Testing the Fidelity of English-Spanish Translations in Election Materials
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Our research project was only possible because of Fondren Library and the many resources that Fondren and Rice provide to students. From access to journal articles to online subscriptions for research to technology and support, Fondren was critical to our ability to properly understand our subject material, complete an effective research project, and analyze the results. At every stage of our project we found ourselves reliant on books that we would not have had access to in a timely manner if we were not students at Rice or frequent visitors to Fondren; out-of-print and hard to find books that simply do not exist electronically were either to be found on the shelf (alongside other related and useful material, only further expanding our project's literary foundation) or to be kindly retrieved from the LSC in no time at all. Access to research databases through Fondren's many subscriptions, and the confidence that if we were able to find an article for which Fondren did not have umbrella access we could request it from Fondren/ILL and have it in mere days, made our research go by smoothly and enabled us to spiral down the research rabbit hole unfettered and unconcerned.

Equally important, however, was the space that Fondren provided for our work. We were able to spend many late nights as a team working in the comfort of the library, efficiently knocking down different tasks in an environment conducive to serious work. Integral to our final project, and especially to the project's quantified components, was our ability to work together using the first floor computers. Access to general programs and data analysis tools, from Excel to SPSS, that our team did not share uniformly across our respective computers allowed us to properly deal with our data. Working with the data using the resources and support available substantially reduced the project's burden on us and made the entire process much less daunting. This was all particularly evident when it came to the poster presentation component of our report where the first floor computers' up-to-date PowerPoint and their readily available (and perfectly large) computer screens made our task of producing a presentable project much less painful. Printing, like everything else, was easy and quick and allowed us to move from computer to printed draft and back to computer quickly. During the last days of the project, the midnight snacks provided by the Fondren staff gave us a last little boost of energy and raised moral as we slogged through our drafts and made our final revisions.

All together, Fondren Library is a valuable asset that enabled us to explore our subject from all directions, allowing us to attack our work together and finally produce an effective and cohesive project. From data analysis programs available only on Rice computers to books only available in the library, our project would not have been possible without the resources provided by Fondren.