

Portuguese. Similarly, in contrast with other empires, Spaniards formed the first racial group that comprised all the races of the world: Europeans, Africans, Americans and Asians. The first Europeans to established themselves permanently on what is today United States soil were the Spanish. Since the arrival of Juan Ponce de Leon in Florida in 1513, Spanish has been spoken in what is today the United States.

Today some American institutions still call the Spanish language “a foreign language.” Some historians ignore the meaning of “foreign” words such as: “Nevada”, “Colorado”, “California”, “Oregon”, “Montana”, “Amarillo”, etc. There were more than 8,000 “foreign” words in the United States before the pilgrims came. All the names from the Labrador peninsula to Florida were either in Spanish or Portuguese. Even the name “Vermont” (Montaña Verde) appears in a 16th century Spanish map.

The 25<sup>th</sup> Hispanic Forum seeks to examine issues of culture, history, and diversity of the dynamic and varied Hispanic World and how is represented in Anglo-America. We want to address the dangers of a monocultural society where scholars become so specialized that they cannot learn from their past and from languages outside English.

Juan Maura



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Organized by Juan Maura and Tina Escaja

*With special thanks to all those who made this event possible.*



The University of Vermont

*The Department of Romance  
Languages & Linguistics presents*

## **The Twenty-Fifth Annual Hispanic Forum**



*Photo by Juan Maura*

### **Before Jamestown: Spanish, French, and Portuguese Settlements in North America**

October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Memorial Lounge

Long before the English established Jamestown in 1607, Hispanic culture was flourishing in North America with an established university: the University of Mexico (1551). Up to thirty universities were created afterwards by Spain in the Americas before the independence of the new Spanish American countries, with the University of Santo Domingo as the oldest (1538). The new foundations modeled their charters mainly on that of the University of Salamanca, one of the oldest in Europe, and the second oldest and most venerable Spanish university. Scientific works on human rights, fauna, architecture, naval engineering, anthropology, ethnography, botany, and cartography were published by famed Spanish American Renaissance and Baroque scholars of the time. Harvard University, the oldest in the United States, was chartered in 1650. In Brazil the first university was established in 1912 in Curitiba (University of Parana). The oldest University in French America is the University of Laval, established in 1663.

Spain and Portugal were the first countries to have a real global dimension. Today Spanish is not only the second-most spoken language in the United States and the second international language of the world, but is also the first-most spoken in a number of medium and small cities and towns of the southwestern United States. From the fifteenth century to the present, Spain, enriched by its cultural diversity, established what can be considered the first global linguistic and racial culture. When Magellan and Elcano sailed from Spain in 1519 around the world, took with them what would be the first languages to span all seas and continents: Spanish and (*cont.*)

## First Session

**10:00**

**Juan Francisco Maura**

Introduction

**10:15**

**Shea Mahoney**

“Soldaderas, políticos, rebeldes: Mujeres en la historia novohispana”

**10: 45**

**Magnolia Penkoff**

“Las mujeres colonizadoras en el nuevo mundo”

**11:15-11:45**

**Juan F. Maura**

“Antes de Colón: españoles y portugueses en Canada”

**Lunch: 12:00-1:00**

## Second Session

**1:15-1:45**

**Tyler Campbell**

“Spanish Etymology in Pre-Jamestown North America”

**2:15-2:45**

Round Table: “Propaganda and distortion of the Hispanic Culture in the English-speaking world.”

*Moderated by Juan F. Maura*

**3:15-5:00**

**Tina Escaja**

Movie introduction: “Conversación sobre el documental “America’s Untold Story: The First Permanent European Settlement -Before the Pilgrims Landed-”

*Movie: America’s Untold Story: The First Permanent European Settlement -Before the Pilgrims Landed-*

**Closing: 5:00**