

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910789570603321
Autore	Wesling Meg
Titolo	Empire's Proxy : American Literature and U.S. Imperialism in the Philippines // Meg Wesling
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, NY : , : New York University Press, , [2011] ©2011
ISBN	0-8147-9541-2 0-8147-9478-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (249 p.)
Collana	American Literatures Initiative ; ; 1
Disciplina	810.9358599032
Soggetti	National characteristics, American, in literature American literature - Filipino American authors - History and criticism Americans - Philippines Philippine literature (English) Imperialism in literature American literature - 19th century - History and criticism Philippines Relations United States United States Relations Philippines
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 177-228) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction. Educated Subjects: Literary Production, Colonial Expansion, and the Pedagogical Public Sphere -- 1. The Alchemy of English -- 2. Empire's Proxy -- 3. Agents of Assimilation -- 4. The Performance of Patriotism -- Conclusion. "An Empire of Letters": Literary Tradition, National Sovereignty, and Neocolonialism -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index -- About the Author
Sommario/riassunto	In the late nineteenth century, American teachers descended on the Philippines, which had been newly purchased by the U.S. at the end of the Spanish-American War. Motivated by President McKinley's project of "benevolent assimilation," they established a school system that centered on English language and American literature to advance the superiority of the Anglo-Saxon tradition, which was held up as

justification for the U.S.'s civilizing mission and offered as a promise of moral uplift and political advancement. Meanwhile, on American soil, the field of American literature was just being developed and fundamentally, though invisibly, defined by this new, extraterritorial expansion. Drawing on a wealth of material, including historical records, governmental documents from the War Department and the Bureau of Insular Affairs, curriculum guides, memoirs of American teachers in the Philippines, and 19th century literature, Meg Wesling not only links empire with education, but also demonstrates that the rearticulation of American literary studies through the imperial occupation in the Philippines served to actually define and strengthen the field. *Empire's Proxy* boldly argues that the practical and ideological work of colonial dominance figured into the emergence of the field of American literature, and that the consolidation of a canon of American literature was intertwined with the administrative and intellectual tasks of colonial management.
