# NORTHEAST MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

# NeMLA News Northeast Modern Language Association

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#### #NeMLA21

# President's Letter: Onward to Philadelphia!

To Our Wonderful Members and Organizational Allies,



We send you this summer newsletter with our sincere wishes and prayers for the health and safety of our membership, your loved ones, and everyone in the world. It is truly a time of reflection and awakening as we face, individually and collectively, the tension of being socially distant while maintaining emotional closeness. In this sense, our 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention in 2021 will be an especially poignant and profound

experience. Indeed, uncertainty has become the new normal, and thus we are moving forward as normal in the face of uncertainty. Nemla's 52nd Annual Convention is slated to take place from March 11 to 14, 2021, and we hope that by then, we will all be able to participate in our friendly convention in beautiful Philadelphia, the "Birthplace of America." Sponsored by the Romantic Languages Department of the University of Pennsylvania, the convention is planned to take place in the beautiful Marriott Philadelphia Downtown, steps from Independence Hall, the Reading Terminal Market, and other countless treasures of history and culture. Circumstances permitting, we look forward to gathering for a convention that embraces what is most human about the humanities, and is shaped by the generosity and gratitude of sincere, meaningful exchange. Please make sure you take some time to submit an abstract to one of more than 400 sessions listed in this newsletter for our 52nd Annual Convention by September 30, and lend your voice to our tradition as an organization that engages, convenes, connects, and creates.

I know that our wonderful 2020 Convention in Boston looms large in our memory as one of the last times we enjoyed the rewarding act of gathering with our friends and colleagues for intellectual, professional, and personal exchange. President Carole Salmon and Executive Director Carine Mardorossian (and the many other devoted Nemla board members, staff, and volunteers) staged a convention that felt nearly flawless in its balancing of quality sessions, fantastic speakers, unique and meaningful professional development opportunities, and the trademark Nemla coziness that makes our convention so unique. We were all washing our hands vigorously, sanitizing our environments, and sensing but not fully certain that we were on the cusp of a radical change in our way of life, and that handshakes, hugs, and hotels would be a necessary sacrifice for our collective well-being. Hence, while Nemla Summer Newsletters often highlight the successes of the previous convention organizers and speakers, my gratitude and applause for our 2020 Convention organizers, leaders, and speakers is even more laudatory because they offered a truly exceptional and enjoyable convention that is worthy of its spot in our personal histories. We are particularly grateful for Boston University's local sponsorship, and the presence of their administration, faculties, and students at the events.

We are grateful for Boston University's local sponsorship, and the presence of their administration, faculties, and students at the events. Dr. Gillian Pierce, Assistant Provost for Academic Assessment; Dr.



Karl Kirchwey, Associate Dean of the Faculty/Humanities in the College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Davida Pines, Chair and Associate Professor in the Division of Rhetoric; and Boston University's graduate representatives Cory Charpentier and Korine Powers made our membership feel welcome to their city. We are thankful for the Area speakers who represented and engaged our diverse membership, as well as to our keynote Dr. Maurice Lee and the "Nemla Reads Together" renowned author Andre Dubus III. Both Lee and Dubus captivated our Nemla audiences with profound and personal discussions. The convention's topic, "Shaping and Sharing Identities: Spaces, Places, Languages, and Cultures," was a prescient reminder that honoring and safeguarding the human instinct to connect is a perennial pursuit for the humanities. This pursuit is defined by a horizon of idealism that looks different to each one of us, but one that we are equally called to seek. I am so grateful to have connected with so many of you in Boston, and I am honored to continue this search for a more ideal way of connecting in the coming year.

We are delighted to continue our affiliation with the University of Buffalo as the Administrative Host of our Association. Much of the success and quality of this organization are owing to the truly excellent leadership and contributions of an Executive Director, administrative staff, and graduate fellows supported by UB. We are proud of our shared progress in raising the visibility of the scholarship of our members, as well as increasing awareness of the talented resources among UB's faculty and staff. Research opportunities and the production of valuable scholarly work are some of the fruits of this partnership.

There's no adequate way to thank those crucial staff members whose dedication to Nemla makes the convention possible. The Executive Director Carine Mardorossian, Administrative and Marketing Coordinator Derek McGrath, Exhibits and Professionalization Coordinator Claire Sommers, and Graduate Assistant Ashley Byczkowski are just a few of the fantastic team that work tirelessly for the Association.

September 30 is the deadline to submit abstracts to panels, roundtables, and seminars on a wide range of topics (submit all abstracts online at cfplist.com/nemla). A complete list of more than

400 CFPs is included in this newsletter starting on page 12. I hope that you will use our 52nd Annual Convention theme, "Tradition and Innovation: Changing Worlds Through the Humanities," as an opportunity to deepen your critical reflection of your field, a way of connecting the contexts of a changing world and world-changing work, and of unifying the scope of your academic interests with your role as a humanist.

Best wishes for your health, peace, and continued solidarity in negotiating the many changes in our world.

#### **Brandi So**

Touro College and University System Nemla President

# **Teaching Together While Staying Home**

# **NEMLA TRAINS MEMBERS HOW TO!**

By late March, faculty around the world were scrambling to master the distance education tools needed to keep our students moving forward while placing much of our lives on pause.

Nemla President Brandi So gathered with our members in early April for a series of "Nemla Keeps Teaching" Workshops: one on active learning and engagement in Zoom-enabled classrooms, and two that built up our members skills in Canvas and Blackboard Learning Management Systems. Educational technology no longer complements our teaching: it is central to its existence, and we are excited that Nemla can be part of helping train for it!

Learn more about our workshops on Page 5.

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# 2021 FEATURED SPEAKERS



# Opening Event: Jed Esty Thursday, March 11, 7:00PM

Jed Esty is Vartan Gregorian Professor of English at the University of Pennsylvania. He specializes in 20th-century British, Irish, and postcolonial literatures, with additional interests in modernism, critical theory, history and theory of the novel, colonial and postcolonial studies, the Victorian novel, and post-45 US culture. He received his BA from Yale University and his PhD from Duke University. He taught for several years at Harvard University and at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign before joining the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania in 2008. He is the author of Unseasonable Youth: Modernism, Colonialism, and the Fiction of Development (2012) and A Shrinking Island: Modernism and National Culture in England (2004), and he is currently at work on a new project, Cold War Victorians: How the British Imagination Shaped American Power. With Joe Cleary and Colleen Lye, he is coeditor of a 2012 special issue of MLQ on the topic of realism in postcolonial and ethnic US literatures, and with Ania Loomba, Suvir Kaul, Antoinette Burton, and Matti Bunzl, he coedited Postcolonial Studies and Beyond (2005). Professor Esty has been a fellow of the Guggenheim Foundation, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the National Endowment for the Humanities.



# Keynote Event: Jennifer Egan

Friday, March 12, 7:00 PM

Book signing to follow

Jennifer Egan is the author of several novels and a short story collection. Her most recent novel, *Manhattan Beach*, a *New York Times* bestseller, was awarded the 2018 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction. Her previous novel, *A Visit From the Goon Squad*, won the 2011 Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Critics Circle Award, and the *Los Angeles Times* book prize, and was recently named one of the best books of the decade by *Time Magazine*, *Entertainment Weekly*, and several others. Also a journalist, she has written frequently in the *New York Times Magazine*—most recently about pregnancy and childbirth among opioid-dependent women. She is President of PEN America.

# THE HUMANITIES ON THE ROAD



We are delighted to announce that Nemla President Brandi
So will serve as our 2021
interviewer for our initiative *The Humanities on the Road*, featuring internationally renowned authors from our annual convention's local host city. We are pleased to

welcome University of Pennsylvania alumna Jennifer Egan as this year's invited speaker!

# NEMLA READS TOGETHER



Nemla members are encouraged to read *Manhattan Beach* in preparation for writer Jennifer Egan's keynote address. *Manhattan Beach* takes us into a world populated by gangsters, sailors, divers, bankers, and union men in a dazzling, propulsive exploration of a transformative moment in the lives and identities of women and men, of America

and the world. Submit questions in advance to ask the author at support@nemla.org or with our mobile app.

# WELCOME TO PHILADELPHIA!



# **52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention**

March 11–14 2021, Philadelphia, PA

LOCAL HOST: UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

With 400 sessions, including dynamic speakers and cultural events, our annual convention affords Nemla's principal opportunity to carry on a tradition of lively research and pedagogical exchange in language and literature. This year's theme, "Tradition and Innovation: Changing Worlds Through the Humanities," asks how evolving traditions in the humanities have helped us understand our changing worlds, both real and imaginary.

This year's conference will take place at the Marriott Downtown Philadelphia, steps from Independence Hall, the Reading Terminal Market, and other treasures of art, culture, and community. The Marriott is offering a conference rate of \$199. Free Wi-Fi in guest rooms is provided to all Bonvoy guests (free membership at marriott.com). Limited on-site weekend parking is available for \$68.60.

To review and submit to all calls for papers by September 30, 2020, please visit cfplist.com/nemla. For more information, please email support@nemla.org.

# **Travel Information**

#### **GROUND TRANSPORTATION**

The Marriott is 10 miles from Philadelphia International Airport. Taxis, rental cars, buses, trolleys, and trains are available to and from the Marriott and the airport.

# DISCOUNTED FLIGHTS WITH NEMLA'S OFFICIAL AIRLINE, AMERICAN AIRLINES

American Airlines is pleased to offer a special discount of 5% off published fares (excluding basic economy and non-discountable fares) beginning October 29, 2020. For more information, please visit buffalo.edu/nemla/aa.

#### **DISCOUNTED TRAIN TRAVEL WITH AMTRAK**

Amtrak offers various Every Day Discounts and a generous Amtrak Guest Rewards loyalty program for frequent travelers. For more information, please visit buffalo.edu/nemla/amtrak.

#### **ROOM AND RIDE SHARE**

Want to connect with others to share rooms or rides in Philadelphia for Nemla 2021? Open to all Nemla convention attendees, please fill out the form at nemlagraduatecaucus.wordpress.com starting Fall 2020 for room and ride share opportunities.

# FROM NEMLA'S 2020 BOSTON PRESIDENT



It was an honor and a pleasure to preside over Nemla's 51st Annual Convention in Boston, March 5 to 8, 2020. Once again, Nemla was a great success, and I thank all who participated. In particular, I would like to take a moment to congratulate and highlight again our two extraordinary keynote speakers.

Dr. Maurice Lee from Boston University enlightened us with a witty, engaging, and thought-provoking address titled "The Office of Literature," which spoke to all disciplines in the current climate of "crisis" in the humanities, but also left us with hope for the future of our profession.



The next day, nationally acclaimed writer Andre Dubus III, whose latest novel *Gone So Long* was our "Nemla Reads Together" book this year, shared with us his unique lifepath to writing in his remarkably intimate address "Finding a Life Through Words." Thank you to Carine Mardorossian, Executive Director of Nemla, for organizing this event, and to Christina Milletti for interviewing Andre in our ongoing "Humanities on the Road" initiative.



Both Dr. Lee and Andre Dubus III's keynote addresses were incredibly inspiring for all of us, and I am grateful to both speakers for their outstanding performances that touched everyone who attended and illustrated so well this year's conference theme of "Shaping and Sharing Identities: Space, Places, Languages, and Cultures."

Carole Salmon
University of Massachusetts Lowell
Nemla Past President

# WGS CAUCUS ELECTION

The Women's and Gender Studies Caucus encourages all members to vote for the next Secretary and Board Representative at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Z5JBF7C. Candidate statements are available at this SurveyMonkey link.

It is essential that at least 1/3 of the Caucus membership vote. It takes just a few minutes, and your cooperation will ensure a swift election process.

For more information about officers' responsibilities and to get involved in the Caucus, please visit buffalo.edu/nemla/wgsc.

# SEMINARS ABOUT TEACHING ONLINE

# "Keep Teaching" Workshops **Hosted By Brandi So, Nemla President**





From April 3 to 5, Nemla President Brandi So hosted a series of workshop tutorials: "Student Blackboard Engagement in Zoom, Best Practices in Canvas Learning Engagement in Zoom," "Best Management System," and "Best Practices in the Blackboard Learning Management System."

In these workshops held via Zoom, Nemla members received firsthand advice on how to use instructional technologies to continue our work as educators. Participants were given opportunities to meet one another in breakout rooms, practice with annotating, whiteboard writing, polling, and other Zoom tools, and review sample course designs in Blackboard and Canvas, with tips on how to utilize these tools in the most effective (and efficient) way.

Each workshop was followed by a Q&A session for individualized suggestions and feedback on their courses from Brandi, who, in addition to her work as an Americanist, has been teaching online since 2009 and works as an instructional designer and in faculty development.

Thank you to everyone who joined! These workshops were warm and personal--another benefit of being part of the Nemla community! We will be hosting additional online seminars in the future, so check your email for more information!

# THANKS TO OUR STAFF!





Nemla is great because its people are! Each year, our graduate assistants, staff, and board members prepare tote bags for the annual convention.

We also drive, from our host institution at the University at Buffalo to the convention site, numerous items such as digital projectors and printed convention programs.

Interested in volunteering for Nemla? Please email support@nemla.org.

# AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

#### **Book Award**

Our 2020 winner was Amanda R. Waugh Lagji, Pitzer College, for the manuscript Waiting for Now: Postcolonial Fiction and Colonial Time, and our 2020 honorable mention was Syrrina Ahsan Ali Haque, Kinnaird College for Women, for the manuscript Dialogue on Partition: Literature Knows No Borders.

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 roundup 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 52nd Annual Convention in Philadelphia.

Email submissions: book.award@nemla.org. More information: buffalo.edu/nemla/bookaward. Deadline: October 15, 2020

#### **Summer Research Fellowship**

The Board of Directors congratulates the 2020 Nemla Summer Research Fellows for the following projects that they are developing with the support of Nemla research and travel funding:

Alexandra Brown, University of Pennsylvania, "Bit by Byte: The Speculative Fiction Writers' Collective of Argentina & Chile"

Daniel Davies, University of Pennsylvania, "Theorizing Literary Empire in Les Voeux du Paon (1312) and The Parlement of the Thre Ages (c.1350-90)"

Lorena García Barroso, Columbia University, "Language as a Weapon in Franco's Nation-building Project"

Syrrina Haque, University of Lahore, "Narrative Shift from Postcolonial to Post-9/11 in Mehr Nigar Masroor's Shadows of Time and Omar Shahid Hamid's The Spinner's Tale"

Dana Khromov, University of Pennsylvania, "Estou Me Guardando Para o Carnaval Chegar: The Disappearance of Lazer"

Valeria Meiller, Georgetown University, "Argentina, Nation of Flesh: Confronting Cattle at the Slaughterhouse (1900-1930)"

Jon Najarian, Boston University, "The Intermedial Era: Literary and Pictorial Narrative from Modernism to Comics"

**Seda Öz**, University of Delaware, "Politics of Remakes: The Case of Turkish Cinema"

Ana Isabel Simón Alegre, Adelphi University, "Social Activism and Feminism: Editing the Fiction of Concepción Gimeno de Flaquer"

Nancy Vera, University of Maryland College Park, "Afro-Mexican Literature and Culture"

# **NeMLA-University at Buffalo Special Collections Fellowship**

The University at Buffalo Library and Nemla sponsor a short-term visiting fellowship for research supported by the University's Poetry Collection and Rare and Special Books Collection. Our 2019 winner was 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, 2021

# **ESSAY AWARDS**

Nemla awards paper prizes to essays developed from its annual convention. 2020 prizes were awarded to papers that were presented at the 2019 Convention.

# **Postcolonial Studies Essay Award**

Nemla sponsors a special 2021 essay award for a revised paper in Postcolonial Studies presented at the Nemla Convention in 2019 or 2020. Please email submissions to postcolonial.essay.award@nemla.org. More Information: buffalo.edu/nemla/postcolonialessay

Deadline: December 15, 2020

# **CAITY Caucus Essay Award**

The 2021 award is for a paper presented at the 2020 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, 2021

# **Graduate Student Caucus Essay Award**

Nemla will award a 2021 prize to the best graduate student paper presented at any of the sessions of the 2018, 2019, or 2020 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, 2021

# **Criteria for Essay Award Submissions**

Qualifying Nemla members are invited to submit for the coming round of Caucus Essay Awards. Essays are to be revised and expanded from original papers presented at previous conventions. Unrevised paper presentations are not accepted and will be returned. Submissions should be written in or translated into English. The essay should be original, unpublished, and not under consideration for publication elsewhere and may not be submitted to another contest for the duration of the award's deliberation.

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

Essays must be submitted electronically as two separate document files attached to the email (please refer to the guidelines for each Essay Award whether to submit as PDFs or Microsoft Word files): (1) a cover sheet and (2) the submitted essay. The author's name, address, and academic affiliation should appear only on the separate cover sheet with the essay's title, as submissions undergo blind review; if this information appears in the submitted essay, the submission will be disqualified. 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. Special attention should be paid to the required format. For more information, please visit buffalo.edu/nemla/essayaward.

# **2020 NeMLA Essay Award Winners**

# **WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES CAUCUS ESSAY AWARD**

Nancy Vera, University of Maryland College Park, for the essay "Witches & Tricksters: Feminine Forms of Resistance in Afro-Mexican Folklore"

#### **POSTCOLONIAL STUDIES ESSAY AWARD**

**Ngwaba Ijeoma Ann**, Federal University of Oye Ekiti, for the essay "Rewriting the Nation: History and Re-Historicisation in Chinua Achebe's *There Was a Country* and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Half of a Yellow Sun*"

#### **CAITY CAUCUS ESSAY AWARD**

Aoise Stratford, Cornell University, for the essay "Abortion, Infanticide, Sterilization and the Monstrous Maternal in Suzan-Lori Parks's *Red Letter Plays*"

#### **GRADUATE STUDENT CAUCUS ESSAY AWARD**

W. Danielle Jones, University of Chicago, for the essay "Kindred, Literacy, and the Body as Text"

# **Women's & Gender Studies Caucus Essay Award**

The Nemla Women's & Gender Studies Caucus invites submissions for our 2021 award for a paper in English presented at any session of the 2019 or 2020 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 wgsc Essay Award Submission" in the subject heading. **Deadline:** January 15, 2021

Nemla offers awards to members accepted to present papers at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention. Applicants are eligible to receive only one of the awards below. More information is available at buffalo.edu/nemla/travelawards.

# TRAVEL AWARDS

# Graduate Student Travel Awards

The Graduate Student Caucus provides a number of travel awards to graduate students accepted to the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention. Email the accepted abstract and a 250-word statement of the presentation's relevance to the field to **gsc@nemla.org**.

Deadline: November 4, 2020

Award: \$110-400 (depending on quality and number of awardees)

More information: buffalo.edu/nemla/gradtravel

# **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 invaluable, loyal Nemla member. Our 2020 winner is Edurne Beltrán de Heredia, Arizona State University, for the presentation "Identidad híbrida en la narrativa de mujeres escritoras hispanas: Marruecos y Guinea Ecuatorial" for the Feministas Unidas session "Fluid Identities in the Globalizing World."

To honor Dr. Cao's memory and unwavering support of students, our 2021 prize will be awarded to a graduate student presenting on any aspect of Spanish culture or literature at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention. Applications will be evaluated on basis of quality of the student's abstract; relevance of their topic to Spanish studies; funds available from the student's institution; and travel distance to the Convention.

Email applications: cao.travel@nemla.org

Deadline: December 31, 2020

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 accepted to present a paper as part of a traditional panel or seminar at Nemla's annual convention.

Congratulations to 2020 Boston Convention recipients: Alessandra Aloisi, Silvia Alvarez-Olarra, Katja Anderson, Ayendy Bonifacio, Keridiana Chez, Luis Cuesta, Valeria Dani, Misun Dokko, Lisa Dolasinski, Omotayo Fakayode, Yolanda Franklin, Maite Garbayo Maeztu, Kristen Gunderson, Rachel Heffner-Burns, Emily Iekel, James Kenward-Abdollahyan, Caroline Laurent, Katja Lindskog, Taraneh Matloob Haghanikar, Peter McKenna, Alice Morin, Ayesha Muzaffar, Amy Paeth, Sara Parisi, Justyna Poray-Wybranowska, David Price, MennaTullah Reda Atta, Eleonora Sartoni, Hannah Schroder, and Stephanie Weber.

Caity Travel Awards are not meant for panel chairs of 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, 2021

# PROFESSIONALIZATION EVENTS

#### **NEMLA'S PUBLISHING MENTORSHIP PROGRAM: OUR THIRD YEAR**

The year-long Publishing Mentorship Program pairs graduate students and early career faculty members with seasoned mentors. At Nemla, program participants meet in a roundtable to reflect on and assess challenges and successes. To participate in the roundtable, submit your abstract at cfplist.com/nemla/Home/S/18992 by September 30. To participate in the program, please see more information on page 8.

#### **WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES MENTORSHIP PROGRAM**

Nemla Women's & Gender Studies Caucus pairs senior faculty mentors with junior faculty and doctoral students.

**Mentees:** Apply at buffalo.edu/nemla/wgsmentor starting Oct 1 **Mentors:** Email your name, affiliation, and research interests to wgsnemla@gmail.com by Nov 15

# **NEW AT OUR 2021 CONVENTION: ELEVATOR PITCH!**

Do you have a book project to submit to an academic press? At our 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention, members can practice book pitches to our exhibitors for feedback. Email a 2-page cv and 750-word book proposal to jobclinic@nemla.org by December 1. Participants must have PhD in hand.

#### **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 given at any Nemla session to support@nemla.org. For more information, please visit buffalo.edu/nemla/cfp.

#### **PROMOTE YOUR BOOK**

Are you a Nemla 2020 presenter who published a book in 2019 or 2020? Email support@nemla.org to advertise your work on our website! See a list of our members' publications at buffalo.edu/nemla/memberspublications.

#### **JOB CLINIC**

At our 2020 convention, more than 100 early career scholars and graduate students met one-on-one with faculty for feedback on cvs and Cover Letters and to practice Mock Interviews. We carefully match mentors and mentees with overlapping research interests, towards fostering communication and professional collaboration beyond the convention. Sign up when registering for our 2021 convention at cfplist.com/nemla! For more information, please email jobclinic@nemla.org.

# **Job Clinic Testimonials**

Did you have a productive appointment at our Job Clinic? Have you remained in touch since the convention? Are you receiving mentorship in other aspects of professional life? Have you collaborated on other projects? How did the clinic help you in the profession? Have you found a position? With your permission, we would like to include your testimonials on our website and in our newsletter. Please email testimonials to jobclinic@nemla.org by December 1.

# buffalo.edu/NeMLA

# **Publishing Mentorship Program**

As part of Nemla's goal to foster professional development beyond just the convention, our year-long program pairs early career scholars with senior faculty who offer valuable advice and feedback on publishing an article. We congratulate several of our mentees who have successfully published articles that emerged as part of this program! We will begin accepting applications in Fall 2020, so please keep an eye on your email.

# **Testimonials from a Publishing Program Mentee and Mentor**

I was fortunate enough to participate in NeMLA's Publishing Mentorship Program where I met Dr. Ana Isabel Simón Alegre, who today I can proudly call my mentor and my friend. Ana assisted me with review of an article I had sent for publication and which the editor asked me to revise. I learned how to better structure my paper, making it more appealing and overall more organized. Although we share an interest in women's literature and gender studies, Ana is an expert in Spanish literature while I focus on French and Italian literatures. But the fact that we come from different fields was not an issue; on the contrary, it helped me adjust my language to my prospective audience and privilege clarity. My article "Claire Bretécher: Female Humor and the Myths of Consumer Society" is forthcoming for The French Review in 2020.

Viviana Pezzullo
PhD Candidate in Comparative Studies
Florida Atlantic University

Being part of the Publishing Mentorship Program was one of the best decisions I have ever made. Thanks to helping Viviana Pezzullo with an article, I had the opportunity to meet a brilliant researcher.

In addition, this program allowed me to develop my skills as a mentor focused on the writing process and was able to help Viviana to publish an article while encouraging her throughout the isolated process of writing.

Finally, I want to highlight the importance of this program because it contributes to generating networks that promote collaboration between different fields, disciplines, and theoretical approaches, which is key to a successful future in the humanities, especially in these troubled times.

Ana Isabel Simón Alegre Assistant Professor in Languages, Literatures, and Cultures Adelphi University

# **2020 NeMLA Undergraduate Research Forum Award Winners**

**BEST USE OF THE CONFERENCE THEME** "Charlotte Brontë's Juvenilia: Interpretations of African Land and European Presence," Caroline Lunt, Colby College

HONORABLE MENTION: "India's National Identity as an 'Imagined Community': Magical Realism in *Midnight's Children*," Olivia Klein, Simmons College

**BEST POSTER DETERMINED BY NEMLA MEMBERS** "My Guy Pretty Like a Girl: The Impact of Nonheteronormative Hip Hop on Urban Youth Identity," Elia Agudo, Delaware State University

HONORABLE MENTION: "Secondary Characters: Family Narratives between Autofiction and Memorialization," Alejandra Mena Serranía, Brown University

WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES CAUCUS MOST COMPELLING RESEARCH AWARD "It Is Time to Stop Forgetting: The Reenactment of Women's Trauma in Irish Literature," Cara Mackenzie, Simmons College

HONORABLE MENTION: "Patriarchy and Sexual Stasis in Edna O'Brien's *The Country Girls Trilogy*," Matt Nilsen, University of Connecticut

**BEST VISUAL PRESENTATION** "Dybbuks and Destruction: Explorations into a Yiddish Gothic," Azariah Kurlantzick, Clark University

HONORABLE MENTION: "Intimacy, or Friendship': Sexual Identity in Victorian Vampire Fiction," Riley Lampert, University at Buffalo

**BEST ORAL PRESENTATION** "Understanding the Role of Social Salience in the Dialectal Convergence of U.S. Spanish," Andrew Fleming, Wesleyan University

HONORABLE MENTION: "Workspaces for the Individual: Bloomsbury Rooms and American Office Design," Ashley Fenstermaker, Hunter College

**BEST SOURCE INTEGRATION** "Oppression and Cultural Autonomy: *Scalped* and the Paradox of Owning Marginalization," Chris Connors, University of Missouri-Kansas City

HONORABLE MENTION: "Paratextual Manchuness: Translation and the (Re) Construction of Identity," Elvin Meng, Johns Hopkins University

**BEST USE OF INTERDISCIPLINARITY** "Zola et la Genèse de la Contagion: Women as Purveyors of Disease in *Nana* and *Le Docteur Pascal*," Kaetlyn Arant, Amherst College

HONORABLE MENTIONS: "Language Policy and the Integration of *Alliance Israélite Universelle* Schools into Thracian Society," Sophie Call, Wellesley College, and "Eugenics in the United States from the 1900s-1970s," Jose-Romarah Chery, University at Buffalo

BEST POSTER DETERMINED BY THE NEMLA BOARD "Censorship and Identity in 17<sup>th</sup>century New England and New Spain," Amanda Judah, Boston College

HONORABLE MENTION: "The American Melting Pot: How Language Use on Twitter Builds the '--- American' Identity," Parker Chase, University at Buffalo

BEST POSTER DETERMINED BY EXHIBITORS "Queen Elissa: The Roman Adaptation of a Carthaginian Deity," Jake Pawlush, University at Buffalo

HONORABLE MENTION: "My Own Body a Banquet: Dracula and the Necromancy of Appetite," Kit Pyne-Jaeger, Cornell University

**BEST POSTER DETERMINED BY UNDERGRADUATE PARTICIPANTS** "It Is Time to Stop Forgetting: The Reenactment of Women's Trauma in Irish Literature," Cara Mackenzie, Simmons College

# UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FORUM



Thank you to our undergraduate presenters and attendees for making our  $2^{nd}$  annual Undergraduate Research Forum such a success. This year we welcomed 26 undergraduate students to Boston to present posters of their research. It was inspiring to see the research these students are already doing at the undergraduate level and to give them the opportunity to engage with scholars in their field. For many, this was their first opportunity to attend a professional conference, and our presenters expressed gratitude for the experience and the ability to sharpen their presentation and public speaking skills. We are thrilled to welcome these undergrads into the NeMLA family!

Jennifer Mdurvwa, University at Buffalo

# **Call for Submissions**

Our  $52^{nd}$  Annual Convention seeks proposals exploring how literary works, languages, and cultures influence one another. Students will give 3- to 5-minute presentations. Undergraduate students are invited to submit a 300-word abstract with a bibliography and short bio. We ask that faculty encourage talented undergraduate students in their programs to submit. Conference funding and cash prizes will be awarded for the strongest research proposals and presentations.

**Apply online:** cfplist.com/nemla **Deadline:** November 1, 2020

Contact: Jennifer Mdurvwa, arts-sciences@buffalo.edu

#### Testimonials from Our Presenters

Organizers were diligent and enthusiastic, ensuring that presenting research as an undergraduate would be as easy and non-terrifying as possible. Going over drafts, connecting us to travel funding, linking us to other attendees, hosting networking events: it is thanks to that network of support that I was able to attend NeMLA and feel connected to this peer-driven network.

# Parker Chase, University at Buffalo

This was my first time conducting a conference presentation, so it was incredibly gratifying to have the opportunity to present. I especially appreciated the creative freedom afforded me for the structure of my presentation. Some of the classicists I met, including an MA Classics student from the University at Buffalo, came and listened to my presentation, asked questions, and talked more

with me about my undergraduate studies and my plans, potential graduate schools, and what research I would want to conduct. The "Applying to Graduate School" forum was extremely helpful as well. Forum leader Dr. Donavan Ramon helped break it down and put it into perspective. This conference helped me experience graduate level work being presented as an undergraduate and helped prepare me for what would be required of me when I become a graduate student and come to a conference as one.

# Jake Pawlush, University at Buffalo

Never before have I attended a conference of this size, nor have I been able to present my research to such a wide range of people! Between a midday workshop on applying to graduate school and the subsequent afternoon spent sharing my research, titled "Intimacy, or Friendship': Sexual Identity in Victorian Vampire Fiction," I was very busy. The workshop gave me important insights on why, when, and how to further my education, and the poster session gave me a glimpse into what a future in academia will look like. Having returned to Buffalo, I now feel more confident in my decision to (eventually) pursue graduate school. I crave the intellectual discussion that I engaged there and the camaraderie I felt upon meeting the other presenters at the Undergraduate Forum. I hope to attend NeMLA's 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention next year. I also hope to become involved in NeMLA's Women and Gender Caucus, because some of my most memorable, riveting conversations were with faculty and professionals who were part of the Women's Studies and Gender Caucus. Overall, my first year at NeMLA was a fulfilling, educational experience that I will use and remember for the rest of my undergraduate degree.



#### Riley Lampert, University at Buffalo

This was the second conference I ever attended, but public speaking has always intimidated me. Although I have presented in my classes and at University at Buffalo's Phi Alpha Theta conference last year, I have never really been comfortable with displaying my work to the public. That feeling subsided a little after meeting Jennifer Mdurvwa. She helped me through a lot of hurdles regarding getting to the conference. She was very patient, and she never made me feel like my questions were unwarranted. The road to Nemla was one that was filled with doubt and insecurity but ended with pride and gratitude.

Jose-Romarah Chery, University at Buffalo

# **EXHIBIT AT NEMLA**

The Exhibit Hall is the heart of Nemla where we gather to talk, receive professional development, have refreshments, and of course, buy books.

We expect at our 52<sup>nd</sup> annual convention 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**

Want advice on publishing and teaching? Sign up for our exhibitorsponsored workshops! Exhibitors: you have the opportunity to participate in workshops at our convention! Please email nemla.exhibit@gmail.com to sign up by November 1!

Our 2021 convention will feature interactive workshops by our members on a variety of topics. Pre-registration begins Fall 2020 at cfplist.com/nemla.

# A Testimonial from One of Our Exhibitors

Nemla's organizing committee works tirelessly to ensure that exhibitors are integral to each year's convention: they drive traffic to the Exhibit Hall using social media, refreshments are always served alongside book exhibits, and they invite exhibitors to contribute to the academic program.

At the 2020 convention, for instance, Nemla hosted a publishing workshop, which helped to reinforce that editors are a part of the scholarly community and that they attend conferences for many of the same reasons as other members of the community: to take part in valuable exchanges with researchers and, of course, to learn.

Thank you, Nemla!

John Morgenstern, D.Phil. Director, Clemson University Press

# WORKSHOPS

**DISSERTATION PEDAGOGY** I TOMMY MAYBERRY, ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO. AND SARAH GIBBONS. UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

We'll draw on writing studies and pedagogy research to discuss effective approaches to mentor and support graduate students on their theses and dissertations. We will offer strategies for providing effective feedback under time constraints and identify approaches and tools that address and engage with feedback in all stages of the writing process.

# DO HANSEL AND GRETEL REALLY WANT TO GO HOME? PERFORMATIVE TEACHING OF LITERATURE | SUSANNE EVEN. INDIANA UNIVERSITY-BLOOMINGTON

Participants will be familiarized with basic performative conventions and learn to adapt these conventions to different texts, thus taking the role of the performative teacher, trying out ideas in a safe space, and learning with and from each other.

**DYNAMIC COURSE DESIGN FOR TEACHING THE HUMANITIES ONLINE** I SUSAN KO, LEHMAN COLLEGE, CUNY, AND RICHARD SCHUMAKER, CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

This hands-on workshop provides a guided opportunity for designing and teaching fully or partially online courses, led by two individuals with extensive expertise in faculty development for online and blended teaching, as well as experience teaching comparative literatures and cultures. 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.

# MAPPING WITH DIGITAL HUMANITIES TOOLS | CATERINA AGOSTINI, RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

This workshop introduces geospatial tools and methods in the Digital Humanities. We will learn to investigate and visualize multi-dimensional data on a map using some web-based applications. The goal is to explore geographical and chronological information, thus supporting research and teaching projects in the humanities.

PUBLISHING TODAY: A TALK WITH PUBLISHERS | HANNAH BROOKS-MOTL, AMHERST COLLEGE PRESS

Exhibiting publishers will give practical advice on issues that first-time and long-time authors often confront, from drafting book proposals, to thinking about press "fit," to utilizing new publication technologies. Short presentations by editors will be followed by an audience Q&A open to any aspect of the publishing process.

# TASK-BASED LITERATURE TEACHING: APPLYING TBLT TO THE LITERATURE CLASSROOM | CHRIS JACOBS, UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT KEARNEY

Research has shown that many students seek to obtain practical language skills from their literature classes. Research has also shown that learning success depends on how well students believe classes align with their personal goals. This interactive workshop explores how to apply real-world-focused, task-based language teaching (TBLT) to literature classes. In this workshop, attendees

will explain the relationship between student goals and learning, describe TBLT, analyze the effectiveness of specific activities, and design literature-based tasks that students are likely to find useful and engaging. Attendees will leave with both concrete tasks and the skills to design additional tasks.

# USING OPEN PEDAGOGY TO INNOVATE TEACHING AND LEARNING | CHRISTINA RIEHMAN-MURPHY AND BRYAN MCGEARY, PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

This workshop will focus on how faculty can employ open pedagogical practices with students to reinvent the relationship that students have with course content. We will present short case studies on open projects and share the impact these projects have had on teaching and learning experiences. Participants will be guided through the process of creating an Open Project Roadmap that will be customized to their unique course, technology, and partnership affordances. The workshop will be led by two members of the inaugural cohort of the Open Textbook Network's Certificate in OER Librarianship.

# "Pitch to Publication": Our Exhibitors' Publishing Workshop

At the 2020 convention, Nemla was proud to introduce exhibitor-sponsored workshops, which provided our attendees with practical advice on several aspects of the profession, including pitching books, publishing articles, and teaching.



One of the most popular was "Pitch to Publication," organized by John Morgenstern from Clemson University Press, an engaged discussion with our exhibiting publishers to guide authors through the process of proposing a book to an academic press, from finding the right editor to drafting successful proposals. These speakers provided insider tips for effective queries, pitches, and proposals, fielding questions from audience members that we hope will lead them to successful publication!

Special thanks to workshop leader John Morgenstern (Clemson University Press), Amy Damutz (Intellect Books), William Johnsen (Michigan State University Press), Dré Person (McFarland & Company), and Paula Krebs (Modern Language Association)

# PHOTO CONTESTS



# 51st Annual Convention Photo Contest

We encouraged our 2020 convention attendees to photograph themselves mingling outside the conference room. Jessica Mason, University at Buffalo, took this photograph with participants from her session "Madwomen in Social Justice Movements, Literatures, and Art." She will receive free registration for our 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention. Congratulations Jessica!

# **#NeMLASOUVENIR PHOTO CONTEST**



We encouraged visitors to our 2020 Convention Exhibit Hall to share a selfie with the book they purchased. The winner was Sourour Salhi, University of Birmingham. She will receive free registration for our 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention. Congratulations Sourour!

# KIDS' CORNER

We encouraged our youngest attendees at our Boston convention to draw pictures inspired by what they saw at presentations and around the city. See more of their drawings at buffalo.edu/nemla/draws!



# 2021 CALL FOR PAPERS

# **52nd Annual Convention**

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, please visit cfplist.com/nemla. Sessions will run from the afternoon of Thursday, March 11, 2021, to midday Sunday, March 14, 2021.

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, 2020

American & Diaspora Studies	12–14
British Studies	15
Comparative Literature	15–17
Creative Writing, Publishing & Editing	17–18
Cultural Studies & Media Studies	18–21
French & Francophone Studies	21–23
German Studies	23–24
Italian Studies	24–25
Pedagogy & Professionalism	25–27
Post/colonial Studies	
Rhetoric & Composition	
Slavic Studies	
Spanish & Portuguese Studies	
Women's & Gender Studies	
World Literatures (Non-European Languages)	
More detailed panel descriptions are available at cfr	olist.com/nemla

# **American & Diaspora Studies**

**1776, 1619, and 2021: Defining American Identity in Lit and Culture** This panel invites abstracts on how literary and cultural figures, works, and conversations have imagined and reimagined those (or other) origin points and sought to define and redefine American identity.

**Addiction and Healing in 19<sup>th</sup>-century American Literature and Culture** This panel will explore early forms of recovery in American culture from Washingtonian temperance to inebriate homes of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**Afro-pessimism and Black Optimism in the Afterlife of Slavery** This panel invites papers from various disciplines that think broadly about the black ontology and its relationship to life, death, and the genre of the human in the afterlife of slavery.

Afrofuturism and Africanfuturism: Speculative Fiction of Africa and the African Diaspora This panel seeks to examine Afrofuturist and Africanfuturist

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.

**Anzaldúa's** *Borderlands/La Frontera* amidst the Discourse of 'Bad **Hombres'** This panel seeks presentations on Gloria Anzaldúa's legacy in contemporary theory and literature.

**Asian Americans and American Identity** This panel invites abstracts on anti-Asian racism and its response as well as any contexts related to Asian Americans and American identity.

**Becoming the Obamas: Critical Approaches to Barack and Michelle Obama's Memoirs** Following the massive success of Michelle Obama's memoir *Becoming*, this panel seeks papers on the major prose works of Barack and Michelle Obama: *Becoming*, *Dreams From My Father*, and/ or *The Audacity of Hope*.

**Biopower and the Politics of Resistance** This panel reflects on possible forms of resistance against the biopolitical control of people's lives by modern state apparatuses.

**Consanguineous Ties: Kinship, Family, and Community in American Literature**This panel focuses on depictions of family, kinship, household, and community in American literature with a particular eye to authors and works that seek to challenge, reimagine, or expand these concepts.

**Creative Anxiety in the Works of Shirley Jackson** This panel seeks to explore moments of panic and anxiety in Jackson's work and how they are resolved, left indeterminate, or used to inspire moments of creativity and inspiration.

'The Cruellest Month': Writing the Pandemic During National Poetry Month and Beyond This panel aims to highlight and explore poetic responses to the pandemic as launched under the auspices of National Poetry Month as well as through individuals, collectives, and other forums that have summoned poets and poetry to address and articulate this latest public health crisis.

**Deconstructing/Constructing Simultaneously: Harlem Renaissance Writers Changing Worlds** How do Black artists of the Harlem Renaissance promote necessary change by challenging stagnant traditions both inter- and intra-racially? How do they use the creative word as a space to promote innovation in art as well as cultural representation?

A Different 'Gran Combo': Latinx Cultural Traditions Then and Now This panel seeks submissions that address how the field of Latinx Studies has evolved in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries.

Discourses of Asian American Literature and Studies Then and Now This session aims to take a close look at the "then and now" of Asian American fields of study in hopes of continuing not only existing discourses, but furthermore encouraging innovative scholarly work that explores new ways of (re-)understanding, (re-)analyzing, and (re-)interpreting Asian American literature and/or Asian American studies.

**Domesticity in Quarantine** How have writers such as Emily Dickinson and F. Scott Fitzgerald viewed their own lives during periods of self-isolation, especially its domestic elements?

# American & Diaspora Studies

**Egan, After Postmodernism** This panel will consider Jennifer Egan's work in light of the post-90s literary and cultural movements emerging after postmodernism.

**Emily Dickinson and Popular Culture** This panel calls for papers on varying aspects of Emily Dickinson and popular culture, including the ways in which Dickinson used her contemporary cultural ideas, forces and developments in her poetry and letters.

**'Essential Workers': Precarious Labor in the Literary Imagination** In light of the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic and public debate about who or what kind of work is deemed "essential," this panel seeks to examine literary depictions of precarious workers.

**The Evolving Rhetoric of Whiteness** The presentations in this panel will examine the evolving rhetoric of white America, and how it is unmasked.

**Giant Steps: Coltrane, Space, and Innovation** Inspired by the listing of the John Coltrane House as an at-risk site by Preservation Pennsylvania in 2020, this roundtable calls for discussion of the music, legacy, and experiments of saxophonist John Coltrane.

**Global Gothic: Rewriting Individual Lives in Communal Contexts** This panel examines how, in a plague year, the gothic is increasingly appropriate, both within ourselves and all over the world.

**Gothic Evolution: 1764–2021** This panel invites papers that compare early works of Gothic literature to contemporary Gothic works in American, British, Irish, and Anglophone literature.

**Henry Miller in New Contexts** How does a controversial author like Henry Miller fit into our current conversations? In the era of #MeToo, does Miller's literature and personae alter significantly?

**History and Technology in Contemporary American Literature** How do late-20<sup>th</sup>- and early 21<sup>st</sup>-century American authors and authors writing about America explore the tension between nostalgia and technological development and between history and the technologically advanced future?

**History on Screen: American Historical Fiction Films and TV Shows** Why do studios continue to spend the money and effort to look backward, and why is the viewing audience's attention (and entertainment dollars) captured again and again?

**The Impact of Male Tradition on Female Innovation in American Letters** This session seeks to explore how literary tradition has been established to favor the male and how American female writers and speakers have sought to challenge and change the world of words to represent their views and perspectives.

"...into the world of guilt and sorrow": Flannery O'Connor and the 1960s
To mark the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the publication of her short story
"Everything that Rises Must Converge," this panel will examine Flannery
O'Connor in the context of social issues of the early 1960s.

**Kurt Vonnegut Changing the World, in a Changing World (Kurt Vonnegut Society session)** How can we better understand Vonnegut's relationship



to *literary* tradition and innovation regarding the forms and subject matter he was a part of?

Latin American Diasporic Imagination and the Trespassing Of The U.S. Space We discuss, from a tans-historical perspective, Latin American cultural objects that come into tension with the anti-migratory discourse of the U.S. government in recent years, as they unfold in a space of belonging that transcends the formal limits of the southern border of the United States.

**The Legacy of James Fenimore Cooper's Leatherstocking Tales** This panel invites 21<sup>st</sup>-century perspectives on the current and future place of the Leatherstocking series and James Fenimore Cooper himself.

**Listening for Social and Environmental Justice** This panel seeks to examine listening as an active, political practice that is crucial to social and environmental justice.

**Literary Philadelphia** This panel invites abstracts on the lives and identities, writings and literary careers, and historical and cultural contexts of any authors with connections to Philadelphia.

**Medical Humanities Revisited** What happens to medicine when communication between doctor and patient is no longer only a human-centered dialogue but one that includes the importance of machines, computer chips, network, and media to the emergence of consciousness and humanity?

Narrative Dumplings: Remembering Toni Morrison and Paule Marshall This roundtable commemorates the writings of the late Paule Marshall and Toni Morrison.

**Negotiating Identity: Racialization and Belonging in Asian American and Latinx Discourses** This panel invites works studying discourses of the Asian presence in the Americas in both Asian American literature and Latin American and Latinx literature in order to bring into the conversation the heterogeneity and multiplicity of Asian identity.

**Neo-Slavery on Film: What is at Stake?** What is at stake in contemporary re-enactments on screen of slavery or neo-slavery in cinema in works ranging from *Django Unchained*, 12 Years a Slave, and Birth of a Nation to Get Out, US, and Sorry to Bother You?

**Neoliberal Orientalism** This panel invites proposals addressing relationalities marked by the concept of Asia and ask for insights that map ways of "Orientalism" with nuances in the age of neoliberalism.

# buffalo.edu/NeMLA

Northeast Modern Language Association

# American & Diaspora Studies



**New Directions in Gloria Naylor Scholarship** This panel explores new approaches to Gloria Naylor's works.

**Performing Race in America** As the myth of a "post-racial" era collapses, voices in theater across a broad spectrum contribute to our uneasy attempts to discuss race in America.

**The Philadelphia Gothic and Charles Brockden Brown** This panel dedicates scholastic inquiry into one of the first American gothic writers.

**Philip K. Dick: His Sources and Inspirations** This panel delves into the literature, philosophy, theology, music, and poetry that informed Dick's writings.

**Possible Futures Reimagined: Changing Worlds in Afrofuturist Literature** This roundtable examines core philosophies of Afrofuturism and texts that engage Afrofuturist themes in order to better understand how Black authors envision deconstruction of systemic barriers to racial uplift in a world where Blackness is celebrated instead of stigmatized, silenced, and ignored.

#### Provocative Parables at the Intersection of the Secular and the Supernatural

A critical reexamination of contemporary parables at the intersection of the secular and the supernatural, including, for example, three enjoying decennial anniversaries in 2021: Terrence Malick's *The Tree of Life* (2011), Tom Perrotta's *The Leftovers* (2011), and Neil Gaiman's *American Gods* (2001).

**Queer 19<sup>th</sup>-century Desire in the City of Brotherly and Sisterly Love** This panel questions the multifaceted ways in which men and women exhibit queer desire in 19<sup>th</sup>-century Philadelphia literature.

**Reform and Social Justice in 19<sup>th</sup>-century American Literature** This panel deals with roles writers such as Emerson, Thoreau, Higginson, and Fuller played in reform movements and what led them to engage in social justice issues.

**Revisiting the American Grotesque** This proposed roundtable will explore current manifestations of the grotesque in various forms and genres, using a range of current critical approaches.

**Sexualized Violence in Holocaust Literature and Film** This panel explores representations of sexualized violence against women and queer sexualized violence in Holocaust literature and film.

**Shaping Postmodernism** How has the so-called "postmodernism" been antithetical to modernist literature? How have writers, artists, and philosophers been postmodernist?

**Soil and Superstition: Constructing the Gothic Self** Is the gothic landscape a reflection of a sociopolitical, nationalistic divide, or does the trans-Atlantic gothic represent humans "constructing themselves" through an environmental other?

**Teaching Du Bois's** *The Souls of Black Folk* This session will discuss selections taken from periods of Du Bois's scholarly progression.

**Teaching Native American Literature Beyond the Renaissance** It can feel like selections of Native American literature come from the same rotating group of core authors. While these authors are well worth our time, teaching the breadth and depth of Native American (and American) literary and cultural history requires going beyond those focal points.

**Towards a Poetics of Queer Mysticism in 19<sup>th</sup>- and 20<sup>th</sup>-century American Literature**This panel seeks papers bridging the divide between queer theory and mystical studies as found in American poetry of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

**Tradition and Innovation in Ezra Pound's Modernist Circle** This panel invites participants to explore the relationship among the Philadelphia poets: Ezra Pound, H.D., Marianne Moore, and William Carlos Williams.

**Transforming Protest, Visibility, and Power in Postcolonial and Asian American Cultures** This panel addresses how Postcolonial and Asian
American literature and visual culture offer new sites from which we can identify transformative practices through artistic production.

**Unsettled and Unsettling Nature: The Ecogothic in American Literature Before 1900** This panel seeks to coalesce a body of work which investigates the ecogothic in American literature before 1900.

The Vanished: Identities, Materials, and Traditions in Literature and Culture What narratives are constructed around the vanished person, object, tradition, or institution?

**Weird, Fantastic, and Vital: Speculative Art in Dark Times** Speculative art has consistently played important social and cultural roles in America—one we need more than ever in dark moments like this one.

Whither Transnational Studies in a Post-global Era? It feels as if COVID-19 might produce (at least temporarily, and perhaps permanently) a less globally connected world. What roles could Transnational Studies have in that potential new world?

**Women and the Underground Railroad** We solicit proposals that address accounts of women's involvement in the Underground Railroad.

**Writing History: 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-century American Women's Writing** This panel considers how 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-century American women's literature contributed to the history and mythology of the Revolutionary and New Republic eras.

**Writing Within Interrogative Dynamics** This roundtable will engage with the ephemeral, enduring, sonic, social, conceptual, or visual registers of poetry within the unfolding conditions of crisis.

# British Studies | Comparative Literature

# **British Studies**

**19**th-century British Novels and the Shape of British Writing Today To what extent have 19th-century British novelists influenced the works of contemporary British writers?

#### Bringing Medieval Drama to Life: Scholarship, Performance, Pedagogy

Medieval drama deserves a larger place in our curricula than a unit in a theatre history or medieval literature course: it is an ideal synesthetic and interdisciplinary vehicle for community formation and differential learning, and its allegories and subtexts speak to who we are today.

**British Travels to the Americas During the Long 19<sup>th</sup> Century** We invite papers examining the ideological underpinnings and socio-political reasoning for the production of British travel narratives and the effects they had on constructions of identity, race, and gender.

**Crip-torians: Disability Resistance in the Rehabilitation Era** This panel examines the innovative ways in which disabled Victorian authors and allies wrote back against rehabilitative discourse.

**George Gissing: Works, Life, Friends, and Reputation** Papers are sought on Gissing's works, including connections with and textual intersections with friends like Eduard Bertz and H. G. Wells, and themes like alienation, sexuality, and the New Woman in his works.

The Italianate English: The Impact of Italy on the English Renaissance This panel explores Italian influences on the English Renaissance.

The Lunatic Upstairs: Virginia Woolf and the Ethics of Institutionalization
This panel explores how Woolf's work foregrounds an ethics of
institutionalization for madwomen and Mad folx silenced by the asylum.

**Modernism, Marriage, and the Law in Britain 1890–1945** This panel focuses on literary response to the changing legal landscape in Britain from 1890 to 1945.

Pandemic Shakespeare: Shakespeare in the Time of Coronavirus How do the troubled times that produced drama in Shakespeare's day speak to our current environmentally, biologically, and socio-politically fraught times, and how do we convey this across barriers of distance and communication?

**The Promises of the Novel** How does a reader reflexively calibrate their attention based on particular expectations of a text? What happens when a novel refuses or fails to live up to its implied promises? Could we conceive suspenseful plots in terms of the making and fulfillment of a promise?

**Resisting the Sublime: Gothic Women Writers** This panel seeks instances of Gothic women writers negating the sublime, beautiful, and sentimental.

**Rethinking Time and Space: Early Modern Theatre** Presenters will closely study and reimagine both conceptual frameworks of time and space to discover their significance to the play, its playwrights, and theatre-goers.

**Romantic Tradition, Romantic Innovation** This panel will explore the relationship between tradition and innovation in the thought and works of British writers of the Romantic period.

**Transatlantic Dickens** This session examines Dickens's representations of issues relating to race, slavery, and the American Civil War in his fiction and journalism.

What Goes Up Must Come Down: High and Low Theories of the Victorian Novel This panel aims to gain perspective over high and low culture in its relation to the novel.

# **Comparative Literature**

**Adapting Antiquity: The Uses of the Classics in the Renaissance** This session will explore the use and adaptation of the Classics in Early Modern literature.

**The Ancient and Modern Traditions of Introspective Analysis** We welcome any paper on introspection, self-examination, and duplications, often misguided, and hidden motivations in literary works.



#### Beyond Yunioshi: Rewriting New Asian Masculinities in Media and Literature

In light of how analogical frameworks of racialized masculinity have set up Asian male subjectivities as historically feminized or emasculated in comparison to their hegemonic white counterparts, this session seeks theoretical interventions and critical reflections that interrogate, challenge, or reconfigure white settler masculinity ideals and "soft" masculinity narratives.

**Biblical Reading and Renaissance Literary Production** This panel explores how strategies for reading the Bible shaped literary output during the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries.

**Caribbeanizing the Humanities** This panel welcomes papers that take to task the re-invention of knowledge from liminal perspectives and thinks through how Caribbean modes of thought can be applied to the humanities in order to restructure and re-orient the field to answer the needs of a connected society.

**Commitment: Past and Present** This panel specifically seeks to understand how current concepts of political commitment shape our various notions of a text's aesthetic mediation of the historical present.

**Contagion and the Environment (ASLE Session)** This session examines how literature and other arts depict intersections between contagion and the environment, with particular emphasis on environmental justice concerns and human-nonhuman relationships.

**COVID-19:** Assessing Global Narratives of Epidemic, Crisis, and Plague What do global literature and other media help explain in relation to epidemics and medical emergencies?

**Enfolded Spaces: Feminist Intervention in the Ekphrastic Tradition** This panel seeks to illustrate the rich variety of ekphrases created by modern and contemporary feminist authors.

**Fairy Tales and Adaptation** This panel proposes a discussion of the transformations fairy tales undergo when being adapted into new media, new cultures, or new historical or theoretical contexts.

Films of the Great War: Tradition, Innovation, and Remembrance This panel examines films of the Great War from three perspectives: examining and evaluating continuities and differences between films; exploring possible roads of innovation in films about the Great War; and identifying enduring values, themes, and insights stemming from artistic exploration of wwi.

**Folklore and Folktales: Myths, Legends, and Empowerment** Folklore and folktales have had and continue to have tremendous value in various world communities, especially pertaining to customs, beliefs, myths, legends, and "whys" for the incentive of empowerment.

**Framing Narratives** This session proposes to update the traditional narratological conception of "frame narratives" to include the interpretive consequences of visual, in addition to rhetorical, framing.

From the Page to the Streets: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Urban Literature Suburbanization, rapid globalization, regime change, and gentrification have altered many cities beyond recognition, but no force has yet destroyed them entirely. The papers on this panel will take an interdisciplinary or comparative approach to understanding the relationship between cities and change.

**Global Soundscapes: Music, Politics, and Literature** This seminar takes the relationship between language, music, and politics as its point of departure to consider the global soundscapes of literature.

**Hermeneutics and Literary Studies Today** This panel looks to address questions of the hermeneutic tradition that are of relevance for contemporary literary scholars.

Human Rights Violations in a Lawless Space: Incarceration in 21st-century Literatures This panel seeks papers that problematize incarceration and

discuss works by 21st-century author/activists that tackle issues of human indignities brought by imprisonment across a wide range of global texts and multiple genres.

**Imagination and the Body in 20<sup>th</sup>-century Literature** We are interested not only in the ways in which material conditions affect the possibilities of the imagination, but also in how material bodies and the imagination shape, trigger, and affect one another in literary and cultural production—how bodily experience can be grasped in narrative discourse and, in turn, how narratives shape the imagination and our experience of the world.

An Inquisition into South Asian Perspective/Version of Print and Visual Media
This panel welcomes presentations on socio-culture and material thought
processes in South Asian print and visual media, as well as those compared
with non-white perspectives in the backdrop of cultural theories.

**Intersectional, Innovative, Digital: Whither the New Humanities?** Papers are invited that frame debates regarding the state of the humanities and to propose innovative approaches or critiques.

**Intimations of Melancholia in Literature** How does a text's subject matter, form, and tone reflect a writer's mental state? What effect does their own experience or possible condition have or negate in their characterizations or subject matter?

Landscape Communication in Literary Texts and Social Practices The usage and the designing of landscapes have become major challenges within social debates, media discourse and, not least, in literature and art. Texts and case studies, such as travel reports, new nature writing and film, as well as experiences of countryside development and social and ecological conflict managing in historical or contemporary perspectives are welcomed for presentation.

**Music in Literature** This proposed interdisciplinary panel examines the rich relationship of music and the literary works within various European literatures.

**Mythologies** in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century How and why is Barthes's text still relevant today, and how can we use *Mythologies* to analyze other works of literature, philosophy, or social criticism?

Narratives of the Economy in the Global South If decolonization had its cognates in narratives of rebirth, and this present crisis marks the end of globalization as we knew it, what stories about the economy can the global south survive with? How have imaginative literature and cinema been constituted by these narratives?

**Naturalistic Models of Society and the Novel Form** How do naturalistic sociological models help to mediate political and aesthetic theories?

**New Connectivities for Diasporic Literatures and Cultures** This seminar will discuss research on diasporic writing and literary traditions from a comparative perspective in an age that promises global connectivity, even as such promises may appear broken or unevenly kept.

On Dreams and Oneiric Writing in Modern and Contemporary Literature/Media
The session asks whether a discussion of dreams in literature, media, and

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philosophy is still current and relevant, and how contemporary notions of the dream are related to its psychoanalytic history.

**Plague Writing: Rethinking the Canon** This panel is specifically interested in papers that look to broaden existing understandings of what qualifies as plague writing and the function that such writings perform within literary canons.

**Presentification: The Delights and Dangers of Reviving, Retelling, Reenacting the Past** Is there an ethically sustainable way to make the past present? What do we owe to dead people, their monuments, their memorials? What are we doing when we re-enact an historical event, re-tell a centuries-old story, revive a forgotten way of thinking, restore an ancient object?

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.

**Renaissance Echoes: The Afterlife of a Myth** This panel aims at exploring Echo's mythological echoes in Renaissance literature, art, theater, and music.

**The Repoliticization of Urban Spaces in 80s and 90s Europe** This panel aims at reframing and expanding the academic discourse around the urban spaces that acquired political significance in Europe during the consolidation of neoliberalism.

Responses to Psychotherapeutic Discourses of Depression in 21<sup>st</sup>-century
Literature How does contemporary literature respond to and reimagine
psychotherapeutic narratives of depression? What insight into the
phenomenology of depression and the depressed subject do literary texts
offer that may be lost in psychotherapeutic accounts and vice versa?

**The Role of 'Transgressive Fiction' in the West** If fiction reflects a society's values, in what specific ways do characters from works of "transgressive fiction" provide examples of how particular limits are exceeded, violated, or infringed, and what do such actions tell us about how those limits function in our own societies?

The Secular and the Literary: Re-thinking Analysis and Interpretation in Light of Post-Secularism This panel will focus on the ways post-secularism can provide more nuanced readings and interpretations of narrative and fiction.

Sensory and Non-sensory Perception: Models of Knowing in Literature, Art, and Film This panel explores models of sensory (i.e. empirical) or non-sensory perception to better understand what models of "knowing" we can glean from literature, art, and film.

**Social Movements Initiated by Literature and Writing** Social movements guided by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Flannery O'Connor, Thomas Merton, Martin Luther King, and the Beat Generation ask us to re-imagine literary works as social criticism: writers as agents of change, and writing as the practice of ethics.

**Still Greek to Us: Greek Myth and 21st-century Literature** This panel addresses the proliferation of retellings of ancient Greek myths in international 21st-century literatures.

**Stoicism in Literature: The Power of Inner Transformation** This session explores Stoicism's pervasive influence as a function of Epictetus's philosophy of resilience as well as of the inspiration provided by his astounding personal life—from slave to freedman, from exile to friend of emperors.

**Technology and Posthuman Images** This session examines posthuman depictions of transcending the boundary of self and recognize the intersection of self, technology, and nature in cinema.

**Thinking On and With: Perspectives on Édouard Glissant** This seminar invites archipelagic thought and wide-ranging ways of reading with and through Glissant's writing and ideas.

**Ways of Reading: The Politics of Method** This roundtable invites short presentations on the politics underlying both traditional and new approaches to literary scholarly method, AKA "ways of reading."

**World Literature and Unhomeliness** This panel brings together new ideas on world literature that center on texts, writers, and students from areas and languages largely unrecognized in canonical "world literature" classes. Focusing on migrants, refugees, and the experience of pandemics and climate change, the panel examines a world of interrelated but asymmetrically powerful cultures and agents.

**A World Once Common** This panel looks at how books come together, whether in print or digital form, positing as its general thesis that literature is a collective process, wherein traditions are established, affirmed, transgressed, and innovated.

**Writing Pakistan: Literature, Nationhood, and Identity** This panel seeks to investigate the relationship between Pakistani literature, nationhood, and identity. How is Pakistan as an Islamic nation imagined through literature? What kind of discourse of an "Islamic nationhood" emerges out of Pakistani Urdu literature? Who is a "Pakistani writer?"

# **Creative Writing, Editing & Publishing**

Addressing 'The Memoir Problem': Blocked Memories, Documentary Traces, and Hybrid Forms Contemporary innovations in creative nonfiction craft, comics, short forms, and documentary poetics reveal how cross-genre work offers a fruitful place to challenge readers' expectations and reclaim one's stories through traumas and against injustices. Auto-fiction and auto-theory, somehow "memoir-esque," also welcome.

**Author as Artist: Creative Contributions in Color / Texture** Open to considering a variety of authors and genres in relation to its theme of (re)casting color and texture as deliberate, meaningful components of literary experience, this creative session particularly welcomes papers highlighting color and/or texture in Charlotte Perkins Gilman's *The Yellow Wallpaper*, Ntozake Shange's *For Colored Girls...*, or Alice Walker's *The Color Purple*.

**Celebrating Global Translation of Korean** Seeking original translations of Korean literary works into any language other than English. Texts can be the participant's own or translations of other works. Please provide English text translations for the audience. Submissions should be limited to items that can be read in both Korean and the translated language in 10 minutes.

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**Closet Poets** Many scholars who research and write papers for conferences also write poetry. This creative session is an opportunity to share your poetry with others, perhaps other poet/scholars.

**Creative Writing in the Age of the Pandemic** This panel invites creative writers to reflect on what it means to write during a pandemic. Creative work, discussions of pedagogy, and consideration of the literature of past pandemics are all welcome.

**Creative Writing in the Age of Trump** This panel asks creative writers to consider the question of a political literary engagement in our political age.

**Creative Writing in the Digital Age** This panel looks at options available to creative writers in the wake of the decline of traditional publishing options.

**Home** This session invites creative contributions and a range of voices on the elusive concept of "home," and how it relates to experience, perception, movement/travel, and a sense of "place."

**Illness, Medicine, and Literature: The Significance of Storytelling in Healthcare Settings** How can we, as literature, language, and creative writing scholars, bridge the gaps that exist between medicine and literature?

Is the Novel of the Future a Video Game? Video Games as Narratives This panel considers interactions between characters and outcomes in modern adventure and role-playing games to explore what conventions of video games offer to contemporary writers.

Meaningful Machines: Exploring Creative Programming for Creative Writing and Literature This roundtable seeks contributions discussing creative programming for literary arts in course design, pedagogy, inclusivity, accessibility, creative writing curricula, and English departments.

**Pennsylvania as Appalachia: Creative Responses to an Ambiguous Identity**Panelists will read from work set in Appalachia, with an eye toward moving beyond stereotypes and examining the area's hidden peoples and stories.

**Public-facing (Social) Media Literature Projects** This panel discusses scholarly projects staged on Internet-based platforms. How do we creatively engage with new media to disseminate literature and literary scholarship when it seems increasingly vital to emerge from the Ivory Tower and engage in public communications projects?

**Publishing in South Asia: Balancing East and West** In order to publish their works, writers in South Asia must balance the double constraint of Western and South Asian guidelines. This roundtable explores these dynamics and ways to transcend this difficult situation.

**Pulp Fiction, with Real Pulp: Crime Writing as Creative Writing** This panel invites creative writers and literary scholars to consider crime writing in the context of creative writing pedagogy.

**South Asian Literature: New Horizons** This panel discusses the deep traditional South Asian themes as well as of South Asian literature's increasing relevance to the wider world.

Speculative Figures and Speculative Futures: Our Uncanny Postapocalypse This session is interested in artworks and creative contributions that



assess posthuman bodies and that embody abject and uncanny ideology through written, oral, aural, or visual aesthetic.

**Thieving the Past: Integrating History into Creative Work** This session calls for writers who have drawn from history and grappled with techniques to energize historical detail, maintain authentic voice, and make the past resonate with contemporary readers. Participants will read from their work, discuss their creative and research process, and engage in a craft-focused discussion of Jennifer Egan's historical novel, *Manhattan Beach*.

**The Writer as Sociopath** This panel considers cases of writers who have used their platforms to create fictions of self that misrepresent, self-justify, even blatantly lie about their lives and realities.

**Zooming Along and Writing Digital Presence: The Tension of Disclosure and Visibility** This roundtable seeks creative contributions about navigating publishing, the job market, and digital presence for writers and scholars.

# **Cultural Studies & Media Studies**

**20**<sup>th</sup>-century Science, **21**<sup>st</sup>-century Literature We accept proposals connecting science and literature in important, new ways.

**Adapting Noir** How has the tradition of noir been transformed and updated in innovative ways to reflect different socio-cultural and global contexts? How do noir adaptations redefine our understanding of noir?

Archives of Adversity: Creating and Reading Records in Troubled Circumstances This panel considers the nature of records produced in contexts of adversity, scarcity, conflict, or other disturbance that perturbs accepted modes of information creation and storage.

The Art of Perspective: How We Write about War and National Events This roundtable explores how narratives of national and international events (war, national disaster, pandemic, etc.) have changed from the immediate response to a reflection on the event, shaped by the passage of time.

**Arts and the Humanities** The American Academy of Arts and Sciences defines the humanities as "disciplines of memory and imagination, telling us where we have been and helping us envision where we are going," often used to "explain" and "historicize" the arts. This session engages with such instances, as well as cases when the humanities were in turn directly impacted by the arts.

# Cultural Studies & Media Studies

**Being Human in the Digital Age: The Future of Humanities** This panel opens a dialogue on the role of humanities as a discipline in examining human structures, cultures, and social traditions in the digital age.

**'Between Information and Entertainment': Newspapers, Modernism, and Transnational Print Networks** This panel seeks contributions related to modernism (Anglophone/European/global) and its negotiations with the popular press and print networks.

**Cartooning Illness: Comics and the AIDS Pandemic, 1981–1997** This panel investigates queer comics from across the globe produced during the AIDS pandemic in the 1980s and 90s.

**Changing Texts, Changing Minds, Changing Worlds** This session will focus on relations between ways texts, minds, lives, and worlds adapt and the ways they are adapted by others in response to changes in each of these other areas.

**Changing Worlds Through Material, Embodied Texts** This panel explores how the humanities may innovate and embody environmental activism. How do authors/artists conceptualize then capture the animated corporeality of nature through different techniques, modes, textures, and how might the materiality of language help the humanities to conceive of a more ideologically tangible politics?

**Climate Change as Reflected in Film and World Literature** This roundtable presents an opportunity to provide and study examples regarding climate change issues in literature and film.

**Conceptualizing and Creating the New University Press** How can we transform new thinking about scholarship to effect alternative publication formats, which may or may not avail themselves of the digital?

**Contextualizing Digital Media in the Global Pandemic** This panel invites papers on the entanglement between digital media practices and human experience during the 2020 pandemic with substantial comparative and/or interdisciplinary components.

**The Cultures of** *RuPaul's Drag Race* **as Innovation** This roundtable examines how *RuPaul's Drag Race* transformed discourse around the humanities.

The Detective, the Artist, and the Professor: Criticism, Genre, and Other Mysteries Since Modernism This panel convenes a conversation that theorizes the relationship between the detective novel, the modernist art novel, and literary study—so to move critical study of detective fiction beyond the impulse to validate the genre as an object of study or redeem it from the stigma of genre.

**Digitize My Desire: The Lacanian Subject in the Age of the Internet** We seek papers that offer a Lacanian approach to the cultural, psychological, and aesthetical phenomena of digital subjectivity, community and desire, or to the question of post-/transhumanity.

**Disability Representation in Contemporary Media** Papers accepted on any approach to disability studies and media studies.

*The Dread of Difference(s):* Horror, Gender, and Cinematic Defiance This seminar invites submissions that explore how contemporary filmmakers use horror to challenge or, conversely, reproduce hegemonic master narratives.

**Examining Contemporary Representations of Armed Conflict** This session analyzes representations of armed conflict in contemporary media, exploring how these representations influence popular understanding of global and civil conflict and how these representations might be read as attempts to change (or maintain) a certain world.

**Fashion and Death: Novelty, Change, and Decay** Fashion calls forth associations with decay, decline, and consumption—whether corporeal, material, or capitalist. At the same time, death is connected to change and innovation. This panel explores the relationship between fashion and death.

**A Film Like No Other: Political Cinema After Cinema** This panel explores how 21<sup>st</sup>-century post-film technologies, means of distribution, and viewing habits have created new ways of conceiving and consuming political cinema.

**Forgotten Women: Violence, Gender, and Sexuality in South Asia** Our panel examines representations of women forgotten or rendered invisible in national and international media discourse.

**From Tintin to Dagobert Duck: Comics as Intercultural Adaptation** This panel emphasizes the process of translation and adaptation in comics. Specific interest will be paid to intercultural exchange, fandoms, and traditions occurring within this space.

Gaming Across Borders: Cross-cultural Analysis of Video Game Play and Narrative This panel encourages cross-cultural comparisons of video games.

**Genocides and Language** This panel discusses the impact of language and genocide representation from numerous interdisciplinary perspectives.

**Genre and Adaptation: Frames and Scaffolds** How do we account for such generic shifts when discussing or explicating instances of adaptation?

**Going Viral: Outbreak Narratives in Latin America** This panel analyzes transmedia cultural products of Latin America exploring outbreak narratives, virality, infection, zombie-apocalypse, techno-apocalypse, and other themes about the end of the world.

**Grace Kelly: An Understudied Irish-American Icon** In Irish America scholarship, there is a startling absence of work on Grace Kelly, whose deep interest in her heritage led her widower to endow a library of Irish literature in her honor.

**Identity, Diversity, and Representation in Video Games** With more research and analysis of video games as literary and cultural media in the last few years, there are still substantial gaps relating to the role of diversity and non-normative identities in games.

**In Their Own Words: Voices of Kashmir** This panel focuses on the crisis in Kashmir as understood empirically and represented creatively.

**In Their Words: The Interview as Research and Practice** This roundtable will investigate the status of the interview and interviewing in contemporary literary and cultural studies.

**Innovative Media: Representations of Race and Culture Across Asia** This session welcomes papers addressing any aspect of non-Western cultural expression and minority culture representation.

# Cultural Studies & Media Studies



**Investigating the Detective Genre Across Cultures and Mediums** This panel invites papers that consider the detective genre across various cultural contexts, mediums, and time periods, and that explore how the genre critiques social, cultural, and political issues.

Japan Way Cool: The Pedagogy of Japanese Art and Culture Our focus is the intertextuality and cross-cultural exchange in media between Japan and the West, from films, to food, to fashion and the ways that East and West inform each others' worldview.

Laughing Off Violence: The Genre of Comedy and its Politics Comedy relies on, and constructs, a distinction between two bodies: "serious" bodies that should not be violated, and "low" or "funny" bodies that are expendable. This panel sheds light on how this popular form arranges networks of social and cultural hierarchy, produces definitions of the human and abject, and works across literary periods and mediums.

**Learning With Animals: Anthropomorphization and the Animal Mind** We invite scholars to consider how literature imagines animals and their ways of being and knowing—whether alternate or familiar.

**LGBT01+K-POP:** Negotiating Representations of Gender and Sexuality in 'Korean Wave 3.0' This roundtable explores past and current aspects of Korean cultural products dealing specifically with gender and sexuality.

Mediatized Violence in Contemporary Latin American Literature and Film This session addresses the impact of mediatized violence in contemporary Latin American society through study of literature and film.

**Messages from the 'Front Line': War and/as Representation** We invite papers reflecting on visual or literary experiences from or about the "frontline," "homefront," or "war," as well as papers that question or complicate the stakes of figuring objective vs. conceptual warfare.

**Metropolitan Processes of Hybridization: Urban Immigration in Literature and Visual Arts** This session examines how literature and visual art depict adaptation of migratory communities in contemporary metropolises.

**Migration, Humanities, and the Crisis of the Contemporary** This panel explores how humanistic interventions can forge ethical and political responses to urgent questions of contemporary migration.

**The Modified Body in Media and Literature** This session interrogates the dynamic of body modification in light of what Halberstam identifies as

the "metronormativity" of discourses of modernity, emphasizing the false dichotomies of urban/rural, liberal/conservative, normal/queer, and the supposed divide in modernity between conformity and deviance.

**Multiple Temporalities (Society for Critical Exchange session)** How do temporal modes or frameworks—or their enforcement, or lack, or resistance to them—reflect differences of intention, ideology, social or natural order, technology, ontology, or ethics? How are temporalities variously material, subjective, human, organic, or inhuman? What is the role of the reader, viewer, or other participant in engaging with multiple temporalities?

**Narrating Contemporary Mexico:** An Interdisciplinary Approach This panel examines the (hemispheric) role of Mexico in the recent past, to reflect on issues including but not limited to migration, violence, and identity.

Narrating Debt: Interdisciplinary Approaches This panel engages with the connections between debt—as well as its semantic neighbors: money, credit, and sin—and narration. It explores debt itself as a type of writing made possible through a large network of subsidiary numerical and linguistic forms of representation.

**New Media and Literature: Dynamic Interconnections** This panel analyzes the complex relationship between visuality and textuality and, in particular, between New Media and literary texts.

**Now Historicism: Reading Adaptations/Remakes through the Windshield** This panel explores recent remakes/adaptations of older texts, for their ability to function as direct reflections of our current socio-cultural moment.

**Objects and Affect in Contemporary Latin American Art** This session analyzes how performance in Latin America proposes processes of reconfiguration of relational practices with memory and state power, bringing to the surface invisible realities and proposing their necessary revision or transformation, hence its closeness to activism.

**Parasite** in the Age of COVID-19 This seminar studies the film *Parasite*, its reception, and responses to the virus linked to the panethnic Asian "Other" from a variety of perspectives.

**Parenting in Speculative Fiction** Parents in speculative fiction face the ordinary challenges of parenting but are also confronted by extraordinary difficulties and, potentially, opportunities. We invite essays that analyze and interpret parent characters in speculative fiction.

**Performance Studies' Interventions/Intersections** This panel investigates how performance and its studies are necessary interventions into literary studies and artworks.

**Representation of the US/Mexico Border** This panel seeks presentations exploring the US-Mexico border drawn from fiction as well as non-fictional cultural productions.

**Rethinking Innovation: Practices of Care and Maintenance in DH Scholarship and Pedagogy** This panel invites all manner of submissions that explore what it means to care about or care for the Digital Humanities, its practitioners, audiences, and material objects.

# Cultural Studies & Media Studies | French & Francophone Studies

Shakespeare in South Asian Cinema: Beyond the Canon This panel explores past and current South Asian cinema's use of Shakespearean drama to determine to what extent are South Asian filmmakers concerned with reenacting the Western dramatic canon, at what point and why do South Asian filmmakers use Shakespeare as a springboard to explore problems and values that are only tangentially Shakespeare's, and what are these problems and values and how to they resonate for today's global, wired audience.

**So What (Else) is New?: Detective Fiction in the Post-truth Era** Detection in the modern day has become a fraught practice hobbled by bureaucracy but, more importantly, suppressed by those in power or their allies and/or merely a construct of the media and other, often invisible and unaccountable, forces. What happens to fictional detection when both truth and reward become moot, contested, and known to be such constructs?

**Superheroes and Graphic Medicine** Graphic medicine is rising in popularity but primarily limited to autobiographical genres. What if the genres were expanded to include other comics arts, especially the superhero genre?

**Teaching Culture Through Film** Instructors of different languages use film in the hope of helping their students acquire knowledge and understanding of other cultures. Participants will share their experience designing and teaching such courses, including the methodologies they follow.

**Theoretical Meanings of 'Deaf'** This session is open to all authors of working papers related to Deaf Studies.

**There Are No Bystanders: Rethinking Genocide and Ecocide** If the COVID-19 crisis has unveiled a tangle of human-nonhuman interdependencies and antagonisms, how do we understand and talk about governmental and individual "responsibility"? How does the "bystander effect" scale to a depoliticized, polarized, quarantined populace? What possibilities for intervention in the necrocene have gained traction or might yet do so?

**Iransatlanticisms** Mindful of the current interest in global history and global cultural studies, this seminar aims to re-situate "the Transatlantic approach" within them and to foster a thought-provoking dialogue between different perspectives.

**Transmedia Adaptations of Literary 'Classics' in 20th- and 21st-century Artistic Expression** Contributions to this seminar should focus on possibilities and limitations of complex forms of trans/intermediality in 20th- and 21st-century adaptations of literary "classics" to interrogate notions of canonicity and classification of cultural production while also thinking critically about using source texts and their adaptations in the classroom.

**Uncharted Medievalisms: Revealing the Medieval in Popular Fiction and Games** This panel examines the extent to which medievalism is used by other, perhaps less well-trodden settings, such as board games, comics, fiction series, role-playing games, and video games.

**Undead Voices and Post-perspectives** This roundtable explores the literary device of the "undead voice" as a mode of agency, critique, and storytelling from the margins.

**The Verbal and Visual Work of Lauren Redniss** This panel studies the work of verbal-visual artist Lauren Redniss. In what ways should Redniss's work



be distinguished from literary comics, and in what ways does her work expand our definition of the comics form?

**Video Games and Elegiac Fiction** The narrative and play of video games offers a means of creating, performing, and enacting processes of the elegiac form. Video games represent an as yet unexplored form of elegiac fiction, a particularly American version of the form.

**Visual Islam** This session challenges the orthodox notion within Islamic and non-Islamic circles that, after the destruction of the idols of the Ka'ba in 630 CE, there is no longer a place for the mediating "Image" in Islam's relationship to the "Divine."

**The Voice In Cinema and Audio-visual Media** This panel discusses traditional or innovative uses of voice in audio-visual media, including cinema, TV, video games, and audio-visual installations.

Wasted Time: Revisiting the Cutting Room Floor Through the solitary windows of our homes, we watch as the edifices of art and humanities are shaken to the core. Seeping through the cracks of the imminent collapse, the Texts left on the cutting room floor—the censored, the grotesque, the deemed "too popular" or "too obscure," the excessive, the useless, the wastes of time—have come back to haunt the current landscape, and question the limits of our notions of art, literature and film. What are we doing, rummaging through what was before labeled by someone else as sad trash?

**Writing Pain: From Sade to Scarry, and Beyond** The notion of pain has a long history throughout literature and philosophy. How can we share, write about, and understand the experience of pain?

# French & Francophone Studies

**Aquatic Tropes in Francophone Postcolonial Cultures** This session invites inquiries into aquatic tropes in Francophone Postcolonial cultural and literary works to investigate how they inform and shape new readings of Francophone postcoloniality and broader questions related to hydrocriticism in the Francosphere.

**Are We (Really) Living in the Dark Ages of French Rap?** What happened to French rap? More importantly, what is happening right now? This panel looks at the current state of the art and wonders if it is truly in a dark age.

# French & Francophone Studies

**Caring, Touching, and Moving** This panel investigates how French and Francophone cultural productions engage, deal with, and represent concepts of caring, touching, and moving. How are these concepts affected by or shedding light on social inequalities due to sex, gender, sexual orientation, race, ableness, and age?

**Cataclysms and Subterranean Spaces in 19**th-century **Paris** As 19th-century Paris was excavated and rebuilt, archeological discoveries of ancient bones and subterranean spaces and scientific research inspired the imagination of writers of popular, detective, and science fiction. This panel explores how 19th-century scientific, political, and literary discourses and representations inform one another.

Changing Worlds, Worlds of Change: Early Modern Texts in Times of Turmoil Early modern France saw a radical shift in its global, political, and religious landscapes, which mirrored a new interest in exploring humankind. This panel explores how early modern French or francophone texts respond to—or participate in—jarring, violent changes and debates of the time.

**Connecting Learners of French to the Real Francophone World** This panel explores challenges faced by learners of French in connecting to true francophone experiences and how they can develop authentic cultural and linguistic competencies.

Écrire (les) français en Amérique du Nord de la Nouvelle France à nos jours Cette session se penche sur les représentations dialectales de toutes les variétés de français qu'offre le continent nord-américain.

Écrire (sur) la ville / Writing (on) the City This bilingual panel discusses texts representing major cities in France, exploring the various ways the city is represented, lived, and sometimes imagined.

**For a Theater of Contagion: Cruelty and Plague as an Artaudian Legacy** This panel welcomes proposals investigating the relationship between cruelty and plague through a comparative approach capable of disclosing the sources and filiation of Artaud's poetic of the stage.

**Francophone African Literatures Outside the Book** This panel examines literary activity by/about francophone African authors off the printed page.

**Francophone African Women Writers Embracing Eco-feminism (Women in French session)** This panel welcomes papers exploring francophone African women writers' narratives that approach human life as deeply embedded in both nature and culture.

**Francophone Texts of the North and South: Geographical Imaginaries**Submissions will build a corpus of representations of the North and South from different literatures of the Francophone world, and establish the different modes of writing these geographic markers.

From the *Siècle des Lumières* to Today: Using the Past to Teach the 21<sup>st</sup> Century What impacts do older French and Francophone traditions have on the 21<sup>st</sup> century?

**L'identité Québécoise au 21° Siècle** This session examines the relationship of French speakers in Quebec and beyond its borders to define what it means to be Quebecois.

Language Partnerships: Impacting Students' Fields This roundtable discusses initiatives meant to bridge the humanities and languages across disciplines: language requirements, international applied learning, visiting artist and scholar programs, and interdisciplinary curricula such as Medical Humanities or Coastal Environmental and Writing minors.

**Literature and Minds: 17**<sup>th</sup>- **and 18**<sup>th</sup>-**century French Writers** This panel uncovers ideas and philosophies proposed by 17<sup>th</sup>- and 18<sup>th</sup>-century French writers to criticize, change, or improve their world.

**Migrant Literature in French** We invite submissions on any aspect of contemporary migrant literature in French, with a preference for analyses that will situate it within current literary debates.

**Mothers and Daughters in Francophone Women's Writing and Art** This session examines how the mother-daughter relationship is depicted in Francophone women's writing and art.

**Queer Writing of the Self: Representations of Identity in French/Francophone Media** This panel explores how writing of the self in French language can be a tool to change others' perceptions of queer identities and lives in the francophone world.

**(Re)Creating Conceptions of Home** This panel explores Dumas's textual and physical creation of the Château de Monte Cristo and the Château d'If, Huysmans's psychological unsettling of home, Bey's fluid conceptions of home in *Cette fille-là*, and Laferrière's representations of home within the migrant narrative. Ultimately, through this alternation, these works push the boundaries of what we view as home.

Réseaux: Strengthening Connections in French and Francophone Studies in Times of Crisis Issues facing us have been exacerbated by a global health threat and a drastic economic retraction: increasing precarity, dwindling enrollments, and the need for diverse faculty, inclusive classrooms, and solidarity among teacher-scholars. This roundtable seeks participants who are creating innovative ways to be connected, compassionate teacher-scholars for our students, colleagues, and communities.

Resurgences of the Past, Fears of the Future: Time(s) in Popular French
Fiction How does popular fiction reflect a nostalgic yearning for a bygone
era, or the haunting resurgence of a traumatic, violent past? How do
representations of technology-dominated dystopian worlds mirror our
present anxieties or ideology? How does popular fiction allow authors and
readers to manipulate time in a more creative way?



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# French & Francophone Studies | German Studies

**Siblings in French and Francophone Literature** This panel explores natural ties through siblings and twins, and go on to analyze "fraternité," the metaphorical bond through friendship. We also open the discussion to cloning as a mutable metaphor of societal institutions in crisis in which men's creation of clones depicts the repugnance of the flesh leading to sexless creatures.

#### Subverting Traditions in the Maghreb through Literature and the Cinema

This session discusses the multi-layered region of the postcolonial Francophone Maghreb, composed of Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco, through the study of literary texts and films by contemporary Maghrebi writers and filmmakers.

**Text and New Media Meet in the Metropolis** This panel explores scholarly approaches to analysis of new media and more traditional forms of artistic and literary representations.

**Translating Francophone Women from Within the Academy** This panel examines challenges and creative practices in translating literary texts by francophone women writers.

**Visual Africa: Francophone Women's Aesthetic Representations of Africa (Women in French session)** This panel invites papers on francophone African women's artistic and cinematic representations of contemporary Africa.

# **German Studies**

**75+ Years: The Holocaust in German Literature and Film Today** As the Holocaust is a foundational stone in modern German identity, its representation in German literature and film amounts to a discussion of German-ness itself. How have these discussions been impacted by the recent rise of right-wing extremism, migration and refugees, instability in the EU, a new generation of filmmakers and authors, and the aging of the generation that perpetrated the crimes?

**Asian-German Studies** With the world in turmoil, but also in silence, due to COVID-19, Asian-German Studies provides an important forum to address geopolitical developments in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Darf sie das?: German-speaking Female Comedians and Media Figures Over the past few years, German-speaking female comedians have made a name for themselves in the pop culture landscape by treating subjects like class, politics, ethnicity, and being female in a male-dominated business. This panel addresses content, distribution, and reception in order to move toward an answer to the larger question of what defines female comedy.

**Decolonizing German Studies: Literature of Migration as Catalyst?** This session explores how decolonization can take on a bigger role in German studies through an emphasis on literature of migration.

**Framing Memory in 21st-century German Culture** This panel investigates how German artists, events, and concepts of the past are reframed in recent films.

From Krautrock to Hip-Hop: Negotiating "German" Identity Through Music Participants are invited to submit papers that address the role of music in the formulation of post-war German identity and musical tradition, or in the negotiation of inherited traditions and histories.

**Gender and Disability in German Art, Policy, and Culture** This panel discusses the intersection between disability and gender in German literature, film, and culture.

**German Studies, Teaching Literature, and the Rediscovery of Bookshelf Icons** How can we make Grimmelshausen or Goethe relevant for 21st-century students? How can we make texts from the realists to crime fiction novelists, from the young Germans to the naturalists, come alive for students?

Innovative Approaches in Remote Instruction of German Language, Literature, and Culture This roundtable invites scholars and educators of German language, literature, and culture to discuss pedagogical and logistical challenges created by the current public health situation and to analyze best practices.

**Innovative Modern Bodies** Recent scholarship has dealt with modernist bodies in contexts of interdisciplinary studies, yet such work often remains siloed in subfields. This seminar invites participants interested in transdisciplinary conversations on the body in the modernist context.

**Open-source German Teaching Materials: Rewards and Challenges** This panel will provide a forum to share positive and negative experiences with open-source textbooks and teaching materials.

**Pandemic: Representations of Virus and Illness in German Culture** This panel invites papers that discuss representations of pandemics, epidemics, or illness.

**Scandology: The Limits of Creative License** By putting historical and contemporary understandings of scandal in conversation with one another, we hope to learn how scandal has been used, how and why it remains productive, and what new branches of discourse are opened by contemporary efforts to understand scandal.

'Die schweizerische Dramatik existiert nicht': Swiss Literature and Film Today After Brecht declared that Swiss drama didn't exist, this panel is interested in giving attention to underrepresented works in Swiss literature, theater, and film.

**Shadows and Vision in German Romanticism** This panel explores how German Romantic tradition questions and opens up ways of being in and knowing the world and knowledge of others, by expanding and subverting the power of vision.

**'Shakespeare und kein Ende/No End of Shakespeare': Shakespeare and Germany** This roundtable seeks to uncover something about Shakespeare's impact on Germany writing and thought, from the 18<sup>th</sup> century to the present.

**Sport: The Aesthetics and Meaning of Sport in German Culture** This panel welcomes papers addressing the representation, aesthetics, and cultural meaning of sport in the German-speaking world.

**Teaching Berlin** This roundtable welcomes both experienced teachers and advocates of Berlin and newcomers to the use of Berlin as a teaching tool and source of inspiration.

Tradition and Innovation in 21<sup>st</sup>-century Austrian Literature, Film, and Theater This session reflects on the often productive tension between tradition and recent innovation in Austrian literature, film, and theater.

**Transatlantic Crossings: German/American Cultural Influences** When Germans and Americans move back and forth between the continents, they participate in important intellectual and artistic cross-pollination. This panel invites papers that address aspects of this cultural exchange.

**Writing in Crisis: The Literature of the 1920s** The interwar years of the 1920s were a decade of widespread crisis. This panel will focus on the role that literature across national and aesthetic traditions played in diagnosing crises and envisioning alternative futures.

# **Italian Studies**

**Beyond the Silk Road** This panel explores the relationship between Italy and East Asia beyond the Silk Road.

**Blurring the Line: Femininity and Masculinity in Italian Culture** This panel will explore concepts of gender roles and how they are becoming more fluid.

**Dantean Echoes in Contemporary Italian Culture** On the 700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sommo Poeta's death, the panel seeks to celebrate the *Commedia* by charting the influence of Dante's mastery in contemporary Italian culture.

**Digital Humanities and Italian Studies** This roundtable aims at creating a dynamic discussion on the future, setbacks, and potentials of the use of digital tools and methods in Italian studies.

**From Dante to Ferrante: Intersemiotic Adaptations of Italian Literature** This panel seeks to explore intersemiotic adaptations of Italian literature and to investigate what modifications and elaborations a text undergoes in the process.

**Horribly Fantastic: Dante's** *Inferno* This session will assess and discuss individual cantos of the *Inferno* from a literary, historical, artistic, and interdisciplinary perspective.

**Images of the Mafia** This roundtable will illustrate how the image of the mafia has been romanticized, falsified, glorified, or held up to historical accuracy in film, television or literature.

**Italian History and Society on the Screen: From WWII to the Present** This panel seeks to discuss how Italian filmmakers have documented Italian history and society through narrative films, documentaries, mockumentaries, docufictions, and docudramas from wwiI to the present.

Italian Romanticism and the Americas: Reflections on History and Myth This roundtable brings together different perspectives that Italian intellectuals elaborated on the variety of solicitations coming from the Americas: struggle for independence as seen in the United States as well as in South American, with the consequential involvement of Italian patriots such as Giuseppe Garibaldi; consideration of the relationship between the vast natural landscapes offered by the Americas and the cultural perspective with which Italy and other European countries looked at that continent; the myth-making that elevated historical events to emblems of emulation.

**Italian Television Studies** This panel explores Italian TV in a broad spectrum, with particular attention to its industry, historiography, aesthetics, and culture.



**Italian Theatre and its Publics: 1500–Present** This session explores Italian theatre and its intersections with political, social, cultural, and aesthetic concerns of its playwrights and audiences.

**Italian Western: From Revolution to De-contextualizing the Mythology of the American Genre** This panel seeks original contributions to the study of the Italian western, its filmmakers and their works.

**Italy and the Orient** This panel will discuss the relationship between Italy and the East by exploring how the Orient has been portrayed and investigated in Italian culture.

**Machines in 20<sup>th</sup>-century Literature, Philosophy, and Cinema** This panel aims to explore the "machinic metaphor" and the creativity involving machines in the Italian and European 20<sup>th</sup>-century literary, cinematographic, and philosophical panorama.

**Petrarch Beyond Subjectivity** Proposals on, but not limited to: the tension between the past and the future; the poetic imagination and artistic creation; political experiences and desires; ethical doubts and religious aspirations; subjectivity vs. subjectivities.

**Pirandello's Legacy and Experimental Theater** This panel aims to recognize the role that Pirandello's theatrical innovations played in influencing and shaping Experimental Theater during the years of the historical avant-garde.

**Plagues and Diseases in Literature** This panel illustrates how a clearer understanding of the historical presentation and evolutionary course of diseases can be clarified through a multidisciplinary combination of different forms of historical documentation.

**Promoting Writing Proficiency in the Classroom** How can instructors create, encourage, and improve writing assignments that are meaningful and suited to their students' language level and can foster the skills students need to write effectively and independently?

**Queering Italian Studies** This session seeks papers that critically readdress LGBTQIAA+ topics that have been previously studied without the proper theoretical lens, along with examining new or understudied queer works.

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

# Italian Studies | Pedagogy & Professionalism

**Representations and Allegories in Italian Cinema of Changing Cultural Traditions** This panel addresses cinematic juxtapositions between the postcard image Italian culture to the sometimes brutal reality.

Science and Literature in 20<sup>th</sup>-century Italian Culture: New Perspectives This panel seeks new perspectives on how science relates to literature and its crucial role in 20<sup>th</sup>-century Italian cultural production.

**Style as Armor in Italian Literature, Film, and Fashion** This panel welcomes proposals discussing how distinctive formal choices in Italian literature, film, and fashion function, like armor, as tools and prosthesis. Sample topics include: Caterina da Siena's virtuosic synesthesia and shrewdly alternated pleas and commands, Tarabotti or Caminer Turra's satire, dialogic sequences and free indirect discourse in Banti's *Artemisia*, Eco's irony in "Lumbar Thought," the immaculate armor in Calvino's *Nonexistent Knight*, and the new Vossi sisters bra of Ferrante's *Troubling Love*.

**Teaching Culture in English and/or in the Target Language** This roundtable discusses which cultures and subcultures we choose to teach and how we teach them.

**Terra Incognita: Travelers, Artists, and Scientists in Medieval and Early Modern Italy** This session explores the intersections between science, literature, and the arts in Medieval and Early Modern Italy.

**This Reading is a Must! Teaching Italian Through Literacy and Visual Literacy** Which literary or visual work do all your students enjoy, that never fails to provoke a strong reaction, and that you consider so relevant that you must have it in your syllabus?

**Women and Contemporary Writing** This panel explores the aesthetics and politics of written texts of those who have come to identify themselves as women in some ways connected to Italy and who came to prominence after the 1960s.

Women Representing Women: Spaces of Intervention, Subjectivity and Agency This seminar debates 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.

**Words with a Meaning: Parrhesia, Bioesthetics, and Minor Biopolitics** This roundtable studies the correlation linking aesthetics to subjectivity and power in Italian literature and culture.

The Work of Martin Scorsese This session takes a candid look at Scorsese's films.

# Pedagogy & Professionalism

**The Academic's Path to Creativity:** *The Artist's Way* in **Teaching and Research** This session explores how Julia Cameron's *The Artist's Way* may be incorporated into graduate curricula or help people find work outside the academy.

**(Adjunct) Teaching under COVID-19: A Year Later** How has COVID-19 impacted our teaching, priorities, even quality of life?

Anti-oppressive Pedagogies: Social Justice and Community Engagement in the Classroom This roundtable seeks presentations on courses,

assignments, and projects that expand beyond the confines of the traditional classroom to engage the community or directly incorporate social justice work and activism.

**Beyond the Vocabulary: Ensuring Relevancy for Language for Specific Purpose Courses** This panel explores strategies in course design, pedagogical tools and assessment of LSPs that not only foster the acquisition of relevant professional vocabulary but that also develop precise written and oral communication, critical thinking, and problem solving.

**Blue Collar Scholars: First-generation Perspectives in the Classroom** This roundtable session solicits contributions from first-generation scholars *and* teachers of first-generation college students to open a dialogue about the intricacies of the term first-generation.

**Bringing Back Student-centered Activities to Remote-learning Classes** This panel serves as a space to share both the problematic developments instructors have experienced while migrating their courses to the online format, and activities or units they have developed to solve these problems.

**Building and Sustaining Interdisciplinary Partnerships** This session invites those with experience in research, course development, or teaching with partners from another discipline to share how to (and perhaps how not to!) build and sustain those relationships.

Can We Be More Than the Middle Ages? Medievalism Studies and Medieval Studies Medievalisms are the lifeblood of Medieval Studies: they create interest in the Middle Ages and keep its legacies alive. Can medievalists successfully integrate popular representations of the medieval into their research and careers, or must Medievalism Studies remain a guilty pleasure rather than an appropriate option to further the field?

Climate Change: Activating the Humanities through Service Learning This roundtable explores humanities courses that incorporate service learning as a way to respond to climate change.

**Close Reading From a Distance: Annotating Literature and Poetry in the Virtual Classroom** This roundtable session addresses strategies for teaching students to annotate poetry, literature, or other academic media in real-time and asynchronous formats.

**Creating a Virtual Classroom Culture: Shortening the Distance in Distance Education** This roundtable focuses on strategies to heighten student-to-student interaction, building trust, and creating personal connections in distance-learning formats.

**Critical Approaches to Tradition and Innovation in Graduate Humanities Education** What beneficial and problematic pedagogies do professors model in the graduate classroom? What practices should be continued, retired, or adopted? Can reevaluating graduate pedagogies, curricula, praxis, and degree requirements address issues of retention and the job market?

**Critical Race Theory in the Classroom** This panel explores how teachers think about and use critical race theory in the classroom.

**Developing Resilience and Identity through the Humanities** This roundtable discusses how faculty can help students develop skills to overcome adversity they face as students and members of society.



Digital Humanities in Language and Literature Classrooms How might instructors and students alike utilize digital humanities to increase accessibility of content, dissemination of information, or engagement between students and the content?

Disclosure, Performance, White Noise? Reflective Assignments in Theory and Practice Reflective assignments aim to support student agency and provide real-time feedback to the instructor, but they may privilege students who can safely disclose personal thoughts or become white noise. This panel starts a conversation about practical implementation and effects of reflective work.

**Effective and Affective Teaching in the Time of Coronavirus** This seminar reflects on how educators teach in effective and affective ways in educational environments transformed by COVID-19.

Foreign Language Teaching Through Adaptation This session explores adaptation as a pedagogical vehicle for foreign language proficiency.

Foreign-Language Learning: Social Perspectives and Approaches This panel explores sociocultural approaches to second-language acquisition.

From Visceral Reading to Virtual Worlds: Embodiment in the Online Classroom This panel examines the excitement and viscerality of online teaching and learning, with focus on 19th-century literature such as English, French, and German novels and fairy tales.

The Grad Student's Guide to Intersectionality in the University (Graduate **Student Caucus session)** This roundtable proposes a holistic approach to understanding, navigating, and negotiating the interpersonal, logistical, and ideological tensions within the university in life-affirming ways and to promote greater diversity, inclusion, and equability in academe. We welcome insights from and about graduate students as well as tenure-track faculty, contingent and adjunct faculty, undergraduate students, and staff.

**Grasping Our Students' Attention with Engaging Warm-up Activities** Starting a class with a fun, engaging activity promotes participation, creates a relaxed environment, and gets students thinking about the target language (while also bringing forward background knowledge) and ready to learn. We welcome presentations that highlight the importance and effectiveness of warm-up techniques.

How Do I Learn What They Don't Teach?: Critical Supplements to Graduate-**School Curricula (Graduate Student Caucus session)** This session invites proposals that consider those skills and competencies not routinely taught as part of a graduate program, especially leadership development.

Increasing Social Justice Awareness in a Grammar-driven Curriculum This roundtable proposes presenting and teaching grammar via meaningful material, conversations, and tasks that encourage students to identify, connect with, and reflect on social justice topics.

Intercultural Sensitiveness: Decisions, Resources, Tools This panel examines using new techniques and online resources to teach intercultural competencies.

**Keywords in Online Teaching and Learning** Rather than simply an occasion to use professional vocabulary of online teaching and learning in the humanities, this roundtable offers an opportunity to examine how the keywords of online teaching and learning challenge existing assumptions or construct new assumptions about what constitutes the humanities and how it can or should be taught.

Making Lit Lit: Forging Connections Between Student Experiences and **Literature** This session explores how literature teachers of all languages can maximize learning success by analyzing student needs and designing literature classes accordingly.

Making the Most of Mentorship as a Graduate Student (Graduate Student Caucus session) This roundtable invites participants to address the role of mentorship for graduate students.

Mindfulness in the Writing and Literature Classroom: In-person, Online, in the **Moment** This roundtable discusses the theory and practice of mindfulness in the in-person or online writing and literature classroom.

#### Navigating Change and Enduring as Language Instruction Faces Challenges

With more language majors being discontinued or merged with other disciplinary paths, and with many colleges and universities reducing the language requirements for graduation, this session aims to share experiences and outcomes; identify successful ways to communicate and ally one's department with key stakeholders on campus; overcome cuts; and advocate a more critical role for the language department in higher education.

**Navigating the Challenges and Exploring the Riches of Online Archives** This panel seeks presentations on all aspects of online archives: creating them, helping students develop skills using them, and thinking about archives' future.

Optimizing Diverse Realities of Study Abroad Experiences This session will bring together educators who have successfully employed strategies designed to strengthen and deepen the study abroad experience, extending its relevance beyond the duration of the program.

Pandemic Changing It All: Teaching Humanities in the Age of COVID-19 How have we changed our language and literature classrooms into online classrooms, even while they require much in-class activity? What forms and online tools have we used to keep our classroom interesting and our teaching innovative? How did we work to create an all-inclusive classroom?

# Pedagogy & Professionalism

**Pedagogical Strategies of Food in Foreign Languages and Cultures** This panel explores various pedagogical strategies that incorporate food in the foreign language and culture classroom.

**Project-based Writing in the Time of Coronavirus** We are excited to hear about educational adaptation due to COVID-19, and how it has impacted ideas about teaching when things return to "normal."

**Pronouns Salad: Gender Neutrality in the Romance Languages Classroom** As many Romance languages operate on a gender-binary system, we want to offer an open space for the discussion of our role as instructors and ideas on how to approach this topic in class in conjunction with the need to teach the "correct" form of a language.

Re-imagining Transferable Skills: Professional Development in a Post-COVID World (Graduate Student Caucus session) This roundtable invites proposals addressing how graduate students can leverage skills acquired during the dramatic transitions necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic crisis to pursue alt-ac and post-ac employment.

**Reluctantly Remote or All in Online: COVID-19 Changed the Way I Teach for Good** Roundtable panelists will describe how they made good out of a bad situation, and how the experience continues to do some good for them and for their students.

**Sharing Stories of Teaching Sharing Stories: Creative Writing and COVID-19** This forum will share our best practices and results and examine how the traumatic experiences brought on by COVID-19 influence the creative output by the students in the class.

**Sociocultural Approaches for Promoting L2 Development** This panel explores semiotic resources that L2 learning and development may employ to mediate and foster learners' development.

Sounding Foreign in a Foreign Language: The Role of Prosody in Secondlanguage Acquisition This roundtable explores strategies to develop students' phonological and prosodic awareness for the purposes of second-language acquisition.

**Suddenly Remote: Educational Technologies and Approaches for Teaching at a Distance** This panel addresses how educators approached their shifts to being suddenly remote due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and what changes need to take place institutionally and pedagogically in light of what we've uncovered about ourselves as a society.

**Teaching Across the Divide: Addressing Fractures of Income and Access in Virtual Classrooms** This roundtable seeks perspectives on how faculty, departments, and institutions notice, deal with, and accommodate the techno-socio-economic fractures that we now must assess and respond to in virtual environments.

**Teaching in a Time of Crisis: The Big Pivot** We invite participants to consider how they maintained a sense of foreign-language community, how they maintained social learning in the remote environment, how this social learning may have brought students together in crisis situations, and how the study of cultural diversity may support or inspire students in difficult situations.



**Teaching Popular Culture in Intermediate Language Courses** This roundtable explores the experiences and outcomes of integrating popular culture material in intermediate language courses.

**Teaching Queer Theory** This roundtable evaluates and reflects on queer theory's complex relationship with feminist studies and lesbian and gay studies, its current and future place in WGSS, and, more generally, the theoretical and pedagogical values it brings to interdisciplinary learning, as is common in college composition, literature, and other areas in the humanities and social sciences.

**Teaching the Languages of Central and Eastern Europe: Best Practices** This roundtable brings together higher education instructors to share best practices in teaching less-commonly-taught-languages of the former Eastern Bloc.

**Teaching With Archives: Current and Past Pedagogical Practices** This roundtable shares innovative approaches to integrating archives into rhetoric, composition, or literature undergraduate classes.

**The Value (and Struggles) of Public Engagement** This roundtable shares best practices of engaging the public(s) beyond our campuses. How can we promote the value of the work that we do beyond the traditional venues of academic journals and conferences?

**Trauma-informed Approaches to Graduate Education** This roundtable seeks to answer what trauma-informed approaches to graduate school would look like.

**Unlocking Potential: Adapting Prison Pedagogies for University Writing Classes** This panel considers how pedagogical practices developed with the constraints of prison spaces in mind can be adapted for the university writing classroom, and lead to classes that are more creative, more empathetic, more accessible, and more relevant.

**Walking Among Many Worlds: Women of Color in Academia** This panel considers analyses of the experiences of women of color teaching in the humanities and as tenure-track faculty maneuvering the politics and biases ingrained, but not necessarily interrogated, in the demands of their academic lives.

Waves of Change: Shaking up Interactional Practices in Digital Environments In this panel, L2 language practitioners and researchers will address the construct of interaction through educational technology and remote teaching and learning.

Northeast Modern Language Association

#### Post/colonial Studies



# Post/colonial Studies

**Anglophone Literature, Anglo-American Institutions** This panel investigates relationships between Anglophone writers and the publishers, editors, and agents who represent powerful British and American literary institutions.

**British Literature and Film: Finding 'Englishness'** This session focuses on how British classic literature of the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries has been adapted in relation to Thatcherism, the "Heritage Fever," which hit British society in the 1980s, colonialism, Britishness (Englishness). What is a heritage film, and how does it affect British identity? Does the adaptation reframe the past or original text?

**Can Virtualization Change the World? Is it a New Normal?** Based on Deleuze and Guattari in *A Thousand Plateaus* about immanence and transcendence, this panel questions boundaries of the virtual world.

Caribbean Futures Otherwise: Re-imagining Island Space, Politics, and Sovereignty What might an alternative imagination of sovereign bodies "unbound" from the nation state look like? How are ancestral knowledges, traditions, or alternative modes of governance converted into creative acts of resistance or refusal of current orders? How might a decolonial/feminist approach deepen "our" understanding of emerging creative/literary acts of resistance?

**Crisis, Representation, and Voice in Postcolonial Literature** How do postcolonial writers, responding to marginalization and subalternity, find modes of representing the prospect for justice and full subjectivity?

**Ecotopias: Re-imagining a Lively World** This panel focuses on eco*utopias* that are crucial to resisting an environmental necropolitics by reasserting the liveliness of the natural world and its human and other-than-human inhabitants.

**Environmental Humanities: A Conversation** Roundtable participants are invited to make a brief presentation of the core strategies of their scholarship and to explain their understanding of the place literary studies has in environmental thinking in a time of crisis.

**Established and Contemporary Caribbean Voices** How have the themes and styles of established Caribbean voices been adapted or diverged from by younger Caribbean voices?

The Ethics of Narrative: Appropriation and Reinvention in Stories of Injustice
This seminar examines roles played by traditional and innovative literary
forms in bearing witness to suffering.

**Expanding Feminist and Political Consciousness: Six African Authors** This panel will explore the interrelationships and distinctions between Buchi Emecheta and Flora Nwapa; Mariama Bâ and Aminata Sow Fall; Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and Tsitsi Dangarembga.

**The Global Novel and Fearful Futures** This panel explores how the global novel foresees the shared vulnerabilities of an interconnected world.

**History, Culture, and Identity: Emerging Narratives in South Asian Literature**This session investigates the role writers have played shaping and evolving South Asia's new narratives towards identity, history, and humanity.

**Imagining Alternatives to Petroculture** While centralized power is needed for widescale change, grassroots movements have been effective at imagining alternative futures addressing local structural inequalities. If policy can be influenced by the "art of the possible," then creative work is key to envisioning post-carbon futures in the Anthropocene.

**Modernism and the Politics of Contradiction** Political contradiction is written all over modernism. How can we reconcile modernism's dogmatic aesthetic manifestos alongside its radical departure from realism and narrative conventions? Its exclusive coteries alongside its radical democratization of language and form? Broadly speaking, can we think political contradiction, itself, as another revolutionary feature of modernism?

**Modernism and/in the Anglophone Novel** This panel seeks to affirm how the Anglophone novel considers and contests established understandings of modernism and its supposed Anglo-American roots, and to better understand modernism as a culturally robust phenomenon whose expressions and exchanges of ideas have always already been *worldly*.

**Oil and Water** In his provocative 2004 essay "Reflections on Water & Oil," David Orr proposes that "[t]he meaning of water might best be approached in comparison with" oil. We might propose that the meanings of oil might be approached in comparison with water. We invite participants to engage with these provocations by offering readings of the relationship between oil and water.

Philomela and Her Descendants: Re-membering Traumatized Women in Literature This panel considers how the fullness of Philomela's story can be returned to texts where it has been dissected and dismembered, and how embracing Philomela's complexity may allow us to better understand the complexity of

Philomela's complexity may allow us to better understand the compother literary and living women who have faced sexual trauma.

**Postcolonial Literature in a Time of Environmental Crisis** This panel explores innovative approaches to postcolonial anglophone literary texts (oral or scribal), drawing on recent scholarship in ecocriticism or environmental humanities and conscious of our present moment of environmental crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Post/colonial Studies | Rhetoric & Composition | Slavic Studies

**The Subaltern Speaks: Drawing and Re-Drawing Feminine Spaces in South Asian Literature** The panel intends to engage with multiple genres to understand the literary nuances of representation, representation of the gender politically and understand the implications of marginalization and subalternity on the subjects and their representations. Whereas the major focus on this panel is to expose and address the problems embedded in Gender politics of the femme, the female and the feminine spaces.

**Thinking with Plants** This panel explores thinking about and with plants in the shadow of the Anthropocene, focusing on late 20<sup>th</sup>- and 21<sup>st</sup>-century writers and artists.

**Trauma: Explorations in Culture** This panel seeks papers on representations of cultural trauma in literature that consider how depictions of cultural trauma differ from depictions of individual trauma, how writers use different genres or forms to represent cultural trauma, and how literature about cultural trauma changes the world.

# **Rhetoric & Composition**

**Beyond Tech Support: Innovating Support for Undergraduate Writers Online** This roundtable considers challenges faced by writing programs and centers to innovate new ways to support undergraduate writers in online environments.

**Digital Pedagogy in the Composition Classroom** This panel explores how composition instructors embed digital pedagogies—everything from helping students navigate an LMS to teaching students to design an entire video game—in their composition classrooms.

**Digital Rhetoric in a Digital World: Cultures of Writing, Information, and Communication** Especially in the classroom, access to technology and the internet is no longer a luxury or even a tool: it has become a necessity. How do we teach in this digital climate, and how best do we prepare students to navigate these increasingly choppy cyber waters?

Disability Studies and Its Potential to Enrich Composition Theory and Practice

This panel explores conceptual linkages between composition and disability studies, and ways a disability-studies perspective can lead to a richer, more productive understanding of composition theory and practice.

**Editorial Empowerment: Mentoring and Collaborating with Student Editors** This roundtable session welcomes faculty whose collaboration with students has involved areas of editorial practice, mentoring, and publication.

**Gender 'And': Intersectional Approaches to Writing Classrooms and Student Interaction** How do we think about student writers as participants in our class, while acknowledging and respecting all their complex, intersectional identities?

'I See You, I Hear You': Teaching Agency and Empowerment in Times of Crisis This session aims to expand our critical understanding of what it means to teach students in a way that empowers, offers agency, and acknowledges the voice of the student during times of crisis.

**Imaginative Texts Assignments in the Composition Classroom** This roundtable discusses how to assign imaginative texts and literary analysis



assignments in composition classes while still helping students develop crucial writing skills.

**Literature, Rhetoric, and Technology: Fostering Innovation in Theory and in Practice** This roundtable brings together thinkers and practitioners to discuss the intersection of innovation and tradition through the lens of incorporating technology in the classroom.

A New Meaning: Bringing Digital Modes into the Composition Classroom This roundtable focuses on digital composing and how meaning can be made through the digital because its utilization can transform writing into a multisensory practice and fosters engagement with writers' rhetorical choices.

Re-Imagining Writing Pedagogy in a Post-truth Landscape Possible topics include approaches for teaching how to evaluate the quality of source material and discern opinion-based writing; pedagogy centered on awareness of different value systems and biases present in research findings; assignments that create space for research that's not immediately relevant or fruitful; and methods for integrating technology for teaching and producing valuable research.

# Supporting Multilingual Writers: Hands-on Strategies and Conversations

Featuring modeling and interactive activities, this practitioner-oriented roundtable provides an important opportunity for writing instructors to learn hands-on strategies, experience translanguaging pedagogy, and understand key aspects of linguistically responsive instruction that are helpful in supporting multilingual students in writing classrooms and beyond.

**Teaching with Images in Composition Courses** This panel invites papers that explore how we might translate skills developed through describing, critiquing, and contextualizing images to the writing process.

# **Slavic Studies**

**Russian Literature and Orthodox Christianity** This session discusses Eastern/Russian Orthodox traditions, morality, culture, hagiography, iconography, and beliefs as they appear within Russian and Slavic authors, as well as to explore the effects of the orthodox faith upon those who are a part of it.

Northeast Modern Language Association

# Spanish & Portuguese Studies



# **Spanish & Portuguese Studies**

**25** Years After *McOndo*: Recent Trends in the Latin American Novel This panel examines what has happened with the Latin American narrative 25 years after *McOndo*. Have novelists and short story writers reverted back to the aesthetics of the "Boom" generation and the Post-Boom writers, or has the image of Latin America as a globalized society as seen by the *McOndo* and "Crack" generation persisted?

African and Asian Women's Voices in Spanish: Borders within the Global Hispanophone This session aims to confront Equatoguinean, Saharawi, Moroccan, and Filipino colonial and postcolonial women's voices in Spanish as a way to upfront an alternative map of resistance and border thinking within the Global Hispanophone.

And the Wall Became a Voice: Street Art / Y la calle devino voz: arte urbano From buildings in neighborhoods to plazas and hidden streets, cities explode with urban art geared towards achieving immediate communication with its citizens. This panel is intended as well to explore the conditions under which these artists make use of this public and, at the same time, intimate outlet for ideas and feelings.

**Artistas: vida, patrimonio y legado** Esta mesa redonda pretende ser un espacio de discusión e intercambio de ideas en torno a la obra y la vida de artistas del ámbito español e hispanoamericano de los siglos xx y xx1 para los que un lugar distinto de su país de nacimiento representa un punto de inflexión creadora y vital.

**Between Silence and Verse** This session invites poems that address the creation of alternative poetic realities and that speak to the possibility of transformation and the embodiment of a metaphorical state through desire and inner contemplation.

**Between Tradition and Innovation: The Iberian Graphic Novel** This panel examines the proliferation of the graphic novel in Spain.

Black Experience in the White Gaze: Framing Afro-Latin American Identity in XIX–XX Centuries This session invites participants to explore how Afro-Latin American experience was represented in the late 19<sup>th</sup> to the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century and beyond.

Caminos: la migración en el arte / Caminhos: a migração na arte Esta mesa redonda pretende ser un espacio de discusión y análisis de las diferentes

narrativas de desplazamiento, de sus múltiples direcciones y del poder de la palabra como agente de cambio social en la literatura y el arte luso-hispánico.

Closing the Instructional Gap in Spanish Classes That Enroll Heritage and L2 Learners Due to the growing demand to address the needs of Spanish heritage learners in second language settings, this roundtable seeks teaching materials and practices that can be shared among colleagues.

El (contra) archivo: Ensayo de una nueva latinoamericanidad Nos proponemos a estudiar por qué distintos objetos culturales no forman parte del canon cultural latinoamericano aunque muestren la experiencia de cuerpos y subjetividades habitan este espacio geográfico. Así mismo, analizar cómo estos textos / objetos contra canónicos son capaces de crear un discurso alternativos de latinoamericanidad. Por esta razón, pretendemos abrir la discusión estudiar objetos culturales que muestren la experiencia de sujetos queer, no masculinos, no blancos y otros que reten los discursos de nación hegemónicos de América Latina.

De la Nocilla al Post-post-boom: New Approaches to Tradition in Spain and Latin America We invite papers exploring new uses of tradition in contemporary Spanish and Latin American literary productions. We especially welcome papers examining how innovation and tradition respond to and intertwine with critical contemporary issues.

**Dispossessions in the Southern Cone** How do we understand dispossession and subjections that result from imposed demarcations, displacements, and deprivations? How do we see the dispossessed or subjugated as re-articulated in literary works, and what functions can those re-articulations of present/spectral absences play in the literary analysis of the dispossessed territories or bodies, and beyond?

Early Literary Responses to the COVID-19 Outbreak in Latin America This panel examines early literary responses to the COVID-19 pandemic in Latin America. It welcomes a discussion on how writers immediately engaged with the sanitary emergency through social networks, messaging apps, and other media to articulate real-time literary response to the global crisis.

**Eroticism and Aversion in Latin American Poetry and Narrative** This panel explores concepts and stereotypes that lay behind the vision of love and eroticism expressed by Latin American authors.

**Expressions of Comics and Graphic Novels in Contemporary Spain** This roundtable analyzes the new wave of graphic narratives in contemporary Spain. This roundtable also welcomes proposals that deal with different genres and approaches to the medium, including analysis of the industry and publishers.

Extrema y dura: rock y modernidades alternas en la España vaciada Este seminario plantea un acercamiento crítico al rock español y la modernización capitalista tardía en España, especialmente, pero no exclusivamente, en el sur de la Península.

Female Power and Subversive Practices in Latin American Women Writing
This panel invites papers that address and interrogate how women's
writing constructs a subversive subjectivity or collective.

Spanish & Portuguese Studies

**Feminist Theory and Art Between Tradition and Innovation (Feministas Unidas session)** Which artistic and theoretical innovations serve the goals of feminism? Which feminist traditions should be preserved and displaced in order to evolve understanding of the complexities of female marginalization?

**Fiction and Biography in Spanish Literary Works** This roundtable discusses literary biographical works written in Spanish by Iberian, American, or transatlantic authors.

**Graphic Medicine in Contemporary Spain** Topics may include memory or autobiography in graphic narratives, disability studies, and representations of current and previous health crises, ethics of care, and human rights.

**Growing up in Latin America: Narratives of Precarity, Postcolonialism, Violence** We invite critical examinations of coming-of-age narratives and bildungsroman dealing with bi-cultural or multi-cultural identities, picaresque and heterodox processes of learning, non hetero-normative sexualities, and other alternative processes of development and growth.

Habitar la posibilidad: poéticas de lo sensorial y lo posible en América Latina Discutiremos prácticas poéticas que, desde América Latina, y en el marco del neoliberalismo global, interrumpen, dislocan o resisten formas hegemónicas de la sensibilidad.

Heroes or Enemies of All: (Re)Configurations of Sea Robbers in the Golden Age of Piracy This roundtable seeks to redefine the roles played by pirates and privateers in empire and colonialism.

**Homage to Luis Sepulveda** This roundtable pays homage to this great writer and activist by analyzing his works and influence on other writers.

**Humor and Crisis in the Iberian Peninsula** This panel discusses humor in reacting to and processing situations of crisis in any region of the Iberian Peninsula from the early modern to the present.

**Inclusion and Diversity in Foreign Language Textbooks** How should foreign language textbooks portray diversity and address inclusion? How can they give more visibility and voice to disenfranchised groups?

**Innovation for Current Times in the Spanish Classroom and Major** This panel seeks to explore innovative and newer interventions, and curricular proposals that can help advance a vision of Spanish in the academic sphere that responds to the sociopolitical space the language occupies in the country and to the needs of its learners.

Latin American Cosmopolitanisms: Vernacular, Ethical, and Ecological Views of Globality This session invites proposals dealing with the questions of the global novel, vernacular cosmopolitanism, south-south and peripheral networks of global connection, ethical and eco-cosmopolitanism, and other alternative networks of global engagement.

Latin American Gothic Literature in its Early Stages: Trappings, Tropes, and Theories While popular opinion in Latin American literary studies is that the region's Gothic was born in the works of Carlos Fuentes, strong evidence suggests that Gothic literature emerged much earlier, including in the works of Eduardo Wilde, Leopoldo Lugones, and Horacio Quiroga. This panel invites papers on authors that adapted European Gothic tropes and trappings from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Latin American Literature and Modernism This roundtable focuses on cultural dialogues between Modernism and Hispanic/Caribbean/
Latin American Studies with interwar literature and art. It proposes to investigate how partial the prevailing Anglophone understanding of Modernism is and whether contemporary literature and art break away from such limitations.

**Latin American Poetry in Times of Crisis** This panel seeks to examine how different Latin American poets view their roles as poets in society and whether their perspective changes or is expanded in times of crisis.

**Leyendo afectivamente el campo cultural español** Este panel propone explorar en su sentido más amplio las posibilidades y los límites de abordar afectivamente el campo cultural español.

Narrating Violence and Environments in Latin America This panel will interrogate a plurality of Brazilian and Spanish American environmental imaginations—particularly those focused on spaces where vulnerable populations live and on human involvement in their degradation, preservation, and development.

**New Perspectives on Desertic, Andean, and Amazonian Literature and Culture** This panel tries to display scholarly research that defies binary notions of the desert, the Andes, and the Amazon as simple or complex, coherent or incoherent, and stable or unstable places.

La nueva narrativa argentina: New(er) Spaces in Argentine Literature This panel will interrogate potential breaks with past literary traditions, and suggest trends within the literature that give way to new spaces and create new dialogues that respond to—and challenge—critical questions of power, identity, and space, among others.

Poetas, mosqueteros y autores: miradas caleidoscópicas frente al teatro áureo En esta sesión, los ponentes podrán abordar cuestiones sobre obras y autores teatrales áureos, su lectura, interpretación y recepción desde una perspectiva interdisciplinar. De ahí la mención al caleidoscopio, ya que para la correcta comprensión del teatro del Siglo de Oro es necesario acercarse al mismo con una multiplicidad de miradas que una vez compaginadas nos permitan comprender la complejidad del fenómeno.

The Poetics of (Anti)Motherhood in Spanish and Latin American Cinema of the New Millennium In Spanish and Latin American cinemas we find emerging models of women who are childless by choice, and anti-maternal women that bring to light alternative discourses to defy the hegemonic institution of motherhood. These new trends reflect the shifting demographics in Spain and Latin America, where fertility rates decreased because more and more women choose not to have children, postpone motherhood, or are unable to have children due to precarious financial situations or infertility.

Post-Anthropocentrism in Latin America: New Approaches to the Human and the Non-human This seminar encourages participation of scholars working on topics such as new extractivisms, Amerindian cosmologies, comparative metaphysics, new materialisms, animal and plant studies, and literary and cinematic approaches to ecocriticism.

**Queer Indigeneities: Gender, Sexuality, and Indigenous Struggle in Latin America** Hand in hand with the heterogeneous forms taken by the

Northeast Modern Language Association

Spanish & Portuguese Studies | Women's & Gender Studies

indigenous struggle in Latin America, gender and sexuality claims have gained ground in recent years. This makes it increasingly necessary to study indigenous voices that call for an intersectional struggle through diverse artistic expressions.

**[Re]Interpretation and [Re]Configuration of Piracy in the Caribbean** This panel welcomes proposals for individual papers that discuss any aspect of piracy and maritime predation occurring in the Caribbean during the Early Modern period.

**Remaking History and Myth in the Theater of Spain** This panel studies current Spanish theater to see how history and myth are being challenged and reworked for a modern audience.

**Representation of Women in Spanish Culture in the 21st Century** This session seeks proposals on how women are represented in contemporary Spain, as well as the active role of women in literature, cinema, music, painting, photography, and blogs.

**The Return of the Plantation** This panel invites papers to theorize the return of the plantation in contemporary literature, film, and media from the Global South in terms of both the afterlives of the plantation in the present and what is unique about the plantation today, especially in reference to violence, exploited labor, migration, and climate change.

**Shifting Landscapes: Maps, Borders, and Nature in Latin American Literature** This seminar invites papers that theorize the relation between the spatiality of Latin American literature and the evolution of the capitalist world system, and looks to interrogate the intersection between representations of space, narrative form, and the environment.

**Skin on Skin: Affective Regimes and Politics of Community in Latin American Culture** This seminar considers the implications of the coronavirus pandemic for affective regimes and politics of community from the perspective of Latin American cultural production, theory, and critique.

Spanish in the US: Globalization, Glocalization, and New Discourses This session seeks papers that examine new discourses, practices, and identities in US Latino and Hispanic communities in response to social pressures from above and outside (globalization) and social pressures from below and inside (glocalization).

**Spanish Literature Today: In or After Crisis?** This panel seeks to interrogate both the role of the study of literature in a state of crisis as well as what works of Spanish literature of the past decade have to tell us about the meaning of this crisis and how we understand the stability of the Spanish nation-state.

**The Spanish Transition: A Path Towards Modernity?** This panel interrogates the notion of modernity in the Late Francoism and the Transition in order to analyze if the political rupture of the time also impacted the capitalist modernization that the country had undergone since the early 1960s.

**Tradición e innovación: la adaptación de obras literarias en el mundo hispánico** El presente panel tiene como objetivo analizar adaptaciones de obras literarias en el mundo hispánico. Esto incluye cómics, películas, animación, performance, escultura, ilustración u otras formas de arte.



**Virtual Reality Technology in the Language and Literature Classroom** This panel focuses on the different uses of Virtual Reality technology to enhance student engagement and learning in the classroom.

**Voices from the Underground: Extractivism and Violence in Latin America** This panel investigates contemporary Latin American cultural production that responds to environmental injustice, particularly as related to violences of neocolonialism and neoliberalism. We also encourage submissions that consider the aftermaths of violent conflicts from an ecocritical perspective.

**Vozes Luso-Asiáticas da Lusofonia** Debate sobre como dar voz a escritores, às culturas e sociedades de Macau, Timor-Leste, Goa, Damão, Diu, Malaca e da Diáspora luso-asiática e inclui-los nos currículos escolares e académicos norte-armericanos.

**Women and Spain's Second Republic** In honor of the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the proclamation of Spain's Second Republic (1931-39), this panel seeks contributions reflecting upon women and the Republic.

### **Women's & Gender Studies**

**Ages and Stages: Women in the Academy, Take Three** Women still bear a service burden disproportionate to that of their male colleagues, still struggle with childbearing and child rearing choices, and still face sexism and sexual harassment that their male counterparts escape. For women of color, the burdens are magnified. 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.

**Ancient Herstory: Women and Gender in Antiquity and Beyond** This session will explore depictions of women and gender in Greco-Roman texts and their impact on the literature of subsequent periods.

Been There, Survived That: Strategies for Navigating the Profession This roundtable addresses how best to navigate various paths of the profession and culture of graduate studies, the job search, and tenure track, with specific attention to issues pertinent to women and LGBTQ communities.

Beyond This Town Lies a Life Much Sadder: Thinking Queer Rural Resistance This roundtable seeks to destabilize the common academic and pop cultural imaginary that draws rural spaces as inherently anti-queer, stagnant, violent, or in need of "saving." We are especially looking for work by and about queer Black, Indigenous, and nonblack people-of-color building community and resistance in rural spaces in and beyond the American South.

# Women's & Gender Studies | World Literatures



**Building Solidarity Across Women's, Gender, and LGBTO Experiences** What does solidarity mean to marginal communities, people of color, women and LGBTQ communities? What are positive intersections between the tools of women and gender studies that could allow for us to create and manifest feasible notions of solidarity amongst our colleagues and peers?

**Conceptualizing the Body: Identity, Intimacy, and Intervention** This panel explores how various bodies are represented in contemporary culture and how these representations impact our perceptions of self and world.

#### Experiences of Emerging Queer, Trans, Nonbinary Scholars of Color in the Academy

This roundtables center on the unique experiences that queer people of color face within academia. Presenters will discuss how being a POC and queer intersect and impact their experiences as a scholar. This roundtable also seeks to discuss solutions for the problems that QTPOC endure.

**Futures of Queer Reproduction** We invite papers that address how feminist, critical race, and reproductive justice frameworks theorize queer reproduction, adoption, or alternative kinship structures; discussions of literary and cinematic representations of queer reproduction.

**Genre and Gender Bending Through and With the Essay** Papers should focus on American writers from any era and should engage with the question: in which ways does the literary form of the personal essay allow for the exploration or expansion of queer subjectivities?

### Has the Present Outpaced the Future? Nonbinary Gender in Science Fiction

This panel welcomes a wide range of papers based on SF literature incorporating queer studies, gender and sexuality studies, LGBT and transgender studies, Indigenous Futurisms, Afrofuturism, space opera, cyberpunk, post-cyberpunk, and works in translation.

**Imagining Queer Domesticity** This panel examines Anglo-American literary, cultural, and legal texts to investigate the space and the concept of home seen queerly.

# Living Coals of Truth: Women's Protest and Reform in 19th-century

**Philadelphia** This session welcomes papers on any aspect of abolitionist and reformist dialogue among 19<sup>th</sup>-century activist women. How did women authors/writers/poets protest slavery and demolish barriers set against women's empowerment in the 19<sup>th</sup> century?

**Lost Feminist Voices in the Literature of the Global South** This panel explores the role of feminist literature in counter-memorial and counter-historical work by excavating suppressed/erased narratives in the Global South, to

acknowledge gaps in established historiographical retellings of the past, and to strive towards reconstruction of what is missing.

'Madness,' Mental Heath, and Neurodiversity in Contemporary Fiction by Women and Non-binary Authors As mental health is more discursively visible than ever before, what does it mean for women and non-binary authors to write a character who is seen, whether by others or themselves, as suffering from mental illness? This panel seeks papers on narrativizations of mental health, "madness," and neurodivergence in contemporary fiction by women and non-binary people.

**Modernism and #metoo: Giving Voice to the Voiceless** This panel focuses on the intersection of Modernism and the #metoo movement. It will give special attention to authors and characters from traditionally underrepresented populations.

**Other Genders in Literature** This session looks at literary characters and works that question or challenge cultural concepts of gender, which could include queer, bi, trans, asexual, non-binary characters, or those who identify following traditional, heterosexual gender roles but might be seen as manly women or womanly men.

#### Queer Utopias: Decolonizing Utopianism in Contemporary Literary Studies

This panel invites paper abstracts about queer utopias and queer utopian possibility demonstrated in literatures of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, to not only include the possibility of queer utopian political formations from the perspectives of queer individuals but also those whose existence is "queered" by their affiliation to a marginalized social group by virtue of their race, class, religion, caste, gender, disability and so on.

'Rocking the Cradle': Labor Movements, Unionism, and Live Performance in the 21st Century This seminar reflects on how contemporary performance artists have engaged with discourses surrounding the global rejection of poverty wages; neoliberalism, neocolonialism, and free trade agreements; and unionism.

Sex, Gender, and Embodying Allegiance and Disloyalty in Korean American Women's Literature This panel seeks to investigate representations of Korean women's bodies in Korean American women's writing and how these representations come to embody fidelity, disloyalty, and/or negotiate multiple affiliations and the movement between allegiances.

**Sexualities in US Latinx and Latin American Literature** This panel invites papers that delve into how the portrayal of non-normative sexualities in US Latinx and Latin American literature resist, contest, and subvert capitalism.

*Transterradas*: The Spanish Republican Exile from a Gender Perspective This panel reflects on the role of gender in Spanish Republican exile, to both recover a forgotten feminine corpus, and to examine the way in which gender bias intervenes directly in the production of knowledge and in the systems of perception of cultural practices.

**Voices of Refugee Women in Literature and Film** This panel seeks to understand the plight of women refugees in both literature and film.

What Is Academia Good For? Experiential Learning and Community

Engagement This panel seeks contributors who can speak to the ways
in which this can be made possible through experiential learning and

#### Women's & Gender Studies | World Literatures



community engagement, where students undertake projects which have real world implications and turn theory into praxis.

**Women's Utopic and Dystopic Visions** This panel seeks to explore women's utopian and dystopian visions in literature, art, politics, and more.

**Writing Our Wombs** This session calls for women and members of the LGBTQ community to submit work related to the function of their wombs and how the womb creates/destroys/changes identity.

# **World Literatures (non-European Languages)**

**Decolonizing of the Mind: Silenced Voices in the Tides of Cultural Globalization** This panel invites papers that bring together diverse opinions, perspectives, and fields of study to propose multidisciplinary discussions on the narratives of the minorities and the silenced voices.

**Distinctions between Rabindranath Tagore's Shorter and Longer Fiction**This panel explores similarities and differences between Tagore's short stories on the one hand, and his novellas and novels, on the other.

**Folklore and Mythology in Contemporary Literature and Film** Are fairytales, folktales, myths and legends still relevant to today's generation of readers, producers, and consumers of culture? If so, why—and how are they relevant?

**Postcolonial Voices of South Asia and Africa** Participants will present papers on postcolonial voices of Africa and South Asia. They will highlight how Africa and South Asia have been misrepresented by procolonial writers (Western Writers).

# MAST: MEDIA ART STUDY AND THEORY



Mast is an international, online, open-access, and peer-reviewed journal featuring interdisciplinary scholarship in media study. Mast aims to publish and promote innovative

research and writing by artists and scholars who present new methods, approaches, questions, and studies in the field of media study, practice, and theory.

# **Read Our Newest Issue!**

Our inaugural journal, "Mapping Media Studies," is now available! What does media mean or do today? What paradigms, discourses, and knowledges can media studies offer? Read our newest issue at mast-nemla.org.

# **Call For Papers**

# "Media, Materiality And Emergency"

**DEADLINE: JULY 31, 2020** 

GUEST EDITOR: TIMOTHY BARKER, UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW

In what ways do questions of materiality matter in a time of crisis? What does it mean to explore the matter of things at a time when we are threatened with the annihilation of that matter, its disappearance, or its disintegration? The second issue of *MAST* seeks to answer and further explore these questions through essays from arts practitioners and theorists. Please email submissions and questions to editors@mast-nemla.org.

# **Call For Papers**

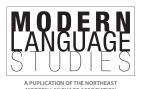
# Special Issue, "Total Screen: Why Jean Baudrillard, Once Again?"

**DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2020** 

GUEST EDITORS: KATHARINA NIEMEYER AND MAGALI UHL, UNIVERSITY OF QUÉBEC IN MONTRÉAL

What place does or could Jean Baudrillard occupy in media studies, visual studies, and art theory today? How does his work—as both a philosopher and a vernacular photographer—continue to influence visual artists and other forms of media art? How can we confront his radical views with feminist, intersectional, queer, postcolonial, and other critical approaches? Please email submissions and questions to specialissue@mast-nemla.org.

# MODERN LANGUAGE STUDIES



Modern Language Studies (modernlanguagestudies.org) is a peer-reviewed journal representing the wide-ranging critical and creative interests of Nemla members. We publish

scholarship, interviews, fiction and poetry, reviews, and commentary on the professions of teaching, research, and writing. Nemla members are encouraged to submit essays and book reviews to *Modern Language Studies*.

Members are also encouraged to have their publishers send their books to Nemla to have them reviewed in *Modern Language Studies*. All new books by members will be announced on the Nemla website.

For more information, please email support@nemla.org.

# NEMLA ITALIAN STUDIES



*Nemla Italian Studies* promotes the study of Italian culture by

publishing critical studies on Italian literature, cinema, culture, linguistics, and language pedagogy. The journal publishes creative writing in Italian, translations of contemporary and classical works, cultural debates, interviews, and book reviews. Learn more at buffalo.edu/nemla/nis.

# 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 2021–2024 slate are due **August 15**. Please email nominations to nemla\_nominations@nemla.org. For more information, please visit buffalo.edu/nemla/boardopenings.

Open positions include:

Second Vice President
Comparative Literature Area Director
Cultural Studies and Media Studies Area Director
Pedagogy and Professionalism Area Director
US and Transnational/Diaspora Studies Area 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. In anticipation of the Conference taking place during the year when they will be the acting President, the Second Vice President is responsible for negotiations and agreements with the future hosting institution. Please email cmardoro@buffalo. edu for details about this position.

The **Area Directors** oversee the convention program for their particular Area. They may be requested to serve on the Board's committees. Area Director nominations are staggered.

#### NeMLA News Editors

Solon Morse, University at Buffalo Derek McGrath, University at Buffalo

#### University of Pennsylvania Liaisons

Professor Andrea Goulet, Department of French & Francophone Studies Pauline Carbonnel, Graduate Student Representative Lauriane Guihard, Graduate Student Representative

#### NeMLA Graduate Fellows at the University at Buffalo

Ashley Byczkowski

Joëlle Carota

Patrick Clancy

Maria Andrea Diaz

Callie Ingram

Dipanjan Maitra

Valentina Marulanda

Macy McDonald

Jiwon Ohm

Cassandra Scherr

Nicole Sedor

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#### **Undergraduate Research Forum Organizers**

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# **Upcoming Convention Dates**

2021 March 11–14; Philadelphia, PA

Host: University of Pennsylvania

**2022** March 10–13; Baltimore, MD

Host: Johns Hopkins University

# **Key Dates for 2020**

July 31	Deadline for Submissions to MAST on Materiality and Emergency
Aug 15	Deadline for Board Nominations
Sep 15	Deadline for Submissions to MAST Special Issue on Baudrillard
Sep 30	Deadline for 52 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention Abstract Proposals
Oct 15	Deadline for Book Award Manuscripts
Nov 1	Deadline for Undergraduate Forum Abstracts
Nov 1	Deadline for Exhibitor-sponsored Workshops
Nov 4	Deadline for Graduate Student Travel Award
Nov 15	Deadline for Women's & Gender Studies Mentee Applications
Dec 1	Deadline for Job Clinic Testimonials
Dec 1	Deadline for Elevator Pitches
Dec 15	Deadline for the Postcolonial Studies Essay Award
Dec 31	Deadline for the Antonio Cao Memorial Travel Award

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