

What Do They Use? Where Do They Get It? An Interdisciplinary Citation Analysis of Latin American Studies Faculty Monographs, 2004–2013

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This citation analysis examines the ability of the local collection at the Pennsylvania State University to meet the needs of global and area studies researchers focusing on monographs published by faculty members on Latin American studies in a ten-year period. The study focuses on book use to address the tempting notion that packages and online sources can fully and universally support international and area studies across multiple disciplines. The author assessed the works cited by such criteria as availability at the University Libraries, language, place of publication, age of citation, and online availability. This study could inform collection development decisions and contributes to a general understanding of faculty research trends and the library's role in supporting the research related to Latin America across disciplines and academic units.

Introduction

Building research collections continues to be a challenge for the academic librarian supporting international and area studies. Libraries that support researchers in international and area studies require diverse materials in a range of languages other than English, often from non-U.S. publishing channels. This makes it difficult for approval plans, packages, and Demand-Driven Acquisition models to support these research areas adequately. Additionally, although efforts to make research digitally available via open access initiatives and in digital repositories have made substantial progress, copyright restrictions, resistance to new scholarly communication models, and other limitations may prevent researchers from accessing what they need.

To address these concerns, the author assessed the Latin American studies (including Caribbean studies, and Latino studies) holdings at the Pennsylvania State University Libraries, with findings to influence the collection development activities of subject specialists supporting area studies. The primary goal of this study is to provide an overview of what kinds of formal and published scholarly materials Latin American studies faculty across academic disciplines consult and whether physical library collections or online

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materials meet those needs. The article fills a gap in the literature and meets a need for collections research that considers the online availability of materials, in addition to locally held print resources, and informs future collection development decisions.

Problem Statement and Research Questions

By conducting a citation analysis, the author assessed faculty use of local collections in Latin American studies. Through analysis of the bibliographic information collected from faculty-authored monographs, the author aimed to address the questions that selectors face when considering how to provide the best collection support for researchers of Latin American studies. These questions include the following:

1. What formats (books or journal articles) are most frequently cited by faculty?
2. Does the library own the book?
3. Is the book in English or another language?
4. Of the books owned by the library, how many are in English and how many are in other languages?
5. What is the age of the cited book?
6. Was the book published in the United States/Canada/United Kingdom or somewhere else?
7. Are the books available online?

The answers to these questions provide insights into what researchers use, the strengths and gaps of the local collection, and what materials can be retrieved online. The results also have implications for selectors elsewhere, suggesting possible collaborative collection opportunities, open access initiatives, digitization projects, and overall research trends in Latin American studies.

Background and Literature Review

The University Libraries actively collect bibliographic materials to support the research and teaching needs of faculty and students in academic areas related to Latin America. As a result of the interdisciplinary nature of Latin American studies research, library collections and services should include resources and methodologies from across disciplines. As Dan Hazen notes, research and teaching for area and global studies have expanded beyond the humanities to areas as diverse as science, technology, and public policy.¹

Latin American scholars consult materials written in Spanish, Portuguese, and indigenous languages, as well as in English. Since Latin America encompasses a wide range of countries and cultures, acquiring materials for the North American academic library requires a deep understanding of the publishing and distribution channels as well as the local markets.² Books are published and distributed for a national or regional market; therefore, no single vendor or distributor may have access to all materials available. This situation significantly affects the way North American libraries collect books from Latin America, as they may not always be available for purchase in the United States. Books are commonly acquired via domestic approval plans and books packages; as library budgets for books continue to shrink and the cost of journal subscriptions continues to increase, the result is the sense that book selection is no longer needed.³

As a result of the rapid development of technologies and information services, users are gradually demanding more online access to books, journals, and archival materials.⁴ Unfortunately, Latin American publishers have been slow to respond.⁵ Significantly, most research on collections has focused on print materials rather than digital.⁶

Citation analyses have long been used in the fields of Library and Information Science, particularly since the 1960s, reflecting the growing interest for scientific evaluations.⁷ Recent studies have evaluated the use of books by analyzing citations across the humanities and the social sciences. Notably, McDonald evaluates the publications

of forty-six faculty members in the humanities and the social sciences.⁸ His analysis shows that books continued being cited at the same rates from 1994 to 2000. In her analysis of citation patterns in the field of nineteenth-century British and American literary studies, Thompson notes that scholars continue using a significant number of primary sources relying heavily on the monograph format.⁹

In a similar fashion, Kellsey and Knievel gathered data from 28 monographs in the disciplines of History, Philosophy, English, and Classics.¹⁰ Of the total number of citations, books or book chapters represented 69 percent. Of the total cited books or book chapters, 76 percent were available in the local catalog.

Cullars addressed the growing interest for foreign language publications. His citation analysis of Spanish and Italian monographs concluded that 73.5 percent of the total citations were monographs and 83.7 percent of all citations in Spanish language were cited in Spanish books. This study also noted that approximately a third of all citations were at least 30 years old.¹¹

Other recent studies include Nolen, who examines the use of monographs in the field of Spanish and Latin American literature over a 30-year period, showing a significant increase of volumes of collected essays over time.¹² Similarly, in his analysis of three journals in the field of Spanish and Latin American literature, Nolen concludes that scholarly monographs and volumes of collected essays are highly referenced materials growing in importance over the years between 1970 and 2000.¹³

Mendez and Chapman discussed the use of citations in the *Hispanic American Historical Review* and concluded that English language materials represent about two-thirds of all citations.¹⁴ Schabl and Todeschini examined dissertations across academic departments and showed that English language materials predominated, representing 85 percent of all citations.¹⁵ Similarly, Gasparotto evaluated dissertations in the department of Spanish and Portuguese, showing that the monograph remained the dominant format in the humanities and social sciences.¹⁶

Other research on Latin American studies holdings established the importance of understanding the research habits of the librarian's local communities through citation analysis rather than relying on generalizations.¹⁷ Similar to other citation analyses, the author began this project at the Pennsylvania State University Libraries with the assumption that faculty in the humanities cite more books and book chapters than journal articles, cite more English language books than books in other languages over time, and cite older materials.¹⁸ The author also speculated that a significant number of titles would be available in an online format. Through local citation analysis, the author found that some results met expectations while other findings did not, providing further evidence of the importance of assessing and evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of the collections locally. Local analysis ensures that the materials needed by researchers are represented in the library's collections.

Methodology

For the purpose of this study, the author defined Latin American studies as an interdisciplinary research field dealing with the study of Latin America and the Caribbean, and the history, languages, cultures, and experiences of Latin Americans in Latin America and elsewhere. Using a list of 33 faculty members affiliated with the Latin American Studies and the Latina/o Studies programs during the academic year 2012–2013, the author compiled a list of publications by consulting their public biographies and CVs, as well as OCLC WorldCat. These faculty members reside in a variety of academic departments in the College of the Liberal Arts, the College of Communications, the College of Arts and Architecture, and the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences. The author acknowledges that the monograph may not be the primary scholarly vehicle

in some of these disciplines. Despite this, faculty in different areas did publish monographs, and the author determined that this was a noteworthy commonality that bore further investigation and analysis.

Out of the pool of faculty members affiliated with the Latin American Studies and the Latina/o Studies programs, the author determined that 8 faculty members collectively published a total of 13 monographs between 2004 and 2013. The author did not attempt to determine whether faculty members were at the Pennsylvania State University when the books were written. Since the goal of this study was to identify how the university libraries support Latin American studies research, the author evaluated books published by all listed faculty during this specific time period. Edited works, anthologies, creative works, conference papers, and theses and dissertations were excluded from the overall citation count (see appendix A).

The author compiled a list of all the works cited in each one of the monographs studied. For the purpose of this study, two categories were created: book/book chapter and journal articles. The book/book chapter category includes scholarly monographs, chapters of monographs cited separately, and chapters from edited scholarly books. The author acknowledges that books and book chapters may exhibit different citation patterns. However, by grouping these two categories together, the author aimed to discover how the library book holdings support Latin American studies research. The journal articles category only included articles published in academic journals. Other citations referenced in the faculty-authored monographs such as newspapers, magazines, websites, and audio-video materials were not counted for this study.

Each entry in the book/book chapter category was evaluated against the local catalog to determine whether the book or the book containing the chapter was available in the university libraries' collections. For those books not available in the local holdings, the author determined whether they were available in print at other libraries using OCLC WorldCat.

Using the book/book chapter category only, the author determined the language of publication and designated each entry as English and non-English. Each entry was also categorized by its age compared to publication date of the citing work. These categories include the following: published within 1–5 years of the citing work, published within 6–10 years of the citing work, published within 11–15 years of the citing work, published within 16–20 years of the citing work, published within 21–25 years of the citing work, and published 26 years or more before the citing work. Place of publication was categorized as United States/Canada/United Kingdom and elsewhere.

Finally, the author checked for online versions of each of the titles entered in the book/book chapter category. Specifically, the author searched the citations in Google Books, Hathi Trust Digital Library, JSTOR Books, and Project Muse.

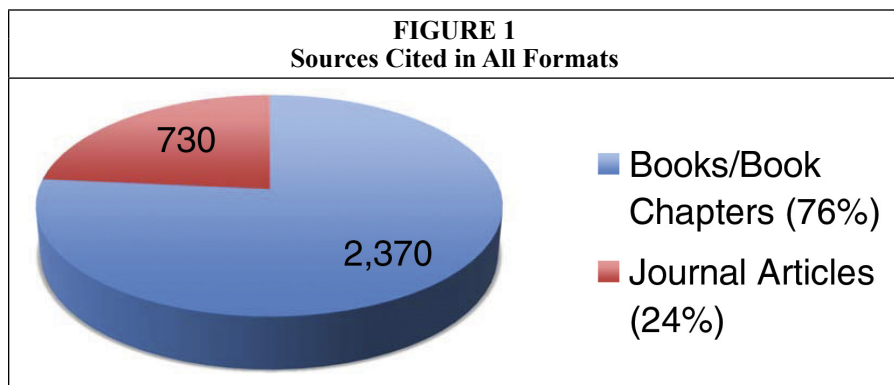
Limitations

As in other citations analyses, there are limitations to this study. The Pennsylvania State University has a relatively small Latin American studies program. The author is aware of the biases resulting from the small number of monographs analyzed and the multiple works written or cowritten by the same faculty members. The author also acknowledges that institutional and individual memberships often determine access to online books, and some books may be available online in other open access repositories. However, for the purposes of this study, four commonly used online digital libraries and open access pages were selected to provide a general overview of the state of online availability of materials used by Latin American studies researchers. The author also notes that the online digital libraries and the open access pages reviewed may be affected by copyright restrictions related to geographic location and other factors.

Results and Discussion

What formats (books or journal articles) are used most frequently by faculty in these academic areas?

The total number of citations for the categories of books/book chapters and journal articles together was 3,100. A total of 2,370 of the citations were books/book chapters representing 76 percent. A total of 730 citations were journal articles, accounting for 24 percent of the total number of citations.

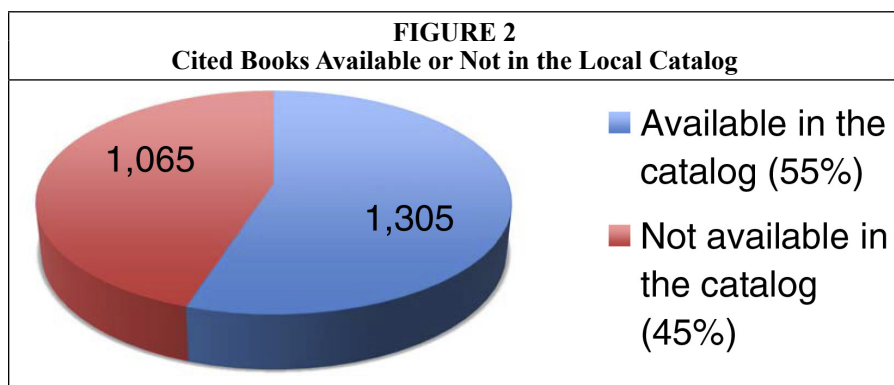


These numbers are similar to the results from other articles in the humanities and Latin American studies where about three-quarters of the citations were books.¹⁹ They serve to further illustrate the importance of collecting monographs to support Latin American studies research and demonstrate that Latin American studies librarianship continues to function as a set of collection-based services.

Does the library own the book?

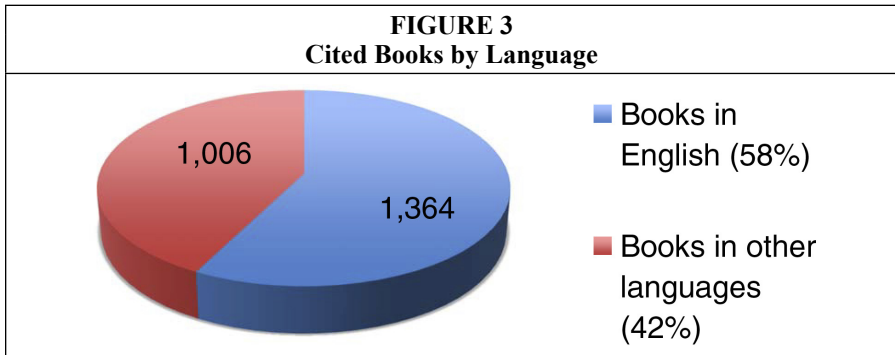
Of the monographs in the book/book chapter category, 55 percent of the citations (n=1,305) were found in the local catalog.

These results show that a significant number of titles were not available in the local collections.



Is the book in English or another language?

Of the monographs in the book/book chapter category, 58 percent of the works cited (n=1,364) were written in English.



The results show that English language books were cited more often than books in other languages. However, there is still significant use of works written in languages other than English, which accounted for 42 percent of the works cited in the book/book chapter category. This indicates the importance of building balanced collections with a significant number of books in both English and other languages.

Of the books owned by the library, how many are in English and how many are in other languages?

Of the monographs in English, 44 percent (n=1,053) were found in the local catalog. Of the monographs in languages other than English, 11 percent (n=252) were found in the local catalog.

English titles were much more readily available in the local catalog than books in other languages, indicating a major gap in local holdings for the non-English language titles needed by researchers of Latin American studies.

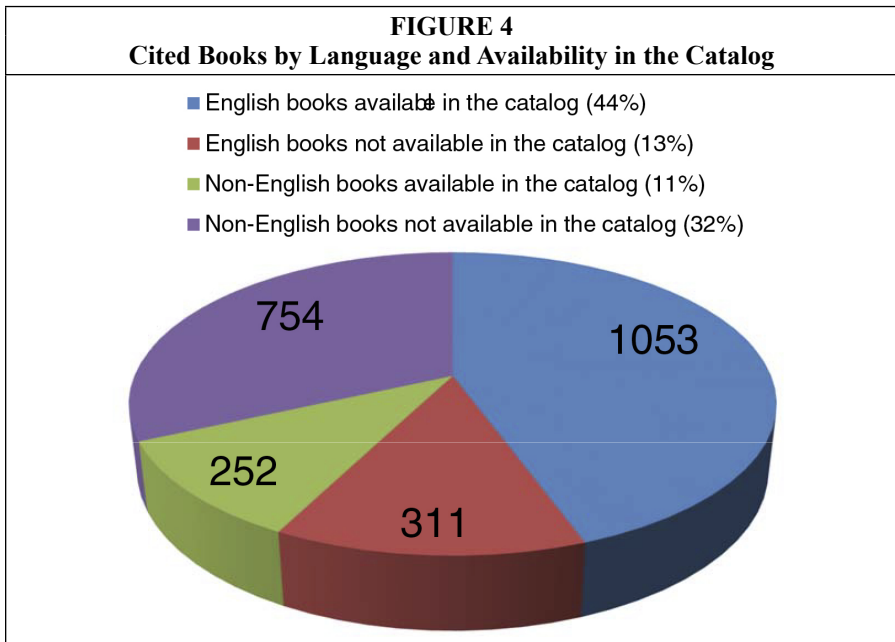
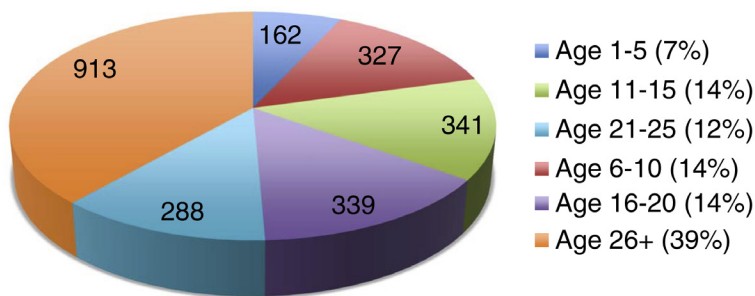


FIGURE 5
Age of Cited Books Compared to the Publication Date of the Citing Work



What is the age of the cited book?

Of the monographs in the book/book chapter category, 7 percent (n=162) were published within 5 years of the citing work, 14 percent (n=327) were published between 5 and 10 years of the citing work, 14 percent (n=341) were published between 11 and 15 years of the citing work, 14 percent (n=339) were published between 16 and 20 years of the citing work, 12 percent (n=288) were published between 21 and 25 years of the citing work, and 39 percent (n=913) were published 26 years or more before the citing work.

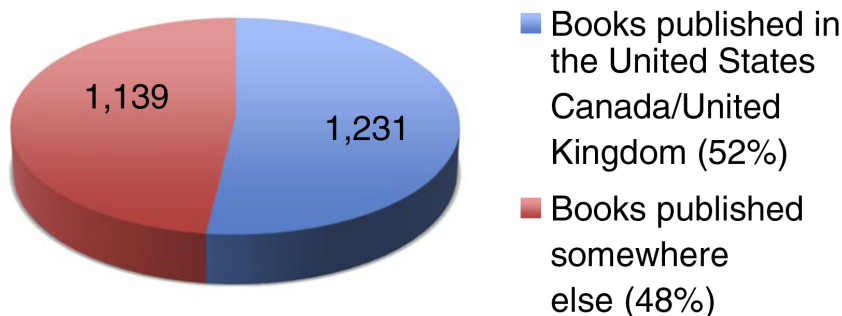
A large number of works cited were 26 or more years older than the citing work. These results suggest the importance of older materials for Latin American studies research, a contrast to the presumption that older books are less likely to be relevant to current scholarship and therefore are candidates for withdrawal or relocation. The author acknowledges that patterns in the age of citations vary across disciplines. This interdisciplinary analysis may have had such a significant number of older works cited due to the inclusion of a majority of humanities monographs, which previous research has shown to use older citations.²⁰

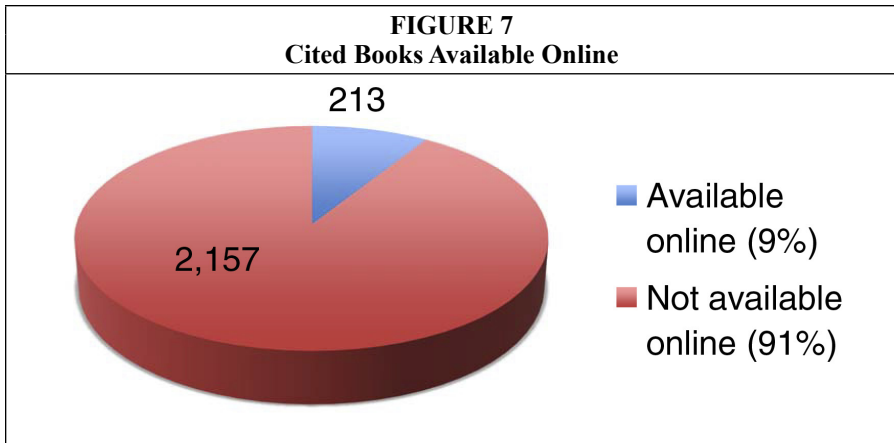
Was the book published in the United States/Canada/United Kingdom or somewhere else?

Of the monographs in the book/book chapter category, 52 percent (n=1,231) were books or book chapters published in the United States, Canada, or the United Kingdom.

The results indicate that almost half of the books or book chapters were published in countries other than the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom.

FIGURE 6
Cited Books by Place of Publication





Are the books available online?

More than 9 out of 10 (91%, $n=2,157$) of the books or book chapters cited were not available online. Only 9 percent ($n=213$) of the titles were available online either in Google Books, Hathi Trust Digital Library, JSTOR Books, or Project Muse.

The results show that the great majority of the works cited are not available online in the four repositories reviewed, indicating that faculty members accessed by far the majority of their sources in print format out of necessity, if not also preference. They also suggest that, despite the efforts of open access initiatives and digital libraries, a significant number of valuable resources for scholarly endeavors in Latin American studies remain untouched by digitization.

Conclusion

As in other citation analyses, the results indicated that the monograph remains a dominant research format in scholarly communication across disciplines in areas related to Latin America. This confirms that there is a clear need for continued support of monograph collections in all relevant disciplines.

This study also confirms that English language books are cited and used slightly more often than books in other languages. However, a significantly higher number of non-English titles are not available in the catalog (32% of all cited books). Approval plans should be updated to address this imbalance. Firm orders could also provide additional ways to support the needs of Latin American studies scholars. However, due to the complexity of the Latin American publishing industry, books published in other languages remain difficult to acquire. Books published in Latin America do not always reach the North American market. Despite the efforts of vendors and librarians, books may only be available in countries of their publication. Establishing professional relationships with Latin American vendors and distributors and attending international book fairs could result in more balanced collections. Institutional partnerships may offer another cost-effective approach for acquiring, storing, and providing access to electronic and print resources.

As physical space dedicated to collections continues to decrease, the value of older materials in Latin American studies should be a primary consideration when making the decision to keep or withdraw. As library space is under scrutiny and books continue to be withdrawn or annexed, discriminating on the basis of age of materials may be problematic for Latin American scholarship. The results of this study proved that older books remain relevant to current scholarship, even when they are 26 years or more

of age. This finding indicates the importance of maintaining existing collections and collecting retrospectively to support Latin American studies research.

Although content in other disciplines is being digitized, only a small number of books supporting Latin American studies research are available online. Copyright and other considerations may explain such a small number of materials online, but digital library initiatives may improve the availability of resources as we move forward. Additionally, Open Access initiatives may stimulate the publishing of Latin American materials as scholars explore disseminating their works in new ways and libraries and universities support and adopt open access policies for scholarly communications.

This citation analysis is one method of assessing the state of the Latin American collections at the Pennsylvania State University Libraries. More broadly, the resulting data could inform collaborative and consortial collection development decisions, budget allocations, space arrangements, and digitization project strategies. This study also leads to new questions about the best approaches to collection development of Latin American studies, including interlibrary loan usage, international copyright law, and faculty use of digital formats via surveys and focus groups. Ultimately, this study contributes to a general understanding of faculty research trends and the library's role in supporting the areas of Latin American studies across disciplines and academic units.

APPENDIX A. Books Evaluated for This Study

Art History

Solari, Amara. *Maya Ideologies of the Sacred: The Transfiguration of Space in Colonial Yucatan*. Austin: U of Texas P, 2013. Print.

Department of Comparative Literature

McClennen, Sophia A. *Ariel Dorfman: An Aesthetics of Hope*. Durham, N.C.: Duke UP, 2010. Print.

Department of Geography

Wright, Melissa. *Disposable Women and Other Myths of Global Capitalism*. New York: Routledge, 2006. Print.

Department of History

Restall, Matthew. *The Black Middle: Africans, Mayas, and Spaniards in Colonial Yucatan*. Stanford, Conn.: Stanford UP, 2009. Print.

Restall, Matthew, and Florine Asselbergs. *Invading Guatemala: Spanish, Nahua, and Maya Accounts of the Conquest Wars*. University Park: Pennsylvania University Press, 2007. Print.

Restall, Matthew, Lisa Sousa, and Kevin Tarraciano. *Mesoamerican Voices: Native Language Writings from Colonial Mexico, Oaxaca, Yucatan, and Guatemala*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2005. Print.

Restall, Matthew, and Michel Oudijk. *Conquistas de buenas palabras y guerra: Una visión indígena de la conquista*. Mexico: UNAM, 2013. Print.

———. *La Conquista indígena de Mesoamérica: El caso de Don Gonzalo Mazatzin Moctezuma*. Puebla, Mexico: Secretaría de Cultura del Gobierno del Estado de Puebla, 2008. Print.

Department of Labor Studies

Anner, Mark. *Solidarity Transformed: Labor Responses to Globalization and Crisis in Latin America*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell UP, 2011. Print.

Department of Spanish

Cuervo-Hewitt, Julia. *Voices Out of Africa in Twentieth-Century Spanish Caribbean Literature*. Lewisburg, Penn.: Bucknell UP, 2009. Print.

Lipski, John. *Afro-Bolivian Spanish*. Madrid: Iberoamericana, 2008. Print.

———. *Varieties of Spanish in the United States*. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown UP, 2008. Print.

Ochoa, John. *The Uses of Failure in Mexican Literature and Identity*. Austin: U of Texas P, 2004. Print.

Notes

1. Dan C. Hazen, "Researching Library Support for International Studies: Successes to Celebrate, Goals Post to Move," *College & Research Libraries* 75, no. 4 (2014): 418–21.

2. Lynn Shirey, "Latin American Collections," in *Building Area Studies Collections*, eds. Dan C. Hazen and James H. Spohrer (Wiesbaden, Germany: Harrassowitz Verlag, 2007): 108–30.

3. Stanley Chodorow, "The Once and Future Monograph," in *The Specialized Scholarly Monograph in Crisis, or, How Can I Get Tenure if You Won't Publish My Book? Proceedings of a Conference Sponsored by the American Council of Learned Societies, Association of American University Presses, Association of Research Libraries, Washington, D.C. September 11–12, 1997*, ed. Mary M. Case (Washington, D.C.: Association of Research Libraries, 1999), 11–17.

4. William S. Brockman, Laura Neumann, Carole L. Palmer, Tonyia J. Tidline, *Scholarly Work*

in the *Humanities and the Evolving Information Environment* (Dec. 2001), available online at: <https://www.clir.org/pubs/reports/pub104/pub104.pdf>.

5. Cámara Argentina del Libro, "Informe de Producción del Libro Argentino," available online at http://issuu.com/camaradellibro/docs/informe_de_producci_n_del_libro_ar [accessed 12 May 2015]; Cámara Nacional de la Industria Editorial Mexicana, "Actividad Editorial del Sector de Libros," available online at http://caniem.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Indicadores-booklet_2013.pdf [accessed 12 May 2015].

6. Hazen, "Researching Library Support for International Studies," 418.

7. Vincent Larivière, Cassidy R. Sugimoto, and Blaise Cronin, "A Bibliometric Chronicling of Library and Information Science's First Hundred Years," *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*, 63, no. 5 (2012): 997–1016.

8. John McDonald, "The Book Is Dead: Citation Rates in the Humanities and Social Sciences," in *Charleston Convention Proceedings 2001* (2002): 143–50.

9. Jennifer W. Thompson, "The Death of the Scholarly Monograph in the Humanities? Citation Patterns in Literary Scholarship," *Libri*, no. 3 (2002): 121–36.

10. Jennifer E. Knieval and Charlene Kellsey, "Overlap between Humanities Faculty Citation and Library Monograph Collections, 2004–2009," *College & Research Libraries* 73, no. 6 (2012): 569–83.

11. John Cullars, "Citation Characteristics of Italian and Spanish Literary Monographs," *Library Quarterly* 60, no. 4 (1990): 337–56.

12. David S. Nolen, "Characteristics of *la literatura*: A Reference Study of Spanish and Latin American Literature," *College & Research Libraries* 71, no. 1 (2010): 9–19.

13. David S. Nolen, "Publication and Language Trends of References in Spanish and Latin American Literature," *College & Research Libraries* 75, No. 1 (2014): 34–50.

14. Meiyolet Méndez and Karen Chapman, "The Use of Scholarly Monographs in the Journal Literature of Latin American History," *Electronic Journal of Academic and Special Librarianship* 7, no. 3 (2006), available online at http://southernlibrarianship.icaap.org/content/v07n03/mendez_m01.htm [accessed 16 May 2015].

15. Suzanne M. Schadl and Marina Todeschini, "Cite Globally, Analyze Locally: Citation Analysis from a Local Latin American Studies Perspective," *College & Research Libraries* 76, no. 2 (2015): 136–49.

16. Melissa Gasparotto, "A Ten Year Analysis of Dissertation Bibliographies from the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at Rutgers University," *Collection Building* 33, no. 3 (2014): 86–89.

17. Schadl and Todeschini, "Cite Globally, Analyze Locally."

18. Jennifer Knieval and Charlene Kellsey, "Citation Analysis for Collection Development: A Comparative Study of Eight Humanities Fields," *Library Quarterly* 75, no. 2 (2005): 142–68; Charlene Kellsey and Jennifer Knieval, "Global English in the Humanities? A Longitudinal Citation Study of Foreign Language Use by Humanities Scholars," *College & Research Libraries* 65, no. 3 (2004): 194–204.

19. Knieval and Kellsey, "Overlap Between Humanities Faculty Citation," 578–79; Cullars, "Citation Characteristics," 354; Gasparotto, "A Ten Year Analysis," 87.

20. Cullars, "Citation Characteristics," 349–50; Kellsey and Knieval, "Overlap Between Humanities Faculty Citation," 577–78.