

Reed College
Institutional Review Board (IRB)
Appendix B

International Research or Research with Non-English Speaking Participants

- I. If the research has not undergone IRB or equivalent ethics committee review from the host country or performance site, provide a rationale.

Interviews are informal and in part initiated through personal contact. I am not aware of any research ethics committee in Mexico regulating research in my area of study.

Note: The IRB recognizes that such review is not always possible or appropriate.

- II. Specify your familiarity with and/or knowledge of both the local research context and the culture in which you will be conducting research.

By the time I visit Chiapas in January, I will have spent an entire semester investigating the historical context of my research sites. I have visited Mexico before, and have studied the nation's history throughout my courses at Reed. I am also fluent in Spanish. Most significantly, I will be accompanied by a local guide with personal contacts in each of the communities I visit who will ensure that I understand the cultural context. I am aware that certain Zapatista communities I intend to interview may be hesitant to share information about the internal activities of the Zapatista Liberation Army or the locations of its members.

- III. Specify additional risks participants might face as a result of their membership in the population being studied and/or as a result of the local research context. Indicate how you intend to minimize these risks.

Zapatista communities are targeted by paramilitary groups (possibly government affiliated) in an ongoing effort to suppress their movement. While it is very unlikely that my research could contribute to further suppression (considering it will not be published or made publically available in Mexico) I will mitigate the risk by adhering to strict confidentiality procedures outlined in section V.

- IV. Language Issues

- A. In what language(s) will the research be conducted?

Spanish.

- B. Are you fluent in this language, or will a translator be used?

I am fluent.

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1. If a translator will be used, how will the translator be identified and trained in confidentiality issues? If the use of a translator poses any additional risk to participants, indicate how you will minimize these risks?

n/a

2. Indicate how the consent documents/scripts and research instruments will be translated.

I will translate the my documents into Spanish myself and have my work checked by a member of the Spanish department.

V. Confidentiality

Specify how data will be taken out of the country, including the procedures in place to protect confidentiality.

I will use pseudonyms for the participants unless they prefer to be identified, in which case I will have them orally consent at the start of the recording. Only I will have access to the recorded interviews, and all written transcriptions will be password protected on my computer in an encrypted document. When I return to the U.S., all data taken out of country will remain on my hard drive until the end of my project. I will destroy the recordings by May 2023 at the latest.