Annotated Abstract Examples:

Lucas Ramos
La Madre Blanca de Borinquén & La Risa Negra de Patria: A Racialized Revisiting of Puerto Rican Independence through the poetry of Lola Rodríguez de Tió

Activist and poet Lola Rodríguez de Tió held a crucial voice within the body of Puerto Rican literature, with a collection of poetry that both encapsulated the fervor and encouraged the fight for Puerto Rican separation from Spanish occupation. Her call for taking arms against the Spanish in the publication of her anthem La Borinquén later inspired the fight for Puerto Rican autonomy during the Spanish-American war and is important to Puerto Rico's patriots today, using the indigenous term for the island, Borinquén, to provide a sense of Caribbean unity. The placement of Rodríguez de Tió in Borinquén culture requires intersectional revisiting; analyzing her poetry and activism within the spaces of race and gender - she was not Taino, but a white, creole, Spanish elite born in San Juan, Puerto Rico to parents of colonizer origin. Her genealogy is crucial to critiquing the vision of Puerto Ricans she found legitimate for autonomy. This paper will look at Rodríguez de Tió's use of Borinquén culture as a way to strategically remove her and create elites from their colonial pasts, Encuentreando and written Puerto Rican cultural imaginings; and place creole elites in Puerto Rico's indigenous history, I organize Rodríguez de Tió's life and her childhood to the initial stage of La Borinquén's distribution (1844-1868), her status post-publication of La Borinquén and her initial time in exile (1869-1885), and her political role in New York City (1895-1900). The following segments offer analyses of Rodríguez de Tió's often overlooked genealogy, her correspondences with activists, and her vision to presenting independence fighters' anxieties over the whitening demographics of Cuba and Puerto Rico. It also includes using an application called Voyant Software, which allows for rhetorically analyzing Rodríguez de Tió's changing use of her most popular key terms through several decades and their linkages to imagery in her poetry.

Ana Patricia Espinosa
Bilingualism: How do Negative Attitudes Towards a Language Affect Memory Recollection

Fifty nine percent of adult Hispanics in the United States are bilinguals whose ability to speak more than one language shapes their perception of the world. However, within today's political society these individuals are looked down upon as unaccustomed foreigners, racist, drug lords, and even killers. One is left to wonder how the negative emotions towards Hispanic existence, characterized by their language and culture, can affect bilinguals' ability to embrace their prior experiences, most vividly seen through memory recollection tasks. In other words, how priming balanced Latin bilinguals with stigmas towards the Spanish affect their ability to recall memories in Spanish?

On the one hand, research on bilingual memory recollection suggests the language-dependent recall hypothesis—bilinguals can retrieve more experiences when interviewed in the language in which the memory took place. However, psychological studies show that when attitudes toward a minority language are negative, negative elaborations will ensue if the attitudes are made salient. Thus, balanced Hispanic bilinguals were prompted to write about two preselected experiences that occurred while Spanish was their most salient language, one in Spanish and one in English, and two that occurred after English became their dominant language, in order to verify the language dependent recall hypothesis. These same individuals were then primed with biases towards the Spanish language before completing the memory recollection task once more. The initial results show that if balanced Latina bilinguals are primed with stigmas towards the Spanish language then their ability to recall memories in Spanish is negatively impacted.