Linguistic Factors Affecting the Socioeconomic Status of Latino Immigrants in Dayton, OH

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By Ali Van Loon, advised by Dr. Theo Majka

The Context
Much of the research indicates that language ability significantly affects SES. Without EFL instruction, the success of these Spanish-speakers would be hindered; thus, they would fall in danger of becoming the bottom of the social hierarchy.

Methodology
• Linguistic survey for 43 native Spanish-speakers
• Interviews—select group of survey informants
• Case Study—immigrant family who encapsulate much of the immigrant experience

Conclusion
There is much more intersectionality between factors that influence English fluency and SES for Latino immigrants. In fact, some immigrants can do quite well even with low levels of fluency in English.