Daniel Barrera-Rivera • CV

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Profile

I am a literary and cultural studies researcher specializing in spatial theory, postcolonial narratology, and computational text analysis. My work examines narratives as entangled, material-semiotic networks that resist hierarchical ontologies, with a particular focus on how homecoming, displacement, and memory are figured across transatlantic literary traditions. I am developing a methodology I call "entangled poetics" to trace how texts emerge through relations of power, affect, and historical interconnection.

Education

- **Master's in English Literatures and Cultures | 2023-2025**
  University of Tübingen, Germany | **Final Grade 1.21**
  Thesis: *Beyond Homer and the Human: Affects and Algorithms in Posthuman Odysseys*
  First Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Christoph Reinfandt | Second Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Ingrid Hotz-Davies
- **Data Science (Professional Certificate) | 2021-2022**
  University of Toronto, Canada
- **Digital Humanities (Advanced Diploma) | 2021**
  Universidad Iberoamericana, CDMX, México
- **Bachelor's in Modern Languages & Literatures (English) | 2016-2020**
  Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) | **Graduated with Honors (9.48)**
  Thesis: *Toward an Etiology of the Modern Chaucer: A Prolegomenon*

Research Projects

- *Topologies of Nostos: Transatlantic Figurations of Home and Memory* | **2025-present**
  Interphilological investigation of how postcolonial Anglophone and Spanish literatures refigure the ancient Greek concept of *nostos* (homecoming) through displacement, diaspora, and decolonial imagination. Develops "entangled poetics" as a methodology combining spatial theory, feminist material-semiotics, and postcolonial relationality.
- *DanZine: Critical Readings Through Hybrid Figurations* **(Fanzine) | 2025-present**
  A visual-critical intervention sprung from the advanced seminar on Aquatic Environments in Postcolonial Literature (University of Tübingen). Mixed-media fanzine developing tidal poetics through collage, counter-cartography, and bookmaking experimentation. *Number 1* includes readings of Ghosh, Walcott, De Robertis, Mediterranean migration, and the Spilhaus projection as entangled oceanic figurations of displacement, memory, and relation.
- *Figurations of America: A Continent in Poems Across Climates* | **2024-present**
  Close reading of Spanish and English poetry addressing America as lived experience, focusing on how spatial and cultural imaginaries are contested and reconfigured across linguistic and national boundaries.
- *Homerica* **(Dataset) | 2025-present**
  Comprehensive database documenting the entanglement between Homeric epic and Anglophone cultural production—tracking retellings, translations, adaptations, and transfigurations from 1800 to the present. Reveals contemporary shift toward feminist and decolonial engagements with classical narrative.
- **"Homer's Living Network" | 2024-2025**
  Digital humanities investigation using computational text analysis to measure how stylistic features at the lexeme level register cultural drift across twentieth-century English translations of Homer's *Odyssey*. Combines distant reading methods with close analysis of translation choices.
- *Perilexia:* **Algorithmic Pattern Recognition in Victorian Fiction | 2023**
  Developed a computational algorithm identifying previously unrecognized lexical patterns structuring character transformation in Victorian novels. Coined the term "perilexia" to describe these recurrent narrative structures.

Presentation & Conferences

- **American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), Chicago, USA | 2020**
- **American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), Utrecht, Netherlands | 2017**
- **Comparative Literature, Anthropology, Sociology, and History (CLASH), Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland | 2016**

Grants & Awards

- **National Endowment for the Arts and Culture (FONCA), México | 2014**
  Creative Writing Fellowship—one-year grant for fiction writing in Spanish

Research Skills & Methods

- **Computational text analysis:** Python (NLTK, spaCy, Gensim), stylometry, corpus construction, distant reading
- **Digital humanities:** Computational linguistics and narratology, lexical network analysis, translation studies workflows
- **Data visualization:** Pandas, Matplotlib, Plotly (manuscript distributions, cultural drift patterns)
- **Academic publishing:** LaTeX, Markdown, content management systems, editorial workflows
- **Languages:** English (fluent), Spanish (fluent), German (basic)

Professional Experience

- **Editorial & Content Development | 2018-2023**
  Roles at the Department of Public Education (México), StudySmarter (Germany), OpenTec (México), and Aliat Universidades (México), specializing in academic manuscript editing, quality assurance for educational content, and NLP application development for cross-platform consistency.