



Global Partnerships

La Biblioteca Esperanza: Books and films recommended by Esperanza International as you prepare for service in Tijuana, Mexico.

1. *The Devil's Highway: A True Story* (2004)

Luis Alberto Urrea

In this work of grave beauty and searing power – one of the most widely praised pieces of investigated reporting to appear in recent years – we follow twenty-six men who in May 2001 attempted to cross the Mexican border into the desert of southern Arizona, through the deadly region known as the Devil's Highway, a desert so harsh and desolate that even the Border Patrol is afraid to travel through it, a place that for hundreds of years has stolen men's souls and swallowed their blood. Only twelve of the men made it out.

“The single most compelling, lucid, and lyrical contemporary account of the absurdity of U.S. border policy...Urrea cuts through the prevailing mythologies surrounding the border and reveals, unsentimentally but with compassion, how a simple political boundary manages to scramble the basic humanity of all whose lives it divides and defines.” –Atlantic Monthly

2. *Globalization and Its Discontents* (2002)

Joseph E. Stiglitz

“This penetrating, insightful book explains the vast shortcomings of global policy. Informed by his experience in the White House and at the World Bank, Joseph Stiglitz sensitively describes the many ways in which the major institutions of globalization have failed the struggling countries they were meant to serve. This is a seminal work that must be read by anyone who cares about the future course of the world economies.” –George Soros

“A war story from inside the halls of the White House and the World Bank, the confession of a powerful economist with a political conscience and a healthy degree of common sense.” –Village Voice

“[Stiglitz] is not a global pessimist, but a realist-and instead of placing him in a neat box labeled ‘important contribution to the debate,’ we should listen to him urgently.” –The Guardian (UK)

3. *Travel as a Political Act* (2009)

Rick Steves

There's more to travel than good-value hotels, great art, and tasty cuisine. Americans who “travel as a political act” can have the time of their lives and come home smarter-with a better understanding of the interconnectedness of today's world and just how our nation fits in.

In his new book, acclaimed travel writer Rick Steves explains how to travel more thoughtfully-to any destination. He shares a series of field reports from Europe, Central America, Asia, and the Middle East to show how his travels have shaped his politics and broadened his perspective.

“Travel connects people with people. It helps us fit more comfortably and compatibly into a shrinking world. And it inspires creative new solutions to persistent problems facing our nation. We can’t understand our world without experiencing it. *Travel as a Political Act* helps us take that first step.”

4. *Tijuana Dreaming: Life and Art at the Global Border* (2012)

Josh Kun & Fiamma Montezemolo, Editors

Tijuana Dreaming is an unprecedented introduction to the arts, culture, politics, and economics of contemporary Tijuana, Mexico. With many pieces translated from Spanish for the first time, this anthology features contributions by prominent scholars, journalist, bloggers, novelists, poets, curators, and photographers from Tijuana and greater Mexico. They explore urban planning in light of Tijuana’s unique infrastructural, demographic, and environmental challenges. They delve into its musical countercultures, architectural ruins, cinema, and emergence as a hot spot on the international art scene. One contributor examines fictional representations of Tijuana’s past as Prohibition-era “city of sin” for U.S. pleasure seekers. Another reflects on the city’s recent struggles with kidnappings and drug violence. In an interview, Néstor García Canclini revisits ideas that he advanced in *Culturas híbridas* (1990), his watershed book about Latin America and cultural hybridity. Taken together, the sections present a kaleidoscopic portrait of a major border city in the age of globalization.

“*Tijuana Dreaming* is important and inspirational, a study of the imaginary of a city that constantly reinvents itself. By documenting the artistic and social expressions of this border city, Josh Kun and Fiamma Montezemolo reveal what motivates us and what makes us proud as *tijuanenses*, living in a city so full of inspiration and possibility.” – Ramón Amezcua, aka Bostich, of Nortec Collective

5. *Twilight on the Line: Underworlds and Politics at the U.S-Mexico Border* (1998)

Sebastian Rotella

“*Twilight on the Line* shows that integration between Mexico and the United States is not just a matter of trade and investment; it is about cultures, societies, and the frailties and strengths of the human condition. This is a compelling and cautionary tale, one that deserves a very wide reading.” –Peter H. Smith, director of Latin American studies, University of California, San Diego

“There is no turf on the continent so tense and dangerous and desperately important as the two-thousand-mile border between Mexico and the United States, and there is nobody who knows it better or in more depth than Sebastian Rotella. Rotella has the gifts of a first-rate writer and uses them wonderfully well, bringing his story as alive as the best novels. *Twilight on the Line* is a powerful and memorable book, one of the rare ones that cut through rhetoric and abstraction and tells us the truth.” –George Garrett, author of *The King of Babylon Shall Not Come Against You*

“In *Twilight on the Line* Sebastian Rotella shows how the best journalism can be as entertaining and urgent as the best fiction. From assassins to underdogs heroes, the wonderful atmosphere, gripping detail, and telling insight of this book make it an engrossing, fascinating read. Rotella is an A-list journalist with a storyteller’s heart.” – Michael Connelly, author of *Trunk Music*

6. *De Nadie (Border Crossing)* (2006)

Director: Tin Dirdamal

Prepare for the journey as an unknown, a nothing, no one. Prepare to leave everything from South and Central America behind and travel alone with a vague sense of direction and the echo of your family left in your ears. Prepare to face the same intimidation and corruptive danger in Mexico as you will eventually find 1,300 miles north, when you cross into the United States-if you live through it.

7. *Sin Nombre* (2009)

Producers: Diego Luna and Gael García Bernal

Seeking the promise of America, a beautiful young woman (Paulina Gaiton) joins her father on an odyssey to cross the gauntlet of the Latin American countryside. Along the way, she crosses paths with a teenaged Mexican gang Member, El Casper (Edgar M. Flores), who is maneuvering to outrun his violent past. Together they have to rely on faith, trust and street smarts if they are to survive their increasingly perilous journey towards the hope of new lives.