and the politics of Southeast Asia (M.A.) at Heidelberg University, and she received her doctoral degree at Ruhr University Bochum (Dr. phil.). From 1995 to 2000 she was a teaching and research assistant at the Faculty of East Asian Studies and editor of the Bochum Yearbook for East Asian Studies. From 2000 to 2004 she coordinated the DFG (German Research Council) project "Staat, Handwerk und Gewerbe in Peking, 1700-1900" at the Seminar for Sinology and Korean Studies at Tübingen University. From 2003 to 2004 she was a postdoc researcher in the project "Geld- und Finanzpolitik in China, 17.-19. Jh." at Tübingen University. From 2005 to 2007 she worked as a postdoc researcher at Utrecht University in the research group for social and economic history. In 2008 she completed her habilitation thesis in Sinology at Tübingen University. From 2008 to 2009 she worked as coordinator and researcher in the project "Global Collaboratory on the History of Labor Relations, 1500-2000" at the International Institute of Social History in Amsterdam.



Prof. Dr. Christine Moll-Murata

In 2009, she held a position as an academic councillor at the Faculty of East Asian Studies at Ruhr University Bochum. Since September 2018, she has held the Chair of the Department for History of China at Ruhr University Bochum and as the Director of the Research Unit for Taiwanese Culture and Literature TRU.

Furthermore, she is speaker of the DFG Research Training Group 2833 "East Asian Futures", board member of the Alliance for Research on East Asia (AREA) Ruhr, advisory board member of Ming Qing Yan-jiu, and editorial board member of the Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orientas well as editor of Veröffentlichungen des Ostasien-Instituts der Ruhr-Universität Bochum (Publications of the East Asia Institute of the Ruhr University Bochum).

KEY PERSONALITIES



Dr. Sandra Issel-Dombert

Dr. Sandra Issel-Dombert has received a grant of DFG (German Research Foundation) for her project on migration linguistics in contact situations (Lisbon, Macau, Manila). This year, she has done extensive research and has presented her results at several conferences.

Dr. Issel-Dombert conducted different field research as part of the research project:

- One-month field research stay for data collection in Metropolitan Manila (March/ April 2022)
- Two-month field research stay for data collection in Madrid and cooperation in a migration linguistic project with the Universidad Alcalá de Henares (01.06.-15.08.2022)

She presented preliminary findings at the following conferences:

- XXXe CILPR 2022 - at the University of La Laguna
Title: Encuentros entre la lingüística colonial y la lingüística de la migración: las actitudes lingüísticas de lxs migrantes filipins en Cataluña
- ILPE V: Quinto Coloquio Internacional: Ideologías lingüísticas en la prensa escrita: el caso de las lenguas románicas at Universidad Nacional de La Plata and Universidad Nacional de tres de Febrero Buenos Aires (28.09.2022)
Title: Ideologías lingüísticas sobre lxs migrantes en los medios de comunicación españolas: el caso de las Filipinas, ex-colonia de España
- Invited lecture in the context of the "Romance Colloquium XXXVII: Romance Languages and Colonialism" at Leibniz University Hannover (19.11.2022)
Title: Romanische Sprachen und Kolonialismus in Asien: Linguistic Landscapes in Metro Manila

Her work Spain in Asia and Asia in Spain: A migration linguistic analysis of the sociolinguistic situation of female Filipino domestic workers in Spain has been handed in to the Faculty of Philology as a 'Habilitationsschrift' (habilitation thesis) in October 2023.



Katharina Pohl
M.A

Katharina Pohl completed her M.A. in Spanish and English Studies at Ruhr University Bochum in 2023. Since then, she has been working as a research assistant under Prof. Dr. R. Friedlein while pursuing her PhD in Spanish literature (cosmic voyages in the epic poetry of the Siglo de Oro). She is also an active member of the Philippine-Initiative and has conducted research on the Philippines for some time.

She is co-editing the anthology *Galería de viajeros y una viajera a las Islas Filipinas* with Prof. Dr. R. Friedlein and B. Friedel Ablanado, which will be published in Oviedo, Spain. In this anthology, different types of travellers and their reports are portrayed in 20 articles. An English translation, which will be published in Manila, and a German translation, which will be published in Berlin, is in progress.

In collaboration with Prof. Dr. R. Friedlein and Dr. D. Brunke, Katharina Pohl is also co-editing a second anthology, which translates Spanish colonial writings about the Philippines into German. This project places a special emphasis on the cultural entanglements and broad historical realities in the early modern Philippines and will comprise 15 texts.

Both anthologies are set for release ahead of the 2025 Frankfurt Book Fair, where the Philippines will be the guest of honour. One particularly innovative project that she is currently coordinating is the Student Lab, which is aimed at high-school students. The program invites students to campus to participate in an interdisciplinary seminar, where they explore Philippine topics from multiple academic perspectives.

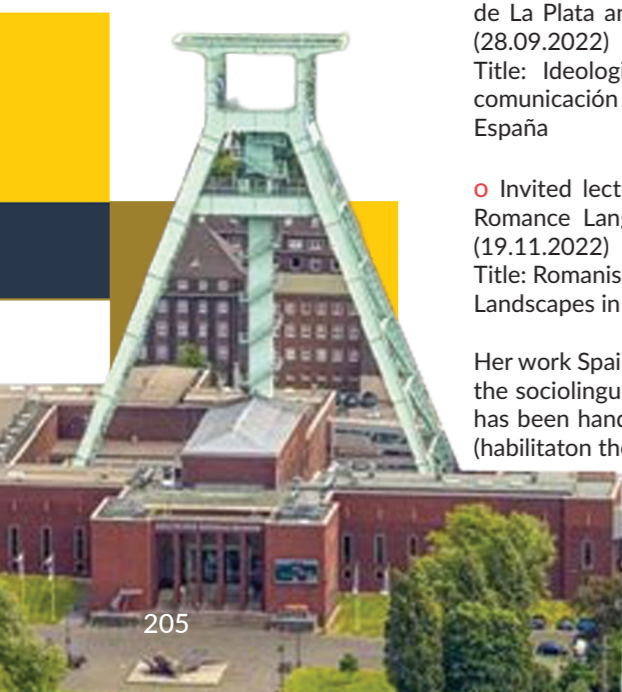


Prof. Dr. Christiane Meierkord
Dept. English and American Studies,
esp. Multilingualism

After graduating from Düsseldorf University in 1989 with an MA in English Linguistics, English Medieval Studies, and Modern Japanese Studies, she obtained her PhD in 1996, for a thesis on English as a medium of intercultural communication. Since then, she has been interested in the variability of the English language, particularly in the newest codes that emerge from English being in contact with other languages in multilingual ecologies. Her major focus of research has been on the processes that can be observed when speakers using these diverse varieties of English (e.g. a Japanese speaker of English and a speaker of Kenyan English) interact with each other.

She previously held positions at the Universities of Erfurt and Münster, and had the privilege of being invited to Stockholm University, as a guest professor, in 2009.

Since October 2009, she has held the chair of English Linguistics at Ruhr Universität Bochum, where she is happy to lead an energetic and supportive team of linguists.





KEY PERSONALITIES



Prof. Dr. Laura Morgenthaler García
Faculty of Philology

From 1997 to 2001 she studied Spanish philology at the University of La Laguna graduating Licenciado en Filología española . After graduation (2002-2006) in Bremen . A Summa cum Laude, she was a research associate in Romance studies at the University of Bremen from 2007 to 2010 . In 2008 she had a scholarship from the DFG for a research stay at the École des hautes études en sciences sociales, Topic: Language policy in Western Sahara and Morocco (North Africa): The tension between Spanish and French from the colonial era to the present.

From 2010 to 2013 she had a separate position of the German research Foundation at the University of Bremen (sole application). Theme: The legacy of colonial language policy in the current proliferation of postcolonial languages. The example of Spanish and French in North Africa. From 2010 to 2012 she was a scholarship holder of the Fast Track Program: Excellence and Leadership for Women Scientists in the Fast Lane of the Robert Bosch Stiftung . In the winter semester 2012/2013 she represented the chair (W3) for Romance Linguistics. University of Bremen.

In 2013, she set up the DFG's own position at the University of Osnabrück continues. 2014 became another DFG own job. Topic: Prosody and language contact Spanish-French-Arabic in North Africa. (Sole application) granted. In January 2015, she received the call for a W2 professorship at the European University of Flensburg . After the habilitation in July 2015 in Osnabrück . Acquisition of Venia Legendi for Romance Linguistics. University of Osnabrück she was from 2015 to 2018 W2 Professor of Spanish Linguistics in Flensburg .

Since 2018 she teaches as a W3 Professor of Romance Philology, in particular Ibero Romance Linguistics at the Ruhr University Bochum.



PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

Academic Year 2024

Arts-based Research Seminar

27 June 2024 The first workshop with Prof. Leonard Cruz, titled "Partizipation Aktionsforschung: für sozialen Wandel und Handeln," was successfully held as part of the doctoral program "Mit Sprache – Mitbestimmung durch Sprachgewalten." The workshop covered the following key topics through a blend of theory and practice:



1. "Body Language: Gestures, Movements, and Acts of Violence"
2. "Postcolonial Investigations and Approaches to Culture (Theatre and Dance) Mediation in Promoting Diversity, Inclusion, Justice, and Empowerment"
3. "Microaggressions: Experiences of a Filipino American Living and Working in Germany"
4. "Participatory Action Research: For Social Change and Action"

The next workshop with Prof. Cruz, titled "Storytelling – Von kreativen Künsten zur kreativen Pädagogik," is scheduled for October 2024. It will be hosted at RUB in collaboration with the RUB Teachers Academy.



Evtl. Location
Halle 205 freiRaum für Kunst & Kultur gUG (hb), Hauptstr. 205a, 44892 Bochum

Fortbildung für Lehrerinnen, Lehrer und Lehramtsstudierende

Arbeitstitel:
„Storytelling – Von Kreativen Künsten zur Kreativen Pädagogik“

Termin:
Zweiteiliges Format in Präsenz, 4. Oktober 2024 auf dem Campus der Ruhr-Universität Bochum (GAFO 05/630, **bereits reserviert**) und 5. Oktober 2024 in der Bochumer Innenstadt.

Zeiten:
Tag 1: 14.00 Uhr bis 17.00 Uhr
Tag 2: 16-20 Uhr (Workshopteilnehmer*innen) und 20.00 Uhr bis 22.00 Uhr (Für Besucher*innen)

Dozent:
Prof. Dr. Leonard Cruz, Hochschule für Künste im Sozialen, Ottersberg
(<https://leonard-cruz.com/#/>)

Organisationsteam:
Steven Bauernfeind, Cosima Quiri, Dr. Christiane Mattiesson (Professional School of Education)

Zielgruppe:
Maximal 20 Teilnehmer*innen und Teilnehmer, Lehrkräfte und Lehramtsstudierende.
Am 2. Tag der Veranstaltung sind zusätzlich interessierte Oberstufenschüler*innen, weitere interessierte Jugendliche, Lehrkräfte und Studierende herzlich eingeladen (**max. 150 Personen**).

*Unter der Leitung des Referenten und Künstlers Leonard Cruz werden den Teilnehmer*innen am ersten Veranstaltungstag kreative künstlerische und kontemplative Praktiken vorgestellt. Hierbei wird die Methode Storytelling einbezogen. Über das eigene Geschichtenerzählen wird den Teilnehmenden ermöglicht, sich auf interdisziplinäre Weise auszudrücken - gleichzeitig Geist, Körper und Seele miteinzu beziehen. Für praktische Umsetzungen können die Teilnehmenden ergänzend Techniken der Bildenden Kunst wählen, der Musik, Textproduktion, des Theaters oder der Bewegung (Poetry, Singersongwriter, RAP, Tanz, Gemälde, Rollenspiel, Videodreh). Für Leonard Cruz stehen bei dem Prozess Bewusstsein und Achtsamkeit im Zentrum, das Vereinen unterschiedlicher Zugänge der Teilnehmenden, unabhängig von Wohnort, Alter, Geschlecht, Religion, sexueller Orientierung und Fähigkeiten. Die erworbenen Kreativitätstechniken führen zu Ergebnissen, die am Folgetag in einer Location in der Bochumer Innenstadt ausgestellt werden. Insgesamt dienen die Ergebnisse auch der eigenen Entwicklung der Teilnehmenden sowie der Arbeit mit Schülerinnen und Schülern.*

Dialogo: Philippine Studies Goes Global

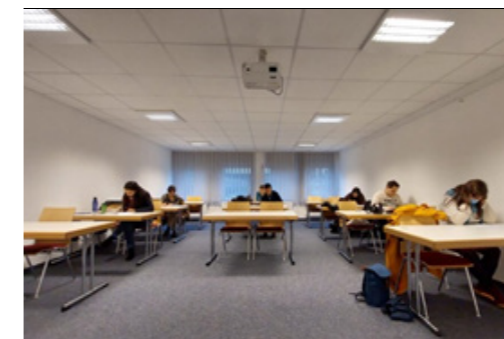


27 - 29 September 2024 In connection with two publication projects, Prof. Dr. Roger Friedlein, Beatriz Friedel Ablanado, and Katharina Pohl have proposed three academic presentations for the international congress "Dialogo: Philippine Studies Goes Global", which will be held in Manila. These presentations will be framed under the theme "Decolonizing Philippine Studies" and will employ a postcolonial approach to critically examine and analyze a selection of Spanish travel reports from the 19th and 20th centuries, as well as writings from the colonial period.

Academic Year 2023

Tagalog Intensive Language Course at the Landessprachinstitut (LSI) Bochum

13 - 24 February 2023 The intensive Tagalog language course, hosted by the State Language Institute (LSI) Bochum, brought together ten participants, including faculty and students from Ruhr University and members of the Filipino-German community. Led by Vincent Wongaiham-Petersen, the course introduced participants to the fundamentals of Tagalog and offered 5 CP credits, concluding with a final exam.



Beyond language instruction, the course provided a rich cultural immersion. Participants joined a cooking event led by Chef Marvin Amada, where they explored Filipino cuisine, including iconic dishes like adobo and ube-based desserts. Additional activities included introductions to Filipino art and film, enhancing their understanding of the country's cultural heritage.

At the closing ceremony, the Consul General congratulated the participants and encouraged them to deepen their engagement with Philippine language and culture.

Following the success of the program, an advanced Tagalog course was offered in July 2023 as part of the Summer School hosted by the Romance Department at Ruhr University Bochum.

Philippines: Perspectives, Summer School 2023



The two-week summer school, "Philippines: Perspectives," at Ruhr University Bochum offered four thematic blocks, allowing participants to engage in in-depth study across language, culture, history, and literature. The program focused on the historical, geographical, cultural, and social evolution of the Philippines as a nation navigating the intersection of tradition and modernity. It adopted an interdisciplinary approach to address the globally significant themes of migration and mobility.

The program featured seminars and lectures on diverse topics, complemented by a round table discussion that encouraged active participation and dialogue. Beyond academic sessions, participants enjoyed cultural immersion activities, such as excursions, Philippine film screenings, and themed cafeteria weeks celebrating Filipino cuisine.

The following is an overview of the seminars, lectures, and supplementary events included in the program:

English in the Philippines

Prof. Dr. Christiane Meierkord (Ruhr-Universität Bochum)

This module explored the historical evolution and contemporary use of English in the Philippines. It began with an in-depth examination of the language's introduction during the country's period as a U.S. territory, followed by an analysis of its modern roles, functions, and societal perceptions. Key linguistic features of Philippine English—such as vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation—were studied in detail. The module also delved into the phenomenon of code-switching between English and Tagalog, commonly known as "Taglish," connecting this linguistic practice to broader themes of identity, language contact, policy, and education.

From the Spanish Chronicles to Nick Joaquín: Tracing the Roots of Philippine Literature

Prof. Dr. Luis Castellví (University of Manchester)

Session 1, the course explored the "Boxer Codex", a richly illustrated manuscript from late 16th-century Manila that offers a vivid portrayal of life in Southeast Asia.

Session 2 focused on Pedro Chirino's "Relación de las Islas Filipinas" (1604), a chronicle blending miraculous tales with historical accounts, emphasizing the influence of popular literature on its compelling narratives.

Session 3 examined early modern Sino-Hispanic relations through Bartolomé Leonardo de Argensola's "Conquista de las Islas Malucas" (1609), with particular attention to Argensola's depiction of Manila's Chinese community.

Session 4 traced the legacy of these chronicles in the works of Nick Joaquín (1917–2004), a prominent Filipino writer whose stories often revisit themes and events from the early Spanish Philippines.

Through these sessions, participants gained a comprehensive understanding of Spanish Philippine chronicles and their enduring impact on contemporary Filipino literature.

Tagalog II

Lenny Bugayong

This course was tailored for participants who had completed Part 1 of the seminar block, "Tagalog: Language and Culture of the Philippines," led by Vincent Wongaiham-Petersen. The initial seminar introduced the fundamentals of Filipino, the Philippines' official national language rooted in Tagalog.

Over four intensive days, participants revisited previously learned concepts, expanded their vocabulary, and gained a deeper understanding of Filipino grammar. The sessions incorporated diverse exercises, practical examples, and discussions on cultural elements and socio-linguistic phenomena. The course was conducted in both Filipino and German, offering a bilingual approach to enhance learning.

Spanische Reiseberichte

Prof. Dr. Roger Friedlein (Ruhr-Universität Bochum)

The Philippine archipelago was under Spanish colonial rule from the 16th century to the late 19th century, a period that profoundly influenced the nation's borders and cultural identity. In 1898, the Philippines gained independence from Spain, only to enter a new colonial era under U.S. rule. Against this historical backdrop, Spanish travelers from various walks of life visited the islands, documenting their experiences and contributing to the body of cultural heritage known as Filipiniana.

These travel accounts reflect diverse perspectives, encompassing researchers, soldiers, war prisoners, missionaries working with indigenous groups, world travelers, tourists, journalists, and modern-day travel bloggers—each engaging with the local population in unique ways.

This seminar explored the broad spectrum of Spanish travelers from the 19th century to the present, using Spanish texts enriched with language aids. The course was conducted in German, providing participants with a deeper understanding of these narratives and their historical and cultural significance.

The Philippine Chinese Community

Prof. Dr. Christine Moll-Murata (Ruhr-Universität Bochum) and Prof. Dr. Flemming Christiansen (Universität Duisburg-Essen)

The seminar delved into the history and influence of Chinese immigrants in the Philippines and their descendants. Adopting a chronological framework, it traced Chinese migration to the Philippines from the 16th century onward, with a particular focus on the "Sangleys"—Chinese merchants who played a pivotal role in the silver trade connecting Spanish colonies to the Ming Empire. Discussions also examined the relationship between Spanish-occupied Taiwan and Manila as a macro-regional hub.

Key themes included the tension between assimilation and identity preservation within the Chinese diaspora during the 18th and 19th centuries. This included reflections on anti-colonial efforts by figures such as José Rizal and Emilio Aguinaldo and the struggles faced by overseas Chinese laborers.

On July 26, Professor Flemming Christiansen provided an in-depth analysis of perceptions of the Chinese in the Philippines and the exploitation of ethnic Chinese labor by the international community. The seminar concluded with an exploration of contemporary immigration trends and the role of the Chinese government, culminating in student presentations summarizing their insights.

Lectures on Philippine Studies

- o Lecture I (18.07.23): Spanish Missionaries as Religious Ethnographers: Christianizing the Past – Imke Rath, Braunschweig
The lecture examined the role of Spanish missionaries as early ethnographers, focusing on how they documented indigenous religions during the Christianization of the Philippines.
- o Lecture II (19.07.23): Journey into the Rainforest – Sofia Zeisig, PhilinCon
Sofia Zeisig shared insights from her work in the Philippine rainforests, highlighting the region's biodiversity and conservation efforts.
- o Lecture III (20.07.23): Divisoria Night Café: Showcase of Public Space Renewal – Luzile Satur, University of Cologne
Luzile Satur discussed the transformation of public spaces in the Philippines, using Divisoria Night Café as a case study in urban renewal and community engagement.
- o Lecture IV (25.07.23): The Celebration of Indigenous, Spanish, Asian, and Black Diasporas in Philippine Culture and Dance – Leonard Cruz, HS Ottersberg
Leonard Cruz explored the rich cultural tapestry of the Philippines, celebrating its indigenous, Spanish, Asian, and African influences through traditional dances.
- o Lecture V (26.07.23): Conceptuality and Coloniality in European Ethnological Views of Natives in Late 19th-Century Philippines – Adonis Elumbre, University of Hamburg
This lecture examined European perceptions of Philippine natives in the late 19th century, focusing on how colonial perspectives shaped ethnological representations.
- o Lecture VI (27.07.23): Transnational Solidarity: Filipino Migrants on the Front Lines – Cleovi Mosuela, University of Hamburg
Cleovi Mosuela discussed the activism and solidarity efforts of Filipino migrants, highlighting their role in global social movements.

Excursion to Cologne

The excursion featured a visit to the Rautenstrauch-Joest Museum, celebrated for its ethnographic collections and exhibitions on global cultures. Participants engaged with displays focused on Southeast Asia, deepening their understanding of cultural artifacts and historical narratives linked to the Philippines.

The visit was followed by a lecture at the Global South Studies Center (GSSC) at the University of Cologne, delivered by Dr. Stephanie Coe. Titled "The Philippines in European Archives," the lecture explored the presence and representation of Philippine history within European archival collections. Dr. Coe discussed how colonial documents and records have influenced interpretations of the Philippines' past, offering valuable insights into historical research and representation.

Philippine Cultural Activities

- o Philippine Cinema
The program featured a screening of *Ma'Rosa*, a film directed by Brillante Mendoza, offering a gripping portrayal of contemporary Philippine society through the lens of a family caught in a web of crime and corruption.
- o Filipino Martial Arts Workshop
A Modern Arnis workshop was conducted by the KSC Manila Essen, introducing participants to this traditional Filipino martial art focused on weapon-based combat and self-defense techniques.
- o Philippine Cafeteria Week
The Philippine Cafeteria Week showcased Filipino cuisine, offering a taste of traditional dishes and highlighting the rich culinary heritage of the Philippines.

Closing Event

- o Roundtable Discussion: "Rights and Organization in Migration"
Guests: Prof. Dr. Phoebe Sanchez, Dr. Cleovi Mosuela, Emmalyn Liwag Kotte
Moderated by: Dr. Gabriele Bäcker
The closing event hosted a roundtable discussion on migration rights and organizational strategies, featuring a panel of experts addressing critical issues faced by migrant communities. Prof. Dr. Phoebe Sanchez, Dr. Cleovi Mosuela, and Emmalyn Liwag Kotte shared their perspectives on migration dynamics, emphasizing the interplay of rights advocacy, community organization, and policy.
 - o Certificate Presentation and Closing of the Summer School
The event concluded with a formal ceremony where participants were presented with certificates, recognizing their successful completion of the Summer School program. General Consul Marie Yvette L. Banzon Abalos led the ceremony, delivering closing remarks that highlighted the enriching experiences and academic accomplishments of the participants.
- Moderated by Dr. Gabriele Bäcker, the discussion fostered a meaningful dialogue on how migrant communities can navigate challenges and assert their rights within local and global frameworks. The event offered valuable insights into empowering migrants through collective action and policy engagement.

- o Certificate Presentation and Closing of the Summer School
The event concluded with a formal ceremony where participants were presented with certificates, recognizing their successful completion of the Summer School program. General Consul Marie Yvette L. Banzon Abalos led the ceremony, delivering closing remarks that highlighted the enriching experiences and academic accomplishments of the participants.

The occasion celebrated the collaborative spirit and knowledge exchanged during the program, emphasizing the strengthened connections between the participants and the Philippines.



01 December 2023

The workshop "Galería de viajeros a las Filipinas. Narrativas de viaje españolas de los siglos XIX y XX" was held at Ruhr University Bochum, focusing on Spanish travel narratives about the Philippines from the 19th and 20th centuries. Scholars explored a variety of accounts that shed light on cultural exchanges and colonial perspectives during this period.

Presentations delved into the motivations and experiences of Spanish travelers, examining how their journeys influenced perceptions of the Philippines and its people. The workshop also highlighted the role of these narratives in shaping Spain's understanding of its former colony and the enduring impact of these encounters on Philippine-Spanish historical relations. The event fostered meaningful dialogue on the intersection of travel, culture, and colonial history.

Academic Year 2022

Guest Researcher Dr. Stephanie Marie Coo

Nov 2022 – Nov 2023 Dr. Stephanie Marie Coo is a Philippine-Chinese historian and the author of the critically acclaimed book "Clothing the Colony: Nineteenth-Century Philippine Sartorial Culture, 1820–1896" (2019), which has garnered multiple prestigious awards. She served as a Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellow at the Universidad de Granada and NOVA School of Law from 2019 to 2020. Dr. Coo earned her PhD in History ("summa cum laude") from Université Nice Sophia Antipolis and is an Associate Professor at Ateneo de Manila University.

Currently a guest researcher at Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Dr. Coo is collaborating with Prof. Dr. Roger Friedlein on her forthcoming book, "Los Manilos: Spanish Sojourners in the Philippines in the Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century." The project is based on extensive research in Spanish archives, including the Güell-Lopez Family and Casa Brusi collections.

The Boxer Manuscript: Iberian-Southeast Asian Cultural Contact in the 16th Century

The seminar examined a remarkable artifact showcasing the collaboration between Spanish and Portuguese chroniclers and Filipino-Chinese illustrators. Created in late 16th-century Manila for the Spanish court, the manuscript represents the most significant pictorial documentation of the Tagalog peoples and their neighboring communities from this period.

It also highlights intriguing parallels with Chinese and European manuscript traditions, shedding light on the rich cultural exchanges and interactions that shaped the artistic and historical narratives of the time.



21 March 2022

Philippine Consul General Marie Yvette Banzon Abalos visited the Romance Department at Ruhr-Universität Bochum (RUB), where she engaged with faculty and students participating in the Philippines Initiative. This project focuses on promoting academic and cultural exchange between the Philippines and Germany.

During her visit, the Consul General was briefed on the initiative's ongoing activities and explored potential opportunities for future collaboration, including joint research projects, cultural events, and academic programs. The visit aimed to further strengthen the relationship between the Philippine Consulate and RUB, while enhancing the academic community's understanding of Filipino culture and history.

Guest Lecture by Prof. Dr. Henning Klöter at the Romance Department of Ruhr-University Bochum

25 November 2022 Prof. Dr. Henning Klöter from Humboldt University Berlin delivered a guest lecture at the Romance Department of Ruhr-Universität Bochum as part of the seminar "Francisco Xavier: cartas, drama, epopeya," led by Prof. Dr. Roger Friedlein. The lecture, titled "Strategy, Language, and Silver: Catholic Missions in Asia in the Mirror of 17th Century Chinese-Spanish Dictionaries", delved into the Jesuit missionary strategies in China, emphasizing their religious missions as well as their linguistic endeavors.

Prof. Klöter highlighted the complexity of the language landscape in Southeast China, discussing the unique challenges faced by Jesuit missionaries. He also explored how the Chinese viewed these missionaries, mainly appreciating them as natural scientists, while trade relations helped bridge cultural divides.

The lecture also introduced influential historical figures involved in the linguistic exchange with China, such as Mateo Ricci, who learned Chinese, Nicolas Trigault, who wrote a dictionary, and Martino Martini, who compiled a Chinese grammar. Notably, Prof. Klöter pointed out the absence of tone markings in early Chinese-Spanish dictionaries—a key feature of the Chinese language—demonstrating how these works were influenced by European perspectives and the challenges of overcoming these biases in scholarly efforts.

Guest Lecture by Francisco M. Navarro (Ph.D.)

16 December 2022 Dr. Francisco M. Navarro (Ph.D., Ateneo de Manila University) was scheduled to deliver a lecture on "The Christianization of the Philippines and the Role of the Jesuits." Unfortunately, the lecture was canceled due to a typhoon in the Philippines. In place of the lecture, seminar participants watched and discussed a congress lecture by Dr. Navarro, available on YouTube. The lecture focused on Spanish chronicles, including those by Antonio de Morga, Juan de Palencia, and Padre Chirino, offering valuable insights into Philippine society during the time of Ferdinand Magellan's expedition.

Academic Year 2021

Establishment of the Virtual Sentro Rizal

The Virtual Sentro Rizal, housed in the Philological Library, is a comprehensive multilingual digital archive dedicated to Philippine culture. It offers an extensive collection of audiovisual materials, including images, recordings, and texts, aimed at supporting academic research and fostering a deeper understanding of the Philippines' rich heritage. Accessible to both students and researchers, this resource serves as an invaluable tool for exploring the nation's history, language, and cultural traditions.

Online Discussion: *Magellan and the Philippines, 500 Years Later*, with Hon. Loren Legarda

The poster is for an online discussion titled "Magellan and the Philippines, 500 Years Later" featuring Hon. Loren Legarda. It includes the date "Monday, 7 JUNE 2021" and the time "10:50am - 11:45am (CEST) via Zoom Conference". The moderators are Prof. Dr. Roger Friedlein (Ruhr University Bochum) and PD Dr. Sarah Albiez-Wieck (University of Cologne). The contact information is sekretariat.friedlein@rub.de and lhelguero.kandt@uni-koeln.de. Logos for the University of Cologne and Ruhr University Bochum are also present.

07 June 2021

Debates surrounding early colonial encounters, famously framed by Miguel León-Portilla as "La visión de los vencidos" ("The Vision of the Vanquished"), became increasingly polarized during the Fifth Centenary in 1992. The contrasting narratives of "Descubrimiento" (Discovery) versus "Encuentro" (Encounter) and "Evangelización" (Evangelization) versus "Genocidio" (Genocide) sparked divergent commemorations across North and South America. These events were interpreted through lenses of "hispanismo" (Hispanism), "nacionalismo" (nationalism), and "indigenismo" (indigenism), with Indigenous protests marking milestones such as the 2000 anniversary of Pedro Álvares Cabral's voyage to Brazil, where he remains celebrated as a national hero.

In contrast, Ferdinand Magellan's voyage under the Spanish crown—accompanied by Sebastián Elcano and Enrique de Malaca—has not held as prominent a place in national myth-making. However, Stefan Zweig's 1927 historical work, "Ferdinand Magellan", played a significant role in shaping 20th-century perceptions of Magellan as a heroic figure and his expedition as a "Sternstunde der Menschheit" ("Decisive Moment of Humanity"), as described in Zweig's collection of historical narratives.

Over time, postcolonial discourse has expanded interpretations of the voyages of Columbus, Da Gama, Cabral, and Magellan. The Quincentennial commemorations in the Philippines and Spain represent a new chapter in understanding the historical encounter between East and West. Deputy Speaker Loren Legarda's perspectives—shaped by her direct involvement and contributions to a distinctly Philippine narrative of this encounter—offer valuable insights for researchers and students alike.

Lecture on the Expansion of Iberic and Portuguese Literature

Since the time of Henry the Navigator (1394–1460), the Iberian monarchies spearheaded European overseas expansion, producing a wealth of literature that has captivated cultural studies scholars through the 17th century. Beyond the well-established fields of intercultural hermeneutics and imagology—examining perceptions of the "Other," as articulated by theorists like Todorov and Greenblatt—this body of work also addresses themes such as the interplay between fact and fiction and the rhetorical strategies authors employed to legitimize conquest and evangelization.

This cultural studies seminar revisits the literature of Spanish and Portuguese expansion through these familiar lenses but introduces two less-explored dimensions: the emergence of a distinctive early modern concept of experience and the role of emotions in cultural encounters. Participants will engage in close readings and discussions of foundational texts, including Columbus' letters, Hernán Cortés' correspondences, Antonio Pigafetta's account of the Magellan expedition, and Bartolomé Leonardo de Argensola's "Conquista de las Islas Malucas". These analyses aim to deepen understanding of how such works reflected and shaped the complex dynamics of early modern global interactions.

Academic Year 2020

Centennials of the Discoveries from the 19th to the 21st Century, Prof. Dr. Roger Friedlein

This cultural studies seminar examines the exploration voyages of the Spanish and Portuguese during the Age of Expansion, which, beginning in the late 15th century, led Iberian navigators to all continents beyond Europe. The course opens with an overview of key voyages—those of Columbus, Vasco da Gama, Magellan, and Álvares Cabral—and their historical documentation. However, the primary focus shifts from early colonial expansion to the commemorative events held in the 19th and 20th centuries, both in Iberian nations and former colonies, marking the 400th and 500th anniversaries of these explorations.

A particular emphasis will be placed on the 500th anniversary of Magellan and Elcano's circumnavigation, currently being celebrated in Spain and the Philippines. Through a comparative lens, participants will analyze these celebrations and the post-colonial debates they have ignited. The seminar will be conducted as a distance learning course, featuring video conferences and assigned readings to facilitate in-depth engagement and discussion.

José Rizal Course in Summer Semester 2020

The writings of Philippine national hero José Rizal formed the foundation of a Master's course taught by Prof. Roger Friedlein during the summer semester of 2020. Rizal (1861–1896), a pivotal figure in the Philippines' fight for independence from Spain, also has notable biographical connections to Germany. Beyond his role as a poet, dramatist, and essayist, Rizal is recognized as one of the most compelling Spanish-speaking novelists of the 19th century. His two novels, "Noli Me Tangere" (1887), first published in Berlin, and "El Filibusterismo" (1891), offer profound insights into colonial Philippine society and were originally written in Spanish. These works align with the Spanish literary tradition of Realism, which flourished during Rizal's era.

The course centered on comparisons between Rizal's novels and key Spanish Realist works, such as Benito Pérez Galdós's **Doña Perfecta** (1876) and *"Fortunata y Jacinta"* (1887). Attended by approximately 12 Master's students, the seminar delved into the themes and strategies of Realist writing as it developed in both metropolitan Spain and the Philippines. For German students of Spanish, the course offered a unique opportunity to explore the literary techniques that connected Spain, Spanish-speaking Latin America, and the Philippines in the 19th century.

This seminar was the third installment in a series offered at Ruhr-Universität Bochum under the recently established "Philippinen-Initiative." It followed earlier courses on "Las Filipinas Hispánicas" (The Spanish Philippines) in the summer semester of 2018 and "Berichte der Entdeckungsfahrten nach Südostasien" (Chronicles of the Voyages of Discovery to Southeast Asia) in the winter semester of 2019/20.

Academic Year 2019

First Exploratory Visit by Consul General Evelyn Austria-Garcia

January 2019

Consul General Evelyn Austria-Garcia visited Ruhr University Bochum (RUB) and the Philological Library. During her visit, she toured the facilities and donated books to enhance the library's expanding collection dedicated to the Philippines.



Visit and Lecture of Deputy Speaker Loren Legarda

15 October 2019 Deputy Speaker Loren Legarda led a Philippine delegation on a visit to Ruhr-Universität Bochum (RUB), where an agreement was signed to foster teaching and research exchanges between RUB and the Philippines. Legarda, a staunch advocate for environmental conservation, wildlife protection, and indigenous rights, presented RUB Rector Prof. Dr. Axel Schölmerich with a collection of her books for the university library. Additionally, she signed a two-year cooperation agreement between the Philippine Consulate General in Germany and RUB, aimed at promoting academic initiatives related to the Philippines.

During the visit, Legarda also highlighted her support for traditional Philippine weaving and embroidery, particularly textiles made from pineapple and silk fibers. She emphasized how these textiles have become a significant source of income for Filipino artisans, thanks to small business laws and government contracts.

The event included a display of Philippine artifacts, including textiles and historical weapons, from the private collection of Helga Schulze, a scientific illustrator at RUB. Following the exhibition, a roundtable discussion took place in the university's International Lounge, where ideas for future collaborations in research, teaching, and student exchanges were shared.

Legarda's visit also reaffirmed the longstanding partnership between RUB and the Philippines. Since 1997, Prof. Dr. Eberhard Curio, emeritus professor at RUB, has led the Philippine Initiative for Conservation of Environment and the People (Philincon) in Panay, focusing on environmental protection laws. Legarda expressed her support for the continuation of this successful initiative.

Philippine Materials Exhibition

From October to November 2019, an exhibition showcasing Philippine ethnographic items, curated from the collection of Helga Schulze, was displayed in the foyer of the Faculty of History at RUB. Schulze, a scientific illustrator at RUB's Medical Faculty, is also a passionate advocate for the preservation of the Philippine lowland rainforest and operates a rescue station for Lorises.

Course on Reports of Voyages to Southeast Asia

October 2019 Since the late 15th century, both Portuguese and Spanish expansions targeted not only the Americas but also strategic locations in Asia, including the Southeast Asian archipelago. The Portuguese first reached the region through India, establishing settlements in places like Malacca and the Spice Islands, while the Spanish, arriving via the Pacific, colonized the Philippines for over 300 years.

This seminar examined various Spanish and Portuguese texts from these early commercial, military, and missionary expeditions, with a particular focus on those documenting events in the Southeast Asian region. These texts, often categorized as "crónicas" (chronicles), include reports from the Magellan expedition by Pigafetta, Antonio de Morga's "Sucesos de las Islas Filipinas", and Bartolomé Leonardo de Argensola's "Conquista de las Islas Molucas".

Additionally, the course explored two other significant literary works: the novel "Peregrinação" by Fernão Mendes Pinto and the epic "Conquista de Malaca" by Sã de Meneses. The seminar approached these texts from both imagological and genre-theoretical perspectives.



The Philological Library at Ruhr University Bochum (RUB) is developing a dedicated collection focused on the Philippines. In November 2019, the Philippine Consulate General made a generous donation of books to support this initiative. This contribution enriches the library's resources, providing a wide array of materials related to Philippine history, culture, and literature. The collection is designed to promote research and academic exchange, reinforcing the library's role as a vital resource for Philippine studies.

PUBLICATIONS

(Editors: Prof. Dr. Roger Friedlein and Beatriz Friedel Ablanado)

A book project is currently underway, focusing on individuals who have connected Europe and Southeast Asia through their travels and perspectives. Each featured personality will be the subject of a 20-page article, including an annotated text and several accompanying illustrations. The articles will profile figures—preferably travelers to the Philippines or Filipinos in Europe—who have explored the theme of travel or residence in the Philippines in their works. For Filipinos traveling to Europe, the aim is to convey aspects of their experience or perspective. The project seeks to analyze texts and stories of individuals who have journeyed between Europe (primarily Spain) and Southeast Asia (mainly the Philippines), including letters, diaries, and other forms of documentation. These texts will offer insights into their experiences as travelers or foreigners in either Spain or the Philippines. The book will be part of the program accompanying the Philippines' participation as the Guest of Honour at the 2025 Frankfurt Book Fair.

(Editors: Prof. Dr. Dirk Brunke, Prof. Dr. R. Friedlein and Katharina Pohl)

To celebrate the Philippines as the Guest of Honour at the 2025 Frankfurt Book Fair, an anthology of early Spanish historical texts about the Philippines will be compiled at Ruhr-universität Bochum. This collection will highlight not only the cultural encounters between Europeans and the indigenous cultures of the Philippines but also the broader cultural interconnections within the East Asian region. The anthology, scheduled for publication in time for the 2025 Frankfurt Book Fair, is part of a Philippine Studies teaching and research project at Ruhr University, led by Prof. Dr. Roger Friedlein (<https://philippinen.blogs.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/>). The project is supported by the Philippine Consulate General in Frankfurt and the Senate of the Philippines.

The selected texts for the anthology span various genres, including royal chronicles, missionary reports (such as those by Jesuits), ship's diaries, travelogues, a picaresque novel, and letters. The anthology features a diverse range of authors, from academic scholars to less-educated travelers, providing a broad spectrum of perspectives. Notably, the compilation includes both canonical texts and lesser-known works that have not yet been widely recognized by researchers or German-speaking audiences. Many of these texts will be published in German translation for the first time. For instance, the Boxer Codex, known for its stunning Chinese illustrations, remains largely unknown in German-speaking countries, while Antonio Pigafetta's shipboard diary was recently re-translated (2022) to mark the 500th anniversary of Ferdinand Magellan's voyage. A similar anthology has only been published by the Spanish publisher Miraguano/Polifemo.

This compilation offers a rich and unexpected overview of the Philippines' historical realities from the first European contact in 1521 to the peak of colonialism in the 18th century. It reflects the diversity of cultural and ethnic interactions that shaped the region. While many authors focus on the indigenous cultures of the Philippines—addressing their religion, art, languages, and landscapes—the anthology also highlights the Philippines' sophisticated trade relationships with China, Japan, and the Malay Peninsula. This made the Philippines a key meeting point for Europeans, Malays, Chinese, Japanese, Muslims, Hindus, and other colonial powers like the Dutch, English, and Portuguese. As such, the contacts detailed in the anthology offer a more complex and varied picture than the interactions described by Christopher Columbus in his reports of the Caribbean.



Worcester DS 679 .P55

- o 1 mimeographed paper (~ 300 pages)

Worcester DS 679 .P58

- o 1 scrapbook of clippings, handbills, letters, etc., 1898-1900, relating to the military occupation of the Philippines

Worcester DS 685 .W91

- o 21 numbered volumes in the catalog (+ 1 listed as "Oversized" without a volume number)

Worcester E 713 .C72

- o Scrapbook - Colonialism-Philippines-Cuba-Negroes. 1899-1902 (42 hours of treatment by Kyle Clark, Conservation Technician)

Treatment Report:

- Removed tape from the spine edges of the upper and lower boards, as well as from the detached spine covering.
- Toned areas of loss caused by adhesive removal using acrylic paints.
- Stabilized loose clippings with Japanese tissue and wheat starch paste.
- Mended large detached clippings using Japanese tissue and wheat starch paste and housed them in Mylar sleeves, placing them in their appropriate positions within the binding.
- Hinged detached clippings back into their original locations using Japanese tissue and wheat starch paste.
- Lifted leather along the spine edges of the boards and consolidated it with Cellugel.
- Consolidated leather-covered corners with Cellugel.
- Lined the interior of the detached spine with an extended textile spine lining and adhered the lining beneath the lifted leather along the spine edges using wheat starch paste.
- Reattached the lifted leather along the spine edges with ethylene vinyl acetate.
- Repaired external joints and spine caps using Moriki Japanese tissue and wheat starch paste, toning the tissue with acrylic paints.
- Consolidated Moriki Japanese paper repairs with SC6000.
- Consolidated board edges with wheat starch paste.
- Mended interior hinges using Japanese tissue and wheat starch paste.
- Ordered a custom archival corrugated board box for long-term storage.

Worcester LB 3219 .P6 S36 1912

- o Philippines Bureau of Education. School buildings, plans, specifications and bills of material. Manila: Bureau of printing, 1912 (124 pages)

WOR Misc. Ms. Add.

- o Sullivan, James. Journal and scrapbook. 1899 March - 1901 December 31 (25 hours of treatment by Kyle Clark, Conservation Technician)

Treatment Report:

- Mended tears using Japanese tissue and wheat starch paste.
- Flattened wrinkled or folded leaves within the text block.
- Hinged loose materials into the text block using Japanese paper and wheat starch paste.
- Housed loose materials in a Mylar sleeve, inserting the sleeve into the binding at its appropriate position near the lower board.
- Lifted the leather along the spine edge of the text block and consolidated the red leather with Cellugel.

- Lifted the red leather spine covering and consolidated it with Cellugel.
- Cleaned the spine using sodium carboxymethyl cellulose.
- Lined the spine with Japanese paper and wheat starch paste, followed by an extended textile lining adhered with wheat starch paste.
- Secured the textile lining beneath the red leather covering along the edges of the boards.
- Rebacked the spine with colored Japanese paper and consolidated it with SC6000.
- Mended the interior joints using Japanese tissue and wheat starch paste.
- Ordered a custom archival corrugated cardboard box for storage.

WOR Misc. Ms. Add.

- o Everett E. Thompson Papers, 1900-1901, Box 01-07 (232 letters) (100+ hours, treatment ongoing by Amy Crist, Book & Paper Conservator)

Treatment Report:

- Remove surface dirt using grated vinyl eraser crumbs and/or a polyurethane cosmetic sponge.
- Place the letters in a humidification chamber. As the papers absorb moisture and relax, unfold and separate the sheets to ensure even moisture penetration.
- Once fully relaxed, dry the sheets between Hollytex and blotter under appropriate weight.
- Fully unfold all letters, even if the folds were made by the author. This approach avoids subjective judgments about the originality of the folds and improves future handling by minimizing paper manipulation and the risk of fold-related damage.
- Repair tears and damages using an appropriate adhesive, such as wheat starch paste and/or a cellulose ether, reinforced as needed with strips of Japanese paper.
- Store the letters in archival-quality folders made of cardstock that has passed the P.A.T. (Photographic Activity Test). Each letter will be housed in its own folder, with multipage letters grouped together in a single folder.
- Place the folders in flip-top archival boxes for long-term preservation.

This treatment ensures safer handling, prevents further damage, and maintains the integrity of the letters without increasing the size of the required housing.

PUBLICATIONS

Research Proposal

"Textualizing Typhoons, Examining Earthquakes, Visualizing Volcanoes: Scientific Knowledge Production on Philippine Environmental Hazards, 1898-1940s", by Dr. Kerby C. Alvarez, Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Philippines.

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