President’s Letter: Onward to Boston!

Dear NeMLA Members,

Thank you for attending our 50th Anniversary Convention in Washington, DC! It was pretty unforgettable. This year’s overarching topic, “Transnational Spaces: Intersections of Cultures, Languages, and Peoples,” was particularly fitting for our first ever presence in the Capital City. Over the past 50 years, NeMLA has kept attracting new members and has grown to be the largest regional branch of the MLA while constantly evolving in order to reflect the current state of our profession and scholarship. This year, for example, we launched our first undergraduate students’ poster forum. Given its success, we are pleased to announce that we will continue this initiative in Boston in 2020. I would like to take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone involved in making the anniversary convention a success, and especially the Executive Board, the area directors, the administrative staff, the graduate fellows, all the chairs, panelists, and participants. Thank you all for your hard work, your dedication, and for being so dynamic. I invite you to check out the video posted on our website (buffalo.edu/nemla) to see how amazing our 50th convention was.

We are especially grateful to the local host institution, Georgetown University, for their overall support of the convention in Washington, DC, as well as to our “NeMLA Reads Together” featured author Imbolo Mbue. A heartfelt thank you to our amazing keynote speaker Homi Bhabha whose plenary address “The Burdened Life: On Immigration and the Humanities” was a vibrant success. We are forever indebted to our outgoing President Simona Wright, whose leadership, grace, and professionalism were instrumental in making this past convention so successful and unforgettable for its over 1,800 participants. Simona will continue to serve as our Past President for 2019-2020, and I am honored to work with her on the Executive Board.

The University at Buffalo continues to serve as NeMLA’s administrative institution and to provide our organization with the resources needed to support the logistics behind our yearly conventions, awards, and other initiatives. I would like to take this opportunity to thank in particular our Executive Director, Carine Mardorossian, for her vision, as well as her hard work and dedication in making each NeMLA convention more successful and inclusive. Thank you to all the staff, graduate fellows, and volunteers who help organizing the yearly conference.

Our next convention will take place from March 5 to 8, 2020, at the Marriott Copley Place, in the heart of Boston. The upcoming 51st Annual Convention’s theme is "Shaping and Sharing Identities: Spaces, Places, Languages and Cultures," a topic embracing the many facets that define each and every human being across cultures and languages, as well as the many ways in which we interact with each other in today’s rapidly changing global world. Because of its rich history and geographical location, Boston is the perfect city to reflect upon this year’s theme as it is a major place of linguistic and cultural confluences in the Northeast of the United States while being close to
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Opening Event: Maurice Lee

March 5, 2020, 7:00 PM
Reception and book signing to follow

The Office of Literature

The word “office” has two dominant meanings: a place for commercial, professional, and bureaucratic labor; and a charge or position of authority associated with public service. The crisis in the humanities reflects a tension between these meanings insofar as the public role of literature as understood by literary scholars often conflicts with the commercial, professional, and bureaucratic structures in which we work. As higher education becomes more committed to instrumental knowledge, vocational training, standardized assessments, and corporatism, the traditional values and methods of literary studies seem increasingly under duress. But what are these values and methods, and how traditional are they? What are, and what have been, the offices of literature? Taking Nathaniel Hawthorne as a case study, Maurice Lee argues that literary aesthetics have not always been at odds with commercial, professional, and bureaucratic discourse. Our crisis in the humanities can appear to stem from irreconcilable differences between the two, though a broad historical perspective suggests less determined and more hopeful dynamics.

Keynote Event: Andre Dubus III

March 6, 2020, 7:00 PM
Reception and book signing to follow

Andre Dubus III grew up in mill towns on the Merrimack River along the Massachusetts-New Hampshire border. He is the author of seven books including three New York Times bestsellers. His most recent is Gone So Long (2018). House of Sand and Fog was a #1 New York Times bestseller, a fiction finalist for the National Book Award, the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, and BookSense Book of the Year, and was an Oprah Book Club Selection, and was adapted into an Academy Award-nominated motion picture starring Ben Kingsley and Jennifer Connelly. The Garden of Last Days is soon to be a major motion picture. His memoir, Townie, was a #4 New York Times bestseller and a New York Times Editor’s Choice. Dirty Love was chosen as a Notable Book and Editors’ Choice from the New York Times, a Notable Fiction from the Washington Post, and a Kirkus Starred Best Book of 2013. Mr. Dubus has been awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship, the National Magazine Award for Fiction, 2 Pushcart Prizes, and an American Academy of Arts and Letters Award in Literature. His books are published in more than 25 languages.

In Gone So Long, Daniel Ahearn lives a quiet, solitary existence in a seaside New England town. Forty years ago, following a shocking act of impulsive violence on his part, his daughter, Susan, was ripped from his arms by police. Now in her forties, Susan still suffers from the trauma of a night she doesn’t remember. Lois, her maternal grandmother who raised her, tries to find peace in her antique shop in a quaint Florida town but cannot escape her own anger, bitterness, and fear. Cathartic, affirming, and steeped in the empathy and precise observations of character for which Dubus is celebrated, Gone So Long explores how the wounds of the past afflict the people we become, and probes the limits of recovery and absolution.

NeMLA members are encouraged to read Gone So Long in preparation for writer Andre Dubus III’s keynote address. Submit questions to ask the author at support@nemla.org.
51st Annual Convention
March 5–8, 2020, Boston, MA
LOCAL HOST: BOSTON UNIVERSITY

The 51st Annual Convention of the Northeast Modern Language Association will meet March 5 to 8, 2020, and will feature more than 400 sessions, as well as dynamic speakers and cultural events. Each year, this event affords NeMLA’s principal opportunity to carry on a tradition of lively research and pedagogical exchange in language and literature.

The theme of NeMLA 2020 is “Shaping and Sharing Identities: Spaces, Places, Languages, and Cultures”—a topic embracing the many facets that define each and every human being across cultures and languages, as well as the many ways in which we interact with each other in today’s rapidly changing global world.

This year’s convention will be held at the Marriott Copley Place, in the heart of downtown Boston. Events will be planned to help you make the most of your stay. The Marriott Copley Place is offering NeMLA members a conference rate of $179. Free wireless Internet is provided in guest rooms to all Marriott Bonvoy guests (free membership at marriott.com). On-site parking is $40 daily.

To review all calls for papers and to submit abstracts, please visit cfplist.com/nemla. Submissions are due September 30, 2019. For more information, email support@nemla.org.

Travel Information
AIR TRAVEL AND GROUND TRANSPORTATION
The Marriott Copley Place is a 22-minute drive from Boston Logan International Airport. Taxi, bus, and subway service are available to and from the Marriott and Boston Logan.

DISCOUNTED FLIGHTS WITH DELTA AIR LINES
Delta Air Lines is pleased to offer special discounts for NeMLA convention attendees. Visit buffalo.edu/nemla/delta to book your flights with Discount Code NYAVJ. You may also call Delta Meeting Network® at 1 800 328 1111 Monday-Friday, 7:00 AM-7:30 PM (CT) and refer to Meeting Event Discount Code NYAVJ. Please note there is not a service fee for reservations booked and ticketed via our reservation 800 number.

ROOM & RIDE FORUM
Starting in December, the CAITY Caucus and Graduate Student Caucus will again host the Room and Ride Forum for Caucus members who want to share the costs of traveling or lodging at the 51st Annual Convention. More information at nemlagsc.boards.net/board/4/2020-boston-accomodations.

OPENINGS FOR BOARD MEMBERS

The success of NeMLA depends on an engaged, volunteer Board. These roles provide an opportunity to shape the Convention and to contribute to the profession. Positions on the Board are staggered. Self-nominations are welcome. Nominations for the 2020–2023 slate are due August 15. To submit nominations, or for more information about positions and nominating, please visit buffalo.edu/nemla/boardopenings.

Open positions following the 2019 convention will include:
Second Vice President
Anglophone/British Literatures Director
CAITY Caucus President and Representative
Member-At-Large: Diversity
German Studies Director
Graduate Student Caucus Representative
Italian Studies Director

Board Duties
Two meetings per year, where each Board member is required to write a report on the activities related to their particular position.

Responsibilities
The Second Vice President serves on the Board for four years, in progressive positions. The Second Vice President chairs the Fellowship Committee, assists the President by performing duties assigned, and when necessary assumes the duties and responsibilities of the President. The First and Second Vice Presidents share with the President and the Executive Director responsibility for the annual convention. The Second Vice President is also responsible for negotiating an agreement with a higher education hosting institution for the NeMLA conference that will take place in the year they will be the acting President. A new Second Vice President is elected every year to the NeMLA Board.

The Directors represent the interests of the membership as a whole as well as of their particular Area constituency. They oversee the convention program for their particular Area. In addition to the convention program committee, they may also be requested to serve on the Board’s various other committees. Area Director nominations are staggered.
AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

BOOK AWARD
Our 2019 winner was Mary C. Foltz, Lehigh University, for the manuscript *American Sh\*t: Contemporary American Literature and Excremental Culture*.

NeMLA solicits book-length manuscripts by unpublished authors on American, British, and other modern-language literature and cultural studies or on related areas for its annual book award. The author must be a current member with a demonstrated commitment to NeMLA (a convention participant, or a member for at least one year in the last five years).

The manuscript must be written in English and include an overview of the proposed book (2–3 single-spaced pages), as well as a round-up of competing books and a brief explanation of the uniqueness of the proposed project. NeMLA will not consider unrevised dissertations for this award.

The prize includes a $750 cash prize, and NeMLA will assist winners with contacting presses about the publication of their manuscripts (at the winner’s discretion). The winners will be announced at the annual business meeting, held the Sunday of NeMLA’s 51st Anniversary Convention in Boston.

Email submissions: book.award@nemla.org
More information: buffalo.edu/nemla/bookaward
Deadline: October 15, 2019

SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
The Board of Directors congratulates the 2019 NeMLA Summer Research Fellows for the following projects that are developing with the support of NeMLA research and travel funding:

- **Alani Rosa Hicks-Bartlett**, New York University, “Gender, Uxoricide, and Domestic Violence on the Medieval and Early Modern Stage”
- **Amy Foley**, Providence College, “Moving Fictions: A Choreography of Reading”
- **Carmen Torre Perez**, University of Pennsylvania, “Counterhegemonic Mestizaje on a Changing Island: Bearing Witness to Punk Culture in Cuba”
- **César Adrián Romero Fernández**, University of Pittsburgh, “Bodies in Resistance: Female Artists and Activists Contesting the Racialization of Afro and Indigenous Women in Peru”
- **Ignacio D. Arellano-Torres**, Stony Brook University, “Critical Edition of Jerónimo Guedeja y Quiroga’s autos sacramentales”
- **Kurt Cavendar**, Kutztown University of Pennsylvania, “American Fiction and the Problem of Historical Difference”
- **Moira Marquis**, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, “The Dialectic of Myth: Creating Meaning in the Anthropocene”

The NeMLA Summer Fellowship Program supports primarily untenured junior faculty, graduate students, and independent scholars, while not precluding senior faculty from applying.

The 2020 program awards fellowships up to $1,200 to defray the cost of traveling incurred by researchers in pursuing their work-in-progress over the summer. Recipients will be notified before the Annual Convention in Boston. Fellows must submit itemized receipts and a poster (digital or hard copy) detailing their findings by December 31, 2019, before receiving a check.

Poster Session: As part of their funding, NeMLA Summer Research Fellows submit posters to this session. Posters will be displayed in the Exhibit Room for the duration of the Annual Convention following the summer research trip. Fellowship recipients do not have to attend the convention at which their poster will be displayed.

Apply: buffalo.edu/nemla/summerfellow
Deadline: February 6, 2020
More Information: fellowship@nemla.org

NEMLA-UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO SPECIAL COLLECTIONS FELLOWSHIP
The University at Buffalo Library and the Northeast Modern Language Association sponsor a short-term visiting fellowship for research supported by the University’s Poetry Collection and Rare and Special Books Collection. Our 2018 winner was Elisabeth Joyce, Edinboro University, and our 2019 winner is Taraneh Matloob Haghanikar, University of Northern Iowa.

Founded in 1937 by Charles Abbott, University at Buffalo’s Poetry Collection holds one of the world’s largest collections of poetry first editions and other titles, little literary magazines, broadsides and anthologies, and more than 150 archives and manuscript collections from a wide range of poets, presses, magazines, and organizations. It holds the archives of the Jargon Society as well as large manuscript collections by authors like James Joyce, William Carlos Williams, Dylan Thomas, Wyndham Lewis, Robert Duncan, Theodore Enslin, Helen Adam, and many more. Founded on the Collection of Thomas B. Lockwood, the Rare and Special Books Collection features literary first editions and finely printed books from 1600 to the present.

Stipend and length of term: $1,400, one month
Email submissions: ublibraryfellow@nemla.org
Deadline: April 15, 2020
ESSAY AWARDS

NeMLA awards paper prizes to essays developed from its annual convention. 2019 prizes were awarded to papers that were presented at the 2018 Convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

WOMEN’S & GENDER STUDIES CAUCUS ESSAY AWARD

The NeMLA Women’s & Gender Studies Caucus invites submissions for our 2020 award for a paper in English presented at any session of the 2018 or 2019 Convention which uses women- and/or gender-centered approaches. The essay may not be submitted to another contest for the duration of the award’s deliberation. Please email submissions as attached Microsoft Word or PDF files to wgsnemla@gmail.com, with “NeMLA WGSCESSAY Award Submission” in the subject heading. Deadline: November 15, 2019

POSTCOLONIAL STUDIES ESSAY AWARD

NeMLA sponsors a special 2020 essay award for a revised paper in Postcolonial Studies presented at the NeMLA Convention in 2018 or 2019. Please email submissions to postcolonial.essay.award@nemla.org. More info: buffalo.edu/nemla/postcolonialsessay. Deadline: December 15, 2019

CAITY CAUCUS ESSAY AWARD

The 2020 award is for a paper presented at the 2019 Convention by an independent scholar or a contingent, adjunct, or two-year college faculty member. Please email revised conference papers to caity@nemla.org with “NeMLA CAITY Essay Award Submission” in the subject. Deadline: January 10, 2020.

GRADUATE STUDENT CAUCUS ESSAY AWARD

NeMLA will award a 2020 prize to the best graduate student paper presented at any of the sessions of the 2017, 2018, or 2019 Convention. Submissions must be revisions of the original presentation, in MLA style, and between 7,000 and 9,000 words. Please email submissions to gsc@nemla.org with “NeMLA Graduate Student Essay Award Submission” in the subject and include two PDF attachments: (1) a cover sheet with the applicant’s name, address, and academic affiliation, and (2) the revised essay, meeting the criteria above with no identifying information. Deadline: January 15, 2020.

TRAVEL AWARDS

NeMLA offers 2020 awards to members accepted to present papers at the 51st Annual Convention in Boston. Applicants are eligible to receive only one of the awards listed below. More information is available at buffalo.edu/nemla/travelawards.

GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS

The Graduate Student Caucus provides a number of travel awards to graduate students accepted to the 51st Annual Convention. Submissions must include the accepted abstract and a 250-word statement describing the presentation’s relevance to the field. Evaluation is a double-blind peer-review. Awards and the award amount are based on the quality of the student’s abstract and the relevance of their topic to their respective fields. Submit the application in the body of an email to gsc@nemla.org. Students can expect a decision by early December. Deadline: November 1, 2019 Award: $110–400 (depending on quality and number of awardees) More information: buffalo.edu/nemla/gradtravel

Criteria for Essay Award Submissions

Qualifying NeMLA members are invited to submit for the coming round of Caucus Essay Awards. Unless otherwise indicated, submitted essays should be 6,000 to 9,000 words. All essays are to be revised and expanded from original papers presented at the previous convention. Unrevised paper presentations are not accepted and will be returned. Submissions should be written in or translated into English.

Submissions must be submitted electronically as two separate Microsoft Word document files attached to the email: (1) a cover sheet, and (2) the submitted essay. The author’s name, address, and academic affiliation should appear only on a separate cover sheet with the essay’s title, as submissions undergo blind review. The essay’s title must appear on both the separate cover sheet and at the top of the essay itself. Submissions not meeting these criteria may not be considered for an award.

Unless otherwise indicated, each caucus prize offers a $100 cash award, and prize-winning essays will automatically be considered for publication by Modern Language Studies. All essays are subject to MLS’s double-blind review.

For more information, please visit buffalo.edu/nemla/essayaward

2019 NeMLA Essay Award Winners

WOMEN’S & GENDER STUDIES CAUCUS ESSAY AWARD

Nancy Kang, University of Manitoba, for the essay “Sin Sexo: Auto-Historiography and Reproduction in Alicia Gaspar de Alba’s Sor Juana’s Second Dream.”

POSTCOLONIAL STUDIES ESSAY AWARD

Kate Perillo, University of Massachusetts Amherst, for the essay “A Room Not One’s Own: CLR James, Jean Rhys, and Anticolonial Imagination in the London Lodging House.”

CAITY CAUCUS ESSAY AWARD

Robert Wilson, SUNY Binghamton, for the essay “Strike Again that Sounding String: James M. Whitfield and Contrapuntal Dissonance.”

Rachel Paparone, Ithaca College, for the essay “A(r)cadie heureuse? Space, Place, and Engaged Pastoral in Zachary Richard’s Feu.”

GRADUATE STUDENT CAUCUS ESSAY AWARD

Miles Osgood, Harvard University, for the essay “Revising Character, Revisionist History: Clarissa, Marlow, Stephen, Quentin, Bilbo.”

UNDERGRADUATE AWARD WINNERS

Megan Conley, University of Maryland College Park
Leah Headley, Hendrix College
Alicia Maners, Harding University
Emma Scheve, University of Portland
Qingyang Zhou, University of Pennsylvania
ANTONIO CAO MEMORIAL AWARD

NeMLA sponsors a special graduate student travel award in memory of Antonio Cao, member of the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at Hofstra University, a passionate scholar, and an invaluable and loyal member of NeMLA. Our 2019 winner is Andrea Adhara Gaytán Cuesta, Rutgers University, for the presentation “El lenguaje de la catástrofe: La imaginación sísmica en la narrativa del 19S en México.”

To honor Dr. Cao’s memory and his unwavering support of students, our 2020 prize will be awarded to a graduate student who is presenting on any aspect of Spanish culture or literature at the upcoming NeMLA 51st Annual Convention in Boston. Applications will be evaluated on the basis of the quality of the student’s abstract; the relevance of their topic to Spanish studies; the funds available from the student’s institution; and the travel distance to the Convention.

Email applications: cao.travel@nemla.org
Deadline: December 31, 2019
More information: buffalo.edu/nemla/cao

CAITY TRAVEL AWARD

CAITY Travel Awards are open to contingent faculty, adjunct instructors, independent scholars, and two-year college faculty who have been accepted to present a paper as part of a panel or seminar at NeMLA’s annual convention. CAITY Travel Awards are not meant for panel chairs or for participants in creative sessions or roundtables. Applicants can expect to hear from the Caucus by mid-February.

Apply online: buffalo.edu/nemla/caitytravel
Deadline: January 6, 2020

PROFESSIONALIZATION OPPORTUNITIES

JOB CLINIC AND PUBLISHING MENTORSHIP

These one-on-one 30-minute advising sessions will be available by appointment during the Convention for anyone contemplating the job market, especially graduate students, contingent faculty, and adjunct faculty. Faculty members will meet emerging scholars to advise them on CVs and cover letters and practice mock interviews. We also offer a Publishing Mentorship Program. For more information, please visit buffalo.edu/nemla/jobclinic or email jobclinic@nemla.org.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FORUM

The 51st Annual Convention will continue NeMLA’s newest initiative, the Undergraduate Research Forum! We are seeking proposals that explore how literary works, languages, and cultures influence one another. Students will give 3- to 5-minute presentations on their work during the Forum. Undergraduate students are invited to submit 300-word abstracts. We ask that faculty encourage talented undergraduate students in their programs to submit an abstract. Conference funding and cash prizes will be awarded for the strongest research proposals and presentations.

Apply online: cplist.com/nemla
Deadline: November 1, 2019
Contact: Jennifer Mdurvwu, arts-sciences@buffalo.edu

WOMEN’S & GENDER STUDIES MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

The NeMLA Women’s & Gender Studies Caucus operates an interdisciplinary mentoring program that pairs senior faculty mentors with junior faculty and doctoral students. The online application for mentees will open October 1. To volunteer as a mentor, please email your name, affiliation, and research interests to wgsnemla@gmail.com. Mentees can apply online at buffalo.edu/nemla/wgsmentor
Mentee deadline: November 15, 2019

PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITIES

NeMLA promotes the publication endeavors that emerge from our yearly convention. Email your call for papers for any proposed volumes built from presentations at any session given at NeMLA to support@nemla.org. For more information, please visit buffalo.edu/nemla/cfp.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

A NEW PHOTO CONTEST: “MY NEMLA”

NeMLA members are invited to submit an original photo taken in their town or city that illustrates the topic of our 51st Annual Convention, “Shaping and Sharing Identities: Spaces, Places, Languages, and Cultures,” and that offers our diverse membership a view into their towns or cities. Winning photos will be featured in our winter issue of Modern Language Studies and on display at buffalo.edu/nemla ahead of our convention. Winners agree to have their photo published in MLS and on the MLS and NeMLA webpages, and to be used as well for publicity purposes in connection with the 2020 convention. All rights revert to the photographers after publication and the convention. Submit an original photo by September 1, 2019, at woobox.com/ogesfu.

50TH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION PHOTO CONTEST

At our 2019 convention, attendees were encouraged to mingle outside of the conference room—and to take photographs of the gathering. William Ordeman at the University of North Texas took this photograph with participants from his session “Creating a Transnational Space in the First-year Writing Classroom.” For this winning photograph, he will receive free 2020 convention registration. Congratulations William!
NEMLA News
Northeast Modern Language Association

NEMLA DRAWS
At our 50th Anniversary Convention in DC, we encouraged our youngest attendees to draw pictures inspired by what they saw at presentations and around the city. Winning artists received a prize. Their drawings can be seen at buffalo.edu/nemla/draws.

Our 2020 convention will feature 9 interactive workshops by our members on a variety of topics. Pre-registration begins November 2019.

Drawing by Anjali Lenae, age 12, who attended with their parent Sabina Lenae, New York University.

WORKSHOPS

CURRICULAR REFORM IN LIGHT OF THE IDEALS OF THE MLA REPORT | NICOLE MILLS, HARVARD UNIVERSITY
This workshop will present a new teacher professional development initiative that introduces TAs and TFS to cutting-edge curricular reform initiatives aimed to address the underlying recommendations of the MLA report.

DATA-DRIVEN RUBRICS FOR THE CONTEMPORARY SECOND LANGUAGE WRITING CLASSROOM | MARY JO LIBRANO AND JANICE WILLSON, YALE UNIVERSITY
Assessing second language writing is becoming more complex in today’s multicultural digital classroom. This workshop equips instructors to respond to these changes by demonstrating a method for aligning course goals with contemporary writing samples.

ENHANCE STUDENTS’ CULTURAL PROFICIENCY THROUGH STREET ART AND TEXT GRAFFITI | VIKTORIA HACKBARTH AND MIRA ANGRIST, BOSTON UNIVERSITY
Participants in this workshop will be exposed to and actively engage with multi-model graffiti and art in the public space using pedagogical tools.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF ONLINE TEACHING | RICHARD SCHUMAKER, CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, AND SUSAN KO, LEHMAN COLLEGE-CUNY
Participants will draft a design plan for a course or course elements that will make use of online delivery and receive feedback from moderators and workshop peers.

INCLUSIVE CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN: BUILDING MARKETABLE SKILLS | ANN GAGNE, DURHAM COLLEGE
We will engage in activities that will improve skills and emphasize what can make you marketable as an instructional designer, educational developer, curriculum support in academia, or as a corporate training facilitator.

INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL TEXTUAL EDITING: A HANDS-ON WORKSHOP | ISABELLA MAGNI, NEWBERRY LIBRARY
We will explore basic issues of conceptualizing, planning for, managing, and building digital editions, and we will provide a hands-on introduction to text-encoding. No technical skills or previous experience in text markup is necessary.

SHAPING PEDAGOGY AND STUDENT LEARNING THROUGH SHARED OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES (OERS) | BRYAN MCGEARY, DICKINSON COLLEGE, AND CHRISTINA RIEHMAN-MURPHY, PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
We will explore effective strategies to navigate the wide variety of OER repositories. We will also discuss ways that OERs can help teachers incorporate open pedagogical practices that will lead to active and iterative learning and identity-inclusive course materials, and reinvent the relationship that students have with course content.

SITUATED AND TRANSFORMED PRACTICE: CRITICAL VISUAL LITERACY IN L2 INSTRUCTION | ANDREA BRYANT, GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, AND SILJA WEBER, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Politically neutral textbooks and language classrooms do not exist. Using a pedagogy of multiliteracies, this workshop models instructional sequences that decenter biased portrayals of marginalized speakers in language textbooks.

UNDER PRESSURE: HOW TO SUCCESSFULLY PUBLISH UNDER LESS THAN IDEAL CIRCUMSTANCES | MELANIE HOLM, INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
This interactive workshop will focus on how to succeed in academic writing and publishing, including strategies for breaking large writing projects into more manageable tasks; integrating teaching and research to maximize scholarly output; targeting and tailoring publications for specific audiences; and identifying the habits and tendencies that can slow your progress and keep you from the path to successful, timely, and efficient publication.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS
Nemla recognizes the significant contribution of visual presentations to the body of academic study of literature and other linguistic constructions. Posters can relay complex information in ways that text alone cannot. These sessions are an opportunity for nemla scholars to share visual representations of their research. The format of the session allows presenters to display their work in a casual setting and to engage in informal conversations with convention participants regarding their work at a designated place and time.

Submit proposals and posters: cfplist.com/nemla/Home/S/18347
Deadline: September 30, 2019
More information: buffalo.edu/nemla/poster
EXHIBIT AT NEMLA

At its 51st annual convention, NEMLA expects more than 1,800 higher education professionals from throughout the northeastern U.S. and Canada as well as around the world to attend more than 400 sessions focused on American, British, French, German, Hispanic, and Italian studies, women’s studies and literary theory, cultural studies, film, and more. We encourage local, national, and international publishers and presses, academic institutions, and scholarly organizations to take advantage of our exhibitor and advertising opportunities.

Visit buffalo.edu/nemla/exhibit for more information. And email nemla.exhibit@gmail.com for our returning exhibitor discount!

Exhibitor-sponsored Workshops

Do you have an author with a book coming out or a new service you would like to promote? Exhibitors have the opportunity to offer a workshop in the Exhibits Room at the NEMLA convention! Email nemla.exhibit@gmail.com to sign up by November 1!

2020 CALL FOR PAPERS

51st Annual Convention

March 5–8, 2020
Marriott Copley Place, Boston, MA
Local Host Institution: Boston University

More than 400 sessions cover the spectrum of scholarly and teaching interests in modern languages and literatures, listed below under their Primary Area. To see session cross-listing, visit cfplist.com/nemla. Sessions will run Thursday afternoon through Sunday midday.

Submit an abstract with a free account at cfplist.com/nemla. Include AV media requests and the names of co-presenters.

Interested participants may submit abstracts to multiple NEMLA sessions, but panelists may only present one paper (at a panel or seminar). However, convention participants may present a paper and also participate in a roundtable or creative session. If your abstract is accepted by several chairs, do not confirm your participation until you have canceled participation in the other NeMLA panel.

Abstract deadline: September 30, 2019

American Studies

Affect in American Literatures  Approaching theories of affect and emotion broadly, this panel sets out to discuss the ways in which affects, emotions, and sensations shape, take shape in, and are shaped by American literatures.

African American and Latinx Literature Case Studies  This roundtable discussion features case studies of faculty teaching African American and Latinx literature who share their best practices and/or their less-than-successful efforts.

Afro-diasporic Futures before Afrofuturism  This panel seeks to augment the contemporary focus of much Afrofuturist scholarship by exploring the political and aesthetic investments of future speculations among black writers across Afro-diasporic contexts, and across genres.

Afterlives of A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court  This session will offer a broad view of adaptations of the Connecticut Yankee story to situate both retellings and the lesser known and/or hitherto unknown continuations and recastings of the story into a new continuum.

American Gothic Domesticity: Blissful Misery  This panel invites papers interrogating gothic depictions of domestic spaces in American fiction.

American Gothic, from Native Americans to the Present  Our panel subject includes and links American Indians, slavery, witchcraft, migration, Poe, Sedgwick, Hawthorne, Dickinson, Alcott, others, Amazon Women, alien nations, alienation, and Jordan Peele’s Us.

American Literacy Narratives  This panel invites papers exploring American literacy narratives as a form of empowerment and self-discovery that is nevertheless fraught with challenges and even dangers.

Antebellum City Texts: Print Culture and Emergent US Metropolitan Spaces  This panel will feature current research on pre-Civil War representations of US cities and on publications in and about cities.

Barbarians Within: Constructing the Barbaric Other in Speculative Fiction  Barbarians evoke a particular kind of wildness and danger that continues to resonate in popular culture. We invite presentations that interrogate the idea of barbarism in speculative fiction.

Black Men, White Publishers  This panel seeks papers on contemporary Black male literature and will focus on specific authors or literary strategies, or gesture to issues of periodization, physical and epistemic violence, literary influence, intertextuality, and/or pedagogy.
American Studies

**Boston to Brazil: Elizabeth Bishop's Geographies** Postcolonial, queer theory, gender studies, and eco poetics approaches to Bishop’s work along with studies focusing on Bishop’s Brazil-inspired writings and her acclaimed *Geography III* (1976), the last volume Bishop published in her lifetime, particularly suit this panel’s aims, but proposals on all aspects of Bishop’s work are welcome.

**Color and Text: Reading Kultur et Phyto** Cultural diffusive stances and/or demarcations are sought particularly papers that situate not only literary representation/identity heritage but also ownership/freedom of choice. Is there a black reading (text)?

**Cowboys and Capitalists: Mythic Figures of Masculinity in 19th-century American Literature** This roundtable will engage the subject of masculinity in 19th-century American literature and culture, specifically through the landscape of two opposing mythic masculine figures: the American cowboy and the American capitalist.

**Creating Humanity through Prison Education Programs** Presentations on prison programs, the teaching of humanities in prison, or the societal return on this investment in inmates are encouraged.

**Critical Responses to the Black Family in Toni Morrison’s God Help the Child** This session seeks critical responses to Morrison’s only novel ”set in our current moment” that speaks to allegations of molestation, mother-daughter relationships, father-son relationships, and colorism.

**Cultural Hegemonies in US/Japan Print Media: Marginality, Representation, and Dislocation** This panel welcomes papers whose engagement with US and Japan print media examine in particular the mechanisms that aim to dislocate and destabilize established narratives.

**Discourses of Culture and Identity in Afro/Asian American Literatures** This roundtable is about the intersecting and interconnecting discourses of culture and identity between African American and Asian American diasporas and literatures.

**The Disruptive Child in Literature of America** This panel examines child figures who perform disruption in the literature of America, with particular interest in disruption that confronts hegemonic notions of authority, ownership, and belonging.

**Feeling (Un)American: Race and National Belonging in the African American Literary Tradition** WEB Du Bois poses a question that remains at the heart of the African American literary tradition: “How does it feel to be a problem?” This panel takes up Du Bois’s question.

**Feminist Theologies in American Literature (American Religion and Literature Society Session)** This panel examines the power, enfranchisement, ideas, and practices of women as they pertain to religion in works of American literature.

**Finding Women’s Ambition in 19th-century American Literature** This roundtable will explore 19th-century manifestations of women’s ambition—within the home, in artistry, in the marketplace, in society.

**Frogpondia: Edgar Allan Poe and Boston** This session welcomes proposals that consider Poe’s relationship to and portrayals of Boston, as well as authors of the city.

**Hawthorne’s Massachusetts** Topics may consider the incorporation of Massachusetts history into Hawthorne’s fiction, who is included and excluded from that history, transatlantic elements to his writing, and the shadow of his family’s history and politics over his literature.

**Help Thou My (Un)Belief: Reading Belief in 20th- and 21st-century American Literature** This panel reinvestigates post-secular critical reading practices, as it seeks to understand the intersection of literature and belief in American letters.

**Hot Commodities: Consuming Crime in the 20th and 21st Century** This panel invites submissions investigating the culture surrounding crime consumption and the moral and ethical quandaries of murder-based entertainment.

**How Biographies Construct American Character** We will examine how the American biography developed the multifaceted efforts to create the national character for democracy.

**‘How Many More?’ Literary Responses to 1970 (at 50)** This roundtable proposes to assemble elements and collect components that aligned the disparate literary dialogues and cultural conversations that emerged as a new decade began 50 years ago, in 1970.

**How to Teach Walt Whitman in the 21st Century** More than 200 years after his birth, Whitman still has influence in the poetry world. The focus of this roundtable is on Whitman’s influence and his positivism.

**Hybrid Identity and the Youth: Categorizing the Identity Profiles of American Immigrants** This roundtable seeks to engage with scholars representing multiple cultures in order to address ways that immigrant identity is formed.

**Identities: Power and Human Rights** This session reflects on the formation of identity (from within and without), how it creates a precarious living condition for certain individuals or groups of people, and what are the possible ways to resist.

**If Beale Street Could Talk: Memphis (Blues) Diaspora** How are places in the American South used in music, literature, and/or cinema to serve as spaces for African American/Black cultural understanding?

**Landscapes of Politics and Identity in American Literature** In which ways are landscapes used politically or culturally to create meaning?

**Madness and American Civilization** Has “madness” become a condition of American identity? What does “madness” look like across different genres and bodies? How do narratives about madness reflect or subvert assumptions about identity, power, and belonging?

**The National Museum of African American History and Culture: Critical Perspectives** This session welcomes critical perspectives about the National Museum of African American History and Culture and its contributions to teaching African American literature and culture.

**Nella Larsen’s Passing** This session will investigate this short novel’s special relevance to scholars in African American studies, American Modernism, and/or Gender Studies.
**New Approaches to the Gaze in American Literature and Culture** Is gaze theory still a viable way to think about representations of acts of seeing and being seen in texts and images? How can gaze theory help us understand shifting power dynamics in society at large?

**‘The New Lost Generation’: African American Expatriate Writers in Paris, 1945–60** This panel engages with the works of African American expat writers in Paris from 1945 to 1960 and addresses parallels between the “New Lost Generation” and the Lost Generation of the 1920s.

**A Pedagogical Guide to Writers’ Homes and Archives in the Northeast** How do the spaces and places of literary culture play an important part in the study and teaching of literatures?

**Pedagogies and Challenges: Teaching Asian America Through Graphic Narratives** This roundtable asks how to utilize this genre as an intersectional space to engage students in conversations about race, gender, sexuality, social justice and equity, immigration, and many other talking points related to Asian America.

**The Politics of ‘Post’ in American Literature** We seek to interrogate the way the concept of “post” has come to influence and, perhaps, even redefine American literary production and marketing in relation to post-9/11, post-war, postmodernism, and posthuman.

**Pre- or Post-? Periodization Problems in American Literary Study** How might American literary periodization covered by the traditional undergraduate American literary survey be reconsidered to improve 21st-century scholarship, pedagogy, and public engagement with American literary study?

**Problematic Faves: Ethical Reading in the Age of Cancel Culture** We welcome contributions that address cancel culture and its relationship to writing about and teaching literature.

**Re-examining Passing Narratives in the 21st Century** This panel will interrogate the complicated dynamics surrounding the emotional, physical, and mental act of passing.

**Reading Politics and Art in Tracy K. Smith** We will look at Smith’s work in terms of her art, but also how her ideals on the political responsibility of the poet unfold in her own work, and how Smith’s treatment of race aligns with current understandings.

**Reading WD Howells (1837–1920) a Century Later** This panel welcomes submissions on any aspect of Howells’s life, career, influence, and writing, including but not limited to his novels, short stories, plays, poems, travel writing, and literary and cultural criticism.

**Shaping Identity in Ezra Pound’s Poetry** This panel explores the relationship between Ezra Pound’s poetry and the cultures and people—real, created, and re-created—that he used to inhabit that poetry.

**Soundtracks of African American Prose** African American works often include references to music that may not be recognized by a wide reading audience. Papers will examine the interaction of music and narrative in African American prose.

**A Space of One’s Own: Articulating the Scope of the Female in American Literature** This panel will reflect on what it means for women to carve, sculpt, build, and write into existence an environment in which they can develop their agency and express their creative apprehension of their own realities.

**Speaking Truth to Power: Arab-American Women Intellectuals on Freedom, Justice, and Return** This panel seeks papers that shed light on how Arab-American women intellectuals are using aesthetic and formal strategies in their narratives to challenge and speak truth to power (whether that power is a repressive regime or a socially constructed power like race, gender, class, or religion).

**Sylvia Plath and Disabled Women’s Life-Writing as a Tool of Resistance** This panel will explore how Sylvia Plath’s works have enabled a disabled feminist future through creating a space where disabled women are invited to write about and control their own narratives.

**Sylvia Plath is Perfected: Recent Directions in Plath Studies** Recent publications of Sylvia Plath’s writings invite us to evaluate her work through new lenses. This panel seeks to investigate new directions in Plath’s work.

**Tennessee Williams and the Poetry of America** This seminar focuses on Williams’s influences from and on American poetry. Panelists will mostly explore the collected poems but also the unpublished poems in the major Williams archives.

**Trauma Theory in/and Indigenous Literatures** This panel is interested in exploring the uses and limitations of literary trauma theory to approach literatures by Indigenous North American writers.

**Trumpet of Freedom and Blues Horn: Douglass and Ellison in African American Literature** Pairing African American writers Frederick Douglass and Ralph Ellison is significant because Ellison does a necessary work of skeptical deconstruction of Douglass’s supposed heritage that had become distorted in the 20th century.

**Vonnegut, Narrative, and (Re)Shaping American Identities** This panel seeks papers that consider Vonnegut’s role in (re)shaping conventional wisdom about Americans and American identities.

**Who is a Nigga?** This session invites proposals that analyzes various stances on non-Black POC passing as “niggas,” whether by way of marginalization (class, ethnicity vs race, etc) or under the guise of cultural exchange.

**The Writer’s Vice: Alcohol and the American Writer, 1940–70** This panel will work to separate the myths from the reality regarding the use of alcohol among writers of the period.
Anglophone Literature

Afrofuturism: Speculative Fiction and Culture of Africa and the African Diaspora
This panel seeks to examine Afrofuturist literature to highlight voices of black empowerment and to privilege black narratives in speculative fiction, science fiction, and fantasy from Africa and the African Diaspora.

Beyond Ruination: Climate Change and Contemporary Caribbean Novels
In the contemporary moment the Caribbean is experiencing the ruination of climate change: from the bleaching of coral reefs to rising sea levels.

Can the Other Speak? Productive Difficulties in Ethnic and Postcolonial Lit
For our purposes, we define others as different from modern subjects who resist past traditions by reducing others as inferiors who require remediation.

The Carmen Maria Machado Moment and the Latinx Literary Present
This seminar features scholars in ethnic, gender, queer, and genre studies exploring the impact of fiction writer Carmen Maria Machado's award-winning 2017 collection, Her Body and Other Parties, on their scholarly fields and the critical spaces where they intersect.

Chinua Achebe’s No Longer at Ease at 60
This novel deserves renewed attention not only for its literary merit and cultural content, but also for its vital connections both to Achebe’s famous first novel, Things Fall Apart, and to other important works of modern literature.

Decolonizing Growth and Development in Postcolonial Writing
This panel will consider strategies for creating counter-narratives against the dominant discourses on development and focus on the representations of the attempts to decolonize growth and development in postcolonial writing.

Edwidge Danticat
Papers should engage the ways in which Edwidge Danticat’s fiction or nonfiction engages, contests, and/or extends the paradigms of identity and resistance that have traditionally defined Caribbean and/or postcolonial studies.

Environmental Trauma and Postcolonial Writing
There is a growing body of writing that represents trauma for both human and nonhuman casualties of post- and neocolonial destruction of the environment. This panel explores this new literature in the frame of ecocritical theory and criticism.

Forgiveness in the 21st Century: Postcolonial Perspectives
Even as political narratives of apologies and amnesties proliferate, questions about the vexed relationship between forgiveness, responsibility, and justice remain unresolved.

Gender and Ecology: Literary Explorations
This panel explores important literary representations of the relation between constructions of gender and ecological damage.

Gothic Girlhood: Intersecting Identities Across Gothic Traditions
This panel invites papers that interrogate Gothic depictions of girlhood and female adolescence in 20th- and 21st-century Anglophone literature.

Literature, New Media, and Perception
This session examines how the emergence of new media (especially visual media) and the changes in perceptions and aesthetics caused by it have affected the realm of literature.

Movement, Belonging, and Diaspora in African Migrant Literature
This panel engages questions of transnationalism and diaspora to examine the new movement of African migrant literature. It calls for interrogations of contemporary theories of global belonging to analyse contemporary African works.

Narrative Hysterics: Feeling and Form in Women’s Experimental Fiction
This panel invites papers that explore how affect, feeling, and emotion function in “hysterical,” or experimental Anglophone novels written by women from 1970 onward.

Poetry and Identity: Shaping and Sharing the Trauma of Displacement
This panel will broach the topic of shaping a poetic identity through the prism of a traumatic experience of displacement.

Postcolonial Satires
The aim is a significant contribution to a renewal of critical analysis of satire, in the context of postcolonial writing and culture.

The Power and Limits of Narrative in Opposing Injustice
Narratives that strive to combat injustice often produce their own injustices, appropriating voices in ways their subjects would not endorse and excluding experiences that do not fit easily into dominant interpretive frameworks.

Reading Ecologies in Caribbean Literature
Though there is as yet only a limited amount of explicitly environmental literary writing from the Caribbean region itself, thinking about ways to read Caribbean literature, both regional and diasporic, through an ecocritical lens is richly rewarding and also timely and important.

Urban Migration and Its Discontents: Place and Displacement in the City
This panel seeks papers across a broad range of Anglophone literature that explore the ways in which migrant cultures—understood broadly to be national, ethnic, and cultural—shape and re-shape the city on the ground and in the cultural imagination.
British Literature

Charlotte Brontë and the Space of the Self How do spaces mediate a protagonist’s Bildung? What elements constitute space, and what spaces are necessary for the instantiation of a coherent self?

A Connecticut Abolitionist in King Arthur’s Court: Harriet Beecher Stowe’s British Reception This panel aims to explore the British reception of Uncle Tom’s Cabin and the sundry ways the novel fueled public debate over the “Negro Question,” especially its reception in Britain.

Dependent Stages: Knowing in Shakespeare Shakespeare apportioned knowledge to craft his plot and engage his audience. This panel seeks to examine the ramifications of a wide range of channels, machinations, or milieus that played/plays on the creation, delivery, or perception of or within Shakespeare’s plays.

From the New to the Neo-Woman: (Re)Envisioning a Fin-de-Siècle Icon This panel investigates the ever-evolving realm of New Woman scholarship with papers on fin-de-siècle women writers, artists, and journalists and on representations of the New Woman in Neo-Victorian fiction and film.

George Eliot’s Unfortunate Men Are we readers convinced that their respective fates are credible given their character flaws and contexts? Are these men treated more harshly than the women who share their fictional worlds?

Imagining the Nation: Romance and Nationalism in Early Modern England Taking a cue from Barbara Fuchs’s understanding of romance as a “strategy,” this panel explores how prose, poetic, and dramatic romances, perhaps paradoxically, contribute to early modern efforts at consolidating and codifying a sense of national identity.

Imagining the Nation through the Other: Anglophone/Postcolonial Relations We invite papers that examine how the nation is imagined via political, cultural, linguistic, and sexual tensions. Papers focusing on gendered and sexualized bodies as sites of mapping the nation and defining the other via sexual violence are especially welcome.

New Materialist Readings of 19th-century Writers This session engages in a matter-oriented approach, raising questions about the ontological status of the autonomous writing subject by joining it to the vast network of relations to objects within an area—ecozone, bioregion, biome, or ecosystem.

The Politics of Identity and the Poetics of Liberalism in the Age of Milton In this panel, we would like to explore what Milton and his contemporaries can offer us in our attempts to think through—and possibly think beyond—this implicit dichotomy between identity politics and the “classical” liberalism of “negative” freedoms.

Race, Biopolitics, and the Genres of the Human Through an engagement with critical theories about race, animal studies, and gender and sexuality, the panel initiates a conversation that investigates the permeability and porousness of borders and boundaries between spaces, identities, and peoples, leading to new and profitable conversations about the future of biopolitics.

Reading Surfaces in Early Modern England We seek papers that investigate the concept of the surface in early modern England, drawing on a wide variety of critical approaches, including material culture studies, book history, and theories of race, gender, and sexuality.

Romantic Identities This panel will explore how British writers of the Romantic period developed both their public and private selves, and the complex interaction between their different formulations of identity, in response to the historical and political events of the period.

Tales from the Grand Trunk Road This panel examines 19th-century travel writing or novels that broadly focus on the themes of India and British colonialism through places along the Grand Trunk Road.

Teaching and Engaging Shakespeare in the Classroom This roundtable would like to hear from those engaged in teaching Shakespeare: why was a play or poem chosen and how was it taught—successful activities or even failures—or other related issues.

Teaching Dickens Now (Dickens Society Session) What do Dickens’s works have to do with the #MeToo movement; with social media; with the Anthropocene, extinction rebellion, and climate change; with racism and living, as Christina Sharpe has put it, “in the wake” of slavery; with technological rupture, the gig economy, and radical job transformation; and with other questions of modern life?

Theories and Practices of Literature as Shared Experience Paul de Man may have declared formalist criticism a dead-end in the 1950s, but form and experience are back with new formalism and affect studies. Are we in a zombie dead-end, or have we surpassed the problem of mediation and its ambiguities?

The Victorian Caribbean This roundtable hopes to bring the Caribbean slave narrative (and other aspects of Caribbean writing and culture) into closer contact with Victorian studies and will consider how we might re-examine the conventional canon in respect to these topics.
Canadian Literature/Comparative Literature

Canadian Literature

The Handmaids’ Tales The intersection between Margaret Atwood’s *The Handmaid’s Tale*, Bruce Miller’s television adaptation, and Atwood’s forthcoming sequel, *The Testaments*, intersects in turn with the increasingly dystopian fabric of contemporary society, both in the US and elsewhere in the world.

Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid’s Tale, 35 Years Later* (Margaret Atwood Society Session) Abstracts are welcome on *The Handmaid’s Tale* as a novel, its context, its critical reception, its various adaptations—the 1990 movie, the Hulu television series, the opera, the ballet, the graphic novel—and/or its sequel, *The Testaments*.

The Settings of Margaret Atwood How does Margaret Atwood use setting to make her characters feel either comfortable or alienated? How does she present immigrants or travelers? Why is *The Handmaid’s Tale* set in Cambridge rather than her home city of Toronto?

Comparative Literature

Between Redemption and Marginalization: Nationalist Narrative in the Global Era This panel is intended to discuss and question the role of historical nationalist movements and identities to galvanize resistance and collective action, as well as to reflect on how, for postcolonial subjects, 21st-century postnationalism might just be the latest in a long series of predatory arrangements.

Challenging Borders: Transcultural Exchanges in Comparative and World Literature How do different kinds of spaces (physical, literary, and artistic) work as sites of exchange and circulation between cultures? What kinds of new genres or traditions emerge in the intersections between new and old, local and global, foreign and familiar?

The Classical Classroom: Learning and Literature in Antiquity and Beyond This panel will explore the various conceptions and uses of education in Greco-Roman literature, drama, and philosophy as well as the influence of these Classical ideas on subsequent time periods.

Concept, Gaze, Execution: Women Artists Interpret Male Subjects and Authors This session seeks to stage a conversation about the idea of adaptation, with a focus on how women writers and directors script performative interpretations of male subjects or texts by male authors.

Different Voices, Voicing Difference By thinking through the ways that voice exceeds the identity of the subject, this panel aims to produce accounts of the difference(s) between voices, their particular timbres and tones, and, ultimately, the very possibility of their expression.

Ekphrastic Mirrors in Transnational Space The session invites papers that explore how the chiasmatic reflections of an ekphrasis reveal the interior subjectivity, ideology, and desire of its author.

Fantasy Beyond the Anglophone This panel addresses the topic of non-Anglophone fantasy works to reveal how different cultures and languages mark and distinguish their approach to fantasy in relation to the dominant type in the genre, Anglophone fantasy.

From *No Future* to Novel Bodies Politic This panel returns to the novel as a unique aesthetic form that, under proper conditions, leads us to the fundamental question of the immanent relation of the sexed, narrative body to the state’s institutional body politic.

Gazing and Reading the Cold War: Transatlantic Cultural Alliances and Exchanges This roundtable hopes to bring together scholars from various disciplines to discuss the period of internationalism that produced transatlantic solidarities, artistic collaborative efforts, and other visions that reconstructed lines of communicative interaction between dispersed fronts, groups, individuals, and cultural objects.

Gender, Identity, and Belonging in Minority Women Artistic Production How do minority women conceive and negotiate their identities? How do gender, religion, and race shape women’s identity and experience of belonging?

Global Literature in the Wake of the Trump Presidency How has the Trump presidency influenced literature since 2016?

Humanistic Identity This construct of new identity is relational, and this session seeks papers that could trace this “relational identity” through discussion of various contemporary literary works.

The ‘isms’ of Literary Studies: Purpose, Politics, Pragmatics, and Profundity The objective of this session is to examine thoughtfully how pertinent “isms” in literature and literary studies (heroism, supernaturalism, etc) have and continue to influence literature.

Jesuits in Science Fiction: From James Blish and Walter Miller Jr. to Today Using two classics as an anchor, Blish’s *A Case of Conscience* and Miller’s *A Canticle for Leibowitz*, this panel will investigate how this area of writing began more or less in the 1950s and how it continues through to today.

Keeping an Eye on the *P*: Perspective, Visual Perception, and Subjectivity Perspective and visual perception seem to offer a unique approach to the vexed question of the human subjectivity. This panel is interested in an interdisciplinary discussion that would help elucidate the matter and stir the broader debate.

Life Writing, the Selfie, and the Autobiographer as Witness How does recent theory of the “selfie” as both an individual and communitarian phenomenon relate to contemporary forms of self writing?

Linguistic and Cultural Challenges of Translating Dialects This roundtable will explore different ways in which dialect has been rendered in translation, proposing alternative ways to retain and best feature its expressive resources.

Literary Colonialisms: Neocolony, Postcolony, Settler Colony This seminar wishes to identify and explore the reverberations of literary representation—in some form, not necessarily mimetic—of what coloniality means to the 21st century.

Lost—and Gained—in Translation: Montale’s Poetry and Its Exchanges with World Poetry This session aims to celebrate the 100th year anniversary of Eugenio Montale’s first published poems with a focus on the strong connection between Montale’s poetry and world—especially Anglo-American—literature.
Lyric, Ecstasy, and the Mystical Tradition What is the relationship between lyric poetry and mysticism? In what ways and to what ends might a poet be regarded as a mystic, and how has poetry engaged with the mystical tradition?

Media Matters: Film, Television, and Technology This panel welcomes proposals that explore the benefits of privileging an attention to technology and craft in our criticism.

Music in Literature We invite a broad range of papers devoted to the analysis of the complex interplay of the two art forms, as well as the broader topics of integrating a musical performance within the narrative form.

Mythology from Modernity to the Post-Modern: Regional and Global Perspectives This panel investigates the role that Greco-Roman mythology has played in shaping and reflecting Modernity and post-Modern sensibilities.

Narrating Genocide In addition to analyzing the historical conditions behind the conflicts, this panel will address how we interpret different genres of genocide texts and film, how memory and narrative are impacted by violence and trauma, and the lessons and limitations of a comparative approach to genocide.

Narratives of Queer Space: An Inquisition in South Asian Literature While the focus is on the last 40 years, we will also include more historic approaches as well. Participants may either focus on one country, work, or writer, or explore convergences and connections.

Neo-stoicism and the Shaping of the Modern Mind This panel will explore the ways—both subtle and overt—in which Stoicism has resurfaced to shape the considerations later writers and thinkers gave to themselves, to others, and to the problem of “the good life.”

New Sincerity in Contemporary Central and Eastern European Literature This seminar expands the geographic borders of discourses on “New Sincerity” by moving beyond the North American and post-Soviet contexts. It also aims to examine the changes to the “New Sincerity” aesthetic in an age of “post-truth” and more than 20 years after David Foster Wallace’s call for writers who are “too sincere.”

Novels of the Great War: A Reassessment This session attempts to examine novels of the Great War in light of more than 100 years of reading, reflection, and criticism.

Now What? The Comparative Literature Degree and the Job Market This roundtable will offer practical advice for Comparative Literature PhDs on the job market.

Portrayal of Minorities in Pakistani Literature This panel will also explore the political and cultural reasons behind silences, how Urdu literature was mobilized in service of a Pakistani Muslim identity, and its consequences for religious and ethnic minorities.

Psychoanalysis and Laughter: Unconscious Meanings and Political Subversions This seminar seeks papers that deal with the relationship between psychoanalysis and laughter both in terms of what laughter reveals about ourselves and what it reveals (or subverts) about our social and political milieux.

Refining and Reformulating Authorial Intent For decades, scholars of literature have considered referring to authorial intentions as theoretically out of bounds and more or less taboo. In practice, however, authorial intention continues to play a varied and intricate role in scholarly work.

Regional Wounds, Universal Traumas, and the Possibility of Empathy This panel seeks to examine whether, in a globalizing world grappling with copious forms of traumatizing grievances, these major trends could merge in understanding of trauma, its narrative, and its sociopolitical dimensions while considering the incomprehensibility of painful and traumatic experience.

The Representation of Human Rights in 21st-century Literature This panel invites papers that engage with the imagining and interpretation of human rights in 21st-century literature, with a preference toward a multi-genre approach including digital literatures. What does it mean to be human, and what does it mean to be non-human?

Rethinking Identity through Inaction Can we develop an understanding of inaction without positing it as a supplement for a type of activity? Can identities be formed around inaction rather than action?

The Sacred in Literature Our panel will examine the encounter of secular literature with sacred references and texts. How do authors describe alienation from the sacred or the embracing of its manifestation? What are the sites of tension between the sacred and the secular, and how are they expressed or resolved?

Somatexts: Tattoos as Technology, Bodies as Text This session seeks critical interrogations of diverse media sources that engage with the potentially violent corporeality of tattoos, their function as both script and scribe of modified bodies, and the manner by which they at once sediment and crystallize the Self.

Suspicion Today In the wake of the Postcritical Turn’s departure from suspicious modes of analysis, what critical, political or ethical merit can suspicious thinking still be said to hold? Has critical theory grown out of its suspicious mindset?

Tacky/Wacky: Kitsch and the Unbearable Lightness of Being For a long time, tacky expressions and objects have served as counter-models of what “good taste” should be. However, they also inspired artists. This panel seeks to examine the notions of passé, outmoded, the corny, and the kitsch, in various languages and cultures from the 19th century to the present day.
Comparative Literature/Creative Writing, Editing, & Publishing

Theorizing Transmediality in its Transnational Contexts This panel will engage with issues of literary study across geographical and cultural borders as well as the boundaries between literary and audio-visual media in the contemporary digital age.

Through the Looking Glass: Spaces of the Fantastic as Reflections on the Present This panel aims to explore the representation of literary spaces in European literature of the fantastic.

To Shape and Share Otherwise: Neoliberalism and the Contemporary Novel This panel focuses on the relationship between neoliberalism and the long-form of the contemporary novel. We will investigate questions concerning temporality, spatiality, identity, and cultural transaction (among other related topics).

Tragedy: The Changing Forms of an Unchanging Genre The purpose of this panel will be to try to understand the concept and the history of tragedy. This panel therefore will question not only literary assumptions about the formal and material elements of tragedy but also how tragedy shaped and continues to shape human lives.

Unflattening the Encounter: Translation, Travel, and Place This roundtable will discuss historical and contemporary instances of texts and artifacts from India, Europe, and Latin America, that have traveled across space and time, to foreground place/space as a critical resource for examining the traffic of meaning made possible by translation.

Vegetable Avatars: Plants, Identity, and Subjectivity in Literature and the Visual Arts This panel is concerned with pressing debates in environmental studies, such as climate change, responsible stewardship, eco-imperialism, and mass extinction.

Video Games and Literature: Beyond the Ludic Few proposals exist for how to integrate the medium-specific attributes of video games into literary study. What is “literary” about games? Given events such as Gamergate, how should we understand video games as a political medium?

Visibility of the Invisible: The Idea, Theory, and Ontology of Trace This panel invites proposals to examine the notion, theory, idea, and ontology of trace and the ways in which it can be deployed in literature, image studies, art, film, and other media and disciplines.

Walter Benjamin in the 21st Century This panel will explore the applicability of Benjamin’s writing to our 21st-century ideas about identity, space, place, and language.

World Cities in 19th and Early 20th-century Literature Today we speak of the “global city,” but what of the “world city” as it was imagined in the 19th and early 20th centuries?

Writing Bios: Biopolitics in 20th-century Literature and Beyond This roundtable invites papers that analyze how literature engages with biopolitics, particularly in the conceptualizations and depictions of the body in relation to power in 20th- and 21st-century literature.

Creative Writing, Editing, & Publishing

The Book Biz: The Novel and Contemporary Publishing This panel will consider the realities of contemporary publishing as a business and the way its corporate structure, economic practices, and publishing procedures impact the lives and work of writers.

Creative Writing and the New Higher Ed This roundtable will consider the status of international creative writing courses and programs within the context of the evolving picture of higher education.

Creative Writing in the Age of Trump This panel invites writers as well as literary scholars to address the question of political and literary engagement in our political age and in their own work.

Moving between Closed and Open Spaces: Maximizing Dramatic Tension in Fiction This panel combines fiction craft and feminist thought to explore how fiction writers can and do empower characters who challenge closed spaces, and might help writers perhaps realize why such challenges in the act of writing are both sometimes difficult and yet vital.

Narrative and Poetic Ethnographies in the Social Sciences This creative session will present non-fiction narratives and poems based on ethnographic research in the social sciences. Rather than foregrounding discussion of theoretical frameworks, submissions center on narrating the particularities of interlocutors and examining these ethnographic encounters in situational and personal detail.

Narrative Poetry: Contemporary Poets Summoning Stories This panel seeks poets who reflect on and record places, language, and culture that invites readers to learn about worlds and perspectives that might otherwise be unknown to us.

Oral Performance in the Classroom This session considers the pedagogical possibilities of oral performance and invites poets and storytellers to share their own original work.

Oscillating Between the Real: Linking Autofiction to its Explicitly Fictional Counterparts We will discuss the link between autofiction and the work of contemporary writers who find ways to “oscillate” despite not writing autofiction explicitly.
The Poetry and Prose of Place: Constructing Location and Setting This roundtable offers creative writers a forum to explore how they construct settings, location, and place in their poetry, fiction, or creative nonfiction.

Teaching Documentary Poetics How and why do we integrate documentary poetics into our writing courses, from teaching documentary poetry books to engaging students in composing their own documentary poetry projects?

Truth-telling: Experimental Forms in Essay and Poetry, a Reading and Discussion Following a reading of our essays and poetry, we will invite conversation on the ways in which experimental literary forms test the boundaries of truth-telling and subjectivity, and complicate the defining and teaching of genres.

Vampires, Zombies, Bodies, and Perps: Genre in Creative Writing This panel asks writers who work in or with particular genres of fiction as well as writers who have resisted the lure of genre to share their work and their ideas about the role of genre in fiction and in creative writing courses.

When Metaphors Are Used to Persuade: Characters, Worldview, and Rationales This panel seeks papers that demonstrate how authors represent the worldview of a character via metaphor, whether via their dialogue or their perception of setting or situations.

Writing Relationships: The Body, Intimacy, and Truth Through Creative Writing How has intimacy changed in the 21st century? How have our perceptions of relationships and bodies, those our own and outside ourselves, shifted? How does one write a relationship while de-centering the preferences, feelings, and fetishes of a patriarchal, white readership?

Writing the Other: The Challenges of Creative Writing and Inclusion This panel invites creative writers of all genres, genders, races, sexual orientations, nationalities, and cultures to consider the challenges of being more inclusive in their work.

Cultural Studies & Media Studies

9/11 and Its Aftermath in the New Millennium This panel seeks to explore multiple views of 9/11 literature as we approach the 20th anniversary of the events of that day.

The 21st-century Disaster Film: Now It Gets Real We will explore how we define and understand the term “disaster” in the 21st century, and how we are telling and historicizing the difficult stories of these human, natural, and global events through film and televised media.

Adaptation as Border Crossing This session invites proposals for papers that explore the relations between the different kinds of borders texts seek to cross, especially papers that illuminate the relationship between the intermedial borders on which adaptation studies has traditionally focused and the national, linguistic, and cultural borders that have given the term “border crossing” its name and its currency.

Adaptations of History/ Histories of Adaptation Narrative media such as film, television, literature, theater, and even video games perpetually adapt historical events. Beyond that, the field of adaptation studies has yet to offer a comprehensive accounting for and engagement with the history of the act of adaptation.

Creative Writing, Editing, & Publishing/Cultural Studies & Media Studies

Affect and Empathy: Holocaust Memory in Contemporary Narratives This panel will explore a variety of narrative strategies that authors employ in order to negotiate the ethical and epistemological problems raised by the events of the Holocaust.

An Alternative Gaze: (Italian) Comics beyond Reality This panel explores a wide range of perspectives on the representation of marginality in comic books, with a particular attention to comics’ metaphorical or literal commentary on reality.

Bringing Mythology Back: A Call for the Literary Study of Mythic Narratives What were the mistakes of early attempts to subject myths to literary analysis, and how can we learn from them? How can the literary study of mythology contribute to cultural awareness and promote diversity within our departments? How can myths be used to examine and illustrate approaches to literary analysis?

Character Adaptation This panel solicits papers that interrogate attributes of specific adapted characters that transcend the narratives they initially served.

The Circle of the Adaptations: Beyond the Boundaries of Genres This roundtable aims to reconsider the aesthetic value of adaptations when they are turned from page to screen, or screen to screen. Transmedial adaptations or adaptations within one media could be closely analyzed in detail, and this will allow us to appreciate and judge the adaptation process as an art in itself.

Detecting the Margins: New Perspectives on the Critical History of Detective Fiction What is made visible (about the genre and about criticism’s practices, methods, margins, and conditions) by the reconstitution of a critical history of the detective genre, and by the fact of its necessity?

Detective Fiction and the Revival of Reading The very qualities that still cause some to disdain this genre—its popular appeal, engagement with current issues and social ills, ease of serialisation and adaptation, even if for commercial, rather than artistic purposes—may hold the key to its ability to keep literacy alive, as well as helping it evolve in and beyond our digital era.

Diversity in/and/or the Arts Is diversity the enemy of art as critics like novelist Lionel Shriver contends? Or is diversity a means to a broader understanding of literary value and how it is determined?

Does the Matter of Britain (Still) Matter? The Arthurian legend is now more a millennium and a half old and continues to inspire new creative works each year, even as the Matter of Britain now often seems very distant from our daily lives.

Dramaturgy for the Millennials In recent years, “mainstream” dramaturgy (cinema and tv) has experienced an articulated and deep revolution, undergoing multiple radical changes and innovations that need to be studied and addressed in relation with past dramaturgical structures and roles.
Cultural Studies & Media Studies

Dwelling in Time and Space: Comics and Identity How does comics as a medium make visible and material its explorations of self-identity? How does comics extend this intimacy (and perhaps these dwelling places) beyond the physical page?

Education and Incarceration: Challenges, Rewards, Setbacks, and Solutions This roundtable focuses on how we as educators can work to create and sustain programs that provide educational opportunities to people who are incarcerated or people who were formally incarcerated.

Examination without Misrepresentation: Analyzing Culturally Diverse Narratives Can academics faithfully translate, interpret, analyze, and/or discuss cultural narratives to which they have no personal connection?

Film Feminisms This session will engage the concerns, debates, history, current preoccupations, and the future legacies of feminist film and theory.

From Ecocriticism to Environmental Humanities This session will consider the ways in which scholars of the humanities can make key contributions to the study and betterment of humanity’s relationship to the environment.

From Illustrated Classics to Watchmen: Comics as Adaptation We will explore how the process of adaptation in comics unfolds. This process is more complex than simply putting images to words but is expressed in a variety of different styles and cultural expressions.

The Future of Film: Will Television Kill the Cinema Star? This roundtable examines contemporary horror in any medium, from the 1960s onward, both within and beyond the nation to develop our critical understanding of horror as a transnational genre.

Horror Within and Beyond the Nation This panel examines contemporary horror in any medium, from the 1960s onward, both within and beyond the nation to develop our critical understanding of horror as a transnational genre.

I Read Dead People: Posthumous Voices and Their Authority from Beyond the Grave This panel endeavors to promote a critical discussion about the significance of (un)dead narrators and characters. This panel welcomes cross-cultural examinations that focus on contemporary literature (poems, short stories, or novels) from all languages.

Imagining Interspecies (Society for Critical Exchange Session) How do literary and other texts/media engage with boundaries between or among biological or other species? What implications arise concerning nature, culture, social arrangements, science, technology, metaphysics, and ethics?

Imagining the Past: Neo-Medievalism in Fantasy Genre This session will discuss how such (neo-)medievalist fantasy works affect the way consumers of the genre imagine the past in the current world, and how such imaginations shape the present world.

The Impact of American Superheroes around the World This session welcomes abstracts considering international emulations of the genre (from Canada’s Nelvana to Pakistan’s Burka Avenger), looser adaptations (from Mexico’s Santo to India’s Krrish), critical appropriations (from France’s Astérix to Malaysia’s Cicak Man), unofficial appropriations (e.g., Turkey’s 3 Dev Adam), and influences on art style and narrative structure (e.g., Japan’s My Hero Academia).

Latin American Cinema: The Female Gaze of the Contemporary Filmmaker In this session, we will analyze films by women directors in Latin America. We will study the feminine look, their perspective, their ways of telling or re-telling stories, and how they’re influencing Latin American cinema.

‘Let Ghosts be Ghosts’: Reading Animals in the Academy and the Anthropocene By exploring methodological approaches, such as Stephen Best and Sharon Marcus’s “surface reading”, this panel seeks to recognize animals as more than anthropocentric metaphors and respond to the constricting difficulties of reading and understanding an animal outside of human experiences.

Libraries and Archives in the Digital Age Specialists in the fields of libraries, archives, and digitization will explore questions about the accessibility of curated information, the sharing of resources, and the uses of digitization, which all raise issues central to democratic societies.

Living in Someone Else’s Shoes: Exploring Culture, Diversity, and Empathy in Video Game Narratives This panel seeks papers that discuss the ability of video games to cultivate empathy and diversity and that analyze games whose narratives feature the representation of complex socio-political issues.

Love and Digitization: Knowledge, Techniques, and Practices This panel welcomes interdisciplinary reflections that work at the intersection of romantic love and digital technology in order to reflect about current cultural practices and knowledge production about love, intimacy, and relationships.
Material Religion and the Market  How does the market shape objects with religious significance? This panel proposes to approach such objects from the perspective of the market, and explore how producers, marketers and consumers of such objects shape and mediate the experience of religion.

The Marvel Cinematic Universe: Examining a Post-Endgame World  This roundtable will be looking holistically at perspectives on the first 22 films in the MCU. Participants are encouraged to consider the MCU both as a whole as well as specific franchises under the overall banner.

Meet Me in Cyberspace: Theorizing Production and Reception of Textual Forms in the Digital Age  This panel explores the ways in which digital platforms impact textual forms at the level of production, dissemination, and consumption.

Migration and Transnationalism in the Digital Age: Perspectives on e-Diasporas  This panel invites contributions that investigate how digital media experiences have influenced migrants’ sense of community and belonging and to what extent new media offer spaces where a sense of shared, communal identity is made possible.

Mindfulness and Student Performance  Mindfulness can be a tool in the classroom. However, we must also consider any potential drawbacks as this trend moves forward. Do you have an approach to mindfulness that can be explored in a workshop-style setting?

Multispecies Becoming: Coming into Terms with Our Own End  This panel aims to consider speculative/science fiction’s imagination of the end of the human reign as we know it. What would a posthuman, transhuman body and space look like? What kind of discourses do such imaginations disrupt and question by offering these depictions?

Narrating Labor Histories in Contemporary Latin America  What do Latin American workers have to say about their labor (hi)stories and their relationship to globalization? This session seeks papers dealing with labor (hi)stories in Latin America and the way they render visible more prominent cultural, political, and social frameworks in the context of globalization.

Narrative Voice in Autobiographical Graphic Novels  How does the first-person narrative voice (or lack thereof) work in graphic memoirs? And how might the medium of comics prompt us to reconceptualize life writing in our contemporary media environment?

Purity and Power: Literary Interventions in Logics of Hierarchy  What is the relationship between purity and power? Discourses of purity transcend religion and politics, identity and ecology. How does literature represent and respond to conceptions of purity that lead to violence?

Queer Cinema of the New Millennium: Auteurs, (Meta)Narratives, Perspectives  This panel aims to explore the (re)emergence of a new wave of queer cinema that, over the course of the past two decades, has given rise to auteurs and narratives that consider the complexity of queerness through and beyond matters related to visibility and acceptance.

Radioactive: Shaping & Sharing Nuclearity  This interdisciplinary panel seeks to explore how diverse textual forms represent nuclear weapons, power, and/or waste across historical, geographical, and cultural boundaries.

Reparative Adaptation  This session examines literary adaptations that seek to provide psychological or political remediation for the traumas suffered by particular marginalized social groups such as prisoners, veterans, refugees, the physically or cognitively disabled, the economically disadvantaged, or others.

Representations of Disability in Science Fiction  This panel will explore what science fiction texts convey about the value of disability, whether through disabled characters, biotechnologies, or more broadly conceptions of an idealized future.

The Role of Social Media in the Revolutions of the MENA Region  This session examines various questions regarding social movements and protests and tries to evaluate and compare some Arab revolutions in light of the use of ICT in influencing, empowering its users, and shaping their identity on both a national and transnational level.

Sampling Culture in 1980s–90s Comics, Film, Music and Music Video  This panel provides a scholarly exploration into how, and the extent to which, graphic artists, musicians and filmmakers were moving beyond collection and collage in an intentionality and intertextuality creating rich layers of new meaning.

Saving the Day: Accessing Comics in the 21st Century  This session will introduce and instruct participants in the use of various online tools to successfully find and access comics and information about them of value to our teaching and research.

The Scene of the Crime: Place, Meaning, and Identity in Contemporary Detective Fiction  This panel welcomes examinations of what detective fiction’s utilization of setting reveals about the cross-hatching of place and identity. How do people adjust their identities to suit a place? Or, how does a place mold an individual or group?

Sharing Spaces in Children’s and Young Adult Literature  We invite abstracts addressing shared spaces in children’s literature, shared spaces between children’s and adult literature, and shared spaces between categories of children’s literature.

Social Media and the (Dis)connected Subject  From fake news purveyors to conspiracy theorists and white supremacists masking as defenders of free speech, from social justice warriors to social media mobs, from anti-vaxxers and supplement hucksters to lobster aficionados, social media has revealed and (re)structured the way contemporary subjects relate to one another, to social institutions, and to power.

Spatializing Social Justice  In this session, we share the healing power of literature and argue that literacy is the lifelong intellectual process of gaining meaning from a critical interpretation of written or printed text. We touch upon different types of writing and writers who aim to explore the healing process through words.
Cultural Studies & Media Studies/French & Francophone Studies

Techno-aesthetics: Ways of Seeing the 21st Century This roundtable seeks papers that explore the entwinement of technology and aesthetics in our present moment, engaging with contemporary artworks across media and forms to theorize the transformation of the visual in a digitized, networked world.

Thinking the Unbearable This panel is interested in how encountering or experiencing the unbearable has recently been theorized or represented across genres and mediums. How do we understand the unbearable in terms of size or scale? And how has the unbearable changed shape over time?

Tobacco Advertising and the Manipulation of Identity This panel will ask how tobacco advertising has manipulated a wide variety of identities, shaping norms for gender and sexuality as well as class, occupation, and ethnicity, and has also exacerbated social distinctions in the interest of promoting brand identity and loyalty.

Transnational Adaptation This panel invites papers about film adaptations that explicitly or implicitly question the concept of a culturally and linguistically homogeneous nation-state.

(Un)natural Selection: Adapting to Changing Environments in Literature, Media, Film This panel invites submissions that on some level investigate how literature, media, and/or film adapts according to environmental concerns/pressures, how film adaptations represent environmental issues, or how eco-cinema is evolving.

Video Games and Adaptation This panel welcomes papers on video games and adaptation, broadly conceived: theoretical takes on the adaptation process; critical assessments of text/film/graphic novel to video game adaptations; reflections on narrative development, characterization, space, and place in trans-media storytelling.

Videographic Criticism This session will provide both a survey and an assessment of this growing field of critical practice.

Who Belongs, Who Does Not: The Use of Comics as Literatures of Resistance This creative session examines how graphic storytelling can be utilized to diminish the alienation between readers and their subject matter, and to humanize the struggle of marginalized and minority subjects.

Women Shape, Women Share, Women Adapt This panel investigates the psychosocial and film and television industry-based challenges facing women involved in adapting sources and adapting to changing cultural landscapes.

French & Francophone Studies

Beur Fractured Identities in the French Cultural Space This session proposes to discuss the complex identity formation of people from the Beur community living in France through the study of contemporary Beur literature.

Contemporary Francophone Women Authors’ Representations of the Sacred (Women in French Session) This panel explores the characteristics and practices that define how female contemporary authors of the French-speaking world represent, experience, embody, and make sense of the sacred.

Dusk and Dawn: 17th- and 18th-century French Writers This panel will focus on uncovering the ideas and philosophies proposed by 17th- and 18th-century French writers to criticize, change, or improve their world. We will discuss their personal ideas, beliefs, and value systems in light of the reality of their time.

Early Career Scholars in French and Francophone Studies Chairs invite proposals for short talks addressing one or more central aims: to connect a network particular both to the broad field of French and Francophone Studies and to scholars in early stages of their academic careers.

Être bilingue en Amérique du Nord How do Francophone writers from North America describe or portray the experience of bilingualism? Do authors and/or their characters resist, accept, embrace, or reject their second language?

La femme et la folie dans la littérature et le cinéma francophones Ce qui arrive à l’intérieur du langage (que ce soit le silence ou la logorrhée) constitue le premier symptôme pour diagnostiquer la démence ou autre maladie mentale. La folie ne devient souvent que l’ultime possibilité de re-création et de liberté pour l’écrivain/c, le réalisateur/trice ou l’artiste.

La femme vengeresse: le déviant et le vice féminin dans la littérature française This panel seeks papers exploring the role of women in contemporary French and Francophone literature in which the female force is one of destruction, vengeance, and class upheaval.

La figure du métis dans les littératures française et francophones Ce séminaire propose d’interroger la figure du métis dans les littératures françaises et francophones.

Fictions of Science/Scientific Fictions of the French Ancien Régime This panel will gather diverse perspectives on how literature and science mutually shaped and influenced each other in the pre-modern...
French literary tradition, before rigid disciplinary and institutional boundaries separated the “two cultures.”

**Francophone Women Writers Representing Africa in Children’s Literature (Women in French Session)** This panel examines how women writers and illustrators of the French-speaking world are representing Africa in children’s and youth literature.

**French Religious Spaces, Rhetoric, and Identity: 1534–1790** How did religious spaces and their regulation in France between 1534 and 1790 shape religious rhetoric and identities?

**Glissantian Relation in Theory and Practice** This panel takes as a point of departure Édouard Glissant’s *Poetics of Relation* and seeks papers by scholars who apply his concepts of Relation, opacity, rhizomatic identity, creolization, etc to texts by contemporary writers from any region, in any language.

**Identity and Cityscape in French Crime and Science Fiction Cultural Production** This panel invites proposals on representations of urban spaces in French and Francophone crime fiction and science fiction films, novels, comic books, and video games.

**Imaginer et produire dans ‘toutes les langues françaises’. Résistances et identités.** De l’écritain au cinéaste, en passant par les dramaturges et les chanteurs, comment la pratique plurielle de la langue française fait-elle résonner en elle ce décentrement, comme mondiale dans son association texte, musique et interprétation, etc à texts by contemporary writers from any region, in any language.

**Paris in the Americas Yesterday and Today** This panel examines the influence(s) of Paris in the Americas yesterday and today through explorations of manifestations of its influence(s) across the Americas in a variety of cultural productions in French or in English.

**La peau comme support de l’identité et des genres dans la littérature, le cinéma et les arts** À l’intersection du moi et de l’autre, la peau est un lieu d’échanges infinis avec le monde extérieur et avec l’autre. Néanmoins, elle peut aussi devenir une fermeture sur soi refusant toute forme de rapport avec autrui devenant un corps à cicatrices et à stigmates qui ne cherche que l’isolement et la dérélction.

**Posthumanism in French and Francophone Video Games** By presenting the development of the notion of the posthuman in French and Francophone video games, this panel will allow for a significant exploration of this key concept of the posthuman ideology and its implications.

**The Power of Choice: Innovative Pedagogical Approaches to Empower French Learners** Participants are invited to share innovative projects, assignments, and courses that empower French learners by encouraging student agency in the French classroom.

**Queer Spaces in Contemporary French and Francophone Literature and Media** How do queer spaces contribute to the shaping of a queer identity, and what is their importance in the creation of a queer French and/or Francophone culture?
German Studies/Italian Studies

German Studies

**Cosmos and Community: 250 Years of Alexander von Humboldt**
Commemorating Alexander von Humboldt’s 250th birthday, this panel is interested in all new considerations of Humboldt’s work and legacy, as well as those of his contemporaries.

**Documentary Theater in Today’s German-speaking World**
This panel seeks to explore the playwrights, topics, venues, and aesthetic approaches connected to documentary theater in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland today.

**Diversifying the German Syllabus**
As we strive for more diversity, social justice, and student agency in the German curriculum, it might be helpful to discuss our wider notions and definitions of diversity as well as how we hope to integrate them into our teachings.

**German-language Comics and Graphic Novels by Minority Authors**
This panel introduces and discusses graphic sequential art by authors who identify as affiliates of an ethnic, linguistic, gender, sexual, or otherwise marginalized population within the German-speaking world.

**LGBTQ+ Topics in the German Classroom**
This panel encourages submissions for contributions that research or plan to present the topic of LGBTQ+ in the German language and literature classroom.

**Migration and Heimat**
There are two major trends in contemporary German literature: we find a ubiquitous migrant literature that seems to stand in stark contrast to an emphasis on spatial limitations and rural settings rather than border crossings and globalization, and an abundance of Heimat literature.

**Narrations of Exile in German Literature**
Narrations of exile and displacement are probably one of the major themes of German literature. This panel aims to discuss the various refugees, wanderers, outcasts, and nostalgists of the German literary tradition.

**Skandal! Artistic Scandals around the Turn of the Century**
By aiming to reflect upon the institutions that constitute those norms in the first place, the panel focuses on the representation, performance, and staging of artistic violations of societal, political, and legal norms in the German-speaking culture.

Italian Studies

**Unrealized Futures: Post-Socialist Memory in German-language Literature**
This panel aims to shed light on the unrealized, alternative futures that were envisioned in former socialist European countries as they are depicted in contemporary German-language literature.

**20th-century Italian Literature Around the World**
This panel will offer a space to facilitate the dialogue among scholars working on the circulation, translation, and reception of Italian literature of the 20th century worldwide.

**Age and Gender in Italian Literature and Cinema**
This session addresses the need to explore historical and fictional representations of old women to better understand social and cultural anxieties surrounding the depictions of the elderly woman in Italian cinema and literature.

**Altering Consciousness: Addictions in Italian Cinema and Literature**
This panel aims to investigate in national and transnational films and literary works the dominant sociological image of addiction as lack of will or loss of control that is connected with the expectations of individual self-control in modern societies.

**Borders, Borderlines, Boundaries: Migration and Italian Spaces**
Proposals might address theoretical discussions of borders and border spaces, borders and migration through history, borders of genre in literature or other arts referencing migration, border practices, and social or national borders among other approaches.

**Dante, Heterodoxy, and Spirituality without Religion**
This panel welcomes contributions to the enduring question of Dante’s religious heterodoxy, the current state of the question itself, and its relevance to the spiritual-but-not-religious movement of today.

**Digital Scholarship in Italian Studies**
As we reconsider the role of humanities research and language instruction in the 21st century, we must confront the role of technology in our academic work and in shaping the way we read, interpret, and learn languages and cultures.

**Fashion in Cinema, Literature, and the Media**
Fashion is a manufacturing industry and a powerful symbolic force for the construction of identity, both personal and collective.

**Federico Fellini in 2020**
After a century, how are Fellini and his works interpreted? What are the new trends in the scholarship devoted to this great Italian director? How are contemporary filmmakers influenced by him?
**Female Voices of Dissent in Italian Transnational Literature** How do women writers, narrators, or protagonists assert themselves when they are relegated to the confined spaces of their country of origin or that of arrival?

**Fostering Diversity in the Italian Classroom and Beyond** This panel seeks to discuss ways in which instructors can focus on diversity and support inclusiveness in the Italian classroom and beyond.

**Irony, Humor, and Laughter in Italian Literature** This panel seeks presentations that analyze or investigate the role of irony, humor, and laughter in texts from early modern to contemporary examples by Italian writers.

**Italian (Neo)Television Studies: A Glimpse at the 1980s** This panel seeks new scholarly works on television studies in 1980s Italy, with particular attentions on socio-cultural, historiographical, and aesthetics implications.

**Italian Romanticism as World Literature** This session is dedicated to the exchange between Italian and forms of Romanticism in the world, from Europe to the United States, considering also the political situation of the first half of the 19th century.

**Italian Cinema and Migration** Amidst political discourses compromised by polluted agendas, many have lost sight of the fact that migrating is a right of all people and asylum seekers should be treated humanely. This panel explores ways in which filmmakers have analysed Italy’s reluctant role as first responder in the past few decades.

**Italian Cinema: Understudied Films and Directors** This panel seeks to contribute to the study of less known cinematic works and filmmakers in Italy. Documentary and fiction films will constitute the principal focus of this session; however, it will also include television shows and made-for-TV movies.

**Italian Masculinities Represented by Women and by Men** How are male figures represented in Italian literature, cinema, theater, songs, comic books, opera, and television by women and by men? Are there any differences related to the medium or to the gender of the author in the representations of the masculine character? Are there any similarities in the way women and men depict Italian masculinities?

**Italian Zombies in the Romero Wake** This roundtable explores the remarkable production of Italian zombie films, predominantly in the ’70s, following the success of George Romero’s *Night of the Living Dead* in 1968.

**Italy in the Second Half of the 19th Century: Bridging New Cultures** This session seeks to investigate the literary, artistic, cultural, and social events during the second half of the 19th century in Italy while examining their significance and relevance in the process for the birth of a new Italian culture.

**Junctures of Italian Cinema and Contemporary Philosophy** This panel will welcome papers that examine how Italian cinema speaks to new ideas and trends in Italian philosophy. The panel will also include papers exploring how new theoretical developments from a variety of perspectives could enrich our understanding of Italian cinema.

**Languages and Disciplines in the ‘Repubblica degli Arcadi,’ 1690-1766** This session will consider the Italian Arcadia as a republic of intellectuals at the end of the Ancien Régime.

**Medical Humanities: Literature, Medicine and the Arts** This seminar aims to bring together specialists from varied disciplines in order to start a conversation around the humanities and arts and their engagement with medicine.

**Open Session on Italy’s Neoavanguardia** This panel invites participants to debate the enduring contributions of the Italian neo-avantgarde against the background of social and political upheaval that characterized Italy in the 1960s.

**Pirandello and Scientific Revolution** This panel investigates the influence that scientific advances in the modern(ist) era had on Luigi Pirandello and his contemporaries, spanning scientific disciplines and fields such as technology, industry, and architecture.

**The Politics of the Cantautori** This panel will explore the relationship between politics and Italian cantautore/cantautrice music and invites submissions on any aspect of this relationship past or present.

**Re-discovering Matilde Serao** This panel encourages re-readings, from a variety of perspectives, of Matilde Serao’s impressive *oeuvre*, which ranges from short stories and novels to journalistic pieces and critical articles.

**Realism, Realities, and Magical Realism** This panel compares different ways in which the absurd, the magical, the implausible, the eerie, and the untrue interfered and blended with realism between the age of Positivism and Post-Reality.

**Relational Spaces in Italian Literature and Cinema** This panel invites papers that investigate the significance of geographic, urban, work, and domestic spaces in Italian literature and cinema in shaping female identity.

**Representing Italian Reality on the Screen** This panel seeks to discuss how Italian filmmakers have documented Italian reality through narrative films, documentaries, mockumentaries, docufictions, and docudramas.
Restriction, Mobility, and Space in Modern and Contemporary Italy We seek to understand the ways in which certain individuals are consigned to fixed spaces—the ways in which they are immobilized—while others are free to move without restriction.

Screening Difference: Italian-style This panel seeks papers that apply interdisciplinary approaches to analyses of difference in contemporary Italian cinema.

Shaping Men: Identity and Masculinity in Italian Culture What makes a man a man? How is masculinity shaped by spaces, times, languages, and cultures? How are men expected to behave in public and in private?

Swaying Passions, Shaping Identities: The Book as Metaphor in Italian Literature This panel wants to explore books as metaphors in 20th- and 21st-century Italian literature.

Teaching Italian Through Films This roundtable aims to explore practical and theoretical approaches to the teaching of cinema in Italian language classes or in courses of Italian cinema taught in English.

Teaching Popular Culture in Intermediate Italian Courses The goal of this roundtable is to explore the experiences and outcomes of integrating popular culture material in intermediate Italian courses.

Tips and Strategies to Cultivate Italian Majors and Minors in College This roundtable seeks proposals that share concrete ideas, tips, and strategies to motivate students to continue with Italian studies beyond the language requirement and to offer examples of what is done or can be done to achieve this goal.

The We in I: Self-Representations and Their Communities in Italian Literature This panel’s primary interest is in how self-representations in Italian literature account for the essential role that communities and broader social contexts play in one’s formation and existence.

What Is a Style? Reflections on Italian Literature, Art and Fashion This panel welcomes proposals discussing objects, trends, and peoples in Italian literature, art, and fashion from premodernity to the present through the lens of stylistics, broadly conceived as a discourse whose vocabulary are distinctive formal choices, preferences, and inclinations.

Women Representing Women: Spaces of Intervention, Subjectivity, and Agency This seminar invites a debate on the subversive spaces created by women artists, authors, and filmmakers as they represent themselves and other women in the literary, cinematic, visual, and performing arts.

Pedagogy & Professionalism

The Adaptive Academic: Building Skills and Leadership Culture Beyond the University Graduate students and contingent faculty stand especially to benefit from engaged participation in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities—as well as in more well-rounded academic programs—that recalibrate graduate degrees with an ethos that translates to participatory leadership.

Alternative Approaches to Traditional Grammar Instruction in Foreign Language Learning This roundtable discusses alternative approaches to traditional grammar instruction within a communicative based approach.

Accessibility as a Shared Responsibility This roundtable invites papers that deal with all and any aspect of the course development framework that current theories of Universal Design for Learning offer. We are particularly interested in presentations that deal with the application of the three basic principles of UDL: “multiple means of representation,” “multiple means of expression,” and “multiple means of engagement” in language and literature classes.

Avoiding Clichés in Experiential Language Learning Projects In this panel, we hope to open up a discussion centered around strategies to develop experiential language learning projects that seek to demolish rather than support stereotypes and clichés.

Border Identities: Creating a Curriculum for Heritage Learners This pedagogical session will engage participants in an interdisciplinary discussion of border identities, using sample authentic cultural materials.

Bridging the Praxis Gap: Tools for Early Career Teaching Graduate students often also serve as contingent faculty due to insufficient university funding, many contingent faculty teach at multiple institutions, and even tenure-track faculty are thrust into graduate-level instruction with no explicit training.

Classes Without Borders: Creating Community Across Languages This roundtable seeks to open a discussion across all languages about successful strategies and techniques, on a curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular level, that have positively impacted student enrollment and participation.

Completing Your Application Dossier: Advice on Writing Teaching, Diversity, and Research Statements This roundtable will offer practical advice on crafting several types of “statements”—teaching statements, diversity statements, and research statements.

Connecting and Boosting Literacy and Intercultural Competence This roundtable is designed to discuss and offer suggestions on how to materialize the beneficial potential of technology and increase learners’ engagement, literacy, and motivation in the 21st-century classroom.

Developing Cultural Literacy in Literature and Composition Courses This roundtable is intended to share assignments, in-class activities, and projects that assist students in developing cultural awareness of not only their own culture but new cultures.
Differentiated Approaches to Film Literacy This roundtable seeks to explore a variety of pedagogical approaches to film literacy in the second-language classroom.

Experiences of Emerging Women, Trans, and Non-Binary Scholars in the Academy This roundtable seeks to amplify experiences of emerging women, trans, and non-binary scholars from a range of backgrounds across graduate, contingent, and junior institutional stature as they navigate careers in the academy.

Formalism and Fun: On Experiencing Text and Time in the Classroom This roundtable will take up formalism as an example of slow pedagogy, and the affective, lived dimensions of the classroom, to ask what slow pedagogy can do to carve out learning spaces within the corporatized university for fun and play.

Fostering Culture in Rural Campus Classrooms This session will offer insights into how e-books make possible the total design of interactive, digital, and meaningful cultural resources to fit one’s personal instructional needs.

‘Getting Back in the Game’: Professional Reinvention and Adaptation This roundtable will discuss how returning to a previous academic interest or changing career courses have affected personal and professional identities.

Global Awareness: Decisions, Resources, Tools This panel will examine the importance of the use of new technologies in the process of teaching intercultural competencies.

Global Humanities: Expanding the Canon and the Curriculum This session focuses on positioning the humanities curricula within the growing “global turn” in higher education.

Identity, Culture, Metacognition: Tools and Themes for the First-year Seminar In what ways can teachers of first-year seminars use culture, identity and (meta)cognition effectively as themes or approaches?

Imagining a Future for Humanities Pedagogy This panel will theorize practical exercises and lessons that will help students gain skills necessary for a job market increasingly in flux.

Intercultural Pragmatics: Where Language and Culture Meet In this session, we will discuss the social aspects of second language learning.

Intersectionality and the University (Graduate Student Caucus Session) This roundtable proposes a holistic approach to understanding and navigating the interpersonal, logistical, and ideological tensions within the university.

Media Attention to the Adjunct Plight: Helpful or Harmful? While attention to the adjunct plight—lack of pay, job security, respect, and recognition—may seem welcome, could it also backfire in forms such as ridicule, victim blaming, even retaliation?

Meeting the Evolving Needs of the Community College Professor in NeMLA This roundtable invites faculty at community colleges, junior colleges, vocational colleges, and other 2-year institutions to discuss challenges and rewards attending academic conferences.

Mindfulness in the Writing and Literature Classroom This roundtable session will discuss the theory and especially the practical strategies for implementing techniques of mindfulness in the writing and literature classroom.

Music, Text, and Pedagogy: An Interdisciplinary Dialogue What can musical texts or lyrics offer for teaching purposes? What can technology in the classroom offer in regards to the use of music and lyrics in the classroom?

New Pedagogies In and Out of the Literature Classroom This roundtable offers an opportunity to compare notes and surmount obstacles while pondering new and challenging pedagogies.

Osmotic Alliances K-16 and Beyond: Ideas for Content-based Experiential Learning We welcome presenters who will discuss concrete examples of collaborative work among, classmates, instructors and students, secondary educators and college instructors, and colleagues in different departments.

Pedagogical Approaches to Creating Safer Spaces in the Classroom This panel will look at pedagogy approaches to fostering an inclusive environment and what to do when a student needs guidance and services due to their orientation.

The Place of the Popular: Culture, Classroom, and Field The goal of this roundtable is to engage a conversation about the current significance and opportunities of genre in the profession, in scholarship, and in the classroom.

Promoting Academic ELL Language in the Social Context Outside the Classroom The roundtable aims to address the challenge of sociolinguistic barriers that limit adult ELL students from speaking English in non-classroom settings.

Renewable and Disposable Assignments in Literature Courses We invite panelists to share strategies for helping students work in multiple modes to develop materials for future learners, from rewriting existing texts to curating collections to developing video tutorials to using classroom knowledge for real-world interventions.

Rethinking Peer Review: Theory and Practice This roundtable will examine the structure of peer-response, the possible discrepancies between what we imagine are its goals and the ways in which students perceive it, and methods for initiating and promoting a more effective peer-response process.

Rethinking the Language Classroom Through Special Learning Dis/Ability How do we tailor the course content, assessments, and evaluation criteria to the needs of disabled students? How can we make the experience with disabled students pedagogically and emotionally meaningful to the entire class?

Shaping and Sharing Learning through Open Pedagogy: Case Studies of Student-Teacher Collaborations In this roundtable, participants will share real examples of the ways in which they are employing open pedagogical practices with their students and discuss the impact open pedagogy has had on the teaching and learning experience.
Pedagogy & Professionalism/ Rhetoric & Composition

**Solving Wicked Problems in Multilingual Contexts: Pedagogy of Empathic Listening** This session aims to outline the training protocol, project development, and prototype that resulted from an innovative initiative organized by a team of instructors in different fields that allowed students to strengthen their academic skills while tackling wicked problems such as isolation and disconnection.

**Strategies to Increase Enrollments in Foreign Languages** This panel solicits papers that focus on the attrition of foreign language programs and the issues they face when attempting to stay relevant in today’s climate.

**Teaching (with) Primary Sources** This roundtable welcomes theoretical and practical contributions discussing the use of manuscripts, printed books, and all sorts of primary sources in the teaching of literature at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

**Teaching Black and Brown Childhood: Race, Ethnicity, and Young Adult Novels in the Classroom** This panel seeks pedagogical papers and approaches to incorporating black and brown young adult fiction into literature and composition courses.

**Teaching from the Outside In: In(Trans)forming Pedagogy with Outside Disciplines** This panel welcomes interventions from disciplines that shed light on language such as biology, neuroscience, music, linguistics, speech and hearing, psychology, and anthropology.

**Teaching in/for the 21st Century: Exploring Emerging Possibilities** Learning and teaching contexts and communities have changed sharply in the 21st century and are continuing to evolve. How can we engage with this changing landscape productively without sacrificing integrity and humanistic focus?

**Teaching Intercultural Competency: From Curriculum Design to the Classroom** This roundtable explores theoretical perspectives on the topic of intercultural competency, focusing on the products and practices that we as educators implement at every level.

**Teaching Spanish for Social Justice** This panel seeks papers that share experiences, practices, models, and results of research that show how critical and social justice themes support student language development in the Spanish language classroom.

**Teaching Vocabulary in the Second Language Classroom** This panel seeks to gather practical advice and materials related to teaching vocabulary in a meaningful way in order to improve vocabulary acquisition.

**Teaching with Technology or Technology with Teaching?** This roundtable on the relationship between teaching and technology welcomes scholars with compelling experiences or reflections on any relevant aspect of educational technology to join the ongoing conversation.

**They Say Alt-Ac, We Say Fight Back! Organizing for a Future in Academia and Beyond** This roundtable will explore different forms of organizing, community building, and institutional innovation that scholars are undertaking.

**Towards Equitable Language Instruction for the Intercultural Classroom** Presentations will focus on trends in instruction and assessment, highlighting strategies for departments and teachers to clarify their instruction and assessment goals, working towards improved recognition and inclusion of different types of learners.

**Transformative Pedagogy: From Conformity to Critical Thinking in the College Classroom** This roundtable aims to open an interdisciplinary discussion across the humanities about critical pedagogies that promote new ways of teaching, learning, and transforming the college classroom into a communal space that stimulates critical thinking rather than conformity to satisfy pre-set expectations.

**Translation and Sharing Identity** This roundtable will explore translation as a transformative and creative process for the sharing of identity, the enhancement of intercultural dialogue, and the promotion of mutual empathy.

**Urban Environmental Pedagogy: Literature, Culture, Space, and Ecology (ASLE Session)** This roundtable explores theoretical and curricular strategies for engaging students in investigations of urban ecological networks through literature, cultural artifacts, or site-based learning.

**We Are a Service Department! How to Navigate Institutional Changes and Thrive** This roundtable is aimed at sharing experiences and outcomes in operating as a service department (one with no majors but which offers courses fulfilling core curriculum requirements) to evaluate what choices we have, how communication can be improved, and how we can survive and even thrive.

**What’s in an Accent? Principles and Practices of Accent Correction in L2 Instruction** How do we “correct” or “amend” students’ spoken language?

**Rhetoric & Composition**

**Adventures in Retelling** This session explores retelling as a tool to develop academic poise, rhetorical awareness, and authorial voice in first-year writers.

**Conversations Across the Hall: Engaging Beyond the Composition/Literature Divide** This roundtable seeks to bring attention and insight to the many ways in which composition and literature faculty interact in scholarly and collegial ways.

**Creating and Sustaining Transdisciplinary Faculty Learning Communities** This roundtable will explore how learning communities of practice allow faculty and staff to enlarge their own horizons as teachers and institutional citizens.

**Feminism in the Writing Classroom: A Conversation About Feminist Theory and Decolonization** This roundtable will explore how aspects of feminist theory can serve as a means to challenge the current colonial forms of meaning making, professionalism, and writing/language expectations of the classroom.

**For and Against Practice: Approaches to Teaching Professional Writing** This roundtable will provide a forum for participants to discuss and analyze their experiences and offer suggestions for teaching the multi-major professional writing course.
Gamification in the RhetComp Curriculum
Gamification is the inclusion of gaming mechanics into another field, including storytelling, roleplaying, collaborative and competitive groupwork, multimodality, and reward-based goals.

Let’s Work Together: Cross-functional Teams as a Pathway to Success
This session will explore the design principles associated with cross-functional and interdisciplinary student collaborative projects.

Making the Most of Our Disciplinarity: Writing Connections Among Composition and Literature Courses
How can we increase and facilitate collaboration with faculty outside of our own silos in order to foster a stronger writing culture across campuses?

Teaching Writing Online
This roundtable encourages a discussion about a growing but often neglected aspect of distance education. In addition, the roundtable complicates traditional views of writing support and composition courses as “service” classes.

Using Imaginative Texts in the Composition Classroom
What successful strategies aid in the implementation of imaginative texts? What methods can professors use to incorporate imaginative texts into the composition classroom without turning it into a literary theory-based course?

Writing, Rhetoric, and Technology: Writing Studies Pedagogy in the Digital Age
This panel examines teaching college writing, rhetoric, and composition in the digital age, with particular attention to digital rhetoric, information and media literacy, and literary and cultural studies.

Russian Studies
Russia and Occultism
How does representation of the occult differ across time, such as in pre- and post-Soviet works? How are ghosts, alternative science, paganism, and the supernatural associated with themes and concepts in new texts or new approaches to older works?

The State of Russian Studies in the United States
In the new global political contexts in which Russia finds itself, this session welcomes submissions that consider how teaching Russian studies has changed.

Spanish & Portuguese Studies
Aging and Gender in Iberian and Latin American Visual Culture
Through a multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary, and transversal approach, the goal of this seminar is to study the intersection of age with gender in visual culture.

Alternative Narratives of Trauma in Recent Latin American Cultural Production
We welcome papers in English or Spanish that explore alternative narratives of trauma seeking to build a counter-archive that draws marginalized identities to the forefront of contemporary discussions on mourning, memory, and diversity across Latin America.

Avant-garde Cinema and Censorship
This panel is interested in discussing the relationship between avant-garde cinema and contexts of censorship, focusing but not limited to the totalitarian regimes from both Spain and Latin America.

Beyond Paella and Bullfights: A Fresh Look at Teaching the Culture of Spain
This roundtable will explore how some stereotypes have changed and present varied aspects of the culture of Spain in a new light.

Biopolitics of Nature: Artistic Representations of Environment in Latin America
This panel addresses the intersections of space and environmental issues such as industrialization, pollution, land/soil degradation, and waste in literature, audiovisual, and performance art.

The Black Legend Revisited: Why the Black Legend Again? Why Now?
This panel explores the revisionism of the old archetype of the black legend that is currently taking place in Spain in the fields of literary and historical studies.

Connecting the Global Hispanophone: African and Asian Literature in Spanish
Traditionally studied as a binary phenomenon divided into two areas of study (Peninsular Spain/Latin America), the literature and cultural production in Spanish compress a global and transnational reality that includes the former possessions of Equatorial Guinea in Africa, and the Philippine archipelago.

Contact Zones and the Configuration of (De)Colonial Agencies
This roundtable aspires to reflect how the encounters and missed encounters produced in the Spanish colonial territories during the 16th and 17th centuries became catalysts for the configuration of (de)colonial agencies.

Contemporary Visions of the Argentine Campo
This panel explores contemporary representations of rural Argentina, a place of crucial significance to the formation of the country’s economy, national identity, and literary traditions.

‘Curados de espanto’: monstruos y apocalipsis latinoamericano
El panel propuesto busca abordar los espacios de los productos culturales que, mediante el humor o el horror, hablen sobre el fin del mundo en América Latina.

Decentering the Anthropocene: Spanish Ecocritical Texts and the Non-Human
This seminar aims to expand the ecocritical study of representations of the environment in Spanish literature and culture, with a focus on interrelations between human and non-human forms.
Delights, Disgusts, and Attachments in Latin American Literature This panel will explore the concepts and stereotypes that lay behind the vision of love and affections expressed by Latin American authors.

Emerging Perspectives on Latin American Regionalista Imaginaries This panel aims to highlight new scholarly points of view when discussing Latin American non-metropolitan areas. These perspectives relate to the way in which national and spatial imaginaries are negotiated in diverse contexts, including ecological and ethnic.

Extractivismo y necropolítica: Nuevas lecturas de La vorágine Este panel propone releer La vorágine (1924), de José Eustasio Rivera, contemplando problemáticas ambientales, éticas y estéticas.

Fluid Identities in the Globalizing World (Feministas Unidas Session) This session will approach the theme of this year’s convention theme from a feminist viewpoint and will discuss the ways in which it applies to feminist or female artists in the Spanish-speaking world.

Gender, Memory, and Post-dictatorship in Latin American and Spanish Cinema We look at the ways gender is affected by, responds to, and intervenes in conversations about memory, loss, and trauma as these societies grapple with the aftermath and effects of dictatorship and authoritarian rule from the 20th century.

Gypsies in Spanish Literature and Culture This panel seeks contributions that explore the literary and cultural representations of the Spanish Roma community in different historical contexts, as well as literary genres and media that think critically about “gypsy” imaginaries in Spain and beyond.

Identity and Language in Latin American and Caribbean Science Fiction and Speculative Fiction How does Latin American and Caribbean literature discuss science fiction or speculative fiction to discuss identity? What do these aesthetic approaches tell us about identity conflicts?

Immigrants and Refugees: Integrating Human Rights into the Spanish Curriculum By exploring authentic materials (literature, film, and music), presenters will engage participants in discussions about how to promote awareness regarding the struggles of immigrants and their contributions to Spanish and American cultures.

Immigrants of the 21st Century in Spanish and Latin American Film Through the lens of postcolonial, cultural, or media studies among possible approaches, this panel explores the presence of 21st-century immigrants in Latin American, Spanish, or US film or documentary.

La influencia de los autores del siglo XIX en la literatura latinoamericana contemporánea Este panel solicita trabajos que se enfoquen en los siguientes temas: el esoterismo y ocultismo decimonónico en la literatura latinoamericana, el ocultismo en la literatura latinoamericana contemporánea, y la utilización de principios propios del esoterismo y ocultismo para elaborar mundos cerrados en la literatura latinoamericana contemporánea.

Latin American Cosmopolitanisms ‘Mapping Global Literary Networks’ This session seeks to open a space of discussion around the different literary manifestations of Latin American cosmopolitanism, cultural cartographies of global connectivity.

LGBTQ Representations of Sexualities within Latinx Literature This panel seeks papers that challenge heteronormativity in Latinx novels written in English, Spanish, or Spanglish from Latinx authors that reside either in Latin America or in the US.

Literary and Artistic Connections between Latin America and the US This panel will examine the intertextual and interpersonal relationships between contemporary US and Latin American artists and poets and the commonalities reflected in their works.

Locating Humankind in Fiction: Animals, Posthumans, Zombies, Androids, and Digital Beings Papers in this panel reflect on the presence of animals, nonhuman, and semi-human creatures in fiction as versatile narrative devices that challenge biased references of humankind or point out the negative impact of human practices.

Mexico: Text and Image This session will explore the intersection of written texts and visual images in contemporary Mexican cultural productions, with special emphasis given to literature that engages the visual arts.

Monstrous, Cyborgs, Virtual Women: Feminism and Science Fiction In Hispanic Culture This panel seeks to explore the representation of artificial women in Hispanic literature, films, and graphic novels of science fiction from traditional discourses to depictions more committed with a feminist perspective.

Mujeres: la mirada creadora / Mulheres: o olhar criador Esta mesa redonda pretende ser una plataforma que promueva la visibilidad de mujeres creadoras en la esfera del cine, la literatura y el arte del mundo lusófono e hispánico.

New Spaces for Hispanic Poetry This panel seeks to elucidate new poetic practices that reformulate the poetic canon and the spaces in which poetry can flourish in the 21st century. New forms must be
understood within the neoliberal globalized world that has eroded traditional poetic practices.

The Old and the New: Communities of Practice and Shifting Borders in US Spanish

The session seeks papers that examine Spanish in the US (Mexican, Caribbean, Latin American) as it relates to old and new Hispanic community practices and border crossing (geographical, political, ethnic, social, perceptual, historical, religious).

Outsiders and Infiltrators: Latin American and Spanish Artists Carving Out a Space for Politics

This seminar proposes a discussion around artistic works and practitioners whose interventions operate through current collective disputes over the social, ideological, and ethical meanings and consequences on neoliberal reason—as the type of rationality they confront.

Parenting in Latin American Narratives (Films and Books)

This roundtable will focus on Latin American narratives (films, books, comics) that challenge, redefine, and question the traditional idea of parenting.

Performing Identities: Representing Cubanidad through Visual Literatures

While the visual representations of cubanidad in literature may differ within Cuba and across the diaspora, they help provide a broader understanding of what it means to be Cuban.

Políticas del colectivo: prácticas colaborativas como formas de creación

Este seminario propone reflexionar en torno a los alcances políticos, sociales, y disciplinarios de obras de arte, literatura, cine, o edición, que cuestionen las nociones de autor y de obra individual y que funcionen de manera colectiva en América Latina y la Península Ibérica.

Religion and Jorge Luis Borges

How did Borges draw from and transform different theological traditions in his fiction and poetry? Is it possible to consider these fictionalized or literary theologies alongside literary theory or even as literary allegories?

Representation of Immigration in Spain within Film, Literature, and Media

This panel aims to analyze and compare how Spanish society perceives and represents the different groups of immigrants present in Spain (Latin America, Maghreb, Sub-Sahara, eastern Europe, and China).

Retrato de la ruina: On Ruins, Ruination, and Bankruptcy in Modern and Contemporary Spain

Our goal is to explore the ways in which Iberian cultures have made use of physical ruins but also of the process of ruination and financial bankruptcy to construct narratives of historical development and crisis.

The Role of Violence in Latin American Audiovisual Media

This session welcomes papers dealing with the representation of violence in recent Latin American audiovisual media and pondering how they reflect or reproduce the actual violence pervasive throughout the region.

El salvaje siglo XIX en las letras hispánicas: homenaje a Lou Charnon-Deutsch

Este seminario homenajeará la carrera de la profesora Lou Charnon-Deutsch y su gran impacto en el estudio de las letras peninsulares a lo largo del siglo XIX.

'Small' Cinema Industries of the Hispanic and Lusophone World

This panel seeks to examine the "smaller" cinema industries of the Hispanic and Lusophone worlds. With new resources available through film festival funds, co-production companies, and distributors like Netflix, projects from these nations have come to life.

Social and Self-Identity in the Early Modern Spanish Picaresque

This panel seeks papers that examine how society fashions the picaresque genre’s protagonists and how picaros shape themselves.

Spaces and Faces: Constructing Identities in Contemporary Spanish Theater

From an analysis of who are the marginalized, to the role of memory in creating identity and nation, to a study of theatrical space, we hope to provide a forum for examining Spain today through its theater.

Taking Stock of Portuguese-American Literature

This session examines elements that define Portuguese-American ethnic literature as distinct from mainstream Anglo-American literature.

Teaching Galdós in the Age of Twitter

This roundtable commemorates the 100th anniversary of the death of Benito Pérez Galdós by exploring the continued relevance of his works in 21st-century classrooms.

Teaching, a Highly Risky Job in Latin America

Paulo Freire wrote, “It would be a naive attitude to expect the ruling classes to develop a form of education that would enable the dominated classes to perceive social injustices in a critical way.” We have been governed by a so-called elite that has every interest in keeping the masses away from a knowledge that could free them.

Urban Landscapes in Lusophone Cinema

Focusing on Lusophone film production, this panel aims to promote a debate on urban postcolonial landscapes, involving the notions of center and periphery, representation and perspective on the body, racial segregation, orphanhood, and collective memory, among other topics.
Spanish & Portuguese Studies/Women’s & Gender Studies

The Use of Film in Teaching Spanish: Ideas from Classroom Practice This panel will build upon the research into the use of film in language courses and its ability to impart cultural literacy or competence and focus on participants’ own experiences incorporating film into any level of the Spanish classroom.

Vivir con ansiedad: Manifestations of Anxiety in Spanish Fiction and Film This panel seeks papers on representations of anxiety in contemporary Spanish fiction and film.

‘Yo sé quién soy’: Subjects with Intricate Identities in Golden Age Literature This session aims to explore other characters in Golden Age Spanish & Portuguese Studies/Women’s & Gender Studies

Women’s & Gender Studies

Ages and Stages: Women in the Academy, Revisited This roundtable seeks to bring together women academics in a variety of stages and ages in their careers in order to lend support to each other and to provide participants in the session with tools to use in forging the paths of their own personal lives and careers.

Comics and the Shaping of Identity: Queer Spaces and Gendered Places This panel investigates how queer spaces and identities get performed and contested through the affordances, narratives, and spatial politics of comics.

Female Power, Memory, and Subversive Narratives This panel in world literature looks to explore the roles of female power and memory. It examines narratives where women were able to use power in a subversive manner to disrupt male dominated spaces.

From Hillary C to AOC: Social Media and Women’s Voices in the Public Sphere In an age of social media stars, influencers, trolls, foreign sabotage, and Internet bots, how do women use social media platforms to express ideas, share their voices, demonstrate their values, and perform their identities?

The Future of Feminist Disability Studies Presentations should develop new landscapes of feminist disability studies that include intersectionality and other aspects of identity in relation to both feminism and disability studies.

Gendered Sexualized Reproductions of the US and Korea in Korean American Literature This panel seeks to investigate these representations and consider how the Korean woman’s body serves as a site for the reproduction of the sexualized and gendered relationship between the US and South Korea.

Genre Trouble: Interrogating the Gaze through Film Genre This panel invites submissions that explore the way in which filmmakers use genre conventions in their work in order to challenge and complicate hegemonic master narratives, gazes, and positionalities.

In Righteous Cause: Antislavery Women Define Identity, Freedom, Democracy Antislavery activism spearheaded by women’s anti-slavery societies incubated in and around Boston. Their legacy, attested in their writings, illuminate our educational paradigm and offer solutions to some of the current problems we experience in a “post-truth” era.

I’m No Feminist! Negotiating Rural Feminisms and Feminist Identities In an age of heightened political rhetoric and deepened ideological divide, what does it mean to identify as a feminist in a rural community? How do race, ethnicity, and class intersect to impact rural feminisms?

Loose Dresses, Loose Women: Pedagogies of Harlots and Whores from Hogarth to the Haus of Gaga This panel seeks papers that consider the pedagogical influence harlots and whores, hookers and sex workers, have in society today from the streets of the 1700s to the stages of our world right now.

Love, Happiness, Rage: Feelings and Feminism in the Social Media Age Creative frameworks and fresh perspectives are invited for this roundtable focusing on the intersections between feelings and feminism in the age of social media.

Madwomen in Social Justice Movements, Literatures, and Art This roundtable will be a collaborative deliberation on the role of “madwomen” within social justice movements, literatures, and art—grappling with both literary and cultural constructions of “the madwoman,” as well as with the ways that women writers, artists, and activists have embraced or subverted the term “madwoman/en.”

Mis-/Well-behaved Women: Setting and Subverting Social Standards This panel seeks to dive into the forming and dismantling of social rules for all women based on age, family, rank, and class, as well as their status as wives, mothers, employees, and employers.

Motherhood in the Academy II: Policy Roundtable We invite you to join us for discussion in changing campus culture through pro-family policy and to amend university/college policies so that the structure
of academic labor clearly and effectively supports parents and family life in all ranks and divisions.

New Directions and Transnational Perspectives in Queer Theory and Literary Studies What are the key questions and texts for a contemporary and transnational queer theory in literary and cultural studies?

Not-So-Dead Women: Renegotiating Femininity and Death in Literature and Pop Culture Panelists will reflect on the role of dead women figures and explore the topic of alternate, renegotiated, and revitalized expressions of the relationship between death and femininity in literature and pop culture.

Race, Gender, and Power: An Inquisition of Identity Politics in South Asian Literature This panel establishes the presence of and explores identity dysmorphia ranging from issues of race, power struggle, and gender narratives in South Asian literature.

Space, Time, Crossroads: Caribbean Women’s Writing This panel seeks papers exploring the complexity of time and space in relation to the crossroads found in or invoked specifically by Caribbean women’s writing.

Reading and Theorizing Rape Culture This panel invites explorations of narratives that document the wide spectrum of harm caused by gender-based violence (ranging from microaggressions to rape) and theoretical interventions in the ways we interpret them.

The Role of the Magazine in Shaping Feminism A call for papers that highlight the role of the magazine in shaping feminism within the 20th century, from supporting minority groups to emancipation and championing equality and sexual freedom.

Transnational Masculinities in Contemporary Europe: From “Crises” to Advocacy? This session seeks interdisciplinary approaches to analyses of transnational masculinities in increasingly global European countries.

Weirdos, Wimps, Losers, and Cowards: Nonconforming Masculinities in Literature This panel will focus on characters who do not conform to traditional ideas of what it means to be a man.
NeMLA
NORTHEAST MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

Northeast Modern Language Association
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English Department
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Buffalo, NY 14260–4610

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Upcoming Convention Dates
2020 March 5–8; Boston, MA
Host: Boston University
2021 March 11–14; Philadelphia, PA
2022 March 10–13; Baltimore, MD

Key Dates for 2019–2020
Aug 15 Deadline for Board Nominations
Sep 1 Deadline for My NeMLA Photo Contest
Sep 30 Deadline for Abstracts and Posters for the 2020 Convention
Oct 15 Deadline for Chairs to Finalize 2020 Sessions
Oct 15 Deadline for the NeMLA Book Award
Nov 1 Deadline for Graduate Student Travel Awards
Nov 15 Deadline for the Women’s & Gender Studies Caucus Essay Award
Nov 15 Deadline for the Women’s & Gender Studies Mentorship Program
Dec 15 Deadline for the Postcolonial Studies Essay Award
Dec 31 Deadline for the Antonio Cao Memorial Travel Award
Jan 6 Deadline for the CAITY Caucus Travel Award
Jan 10 Deadline for the CAITY Caucus Essay Award
Jan 15 Deadline for the Graduate Student Essay Award
Feb 6 Deadline for Summer Fellowship Applications
Mar 5–8 51st Annual Convention
Apr 15 Deadline for the NeMLA-UB Special Collections Fellowship