

Caracas,
Venezuela



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Daniel A. Strocchia P.

A Student's Perspective

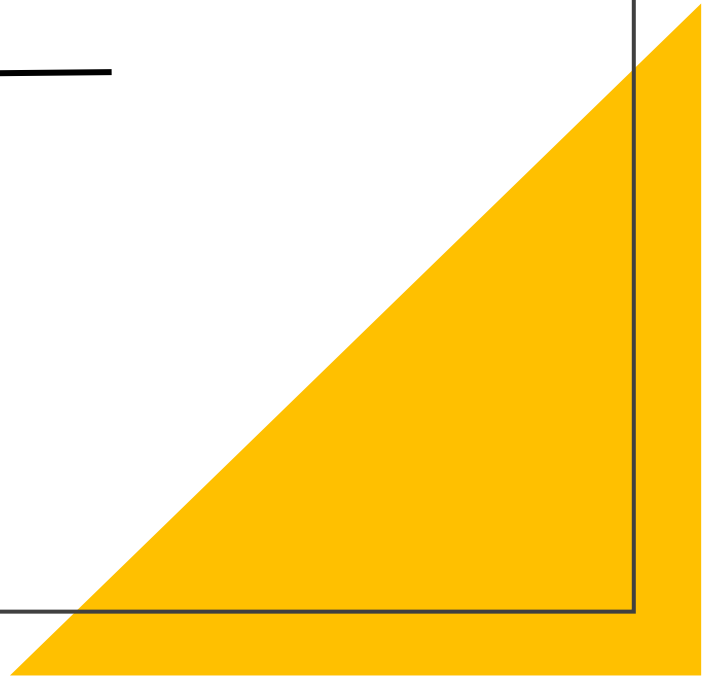
• The Presenter:

- Presenter at International Virtual Exchange Conference (IVEC) 2021: "*The Symbolism of Freedom*".
- Intern at the State University of New York's (SUNY) Emerging Technologies (EmTech) project.
- Bachelor in Mass Communications from Andrés Bello Catholic University [Universidad Católica Andrés Bello] (UCAB).
- Law Student at Andrés Bello Catholic University [Universidad Católica Andrés Bello] (UCAB).
- Coil veteran: Albany (US) - Caracas (Vzla) 2020/21, and Durban (SA) - Caracas (Vzla) 2021.





Some Context



What We Did

Lecturers:

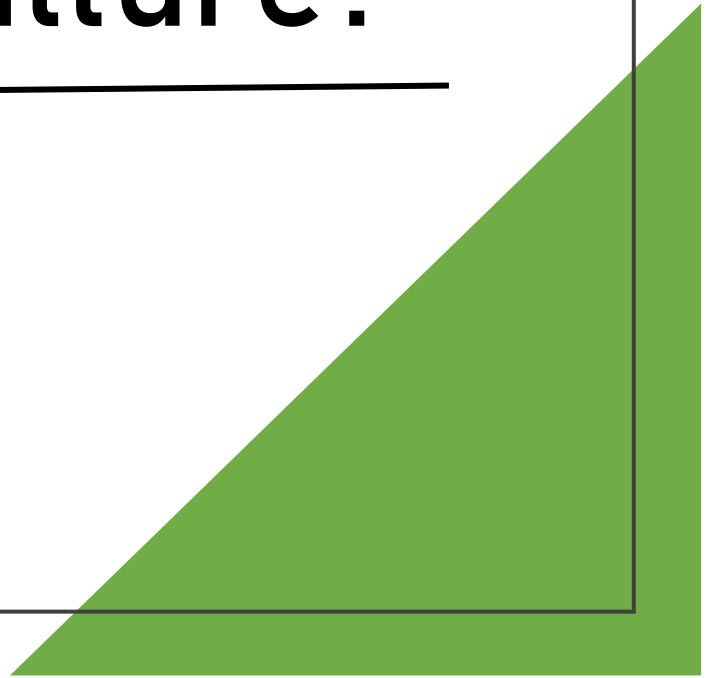
José Luis Jiménez

Ilka Kressner

- USA and Venezuela; key differences.
- Two Groups: SUNY Albany and UCAB Caracas.
- The Activities and Relationship Between Both Groups.
- Initial Impressions and Developing of the COIL Experience.



Online Popular Culture?






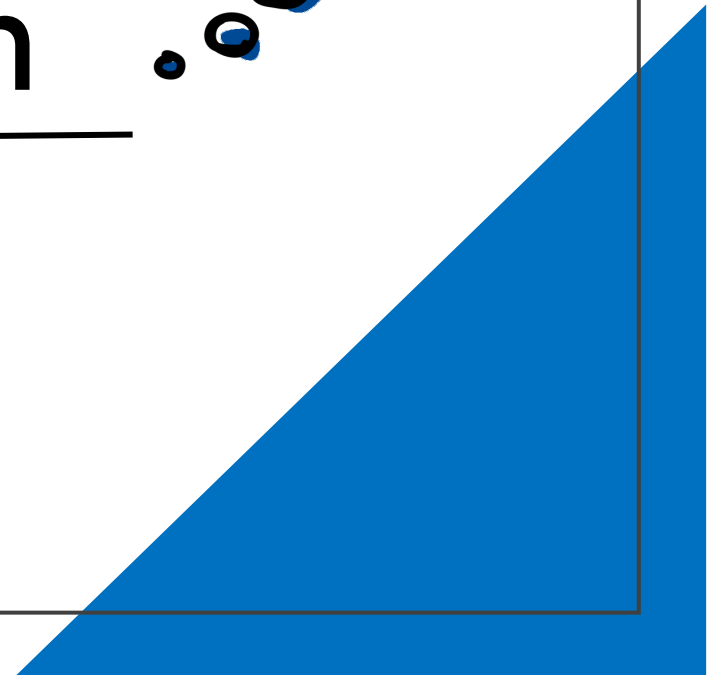
- The instructions:

- To analyze popular culture from the perspective of an specific topic.
- TikTok as a representative of social media.
- Hui Zuo & Tongyue Wang (2019).

- Can we talk about «online popular culture»?
Some theories say yes.

- Political participation and freedom of expression on the net.
 - Highly politicized and polarized.
 - Ioana Literat & Neta Kligler-Vilenchik (2021).
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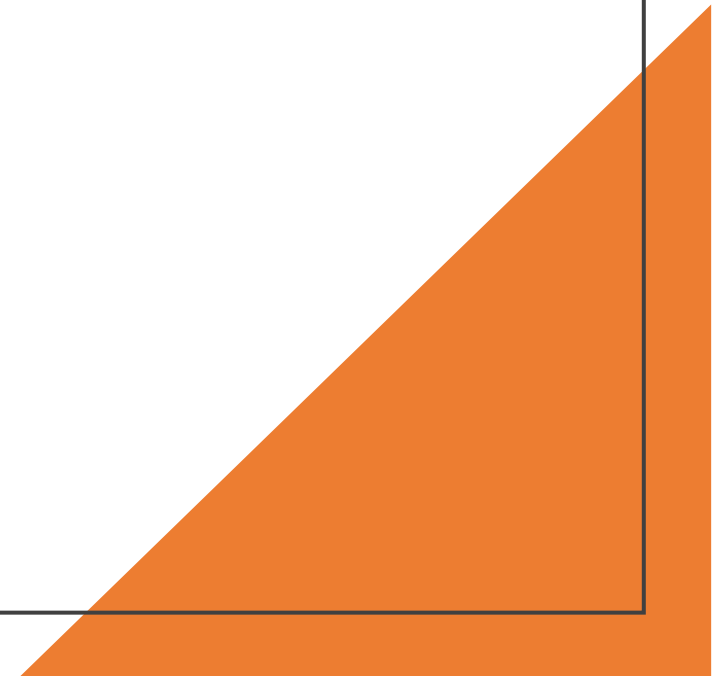
Empathizing With the Faces Behind the Screen



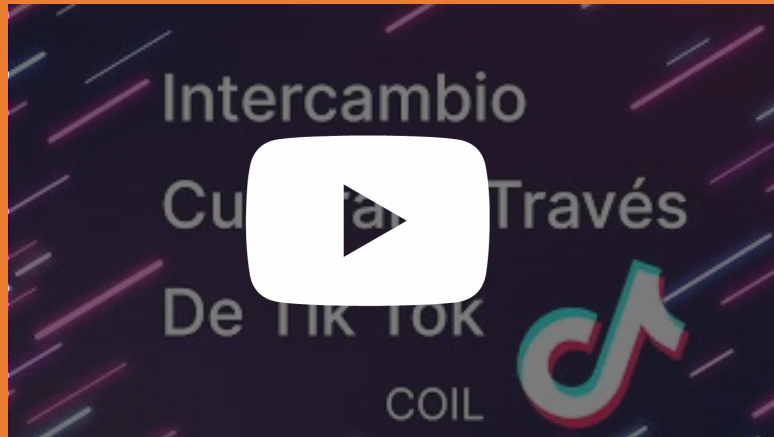
Empathizing

- First encounters.
- Changing our perspectives: social movements and content bias based on personalization.
- Facing concepts: popular culture. Gastronomy, dance, colloquialisms, jokes, politics?
- The land of the free? Concept of freedom and empathizing.

Results



Video



<https://youtu.be/AubSMR0gT9s>

Some Thoughts

- Empathizing not only occurs in a single direction, but rather in a bidirectional sense.
- Interactions online between human groups derive in multiple roles and activities, where people are constantly changing roles and establishing new forms of culture (producers, disseminators, consumers).
- Even though we are more exposed to other humans than what we have ever been, we are less capable to understand others.



Thank you!

¡Gracias!

Merci !

Mahalo

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