In Spring 2018, I had the opportunity to visit the Stanford Library with the Stanford Library Access Grant from the Center for Latin American Studies department. During this period, I made several visits to find and collect materials to start a new research project related to the idea/concept of borders (1. US-Mexico 2. Spain-Morocco). The faculty, staff from CLAS, and librarians assisted me with searching and finding all the different material and services available to researchers: books, articles, films, magazines, interlibrary loans, online databases, archives, special holdings, among others.

At the Green Library, I accessed a wide variety of materials: books, articles, films, scholarly journals, and periodicals that were difficult to find anywhere else, and that my own library did not hold. The effective service of interlibrary loan, and professional staff helped me to achieve my goal of finding the necessary material to start my manuscript about the two borders. Since the Latin American collection at Stanford University is the most comprehensive in the country, I was not only able to request, but also to find, and obtain new material by North African and Spanish writers of Hispanic expression such as Sergio Barce Gallardo, Luis Antonio de Vega, Mohammed Bouissef Rekab, and Karima Toufali. Thanks to the grant, I prepared a new course, and added primary sources as well as secondary findings for an introductory class of literature at San Francisco City College (CCSF), Foreign Languages Department.

In addition, the material found has helped me to expand my research interest and I am presenting at several scholarly national and international conferences. The Hispanic Arabic Association has accepted my research paper entitled: “El rumor del otro México: representación del cruzamiento (trans)fronterizo en filmes” to be presented November 23-25, 2018 at the Ain Shams University in Cairo, Egypt. I recently submitted another research paper for presentation titled: “Arabización o hispanización: Frontera (inter)cultural en la narrativa de temática migratoria” to take place at Freie Universität Berlin, March 27-31, 2019 in Berlin, Germany. Both presentations will be published at Cándil, Revista del Hispanismo en Egipto. My findings are now shared in a global setting, where more institutions and scholars could benefit. I also writing an introduction to my manuscript on border life.

I am very grateful for the opportunity and for the Center for Latin American Studies department for selecting my application.