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Editor of *Modern Language Studies*

Contact: [support@nemla.org](mailto:support@nemla.org)

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



In 2025 we return to Philadelphia for NeMLA's 56th annual convention and hope to see many of you. It will be a delight to convene in person because the last time the convention was to be held in Philadelphia, we had to go remote during the height of the pandemic. This year's theme, "(R)EVOLUTION," asks how the Humanities—in all their infinite variations, genres, and productions—have changed (in)

our world, or failed to do so, or have maybe offered more (or less) progressive and imaginative mappings for more (or less) radical change. What role can the Humanities play in society, to honor our cultural and global diversity in all its dimensions?

Our annual convention will be held March 6–9, 2025 at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown. Located at the heart of City Center, the Marriott Downtown will give you easy accessibility to the entire city. When not attending sessions, you can spend time exploring this city from the history of Independence Hall to the delicacies at Reading Terminal Market and the excitement of Fabric Row. We are planning a variety of activities including walking tours of the city, art exhibits, music, plays, and museum visits to delight the conference participant and any family members that may join them.

Our host institution for this year's convention is La Salle University. La Salle University is a private, Catholic university founded in 1863 by the Christian Brothers and named for St. Jean-Baptiste de La Salle, patron saint of teachers. A special thanks goes out to Pamela Barnett, the previous Dean of Arts and Sciences, who understood the importance of NeMLA in the Humanities and partnered with us to make this conference possible. We would also like to thank Gannon University for its support of NeMLA as our new administrative home.

At this year's convention, we will continue to offer professionalization opportunities to our scholars. Please encourage your graduate students to submit an abstract for panels and roundtables; but if they are undergraduates, please direct them to submit a poster presentation to the Undergraduate Research Forum, now entering its seventh year. NeMLA also continues its Job Clinic, a great opportunity for both mentees and mentors, to network, find out about the exciting research conducted by our members, and discuss potential employment opportunities.

The convention's first event will occur on Thursday evening, with opening speaker and scholar of Disability Studies and Cultural Studies, Dr. Benjamin Fraser from the University of Arizona. He is the author of *Down Syndrome Culture* (2024), *Cognitive Disability Aesthetics* (2018), and *Disability Studies and Spanish Culture* (2013). The conference's keynote event will take place on Friday evening and (continued)



feature poet, novelist, and essayist, Julia Alvarez, author of *How the García Girls Lost Their Accents* (1991), *In the Time of the Butterflies* (1994), and *Yo!* (1997). Alvarez' novel, *The Cemetery of Untold Stories* (2024), will be the focus of this year's NeMLA Reads Together. And please join us for our concluding event, the Sunday Membership Brunch, to welcome our new board of directors and to learn how you too can get more involved with NeMLA.

In this summer issue of our newsletter, you will find the many panels, roundtables, seminars, workshops, and professional development opportunities that our convention offers to its members. Please circulate these widely and invite colleagues and students to submit abstracts before our September 30, 2024 deadline.

We are grateful to our sponsors, NeMLA's Board of Directors, and the unfaltering team that works behind the scenes to make the convention a success.

I look forward to seeing you in Philadelphia.

**Victoria L. Ketz**  
President, NeMLA  
Chair, Department of Global Languages,  
Literatures and Perspectives at La Salle  
University

## 2025 ANNUAL CONVENTION

March 6–9, 2025

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Philadelphia Marriott Downtown  
1201 Market St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Phone: (215) 625-2900

Host Institution:  
La Salle University,  
School of Arts & Sciences

Administrative Home:  
Gannon University, College of  
Humanities, Education, & Social  
Sciences



## PHILADELPHIA: The City of Brotherly Love

Our 56th Annual Convention will meet March 6 to 9, 2025, at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown. The Philadelphia area offers convention attendees a multitude of activities to enjoy, including fine dining, arts & culture, historical sites, and natural attractions.

The Philadelphia Marriott Downtown hotel is located at the heart of City Center, which provides easy accessibility to the entire city. When not attending sessions, you can spend time exploring this city from the history of Independence Hall to the delicacies at Reading Terminal Market and the excitement of Fabric Row. We are planning a variety of activities from walking tours of the city, art exhibits, music, plays, to museum visits to delight you and any family members that may join you.

The Philadelphia Marriott Downtown features an indoor pool, a 24-hour fitness center, and bicycles to rent. The hotel also houses two restaurants, a coffee shop/café, and a bar/lounge. Note that the hotel has a smoke-free policy but is pet-friendly (non-refundable \$50 fee per pet, per stay). Valet parking is \$ 69.50/day. Electric car charging stations are available.

Reserve hotel rooms at our discounted rate of \$199/night + taxes of 16.45% on the Passkey web site ([click here](#)). For more information, email [support@nemla.org](mailto:support@nemla.org).

### TRAVEL INFORMATION

#### AIR TRANSPORTATION

Philadelphia Intl. Airport (PHL) is 17 km / 10.6 mi (approximately 20 minutes) by automobile from the hotel.  
Philadelphia, PA (PNE-Northeast

Philadelphia) is 23.1 km / 14.4 mi (approximately 30 minutes) by automobile from the hotel.

#### DISCOUNTED FLIGHTS WITH NEMLA'S OFFICIAL AIRLINE DELTA AIR LINES

Delta Air Lines is pleased to offer a special discount for NeMLA convention attendees. Visit our website to book your flight and use the NeMLA discount code. You may also call Delta at 1-800-328-1111 Monday–Friday, 7AM–7:30PM (CT). There is no service fee!

#### DISCOUNTED AMTRAK TRAVEL

The 30th Street Amtrak Station. Amtrak offers Every Day Discounts and Guest Rewards. See [www.amtrak.com](http://www.amtrak.com) for more information.

#### BUS

Depending on your departure city, there are two Greyhound stops in Philadelphia:

- 199 Spring Garden St.
- 1701 Callowhill St.

#### METRO (SEPTA)

The closest metro station (SEPTA) is Broad-Spring Garden Station (old name: Spring Garden Station at 500 N. Broad Street).

#### ROOM AND RIDE SHARE

Open to all NeMLA convention attendees! Want to connect with others to share rooms and/or rides in Philadelphia for NeMLA 2025? The Graduate Student Caucus and the CAITY Caucus host the Room and Ride Forum. Convention participants who want to share the costs of traveling to or staying in the convention hotel can add to the online thread. For room and ride share opportunities, visit [nemlagraduatecaucus.wordpress.com](http://nemlagraduatecaucus.wordpress.com).

## OPENING ADDRESS:

# BENJAMIN FRASER

Thursday 6 March 2025, 7:00 PM



DR. BENJAMIN FRASER is Professor of Iberian and Latin American Cultural Studies in the College of Humanities at the University of Arizona. His research program spans cinema, popular music, photography, urban planning, and the videogame, centering on three primary areas: disability studies, comics studies, and urban cultural studies.

Fraser's newest book is [\*Down Syndrome Culture: Life Writing, Documentary and Fiction Film in Iberian and Latin\*](#)

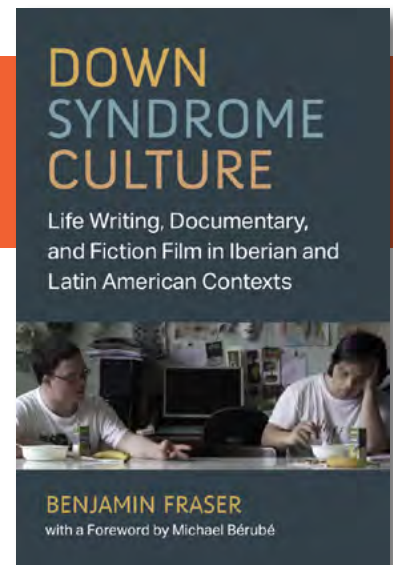
[\*American Contexts\*](#) (2024). In this book, Fraser draws attention to the ways in which people with Down syndrome possess a culture and are producers of culture, a culture that is increasingly visible as a global phenomenon. *Down Syndrome Culture* examines Down syndrome alongside its social, cultural, and artistic representation.

Fraser has authored numerous books and articles, including *Obsession, Urban Aesthetics and the Iberian City: The Partial Madness of Modern Urban Culture* (2021); *Cognitive Disability Aesthetics:*

*Visual Culture, Disability Representations, and the (In)Visibility of Cognitive Difference* (2018); and *Disability Studies and Spanish Culture* (2013).

He has served as the Editor-in-Chief of *Hispania*, the flagship research journal of the AATSP, Founding Editor of the *Journal of Urban Cultural Studies*, Founding Co-Editor of the Hispanic Urban Studies book series, and Managing and Senior Editor of the *Arizona Journal of Hispanic Cultural Studies*.

Fraser has written that his parents—both Spanish language instructors—were powerful influences, as were family trips to places such as Mexico City, Puerto Rico, and Lisbon, among other experiences, which fostered within him a fascination with language.



# KEYNOTE EVENT: JULIA ALVAREZ

Friday 7 March 2025, 7:00 PM



JULIA ALVAREZ is a poet, novelist, and essayist who has taught and mentored writers throughout her life, and who has been widely recognized for her phenomenal storytelling, including garnering the Hispanic Heritage Award in Literature and the F. Scott Fitzgerald Award. Alvarez' new novel, *The Cemetery of Untold Stories* (2024), will be the focus of this year's NeMLA Reads Together.

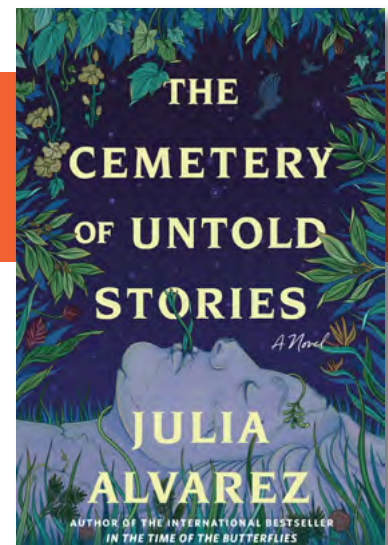
Alvarez has written critically acclaimed novels including *How the García Girls Lost Their Accents* (1991), *In the Time of the Butterflies* (1994), and *Yo!* (1997). Her work often explores topics such as bicultural identity, the immigrant experience, childhood memories, and her identity as a Dominican American.

She has also written several books of poems (*Homecoming, The Other Side/ El Otro Lado, The Woman I Kept to Myself*), nonfiction (*Something to Declare, Once Upon A Quinceañera, and A Wedding in Haiti*), and numerous books for young readers (including the *Tía*

*Lola Stories* series, *Before We Were Free, finding miracles, Return to Sender* and *Where Do They Go?*).

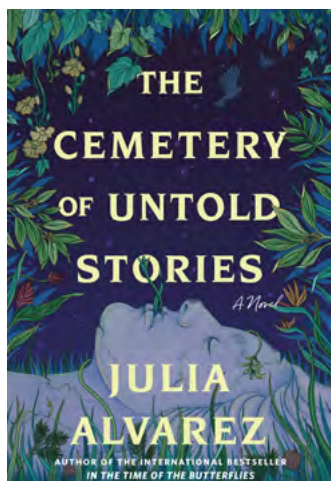
Alvarez's awards include the Pura Belpré and Américas Awards for her books for young readers, a Latina Leader Award in Literature from the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute. In 2013, she received the National Medal of Arts from President Obama.

Born in New York City in 1950, Julia Alvarez's parents returned to their native country, Dominican Republic, shortly after her birth. Ten years later, the family was forced to flee to the United States because of her father's involvement in a plot to overthrow the dictator, Trujillo. Julia Alvarez was writer-in-residence at Middlebury College, Vermont until her retirement in 2016. Visit her web site at <https://www.juliaalvarez.com/>





# NeMLA READS TOGETHER



The 56th Annual Convention's common-read features literary icon and great American novelist Julia Alvarez's newest novel, *The Cemetery of Untold Stories* (2024). You are encouraged to read *The Cemetery of Untold Stories* in preparation for Alvarez's keynote address. Please submit the questions you would like to ask the author at [support@nemla.org](mailto:support@nemla.org) or ask them in person. Hachette describes the book as follows:

Alma Cruz, the celebrated writer at the heart of *The Cemetery of Untold Stories*, doesn't want to end up like her friend, a novelist who fought so long and hard to finish a book that it threatened her sanity. So when Alma inherits a small plot of land in the Dominican Republic, her homeland, she has the beautiful idea of turning it into a place to bury her untold stories—literally. She creates a graveyard for the manuscript drafts

and the characters whose lives she tried and failed to bring to life and who still haunt her.

Alma wants her characters to rest in peace. But they have other ideas and soon begin to defy their author: they talk back to her and talk to one another behind her back, rewriting and revising themselves. Filomena, a local woman hired as the groundskeeper, becomes a sympathetic listener to the secret tales unspooled by Alma's characters. Among them, Bienvenida, dictator Rafael Trujillo's abandoned wife who was erased from the official history, and Manuel Cruz, a doctor who fought in the Dominican underground and escaped to the United States.

*The Cemetery of Untold Stories* asks: Whose stories get to be told, and whose buried? Finally, Alma finds the meaning she and her characters yearn for in the everlasting vitality of stories. Julia Alvarez reminds us that the stories of our lives are never truly finished, even at the end.

Hachette has published a [book club reading guide](#) for *The Cemetery of Untold Stories*.

## CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

REGISTRATION OPENS MID-OCTOBER

### Arts-based Pedagogies and the Development of Self-motivated Inquiry

**Primary Area:**

Rhetoric & Composition

**Secondary Area:**

Pedagogy & Professionalization

**Workshop Facilitator:**

Vittoria Rubino, St. John's University

**Description:**

Through a combination of storytelling, guided reflection, and multimodal exercises, this session will bring theory to practice for arts-based pedagogies as first-year composition practice. You will learn how concepts from studio art can be applied to first-year composition.

### Crossing Borders: Connecting Diverse Communities in Spanish Language Courses

**Primary Area:**

Spanish and Portuguese

**Secondary Area:**

Pedagogy & Professionalization

**Workshop Facilitator:**

Yuting Jia, Northwestern University

**Description:**

Inspired by Li Wei's insights on translanguaging, our panel aims to redefine language teaching. We'll collaboratively develop lesson plans that bridge cultural divides and connect students more deeply with the Hispanic world's diverse communities. Join us to explore innovative strategies for fostering an inclusive and engaging learning environment in Spanish classes.

### Student-Centered Discussions Using Socratic Circles

**Primary Area:**

Pedagogy & Professionalization

**Secondary Area:**

Interdisciplinary Humanities

**Workshop Facilitator:**

Derek DiMatteo, Gannon University

**Description:**

You will learn Socratic Circles, which are a student-centered, text-based discussion activity suitable for both literature and language classrooms; increase student participation in class discussions and help students understand texts more deeply; receive materials to implement the activity in your classes.

# 2025 CALL FOR PAPERS

ABSTRACT DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

More than 380 sessions cover the spectrum of scholarly and teaching interests in modern languages and literatures, listed below under their Primary Area.

To see detailed panel descriptions and session cross-listing, or to submit an abstract please visit <https://cfplist.com/nemla>. Include AV media requests and the names of co-presenters with your submissions.

Sessions will run from the afternoon of Thursday, March 6, 2025, to midday Sunday, March 9, 2025.

## - AMERICAN & DIASPORA -

### Asian Influences in/on American Poetry

This panel seeks papers on connections between American poetry/poetics and Asian culture, philosophy, and/or religion. Any connection is welcome including how poets have (mis)used Asian culture and/or thought in their poetry and thinking about poetry. However, in keeping with NeMLA's theme of "(R)EVOLUTION," I am particularly interested in affinities between ways of knowing in Asian thought and American poetry and how such affinities may disrupt traditional Western epistemologies.

### Capital, Narrative, and Critique

How do narratives of capital enable critique? And how can we do better? We invite papers on a wide variety of contemporary Anglophone narratives—not confined by genre, media, form of circulation or canonical status.

### Celebrating Phillis Wheatley Peters, the Founding (M)other of African American Literature

2023 marked the 250th anniversary of the publication of Phillis Wheatley Peters' *Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral* (1773). This panel explores the creative and critical projects that have emerged in recent years that simultaneously celebrate and rescue the enslaved young African woman poet from the margins of history and literary criticism.

### Don DeLillo's *White Noise* at Forty (Don DeLillo Society Session)

The fortieth anniversary of Don DeLillo's celebrated novel, *White Noise*, is an auspicious occasion to explore it anew, not only in its own right, on the one hand, but at least as importantly, on the other, in terms of its legacy within the author's own body of work and literature and popular culture generally.

### Emplotting Black Antiquity as Vindication of the Activist-Self

This panel considers transdisciplinary analyses from a broad range of textualizations. Key aspects sought are examinations of artistic, literary, humanist, historical, filmic, and musical works that emplace or emplot Black past interrelatedness as ruptures that specifically counter notions of contributive civilizational nonparity, or rather, *tabula rasa*, historical, artistic, or literary allusions to no ancient derivation.

### Fifty years of Stephen King: American Horror, Gothicism, and Progressive Parables

This panel welcomes papers that focus on King's works that not only examine the evolution of such wide-ranging 'horror' literature

American & Diaspora Studies.....	5-7
British Studies.....	7-8
Comparative Literature.....	8-11
Creative Writing, Publishing, & Editing.....	11-12
Cultural Studies & Media Studies.....	12-16
French & Francophone Studies.....	16-18
German Studies.....	18-20
Global Anglophone.....	20-21
Italian Studies.....	21-23
Pedagogy & Professionalization.....	23-27
Rhetoric & Composition.....	27
Slavic Studies.....	27
Spanish & Portuguese Studies.....	28-31
Women's & Gender Studies.....	31-33
World Literatures (Non-European Languages).....	33

he continues to lead, but which also speak to the 50-year arc of American culture's progressive advances and set-backs, as well as with the cautionary warnings his texts provide for a nation confronting the frightening possibility of a fallen democracy. Papers that explore American literary influences on King, from Poe to H.P. Lovecraft, and/or King's influence on his contemporaries are also welcomed.

### Hip Hop and American (R)evolution

This roundtable seeks short presentations that will prompt a discussion about how hip hop has influenced and been influenced by American (r)evolution. I am particularly interested in abstracts that address the historical and future-directed influences and implications of hip hop culture and its five pillars: 1. MCing (Oral); 2. DJing (Aural); 3. Breakdancing (Physical); 4. Graffiti (Visual); 5. Knowledge (Mental).

### "If You're Anything Like Me": How Memoir Evolves through Representation and Readership

This panel invites discussions of memoir in prose, graphic, visual, and video forms, particularly those that center on evolving forms of the genre, readership studies, or surviving both natural and man-made disasters. With the rise in popular nonfiction readership and technological accessibility of both memoir and memoirists (e.g. through social media), the reader/writer dynamic is changing as are connections between them, as readers can communicate with the author directly through social media, which offers possibilities for positive and meaningful impact for both reader and writer.

### It's Free Because It's Yours: Insurgent Poetics Against Late Capital's Empire

This panel welcomes papers that examine how poets and poetry

## AMERICAN & DIASPORA

resist capital's subsumption into commodification. Particularly of interest are anarchist legacies within poetry and poets who push the boundaries of form and style while avoiding didacticism.

### John Edgar Wideman and Philadelphia

For the 2025 NeMLA conference, the John Edgar Wideman Society proposes a panel on John Wideman's relationship to Philadelphia. Topics include being black in an almost exclusively white Ivy League university, police violence and incarceration, history and race, and the city as a racialized space.

### Latina/o/e/x Revolutions: The Formation of New Subjectivities in Migration

This panel examines representations of displaced Latin American migrants who redefine themselves and reconstruct a new sense of community in a transnational context. In doing so, these subjects from the first, one-and-a-half, second or third generations engage with and expand the construct of Latinidad. Through these literary and visual works, we aim to gain insights into how encounters with (armed) revolutions guide migratory subjects' negotiation of their new surroundings in the US and their relations with Latina/o/e/x groups.

### Mapping America and Americans in Short Fiction

This roundtable invites papers on short fiction from various times in American history and various parts of the US and its territories that capture some sense of what being American means for some possibly small but also large or representative portion of the population of American citizens or aspiring citizens.

### Mapping the Imaginary: The Radical Poetics of Emily Dickinson

This panel seeks scholarship on Dickinson that explores her radical poetics in both senses of the term: as a poet returning to the roots of her craft and/or as a poet so willing to transform the craft that it explodes into an entirely new mimetics.

### Migration and Diaspora: Experiences in Contemporary Latin American and Latin Literature

This panel seeks papers on contemporary artistic, literary, film, and digital media productions that explore migrant and diasporic experiences in Latin American countries.



### Narrative Nonfiction in the Creation and Understanding of Identity in Turbulent Times

This roundtable seeks collegiate voices that will contribute to a robust conversation on narrative nonfiction literature and writing with a focus on how we use narrative nonfiction and writing to help students navigate conceptions of their identity and negotiate their place in the world.

### Norman Mailer and Revolt

Norman Mailer's canonization and his relevance for progressive politics and aesthetics today.

### Ntozake Shange's Choreopoem and its (R)evolution

Inspired by Ntozake Shange's choreopoem and choreoessays, this panel will explore her choreotexts, as well as Shange's mentors, and her influence on audiences / readers, contemporaries, and present-day choreopoets and writers alike.

### Overstories: The Novels of Richard Powers

Call for papers discussing one or multiple works by American novelist Richard Powers. I particularly welcome papers about his treatment of neurodiversity and climate change.

### Philadelphia Gothic

This panel seeks to explore Gothic aesthetics of American literature set in the city of Philadelphia from any time period. This panel welcomes the inclusion of non-traditional texts that benefit from Gothic interpretations

### “Radical Futures and Decolonization: Law, Marxism, and World Literature”

This panel examines Black diasporic literary and/or legal texts in relation to the interdisciplinary field of ‘Law and Literature.’ Emphasis is on the relations and intersections of race, class, and gender; the historical experience of capitalist modernity; and materialist approaches employing ‘world-literary’ perspectives.

### Rescuing the Hottentot Venus: Revolutionary Politics of Healing the Trauma of Colonialism

An iconic figure who emerged in the early 19th century in Europe as well as Colonial and Early America, Sarah Baartman has become a global figure who literally embodies the racial and sexual complexities of transatlantic colonialism. This panel will explore the politics of representing Sarah Baartman in poetry, fiction, and film, focusing on the topics of race, history, colonialism within the context of early nineteenth century transatlantic culture in the throes of revolutionary cultural change.

### Revolutionizing Sally Hemings: Re-presenting Thomas Jefferson's Slave Mistress

As Thomas Jefferson's rumored slave mistress, Sally Hemings may seem to be a marginal historical figure, but it is clear that late-twentieth century/early twenty-first century historians, poets, authors, filmmakers, playwrights and visual artists think otherwise. This panel will explore the myriad ways that scholars and creatives have revolutionized the critique of the American national project through depicting Sally Hemings and her relationship with Thomas Jefferson while simultaneously invoking a critical and creative interrogation of the historical record.



## AMERICAN & DIASPORA / BRITISH

### **Taught by Literature: Recovering Early Black Women's Writing**

This roundtable is intended for scholars, teachers, and community members interested in transforming the U.S. education system and participating in the recovery and recirculation of underrepresented authors.

### **"That 'Peculiar Lapse': Toward a Poetics of Uncommon Sense(s)"**

This seminar will explore non- and extra-visual methods of uncommon sense-making in poetry, dedicating particular attention to other sensory means through which poets incite collective thought and action.

### **The Harlem Renaissance: (R)evolution in Retrospect**

On the occasion of the centennial of the publication of Alain Locke's essential anthology *The New Negro*, and in keeping with the theme of the conference, this roundtable session looks back to the diverse ways that members of the Harlem Renaissance collectively "have changed (in) our world, or have failed to do so." We seek presentations that assess communal or individual activity and production of African American writers, artists, and musicians of the period and the ways in which they met their goals—or didn't.

### **The Future of the American Literary Archive**

This session invites panelists to share archival discoveries in American literature while also engaging in broader methodological reflections on the state of archival research in the humanities.

### **Tortured Poets Department: Emily Dickinson and Taylor Swift**

We invite proposals that explore the trope of the "tortured" woman poet and investigate relationships between Emily Dickinson's and Taylor Swift's art, mythology, image, and/or reception. Papers on pedagogy are also welcome.

### **Transforming the Humanities: Researchers' Positionalities as First-Gen People of Color**

In considering the limitations of disciplines, this panel focuses on the impact of the researchers' positionalities as first-gen people of color in the research process that challenges the traditional researcher role as being insider-outsiders. The conversation will also explore the shifts and fluidity necessary for developing the transdisciplinary methods to create meaning at the emotional, cultural, political, and social levels that can revolutionize the impact of the humanities.

### **Transpacific Materialities**

This panel investigates texts that center Asian American and Pacific Islander bodies and their varying materialities, wherein racialized bodies take on other-than-human forms (i.e., paper, digital, textual, watery, earthy, animal, etc.). The panel aims to explore how these embodiments are shaped by the residual and ongoing violences of US empire and/or war in the Pacific.

### **Twain and James: Percival Everett's Rewriting of American Literary History**

Panel on pedagogical and scholarly approaches to Percival Everett's 2024 novel *James*, a retelling of Mark Twain's *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (1885) from the perspective of Jim, the enslaved African American who accompanies Huck on his journey down the Mississippi River. Panelists will address Everett's engagement with *Huckleberry Finn* and the legacy that surrounds it as a "Great American Novel." They will also consider broader issues that

Everett raises such as code-switching, historical recovery of African American voices, the canon of American literature, and others.

### **Vonnegut and (R)Evolution (Kurt Vonnegut Society Session)**

This session is sponsored by the Kurt Vonnegut Society and seeks abstracts that engage the conference theme of "(R)EVOLUTION."

### **Women of Color (R)evolutionizing American Literature**

This panel seeks proposals that examine how women of color authors and artists have (throughout the centuries) helped to change and revolutionize literature by/about, literary representations of, and literary studies focused on women of color in the United States.

## - BRITISH -

### **(Re)Reading Victorian Sexualities**

This panel thinks queerly about the plethora of alternative futures available in the Victorian novel.

### **Elizabeth von Arnim: The Unexpected Modernist**

This seminar brings together scholars in the growing field of Elizabeth von Arnim studies. The presenters will highlight critical debates related to modernism, feminism, and the middlebrow and explore new contexts such as medical humanities and aging studies.

### **New Directions in Dickens Scholarship (Sponsored by the Dickens Society)**

This panel will explore new directions in Dickens scholarship, including emerging approaches and methodologies, new contexts, recent research discoveries, exploration of less well-known texts or new perspectives on Dickens's life and work.

### **Political Ecology in Romantic and Victorian Textual Material**

The panel invites proposals on the fusion of human ecology and political economy across the 19th century in textual material focusing on circumstances related to: the Malthusian trap; Ecology of Disaster; Politics of Disease; Procreation vs. Production; Political Economy of Sex and Population; Historical Marxist Materialism and Labor, etc.

### **Religious Revolutions in and through 19th-Century Literature**

This panel explores both literature's role in nineteenth-century religious revolutions and religion's role in nineteenth-century literary and cultural revolutions. We are particularly interested in surprising post-secular connections between literature and religion in writers' and activists' challenges to established socio-religious systems.

### **Resurrecting Early Modern Women**

This panel will investigate the lives and writings of early modern women, especially those engaging in reform and resistance across literature, politics, religion, and gender normative expectations. Though research on any early modern woman writer is sought, exploration which considers women more globally, beyond England, is highly encouraged.

### **Revisiting Huxley: Assessing the Foresight of His Views on World Change**

The focus of this panel is to assess Huxley's writings in relationship to present day issues of culture and diversity. For example, he wrote about immigration policies that should discriminate against

## BRITISH / COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

stupidity instead of race (“Racial History,” *Heart Essays* 346). He also wrote that humans continually “invent new moral problems to take the place of those mechanically eliminated by the improved techniques of living” (“500 Prophets,” *Heart Essays* 296). How does this project possible templates for evolving culture? What present day issues do you see reflected in Huxley’s *Brave New World*, *Island*, or his other writings?

### Subtle Modernist Revolutions: 1925 as Annus Mirabilis

For this panel, we invite papers which engage with practices of subtle Modernist revolution, whether scholarly or pedagogical, within the resonances of 1925 for Modernist literature.

### T. S. Eliot and the Humanities

This panel will focus on what T. S. Eliot can do for the Humanities today and what the Humanities ought to do with T. S. Eliot.

### Teaching British Literature and Social Justice: DEISJ

Often it feels to us, as British literature scholars and teachers, that American literature is where the most fruitful discussions of issues such as social justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion are sited. This panel encourages discussions of how to open up the British literature classroom, especially the pre-1800 British literature classroom, to the consideration of these vital topics.

### Tell my Story: A History of Hamlet

This panel invites papers dealing with the various competing critical interpretations, the stage history, the context of Elizabethan revenge tragedy, the history behind Shakespeare’s (Danish) sources, and what the future may hold for Hamlet the Dane.

### The (R)evolution of Shakespearean Adaptations: Progressive Engagements with the World

This session will focus on papers that address the (r)evolution of adaptations of Shakespeare’s plays. The premise of the session will suggest a connection between adaptation and progressive politics of the late 20th and early 21st centuries. Papers can examine any of his plays that has been adapted for the stage in this time period.

### The Country, the City, and the Suburb

This panel seeks papers exploring literature and culture in relation to rural, urban, and suburban settings. We welcome papers on topics spanning the Victorian era and the present, within and beyond realism and the British tradition.

### The Medieval Traveler

Given our theme of (R)evolution, what roles do travelers, either real or fictional, in the Middle Ages, play in reshaping our understanding of medieval Europe and its ramifications for today? Proposals could include but are certainly not limited to discussions of travel in *Beowulf*, Chaucer, *The Book of Margery Kempe*, and *The Travels of Richard Rolle*.

### The Romantic (R)Evolution: De-bordering Romanticism

This panel invites proposals to revolutionize and de-border the conventional Eurocentric Romantic boundaries in genres, forms, styles, themes, cultural legacies, and critical methods. Proposals are invited to transcend Romanticism of the Romantic Era to a new timeless global Romanticism of both historicity and modernity that contributes to ideological diversity.

### Thomas Paine's The Rights of Man in British Literature

The legacy of Thomas Paine’s *The Rights of Man* (1791) in British literature.

### To (R)evolve or Not to (R)evolve?: Adaptation, Performance, and Pedagogy of Shakespeare Today

This roundtable invites participants to engage deeply and critically in the conference theme of “(R)evolution” by considering how Shakespeare (in scholarship, performance, adaptation, and pedagogy) has changed with our times or how it has not.

### When Plants Fight Back: Eco-revolutions in Nineteenth-century British Literature

This panel seeks submissions that examine floral/vegetal agency as represented in nineteenth-century British literature to a) explore various roles that plants play in either critiquing or thwarting human intention and/or b) to trace ways in which British writers of the period mediated the conflux of natural sciences, fear of the exotic other, and climate anxiety at home and abroad.

## - COMPARATIVE LITERATURE -

### ‘A Rebel with a Cause’: The Real Subversive Potential of Transgressive Fiction

Transgressive fiction can define, redefine, and challenge the established rules and ideologies that govern human experience. But what role can transgressive fiction be said to play in the measurable, tangible, perceivable evolution of specific societal norms today? What texts, if any, can be said to have had real (or imagined) benefits or detriments on society by attacking the ideological constructions on which society is based?

### Bodies in (R)Evolution: Labor, Embodiment, and Resistance

This roundtable explores how arts and literature interrogate the commodification of bodies, labor exploitation, the work-life divide, and struggles for bodily autonomy, offering insights into the transformative potential of arts and literature as sites of embodied (r)evolutionary imagination.

### Classics x Medieval: Exploring the Past in the Present through Literature, Art, and Popular Culture

Antiquity and the Middle Ages have been manipulated and at times weaponized in their many reception histories down to the present. This panel invites scholars of all levels, Classicists and Medievalists alike, to explore together how different pasts intersect in the present.

### Could the Theory of Love Change the World?

The panel seeks to resolve whether the theory of love offered by feminists like bell hooks, Donna Haraway and most importantly Judith Butler and the Oxford feminist philosopher Pamela Sue Anderson did create any radical change in the world of Humanities.

### Cyborgs and Goddesses: (Dis)ability and the Posthuman in Literature

Ableism and the historically oppressive category of the “human” go hand in hand. In rethinking able-bodiedness and able-mindedness as humanist constructs, this panel asks how the intersection



of disability studies and posthumanism force us to rethink the relationship between humanism and ableism, and how texts make space to reimagine (dis)abled futures through the rupturing of this constructed humanity.

### **Dante Decolonizer: Epistemic Plurality and the Ethical Imagination**

This seminar will offer cross-disciplinary readings that approach the *Commedia* as poetry, engaging scholarship and commentary as needed and on equal epistemic terms. Non-academic approaches that read contemporary issues through the lens of the *Commedia* interrogation of the ethical imagination especially welcome.

### **Ekphrasis and the Music of Literature: Music, Literature, and the Visual Arts**

This interdisciplinary roundtable seeks papers that compare music and the visual arts to poetry and prose. What are the differences between these modes of expression and how they affect their audiences? Papers that focus on the relationship of music to literature, the visual arts to literature, or on the interrelations of all three art forms are invited.



### **Failures of Interpellation, Unrealized Subjects, and Misrecognized Identities**

This panel looks at Louis Althusser's conception of interpellation from the point of view of those ignored, excluded, or misrecognized by it, and seeks to explore the revolutionary potential of these gaps and omissions.

### **Greek Tragedy: Modern and Contemporary Forms, Meanings, and Relevance**

This panel turns to one of the most durable legacies from Greek culture: the literary genre of tragedy. Is there something valuable in ancient tragedy, that can be taken advantage of also in contemporary times?

### **Indigenous Ecocriticism: Paradigm Shifts in Environmental Literature**

The Environmental Humanities is experiencing an unprecedented influx of creative and critical works from writers of indigenous literature. The immense literary revolution associated with climate change and environmental discourse is a contributing factor,

and writers are responsible for this contemporary debate. This session offers a unique opportunity for presenters to contribute to a significant academic debate by exploring paradigm shifts in indigenous environmental discourse.

### **Islands, Mainlands, Neverlands: Thinking of and from Liminal Spaces**

This panel invites contributions that use the island as a critical category to explore the contemporary global discursive and political landscape.

### **Landscapes of Trauma**

How should we understand the relationship between land and trauma? This session explores not just our exposure to an unpredictable world that might hurt us but, also, the world's exposure to an unpredictable humanity that might destroy it and, particularly, to the power of state and corporate actors that try to subject both people and the earth to their will.

### **Literary Forgery: Pseudotranslation in Works of Fiction**

This panel will explore works of fiction that falsely claim to be translations and their effect on the reader as well as the use of pseudotranslations as a pedagogical tool to discuss issues related to Translation Studies.

### **Literature and Philosophy: Exploring Nietzsche and Heidegger**

This panel explores the relationship between literature and philosophy, focusing particularly on Nietzsche and Heidegger. Participants may explore the relationship between the two thinkers as they integrate literature into their ideas about Western culture, or analyze either philosopher's individual reflections on poets, novelists, or dramatists.

### **Literature of Impact: Literary (R)evolutions of the Oppressed**

This panel seeks academic papers, projects, and creative works that explore the transformative power of literature. We welcome submissions that focus on the impact of literature in revolutionizing pre-established systems of oppression and colonized spaces, as well as on the literature that revindicates the power of the silenced, displaced, and colonized.

### **Many Tongues, One Mouth: The Expansive Challenge Faced by Multilingual Poets**

Multilingual poets may write in one or more languages, leveraging their heightened awareness of language as well as their multiple means of expression. This session seeks to explore the choices made by multilingual poets—whether to self-translate, to blend languages, or to write exclusively in one language. Papers discussing work that emerges from all language pairings are welcome.

### **Mother, Mothers**

This panel explores the views of mother and mothers within cultural and literary production. Within this panel, the term "mother" is used to define anyone that refers to themselves as a mother and/or engages in mothering. This panel invites scholars from cross disciplines to the discussion.

### **Narratives of Development**

This panel brings literary studies into conversation with critical

## COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

development studies. How might literature help us to rethink developmental imaginaries? How can we, as literary scholars, use the tools and methods of literary criticism to better understand, critique, and imagine beyond western practices of development?

### **Only Time Will Tell: Disruptions to Linear Temporality as a World-making Mechanism**

This panel invites papers that consider time, especially disruptions to colonial concepts of linear time, and how these disruptions function as a world-making mechanism to offer alternative temporalities and ways of knowing and being.

### **Perspectives on Opera and the Operatic**

This panel seeks to complement contemporary scholarship on opera across the humanities by soliciting papers that speak to opera's unique, overdetermined, and intrinsically interdisciplinary blend of words, music, performance, and history, as well as papers that examine operatic genealogies extant in non-operatic texts and challenge notions of canonicity, representation, and ownership.

### **Poetry and Pain**

This panel builds upon discussions of embodied poetics by looking at representations of pain: physical, mental, emotional, generational, chronic, or acute. By examining how suffering is transcribed through poetic language and form, this session will explore different or even markedly oppositional understandings of pain's utility and (un)desirability. Proposals that connect poetry to health/medical humanities, disability studies, or trauma studies are especially welcome.

### **R(evolution)ary Reflections: Ironies, Absurdities, and Awakenings in World Literatures**

This roundtable explores how various literatures have encouraged the engagement of readers, amended written ideologies, increased positive cultural interests, influenced radical concepts, excited imaginations, and promoted global diversity via the written word.

### **(R)evolving Masculinities: Rethinking Representations in Global Literature**

This panel brings together scholars to present their research on various aspects and literary portrayals of masculinity, exploring how it has evolved and been redefined in different cultural contexts, especially through an interplay between tradition and modernity, power dynamics, and identity construction.

### **'Reader, I Met Him': First Encounters in Fiction**

Fiction is full of first meetings. While a relationship's apex or culmination might be most memorable to readers, the initial encounter is also of special significance to the story. Papers for this panel will explore fictional (or nonfictional) first meetings or initial encounters.

### **Reading Misreading**

This session seeks to probe the way misreadings have informed the ideology and paradigms of current scholarly thinking on a range of topics and issues.

### **Revolutionary Narratives in the Humanities: Reframing Refugee Experiences**

This session aims to explore how the Humanities can not only

reflect but also catalyze change in our understanding of and engagement with refugee communities, offering new, radical mappings for understanding cultural and social identities in a changing world.

### **Silent Revolution: Silence as a Form of Female Resistance**

This panel seeks papers in literature that explore the concept of women's silence as a form of self-resistance and a manifestation of female consciousness in female-authored works while challenging traditional perceptions and their reductive interpretations in male-authored works.

### **Speculative Literature on Parenthood**

This roundtable is devoted to speculative literature on pregnancy and parenthood. The session will explore the ways in which tropes borrowed from other genres (horror, gothic, folklore, science fiction) shed light on the challenges of parenting and offer social criticism. Presentations may explore texts from any region or time period.

### **Strategies of Intensity**

How and where do we locate intensity—an abstract term both in common and theoretical parlance—in literary and cinematographic texts? This panel is an invitation to read intensity formally, and to read intensity within forms; to ask what we can draw from poetry and film by using intensity as an analytical category.

### **The Afterlives of Absurdism**

This panel aims to renew and re-theorize absurdism and nonsense. It explores diverse literatures, reassesses the impersonal forces of political systems, and deploys and overturns recent academic "turns." From an understanding of the evolution of absurdism, there can emerge new worlds.

### **The Great War in Light of Women's Voices, Experiences, and Works**

This seminar examines the importance of women as fictional characters, authors, and purveyors of legacies associated with the Great War of 1914-1918. The flexible methodology of this session includes the examination of novels, poems, paintings, photography, film, documentaries, memoirs, and memorials.

### **Translation and (R)evolution in the Caribbean**

This session considers evolving approaches to translation and "translation moments" within the Caribbean and the global diaspora. How has translation served as a radical rethinking of political, cultural, and social circumstances?



## COMPARATIVE LITERATURE / CREATIVE WRITING, EDITING, & PUBLISHING

### **We Live in a Society: New Sociologies of Art and Literature**

Novel approaches to the relation between the arts and social life. The social conditions of artmaking today; the aesthetic conditions of social life; feedback loops between the arts, knowledge about the arts, and social life.

### **Zombies, Plagues, and Other Pandemics in Literature and Visual Media**

This session explores the themes of pandemics and zombies across world literature and visual media, exploring the points of connection and divergence in works from the 5th century BC to the present examining how pandemics have been perceived and confronted across diverse cultures and epochs.

## - CREATIVE WRITING, EDITING, & PUBLISHING -

### **At the Periphery of Scholarship: Creative Nonfiction and Life Writing**

This panel provides a space for the stories at the periphery of academic life: stories of archival and ethnographic research, of the arduous work of writing, and of the life events that run parallel to and become intrinsically entwined in our academic work. Panelists will share creative non-fiction writing at the intersection between scholarship and memoir and provide insight into venues for publication that support this hybrid genre.

### **Building and Sustaining Undergraduate Writing, Editing, and Publishing Programs**

This roundtable will focus on developing learning goals, curriculum, and hands-on projects for Undergraduate Writing, Editing, and Publishing Programs. We will also explore how to sustain such programs, particularly in times of limited financial and human resources.

### **Creative (R)evolution of Philadelphia**

This creative session seeks writers of fiction, poetry, and nonfiction who address Philadelphia's past, present, and future creative evolution, revolution, and devolution in their work.

### **Defiant Narrativity: Risk, Resonance, and (R)evolution**

This creative session invites readings or performances of original work that experiments with, challenges, and/or disturbs received notions of structure and narrative form, especially those that purposefully question, expand, and/or play with what narrativity is and can do.

### **Domestic Labor and Social Change**

This session invites writers and other artists to submit projects that consider caretaking and other domestic work as a vehicle of social change or (r)evolution. This session welcomes all genres: literary nonfiction, poetry, fiction, translations, multilingual projects, multimedia or genre-bending works. Participants will give brief presentations and the session will then explore connections between the various creative projects presented.

### **Embodying the Revolution: Storytelling and Performance for Social Resilience**

This creative session highlights the performing arts' pivotal role in

promoting social justice and civil, environmental, and human rights to foster civic engagement, dialogue, and community problem-solving through narrative-based storytelling and collective sharing. Presenters may choose to perform/read live or share recordings of their performative narrative-based storytelling works addressing their intended impact and outcomes.

### **From Foul to Fearful: An Examination of Body Horror**

Body horror is a subgenre that taps into one of our greatest fears: that something will happen to our body to disfigure us and/or cause insufferable pain. This panel invites horror writers and scholars to share original creative work or film/literary criticism that explores this theme.

### **Language (R)evolution: Creative Works on Multilingualism and Navigating Cultures**

This session will feature creative work in any genre (fiction, creative nonfiction, poetry, music, performance, etc.) that reflects on multilingualism and navigating cultures. Topics may include learning new languages and assimilating to foreign cultures in the context of migration/displacement, the relationship between heritage speakers and their family's native tongues, the function and significance of code-switching in creative work as a means of linguistic and/or personal (r)evolution, etc.

### **Not Even Past: Personal Encounters with the Pre-Industrial Past**

A roundtable exploring personal encounters with the pre-industrial past.

### **Revisiting Closet Poets**

This session seeks those scholars whose poetry often remains unpublished due to the heavier responsibility of publishing scholarly journal articles, monographs and genre-specific books which demand much time in between teaching, and perhaps, administrating at the university. Even though those scholarly efforts may yield more rewards, such as job retention and hopefully, job promotions; personal poetry, intermittently created, yields a satisfying venue for emotional issues and satisfying creativity.

### **The Body in Writing**

This reading brings together creative writers whose writing springs forth from their relationship with the body.

### **The Creative (R)Evolution of the Body**

Let's start a revolution in how we talk about women's and femme-identifying bodies and minds, by sharing creative pieces that navigate embodied and evolving womanhood at all stages of life.

### **Uncanny Families: The Trauma Revolution**

This panel welcomes abstracts for creative work that produce or encounter uncanny families in the process of storytelling, cycle-breaking, and radical change.

### **“Wound-Shaped Words”: Mental Healing through Radical Creativity**

This session looks for work that explores the bridges and barriers between creativity and mental health. How can our lived experiences and traumas stifle the creative mind or help fertilize a revolution of mental awareness and growth? The chairs welcome



## CREATIVE WRITING, EDITING, & PUBLISHING / CULTURAL STUDIES & MEDIA STUDIES

essays, critical analysis, short stories, poems, hybrid works, and excerpts from longer pieces.

### Writing Reproductive Justice: A Multi-genre Showcase

Taking Barbara Kruger's piece "Your body is a battleground" as a launching point, this creative panel will showcase how work arising in a variety of genres (fiction, poetry, art etc) addresses the ongoing regulation of women's bodies and the right to reproductive health.

## - CULTURAL STUDIES & MEDIA STUDIES -

### (Re)Animating the Middle Ages: Adapting the Medieval in Animated Media

This panel seeks insights into the ways medieval-themed animation has impacted our contemporary world. Presenters might explore anime, cartoons, films, games, and shorts produced through traditional ink-and-paint, stop-motion, claymation, or computer-generated imagery. Selections should represent and/or engage with some aspect of the medieval, such as artifacts, characters, settings, themes, etc., presented as central to the narrative, tangential, or appearing solely as cameos.

### Adaptation's Call to Revolution

This panel invites proposals that consider the revolutionary potential of specific adaptations from *Troilus and Cressida* to *Hamilton* and of adaptation in general. Example topics: progressive adaptations, reparative adaptations, adaptations that challenge or critique the Eurocentric assumptions of their forebears, parodic or burlesque adaptations, adaptations whose call to arms has fallen on deaf ears, or adaptation itself as an incitement to revolution.

### Animating the Margins: Revelation and Adaptation

This panel addresses adaptations that shift the focus of the text to previously marginal or peripheral characters. Presentations might explore literary, film, or TV/spinoff adaptations aimed at reorienting viewers or readers in provocative or exciting ways.

### Tracing the Evolution and Importance of the Humanities in Antarctica

The goal of this session is to provide a forum in which to explore the overlooked, yet incredibly rich, field of Antarctic Humanities. With increasing urgency, Antarctica itself, climate change, and global warming are in the news, more frequently than ever. The time to act is now, with more research across all fields, including the literature, language, and culture of Antarctica.

### Beyond borders: Unraveling Gender Constructs in the Worlds of Literature, Media, and Video Games

This roundtable explores the multifaceted intersections of gender dynamics within the realms of literature, media, and video games, and seeks to compare how women and men are portrayed and understood across these cultural products.

### Body-media Aesthetics: (R)evolution? (T)error?

This panel explores the nexus between body aesthetics and (r)evolutionary futurity in the global culture and cinema/media. Through a multidisciplinary approach, we will consider the unique methodology of carnal thought and futuristic aesthetics across various artistic media/mediums.

### Celtic Flaneur: The Humanities in Irish Street Life

Presentations are invited on any subject concerning the intersection of Irish culture and the humanities, provided its source is located outdoors and it functions as a free, democratic, inclusive space. Possible topics include the Irish busker tradition, street art, outdoor sculptures, walking tours, parks and greenspaces, cemeteries, memorials—even the recent Dublin-New York Portal.

### Comics as a Catalyst for Social Change

Comics and graphic novels are revolutionary platforms in both content and form. The medium lends itself to the crafting of alternative narratives that challenge established norms. This panel seeks proposals that consider how graphic narratives provide a safe space for marginalized voices and experiences to inspire change.

### 'Cyber-futurology,' a Complex Approach to Cyberbeing: Science, Tech, Art, and Philosophy

We need to think the essence of cyberbeing. The only way of doing it is via a complex, systematic cross-disciplinary approach involving philosophy, science, technology, and art. This panel seeks to contribute to the current conversation on cyberbeing's meaning and its way of shaping (enhancing or concealing) the humanness of the human through cyborgs, bioroids, androids, and other technocreatures.

### Detective Fiction: (What) New Possibilities?

Detective fiction, oft still maligned as both insufficiently fictive and otherwise innovative AND formulaic through slavish devotion to some "realism," has actually evolved (e.g. protagonists, readership, milieux, etc.). Our world has no shortage of reasons for doubt, even scepticism, from lying politicians and other prominent figures to various "deepfakes"—so where will/should detective fiction go next? Whose and what truths should it tell, and why?

### Digital (R)evolution and Cyber Censorship in South Asia

This panel engages with questions and concerns regarding issues centering digital (r)evolution and censorship amid a digital culture which offers to be a platform for everyone. It takes forward the discussion initiated by Sriram Mohan from his edited collection, *Global Digital Cultures: Perspectives from South Asia*.

### Disability, Language and Access: Deconstructing Barriers

This roundtable relates to the interdisciplinary field of Disability Studies, and offers to draw the contact zones where geographies, ideologies and experiences of disability and displacement come together to inform pedagogies, solidarities, and knowledge from an intersectional lens. We invite participants to consider knowledge production around disability and displacement through the ways language builds bridges and deconstructs barriers.

### Ekphrasis as Resistance: Empowering Marginalized Voices Through Art and Literature

This roundtable invites scholars and writers to present work that highlights contributions of marginalized groups in ekphrastic poetry. We aim to explore how contemporary ekphrasis can move beyond traditional frameworks to address broader social and ethical issues, enriching our understanding of the intersection between art, literature, and societal challenges such as discrimination, oppression, and racism.

### Family Abolition and Social Revolution: Theories of Social Reproduction Now

This panel seeks presentations engaged with calls for revolution in social reproduction, either through engagement with contemporary theoretical arguments or via analyses of cultural representations of social reproduction work.

### Figures of Freedom: Representations of Agency in a Time of Crisis

The goal of this panel will be to unpack what 21st-century American narratives can teach us about how the idea of freedom has been expanded, distorted, extinguished, and/or reconstituted in contemporary films, television series, novels, and other media.

### Films of the Great War: Past, Present, and Future

Though it lacks the cinematic canon of World War II, the Great War has recently surged onto global cinema, TV, and computer screens: Peter Jackson's *They Shall Not Grow Old* (2018), Sam Mendes' *1917*, and Edward Berger's *All Quiet on the Western Front* (2022) have met public favor and considerable critical success. Given this revival of interest, this panel would like to reassess the role of film in representing and remembering the Great War.

### Futures Revolving: Ecohumanisms Out of Sync

In this roundtable, we consider how ecologically-minded figures, movements, and collectivities have refused the hegemonic ideologies and metanarratives of their times—e.g., the Industrial Revolution, the Anthropocene, the AI Revolution—deviating from normative epochal understandings to imagine more radical temporalities and utopian futures. We seek presentations on any medium, genre, linguistic tradition, or period that argue for falling out of sync with all-too-human historical trends in order to live more generatively in communion with the more-than-human world.

### Genres of the (Post)Human: Representing Evolution in Science/Fiction

In dialogue with theorists of (post)humanism, this panel seeks to examine how science fiction has historically been used to bolster erroneous and destructive "scientific" discourses, such as social Darwinism, and, conversely, how science fiction has been used toward revolutionary ends to imagine alternative formations of (post)humanity that defy socially constructed taxonomies and hierarchies.

### Gothic Progressive, Conservative Gothic, and Language of Land in Gothic Media

This panel seeks works investigating the tug between progressive and conservative ideals and influences on the Gothic genre, especially as they are expressed through the ways nature and the environment are used and described.

### Horror Cinema and Class Critique: Between Reaction and Revolution

This seminar invites participants to discern the forces that animate horror cinema by investigating its relation to the ominous dynamics of capital. Is the genre a persuasive apparatus that thrusts dominant ideologies upon us, or does it destabilize the imposed social, political, economic, and environmental realms through the interpellation of fear?

### Horses at 50: Critical Approaches to the Works of Patti Smith

2025 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the release of *Horses* (1975) by the unofficial punk poet laureate, Patti Smith. This roundtable

will initiate discussion about the revolutionary impact of Smith's music and literary output from across these past five decades.

### How the World Turns: Scientific Revolutions and Colonization

This panel invites papers that investigate the complex relationships between scientific revolutions, interdisciplinary knowledge, and colonial projects in all forms—from polar and oceanic expeditions and World Exhibitions to tropical medicine and museum collections—and the ways ideas and artifacts were presented to contemporary observers as demonstrations of national progress or superiority. Papers may consider cultural, historical, or literary narratives of these revolutions, the emergence of different modes of display, exhibition, and spectatorship to disseminate information, or the legacies of these revolutions in contemporary society.

### Illustrated Insights: Drawing Change and Exploring (R) Evolution through Comics

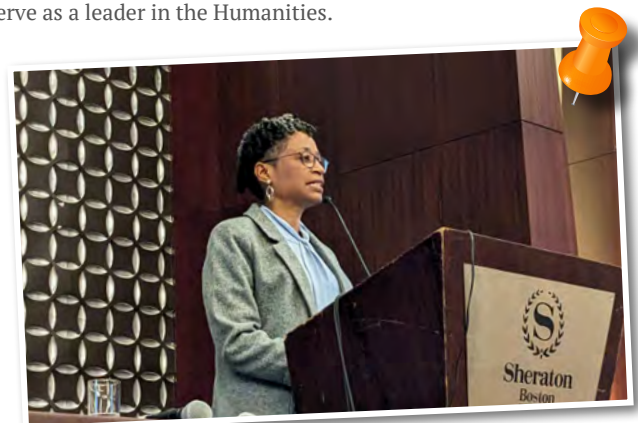
This panel explores how comics, as a unique blend of art and literature, have historically challenged norms and reshaped perspectives. Through critical analysis and interdisciplinary inquiry, it aims to uncover the transformative power of comics in shaping cultural (r)evolution and fostering inclusive representations within the humanities.

### Interdisciplinary Synergy: Integrating Sciences in Humanities Education

This roundtable explores the transformative integration of scientific disciplines into humanities education, highlighting innovative teaching experiences and practices. By examining intersections between social sciences, engineering, architecture, material culture, economics, and physics, among others, we aim to enrich the educational landscape and foster holistic learning. Through case studies and discussions, we will address the challenges and opportunities of interdisciplinary approaches, advocating for a more inclusive and interconnected academic environment. We welcome specialists aiming to present their innovative experiences, discuss the results and challenges confronted, and share topics, strategies, and methodologies.

### Interdisciplinary Research, Digital Humanities, Text Analysis

The main goal of this session is writing in response to a series of challenging, exciting non-fiction and multicultural short stories and novels. Though a great deal of our attention will be on the novels as works of literature, we will also incorporate ideas from numerous subjects that are not specifically literary, including sociology, anthropology, history, and economics. As an introduction to debates on fiction works, we may help you prepare to write wherever you go; strong writing skills will help you professionally to serve as a leader in the Humanities.



## CULTURAL STUDIES & MEDIA STUDIES



### **Language and Art: How to Motivate Students through Art Discussions and Projects**

This panel seeks to present practical processes, projects, and tools using art as a means of instruction developed to expand learners' knowledge of culture and language. Proposals can include art as basic ideas, geometric forms, numbers, clothing, furniture; but also, projects, discussions, tools, and selected activities to motivate and stimulate learners' skills. Papers could also range between classic to modern, and contemporary periods with the inclusion of technology tools and media instruments as well.

### **Linguistic (Re)volution in the Digital Era**

Exploring the subject of linguistic (re)volution in the digital era, through an analysis of the impact of digital technologies on the evolution of language, the effects of machine translation and artificial intelligence on interlinguistic communication and an assessment of the influence of digital media on minority and regional languages.

### **Mapping the (R)evolution of Inter-medial Form and Expression**

This creative session invites proposals that explore the intersection of visual, aural, and verbal frontiers. Presentations that focus on the relationship of music to literature, the visual arts to literature, or on the interrelations of all three art forms are invited.

### **Media (Re)volution: Celebrities/Influencers, Celebrity Culture, and Fandom**

This panel discussion centers around the evolving role that celebrities, influencers, and fandoms hold in media. These topics also have semantic implications. Specifically, they suggest how the definition of "Celebrity" has evolved—being used to describe accomplished writers like Chaucer and Shakespeare to Hollywood stars on the silver screen and now viral TikTok influencers.

### **Novel Movements**

Panelists will center the novel and novella's form in their ability to adapt, experiment, and move with the demands of culture(s), humanity, as well as market industries and influences. Panelists are also encouraged to discuss movement broadly as well as within the text, including analyses of concerts, dance scenes, parties, practices / rehearsals, protests, and / or sporting events, and how they help shape the novel in question.

### **Performing Latinidad**

This panel focuses on performances by Latine artists across mediums. Our examination of performance emphasizes the dynamics of race, gender, sexuality, and class. We welcome papers on forms including (but not limited to) music, film, performance art, theatre, time arts, and literature.

### **Post-humanistic (Im)possibilities: Navigating the (R)evolutions of the Anthropocene**

The evolution of the Anthropocene presents both human achievements and significant challenges like warfare and climate destruction, prompting reflection on the type of Anthropocene we desire. With a focus on interdisciplinary approaches, this panel seeks to address power dynamics in global society, the impacts of technological evolution, and the potential for posthumanistic ideals, among other themes. Furthermore, as we navigate the complexities of the (r)evolutions of the Anthropocene, we ask: how can the Humanities guide us in creating a more equitable and inclusive future?

### **Radical Bodies**

This panel invites papers that interrogate the shifting roles of bodies (physical and metaphorical) within and across various Humanities fields. How are bodies depicted in fiction and media as a way to think through our place on the planet? What role does biopolitics play in shaping bodies of the present and future? How do radically different bodies pose solutions to or highlight the extent of today's problems?

### **Reading Reading: Contemporary Literary Practices**

This panel "reads" the processes of contemporary reading and asks its panellists to think about intermedial, interdisciplinary and other border-crossing aspects of contemporary media literacy. We welcome contributions from literary studies, media studies, cultural studies and all other scholars that engage with questions of representations, practices, and methodologies of "reading."

### **Revolutionary Rhythms: Fluidity, Motion, and Transformative Political Praxis**

This panel riffs on Gil Scott-Heron's 1971 poetic and sonic renditions of "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised" to explore the rhythmic registers through which revolution occurs, including its frictions and fluidities. Creating a dialogue among Black feminisms, Latinx feminisms, and Caribbean political thought, the panel raises critical questions regarding the commodification and co-optation of revolutionary impulses.

### **Revolutions on Celluloid: Rebellion and Revolt in Italian Cinema**

The panel will investigate the poetic, aesthetic and political modalities underlying the cinematic interpretation of the revolution in Italy and its assonances and dissonances with French, American, German, and English cinema.

### **Sanctioned Addictions: Food and Sex (till death do us part)**

The difference between addictions and habits is that addictions are destructive, whereas habits are life sustaining. Two central vectors—food and love—shape the architecture of our daily lives as habits or addictions. This roundtable invites contributions from critical theorists, interdisciplinary thinkers and practitioners to address the divergences between habits and addictions from theoretical as well as practical perspectives focusing on two central yet under-theorized vectors: food and so-called love.

### **Screen, Image, Psyche: On Film, Psychoanalysis, and Becoming Other**

We welcome papers on any topic related to psychoanalysis and film, from any psychoanalytic school of thought. How is psychoanalysis



present in past and contemporary film? How can we analyze film from a psychoanalytic perspective? How do psychoanalysis and aesthetics go together? What happens when image, language, and sound drift apart and develop a life of their own, adding a second story to the plot? And how might, as Mulvey argued, film itself influence our own psyches?

### **Subversive Sensations: Investigating Textual, Sonic, and Cinematic Atmospheres/Moods/Tones**

This panel investigates affective-aesthetic tonalities, moods, and atmospheres. Given the capacity of emotions to surf, shift, and ricochet subversively within, through, and across sounds, texts, films, poems, and performances among other cultural forms and media, this panel seeks proposals that examine affectively-charged points of contact in their alchemies of ecstasy, euphoria, shame, grief, melancholia and so forth as they shapeshift and (re)combine.

### **Terrence Malick's Filmography at Fifty Plus**

This session seeks scholars to engage with Terrence Malick's remarkable filmography by exploring the various dimensions of its individual entries and overlapping arcs.

### **The Aging Detective in 21st-century Fiction**

This panel seeks to investigate whether the proliferation of aging detectives in 21st century fiction, television, and film is a passing fad that capitalizes upon current demographic trends or whether it reflects a more critical philosophical rethinking of the genre that challenges attitudes towards aging and death.

### **The Ethnic Press in the US: Fashioning Modernities**

This roundtable engages the influence of US ethnic newspapers and periodicals in fashioning modernity for first- and second-generation Americans. We set out to explore how these publications assisted in assimilating immigrant populations, uplifted the masses, and molded ethnic identities, amidst rapidly changing social, political, and economic conditions.

### **The Far North and the Global South in Popular Culture**

How might concepts of the Global South prove generative in relation to the histories of the Far North? Conversely, how might greater attention to the Far North introduce new challenges, questions, and insights within the field of Global South studies, further complicating binaristic formulations of space, as depicted in recent films, television series, music, or literature? From the White Walkers in the HBO series *Game of Thrones* to the intersplicing of northern and southern spaces in *A Murder at the End of the World*, how does popular culture engage with these spatial tensions in complex or even contradictory ways that might produce new insights?

### **The Future of Conscious Communication: Rap Music in the Past, Present, and Future**

This panel explores rap's role as a vehicle for expression, historically used to voice grievances and catalyze change. Central to our discussion is the use of rap as a communication tool today. Does it still hold relevance and impact, or has it waned?

### **The Implications of Generative AI for Human Creativity, Originality and Deception**

Generative AI is currently transforming literary and visual studies—raising issues such as copyright infringement, human-computer

interaction and collaboration, inspirations for human creativity, etc. More broadly, this new technology can lead us to reconsider key issues in the fields of education, media, and the future of the humanities. This panel invites papers that analyze the complex relationship between AI and human creativity.

### **The Mind-Game Film**

This panel invites presentations exploring mind-game films which seek to move beyond analyses of narrative complexity and cognitive responses to complexity. We seek papers that think critically about these puzzling films from new perspectives, with particular attention to class, disability, sex/gender, and race.

### **The Revolutionary Possibilities of Singlehood**

Our panel invites proposals for papers that engage with the idea that singlehood is a revolutionary symbol in a world that, despite the growing numbers of singles, still privileges marriage. We invite papers that look to examples of fictional characters who are single (never-married, widowed, or divorced) or single people in the media to explore the ways in which singleness opens up and invites further evolution of our understanding of identity as it intersects with ideas about singleness.

### **Theory of Interpreting Games as Texts**

This panel will ask theoretical questions about how games may be productively interpreted. A new generation of video games, role playing games and board games has developed which takes narrative structure and historical accuracy seriously and has opened up the possibility for a sophisticated critique of elements of game design. This panel will ask theoretical questions about the unique challenges of interpreting games in relation to the interpretation of other cultural products.

### **'Time Warp' at 50! Critical Approaches to *The Rocky Horror Picture Show***

2025 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the release of the beloved cult classic, *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (1975). This session seeks proposals from Transylvanians and interested scholars alike that critically engage with the film as well as its various stage adaptations under the conference theme: "(R)EVOLUTION." Topics of inquiry include but are not limited to: gender, queerness, subversion, music, fashion, intertextuality, and parody.

### **This Magick Moment: Revolutionary Witchcraft and Cultural Change**

The panel encourages interdisciplinary approaches to the contemporary witchcraft revolution, discussing the scholarly, cultural, social, and preservational revolution that re-frames the witch as a complicated and agential individual rather than a stereotype.

### **Transdisciplinary Studies and its Implications for the Humanities**

This panel focuses on scholarly work that explicitly connects with Basrab Nicolescu's work on transdisciplinarity to humanities inquiry, working both beyond and through traditional disciplinary boundaries to solve the complex problems of our times. Open to all humanities areas, particularly philosophy (ethics), world literatures, cultural and media studies, psychoanalytic studies, translation studies, linguistics, and comparative literature.

## CULTURAL STUDIES & MEDIA STUDIES / FRENCH & FRANCOPHONE

### Translation Studies

Using examples from various national literatures, we would like to investigate the key concepts behind a “faithful translation”: what are the obligations of the translator to the source text, and what is the relationship between the original and the translation? Papers focusing on self-translations done by bilingual authors are also welcome.

### Univ. Declaration of (Post)Human Rights: (R)evolution of the Clones, Robots, & AIs

Speculative fiction creators regularly interrogate the question of who/what is entitled to human rights. As the created, grown, augmented, and manufactured beings of imagination become more sentient, is it ethical to maintain them as labor-saving devices or will they start to become entitled to, or even demand, rights? We seek papers that investigate what the relationships between womb-grown biological humans and human-adjacent characters tell us about the competing impetuses toward power and control versus companionship.

### Visualizing Mental Health: Exploring the Revolutionary Potential of Graphic Medicine

This session aims to explore the transformative role of graphic medicine in reshaping perceptions of mental health and/or trauma through comics, fostering interdisciplinary dialogue and advocating for more inclusive and compassionate approaches to psychological wellness.

### What a Joke: The Evolution of the Comedy Remake

This panel invites conversation about how comedy remakes have evolved over the last few decades looking to the moments where they fail, where they surprisingly work or even outshine their source material, and discuss what is interesting about them—whether they succeed or not.

### Whither Adaptation Study

Adaptation Studies has evolved in many directions, away from recognizable common ground. At the same time, the institutional landscape of academic departments that might house adaptation scholars is in turmoil. How can the stimulating work we have seen in recent decades continue in these circumstances?

### Women’s Perspectives on Suicide

During the centennial of Virginia Woolf’s *Mrs Dalloway* and the sesquicentennial of Leo Tolstoy’s *Anna Karenina*’s initial serialization is an auspicious occasion to explore women’s historical, literary, and philosophical perspectives on suicide.

### Yiddish Technologies in Text and Context

This session invites papers that explore the intersections of Yiddish culture and the history of technology, from textiles and architecture, to printing, electricity, and beyond. The study of the diasporic “Yiddishland” as shaped by material technologies, or of technology as instantiated by Yiddish culture, gives us useful opportunities to learn more about the forces of globalization and localization, continuity and rupture. This panel welcomes submissions from a variety of disciplines, including literary studies, media studies, and history.

### - FRENCH & FRANCOPHONE -

#### Abjection and the Joy of Movement in African Francophone Female Writings

This session will discuss the (R)evolution of topics that affect the African woman in our contemporary world such as (in)migration, (in)security, visibility, liminality, identity, patriarchal norms and many others as portrayed by francophone African female writers. We will also look into the joy narratives available to these precarious women found in situations of abjection.

#### African Francophone Cinema

This board-sponsored session welcomes presentations that deal with Francophone cinema from Africa. For over fifty years the FESPACO (Festival Panafricain du Cinéma et de la télévision de Ouagadougou) has taken place in the capital city of Burkina Faso to celebrate films directed and produced exclusively in African countries. In 2003, the Festival Films Femmes Afrique was created to celebrate and highlight movies directed by African women. This session welcomes all presentations on Francophone cinematic productions from Francophone African countries.

#### Challenging Patriarchal Norms in Ancient North African Societies

The influence of patriarchy has persisted throughout North African societies’ history, shaping societal norms and roles, particularly in ancient civilizations. Within these entrenched structures, women often found themselves confined to subordinate positions. However, instances of resistance and rebellion emerged, challenging prevailing gender norms and asserting the autonomy of marginalized groups. This session explores the complexities of patriarchy in ancient societies, examining how individuals navigated and contested power dynamics.

#### Contemporary French Literature

This board-sponsored session welcomes presentations that deal with literature of the 20th and 21st centuries. Topics can cover a wide variety of aspects related but not limited to gender, sexuality, women’s studies, postcolonialism, etc.

#### Creative Approaches to Epistemic Violence

We invite submissions for a creative session that explores themes related to epistemic violence, colonial and neocolonial violence, capitalist violence, patriarchy, and environmental (in)justice. We welcome interdisciplinary and creative responses to epistemic violence, centering decolonial perspectives on knowledge.

#### Family and Race in Contemporary Francophone Film

We welcome proposals that take film as the main medium and consider the (post)colonial perspectives present in contemporary Francophone film. We especially encourage approaches that engage with the intersections of race, class, gender, age, and religion, but are also open to other theoretical approaches that engage with the overarching themes of family and race in Francophone film.

#### Femmes et société: (R)évolution de l’égalité dans le monde arabo-musulman.

Dans un monde arabo-musulman marqué par de nombreuses réformes, on assiste à la fois à des évolutions multiformes vers davantage de liberté pour les femmes et à la reproduction des

inégalités. Ce panel explore différents terrains sur la (R)évolution de l'égalité femmes/hommes dans le monde arabo-musulman.

### **Framing the Francophone: The Seen and the Unseen in Contemporary Graphic Novels**

The current surge of graphic novels in French, from Marjane Satrapi's oft-celebrated *Persepolis* to Jessica Oublié's lesser-known-yet-prize-winning *Péyi An Nou*, signifies a shift in priorities for Francophone storytellers. This panel seeks to showcase the creative, experimental, and ground-breaking work being done in contemporary French and Francophone graphic novels. We welcome papers that explore aspects of the seen and unseen in Francophone graphic novels through any number of thematic, critical, and aesthetic frameworks.

### **French, Haitian, Algerian: Revolutions and Revolts**

An exploration of the literary portrayal and legacy of the French, Haitian, and Algerian Revolutions, focusing on how these historical events have been depicted and influenced by key works such as *The Wretched of the Earth*, Césaire's connections to Toussaint Louverture and King Christophe, and Assia Djébar's examination of the interplay between personal and collective histories.

### **Genre et dynamiques socio-économiques: Quelles trajectoires en Afrique?**

Ce panel vise l'étude des mécanismes de genre qui ont intronisé cette vision discriminatoire envers les femmes. Ainsi, notre objectif est de répondre aux questions suivantes: Est-ce que les stéréotypes de genre empêcheraient l'expression du leadership féminin en entreprise? Accéder à des ressources financières, quel parcours pour les femmes entrepreneures? Femmes et entrepreneuriat; PIB et écart entre les sexes en matière d'emploi en Afrique; Comment déconstruire les stéréotypes de genre dans le champ économique, social et de santé?

### **Identity (R)evolutions in (Im)migration Literature by Francophone Women Writers**

This panel seeks to consider questions related to exile and belonging as it investigates representations of individual and/or collective identities in (im)migration literature by French and Francophone women writers of the 20th and 21st centuries. Theoretical analyses of (im)migration literature as a paradigmatic space for authorial explorations of the ways in which experiences of (im)migration transform individual and/or collective identities are also welcome.

### **Incorporating Inclusive French in the French Language Classroom**

This roundtable seeks proposals from participants who have successfully incorporated inclusive French language practices, or who are in the process of incorporating inclusive French language practices into their French language classrooms and/or across their French language curriculum in order to share resources and best practices with our colleagues so they can start integrating these practices into their own classrooms and/or across their institution's French language curriculum.

### **La (r)évolution sera queer: Queer Resistance in the French and Francophone World**

This panel seeks to explore queer resistance in the French and Francophone world and to look at queer (r)evolution(s) in the French speaking world. We invite contributors to explore how and what this resistance looks like in various domains, such as literature, film, media (including social media, podcasts, art, etc.) and ask to consider, among many possibilities, the following questions: how is this resistance framed? Is there any chance for positive outcome leading to a possible evolution and acceptance of queer lives in a cis-hetero dominated world? Is this queer (r) evolution futile or necessary? Should queer resistance become more radical?

### **Les contes et leurs adaptations**

Nous nous interrogeons sur les différentes manières dont les contes imprègnent la culture audiovisuelle et littéraire contemporaine et aimerions contribuer à la recherche en intertextualité et en intermédialité sur le sujet de l'adaptation de contes à travers (et au-delà) les genres et les supports (jeux vidéo, séries TV, films et films d'animation, romans graphiques, bandes dessinées, etc.).

### **New Forms of Revolution in the Francophone World**

This panel aims to explore the new forms of revolution within French and Francophone contexts. The areas of interest are: Digital Revolutions and Their Impact on Francophone Societies, New Forms of Activism and Militancy in Francophone Countries, Gender Revolutions and Feminist Movements in France and Francophone Countries, Ecological Movements and Their Repercussions in Francophone Societies, and Artistic and Literary Revolutions.

### **Nineteenth-century French Literature**

This board-sponsored session welcomes presentations that deal with literature of the 19th century. Topics can cover a wide variety of aspects related but not limited to gender, sexuality, feminism, colonialism, postcolonialist perspectives, urbanization, industrialization, etc.

### **Quebecois Literature and Media:**

This board-sponsored session welcomes presentations that deal with Quebecois literature and media. A wide variety of topics will be considered: cinema (jeune cinéma Québécois, cinéma féminin), representation of the First Nations in Quebecois literature and media, Quebecois theater, etc. Please submit abstracts of 200 to 250 words.

### **Redéfinir les représentations féminines à l'ère de la diversité des contenus numériques**

Ce panel étudie la (r)évolution des représentations féminines à travers différentes approches, comme les études culturelles, la





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culture visuelle et les études de genre. En intégrant ces théories, il analyse comment les médias numériques façonnent et interprètent les représentations des femmes, ainsi que le rôle des femmes dans ce processus.

### **Sketching the Spectral: Ghosts in French-language Graphic Novels**

This panel examines how ghosts are employed in French-language graphic novels and how graphic novels employ spectral scenes that disrupt time and space to engage with present through the prism of the past.

### **Social Revolution and African Nationalism**

The social revolution and African nationalism in Francophone Africa are still pivotal in the continent's quest for a political independence, this panel examines this through cultural studies emerged as a powerful tool to reclaim African identity and challenge colonial narratives, shaping the discourse of resistance and empowerment.

### **Subversive Artistic Practices in the French and Francophone World**

This session intends to explore the multifaceted approaches to art and art production in regard to its role and impact on society alongside those who are resisting in alternative ways to produce art, such as, but not limited to, street art in the banlieue of Paris or Haitian art incorporating vodou tradition within the *ounfó* (vodou temple). These examples of artists breaking from the traditional art world are instances of independence from imposed silences through the politics of power. Inspired by but not limited to the work of Françoise Vergès and Pierre Bourdieu, this panel aims to elucidate the relationship between art and commodification and the (r) evolution of resistance linked to it. Is art really subversive?

### **The Changing 'Face' of France**

How are conceptualizations of French identity changing (or not)? Are there new and different representations of French-ness? This panel seeks papers that discuss how individuals and groups of different races, ethnicities, religions, sexualities etc. embrace, question, challenge, or reformulate their French identity.

### **The Gastronomic Discourse in French Literature: A Literary Form of Revolution in Evolution**

This session is dedicated to the complex relationship between gastronomy and literature, how it has evolved and thrived to become a significant topic that continues to release new and remarkable meanings, and the manner in which the culinary arts have contributed to literary creativity and innovations. Writers continue to explore all the metaphorical richness of the theme of food as nourishment for the body and mind, and blend new influences into a great variety of aspects of gastronomic discourse.

### **Women in French: Accommodating Today's Student Angst and Access**

Teaching has [r]evolved in ways that challenge our previous approaches to foster student learning in French. This roundtable addresses questions of current student access as well as their existential angst.

### **Women in French: Representing Disability in French-speaking Literature and Media**

This panel addresses representations in literature or other media

of disabled women and/or women dealing with disability in their lives, whether societally, politically, individually or collectively. Approaches to cultural, societal, political, individual, and collective experiences welcome. Proposals dealing with literature, cinema, tv shows, podcasts, music and visual arts invited.

### **« Traversée du Tout-Monde »: a roundtable for Maryse Condé**

This roundtable aims to explore the many contributions of Maryse Condé to the world of letters. Each participant is encouraged to discuss the impact the Guadeloupean writer had on their scholarship, their teaching and on their understanding not only of the French Caribbean, but also of the human experience in an increasingly globalized world.

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### **Christa Wolf and Anna Seghers: Evolution, Revolution, or Both?**

This roundtable invites scholars to participate in an engaging discussion on the literary contributions of Christa Wolf and Anna Seghers, two prominent figures in German literature whose works have significantly influenced revolutionary thought and social change. Both authors engaged deeply with the political and social upheavals of their times, using their writings to challenge established norms, advocate for social justice, and reflect on the human condition.

### **Cultivating Ideas: Gardens in 18th and 19th Century German Literature**

This session will offer participants a deeper understanding of the symbolic importance of gardens in 18th and 19th century German literature, illuminating how these literary representations reflected broader philosophical, cultural, and societal trends. Through a combination of close textual analysis and thematic exploration, participants will gain valuable insights into the complex interplay between literature, philosophy, and the natural world in this fascinating period of literary history.

### **DEFA Films as Conduit of Revolution, Representation, and Change in Former East Germany**

This panel seeks to explore the rich and multifaceted legacy of DEFA (Deutsche Film-Aktiengesellschaft) films and their profound social implications in the context of revolution, representation, and societal change in former East Germany. This panel aims to investigate how DEFA films addressed issues of ideology, identity, gender, class, and resistance, and how they continue to resonate in contemporary discussions of film and history. The panel will also highlight the invaluable resources of the DEFA Film Library at the



University of Massachusetts Amherst, which houses an extensive collection of DEFA films, documentation, and scholarly materials.

### **Digital Humanities in German Studies: Open Sources and Networks**

Digital Humanities (DH) offers exciting opportunities for advancing research, teaching, and collaboration in German studies. This seminar aims to delve into innovative DH projects and initiatives focusing on sharing digital resources related to German language, literature, culture, and history. Join us for an inspiring exploration of digital humanities in German studies and discover new avenues for collaboration, innovation, and scholarly engagement.

### **German Women as Revolutionaries: Violence and Forces of Change**

This panel invite papers that explore the role of violence plays in the experiences of German women during periods of social upheaval and revolution, or in generating revolutionary thought. Proposals that explore these issues through an intersectional lens are encouraged in order to interrogate connections between women and violence.

### **Imagining Hysteria in the German-Speaking Literary Tradition**

This panel seeks to explore female hysteria as a medical diagnosis, literary trope, and visual symbol in the media and discourse of the German-speaking world. While female hysteria and the madwoman trope are most commonly discussed in English literary studies, this session's goal is to demonstrate how the motif of 'weiblicher Wahnsinn' plays an important role at the intersections of German studies, cognitive studies/the medical humanities, and gender and sexuality studies.

### **Let's Talk about the 'Hidden Curriculum': Graduate Student Q&A**

This roundtable invites German Studies (and related areas) scholars representing a range of positionalities, in academia and academia adjacent, to share their experiences with and answer questions from graduate students and other attendees about unwritten rules and unspoken expectations.

### **May Ayim, Audre Lorde, and Schwarzungrund as Transnational, Intersectional Activists**

This panel aims to explore the intersectional activism of three influential figures in the Black German movement: May Ayim, Audre Lorde, and Schwarzungrund. Through their writings, activism, and cultural contributions, Ayim, Lorde, and Schwarzungrund have challenged systemic racism, sexism, and homophobia while advocating for social justice, intersectionality, and empowerment within the Black German community and beyond.

### **Memory, Autobiography, Autofiction: Herta Müller's Resistance to Totalizing Forms**

In light of new scholarship on Herta Müller's Securitate files, this panel revisits the complex and dynamic relationship between the factual and fictional in Herta Müller's oeuvre, in her secret police file, and in discussions and controversies surrounding Müller as a public intellectual and a voice of resistance. Rather than simply point to differences between the autobiographic and literary, this panel builds upon previous scholarship on the relationship between life and writing, and further expands upon the poetics and politics of Herta Müller's concept and praxis of "Autofiktion".

### **Paul Robeson and Civil Rights in the GDR and USA**

This session explores the multifaceted role of Paul Robeson as a cultural ambassador, activist, and musician, with a specific focus on his engagements in the former East Germany. Robeson's transnational travels and musical performances played a significant role in fostering connections between diverse communities and promoting solidarity across borders. By examining Robeson's experiences in East Germany, this session seeks to uncover the intersections between music, activism, and geopolitics during the Cold War era.

### **Polyphonic Consensus in the Digital Age and in the Globalized World**

This panel aims to reflect on contemporary identity politics in the public sphere and in literature. Revolutionary changes and multiple crises challenge the liberal world today. The central question is how democracies can empower free subjects through the constitution of critical discourses.

### **Predicting the Technologies of Tomorrow: 150 Years of German-language Science Fiction**

Technology is an integral part of Science Fiction. German Science Fiction, in all its variety, is no exception. From Kurd Laßwitz's flying bicycle in "To The Absolute Zero of Existence" (1871), the short stories of Herbert W. Franke, Erik Simon, and Andreas Eschenbach in the second half of the 20th century, or more recent stories by Marc-Uwe Kling, Aiki Mira, or Uwe Hermann, the engagement with current or future technologies provide the means for speculations, but, importantly also social and political commentary. Our panel is interested in contributions that take a close look at the engagement and scrutinization of technology in German SF works.

### **Queer Berlin: Histories, Cultures, and Representations**

This session invites papers that explore the vibrant and multifaceted queer history, culture, and representation of Berlin. As a city with a rich tradition of sexual and gender diversity, Berlin has been a focal point for queer communities, movements, and artistic expressions. This session seeks to examine how Berlin has been shaped by and has shaped queer identities and experiences, as well as how it has been represented in literature, film, art, and other cultural forms.

### **Research Colloquium for Graduate Students in German Studies**

Writing is considered an integral part of any graduate program in the humanities, yet many candidates may find themselves completing these pursuits as an end point, rather than as part of a larger journey. In this seminar, we consider each writing project as a point along an individual sojourn. Participants will share their selected drafts and receive feedback from peers and scholars on how to approach future directions.

### **Swiss Studies as a Multilingual Literary Venture**

In this panel, we view the literatures and languages of Switzerland as located within a dynamically intertwined landscape. As such, we will think of literary endeavors as placed within a connected ecosystem, rather than isolated instances.

### **Teaching the Black Diaspora in German Studies**

Drawing on the rich work of scholars and activists to decolonize and diversify German studies, this panel seeks to further develop

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ways to facilitate an increased interest in the Black diaspora in German studies among students. A further goal is to investigate and critically reflect on how we as teachers, scholars, and activists in German studies and beyond can dismantle white, colonial, and ethnonationalist power structures, and diversify and decolonize German studies in our syllabi, teaching praxis, curricular programming, as well as at the level of academic institutional structures.

### **The Body as Medium: Investments of Meaning, Mystery, and Mutilation**

The subject of embodiment presents a plurality of potential connections between those who engage in Cultural Studies, Sociology, Psychology, Philosophy, Linguistics, History, and more. This session invites scholars, students, and artistic creators to come together to express how the body in a German-speaking European context has been, and remains, a site of continuous social and political policing, grooming, and control.

### **Translation as Transnational Activism in German Studies**

This panel aims to attract a diverse range of scholarly contributions and encourages interdisciplinary approaches to understand the pivotal role of translation in contemporary activism within the context of German studies. Both creative and traditional presentations encouraged.

### **'Querdenker' in the German Imagination**

This panel invites proposals from all areas of German Studies, including literature, film, and cultural studies as well as contributions from historians or political scientists. Our discussion will focus on Querdenker in the German Imagination and while discussions of contemporary, post-Corona Querdenker are welcome, authors are invited to go beyond these recent phenomena to discuss querdenken in other periods and in other historical contexts.

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### **(R)evolutionary Feminist Politics in Contemporary Irish Women's Literature**

This roundtable proposes an examination of feminist politics within 21st-century Irish women's literature. How do communities, both familial and extrafamilial, police women's and girl's behaviors, movements, and imaginations? What modes of resistance are possible for those women and girls who are categorized as "unruly," transgressive, or disobedient? Participants will be asked to share a draft of their talk approximately 1 month before NeMLA meets in order to encourage a robust roundtable discussion.

### **Alter(native) History, Counternarratives and Struggle for Resistance**

This panel invites literary and critical papers that highlight resistance against hegemonic power(s), protect human rights, and give voice to the voiceless.

### **Bodyminds: Disability in Nineteenth-century Literature and Culture**

How might studying the nineteenth century through a Disability Studies lens expand, revise, or revolutionize our present-day understandings of disability? This panel seeks papers that engage with any aspect of disability in nineteenth-century literature and culture.

### **Envisioning Radicalism and Activism through Literature**

This panel deliberates on the relationship between literature, radicalism, and resistance that offer concrete or imaginative mappings in the liberation of humans and counteract the multifaceted power of oppressive systems and despotic bodies.

### **Moving Past Lovecraft: New Visions of the Weird**

In the genre of weird fiction, HP Lovecraft's towering influence has had the unfortunate effect of blinding us to many other weird writers and, just as critically, other branches of the weird. This session welcomes work that addresses weird fiction after, before, or without Lovecraft.

### **Narrative: Identity, Temporality, and Interdisciplinarity**

This panel seeks contributions analyzing the functions of postmodern narrative in prose or cinema. Topics may include narrative hermeneutics, ethics of storytelling, the relationship between narrative and identity, narrative and distorted memories, interrogating narratology's foundations and literature's role in shaping subjective experiences of history, selfhood, and reality through narrative.

### **On Your Marx! Reading for Revolutionary Change**

If Marxism entails a commitment to revolutionary transformation of the social whole, literary analysis, then, must be mobilized to help understand the world in order to change it. How might literary texts and their analysis help us better understand the global struggle between labour and capital, the lethal effects of unbridled capitalism that simultaneously extracts surplus and degrades the environment, causing immiseration, displacement, incarceration, and forced movements of populations?

### **Palestine and Critical Indigenous Studies**

This roundtable invites interdisciplinary contributions that situate conversations centring on Palestine in critical Indigenous studies.

### **Revolutionary Educations: Literary Responses to Colonial Education Around the World**

This panel seeks papers that aim to disentangle and liberate education from colonial control, so that education can be a vehicle for vital knowledge production and empowerment. We invite papers that emphasize the revolutionary potential of all forms of education that have been historically excluded (and even feared) by colonial establishments—such as, indigenous education, environmental education, place-based education, anticolonial education, anti-racist pedagogy, critical pedagogy, etc.





**Silence as Strategy: Bearing Witness to Injustice and Trauma**

This seminar investigates the roles silences perform in literature and art that bear witness to trauma and injustice. We explore how to promote care for lives, experiences, and silences in their particularity while understanding silences as a potentially collective artistic tool for resistance. We invite papers that explore the tensions between holding space for silences and the critical need to fill in the gaps.

**Stories of Plants: Towards a Vegetative Postcolonialism**

We invite papers that demonstrate how plants in modern literature symbolize the quest for diverse forms of ethical cohabitation in our postcolonial world: intra species, inter communal, and transnational.

**The Politics of Migration, Immigration, and Refugee Crises in Contemporary Literature**

How do authors of contemporary literature represent migration, immigration, and refugee crises as well as xenophobic, racist, and otherwise biased and bigoted responses to them?

**The Production of Space in Literature, Cinema, Photography, and the Media**

This panel welcomes explorations of space in narrative, cinematic, or photographic work that interpellate, confront, or develop the notion of space not just as “a theoretical entity of thought, but (as) a physical space and product constructed and shaped through the process of ever-changing societal meanings.”

**Themes of (R)evolution in Atwood's Works and Adaptations (Sponsored by the Margaret Atwood Society)**

This session seeks papers exploring themes of revolution and evolution in Margaret Atwood's texts, adaptations, and real-life crossovers. In what ways has Atwood's works sparked revolutionary change—or not? What role does evolution play in her texts?

**Women's Progress in African Literature**

African literature bears witness to the long struggle of women against restrictive norms and exploitation grounded in patriarchy. Female characters in the African novel do seek a less repressive social atmosphere and enlarged life and professional opportunities. But may we find a cogent vision in this literature of paths that women may follow to secure greater freedom, wholeness, and achievement?

**- ITALIAN -****A Revolutionary Renaissance: Italian Literature and Theater in the Age of Humanism**

An exploration of Italian Renaissance literature and theater and its intersections with the revolutionary political, social, cultural, and aesthetic concerns of writers and their audiences during a pivotal moment in Italian history (c. 1350-1600). Papers may address any literary or theatrical genre, from poetry to prose, history, tragedy, comedy, and more. Of particular interest are papers that examine the relationship between writers and their publics and how writers used their work to explore new ideas and affect change. Overall, this panel seeks to explore the wider implications of literature's capacity to enact change.

**AI Transformations: Revitalizing Literature and Language Pedagogy**

As AI rapidly evolves, it's revolutionizing how we teach literature and language. This panel dives into how AI can help us personalize learning, spark creativity, and create engaging lessons, while also discussing ethical considerations and best practices for integrating AI into the classroom.

**Dante and the Performing Arts**

This panel accepts papers with one of two approaches: examining the treatment of music, dance, drama (or other forms of performing arts) in Dante Alighieri's works; or focusing on the treatment of Dante's work in the performing arts. Attention should be given to historical, cultural, and philological aspects of the relation between literature and the arts, adopting a multidisciplinary and multi-medial perspective.

**Dante in Translation: Problems and Possibilities**

The history of Dante in translation is long and complicated, full of problems and possibilities, which we seek to better understand and appreciate. What is gained by translation? What is lost by it? This panel invites papers discussing the history of Dante and translation, exploring particular translations of note, comparing and contrasting different translations, using Dante to engage with recent issues related to translation studies, or simply engaging with the possibilities offered by Dante to writers and readers in any language.

**Disturbing the Peace: Italian Iconoclasts in Literature and the Arts**

American author and activist James Baldwin stated that “a writer is by definition a disturber of the peace.” A writer's mission is to expose the bad through the same lens used to portray the good. Artists and storytellers often give a voice to the oppressed and hold a mirror up to society to expose its flaws and wrongdoings. This panel seeks to explore the works of Italian authors and artists who revolutionized societal norms, disrupted established conventions, and provoked critical thought.

**Ecocritical Approaches to Italian Contemporary Literature and Cinema**

This panel seeks to enrich our understanding of Italy's contribution to environmental discourse and the environmental humanities. We welcome papers related to, but not limited to, the following fields: new materialism(s), critical posthumanism, ecocriticism, blue ecocriticism, ecology, queer ecology, political ecology, landscape ecology, and extinction studies.

**Embracing Inclusivity: Integrating Inclusive Italian into the Language Classroom**

In recent years, there has been a growing recognition of the importance of inclusivity and diversity within language education. However, traditional approaches to teaching Italian often overlook the learners' diverse linguistic and cultural experiences. This panel seeks to explore strategies for integrating inclusive Italian into the language classroom, with a focus on promoting cultural diversity, linguistic equity, and social justice, while cultivating inclusive language learning environments that empower learners from diverse backgrounds to engage with the Italian language and culture meaningfully.

## ITALIAN

### **Evolving Bodies in Italian Feminism**

This panel delves into the evolving concept of "the body" within Italian feminism, traversing through theoretical frameworks, literature, and media representations. Through this multi-disciplinary approach, the panel aims to illuminate the dynamic interplay between feminist theory, literature, and media in shaping contemporary understandings of the body in Italian feminism.

### **Exploring Intersectionality and Internal Mobilities Through Italian Television**

Italian television stands as a powerful reflection of societal dynamics, influencing and reflecting cultural narratives, yet its exploration within language learning materials often lacks depth, particularly in addressing intersectionality and diaspora experiences. This panel will analyze pivotal moments in Italian television history, highlighting the intersections of gender, race, and disabilities in media representation. Moreover, this panel seeks to examine how Italian television narratives portray diaspora experiences, shedding light on the complexities of identity and belonging.

### **Exploring Lovesickness, and Other Diseases in Literature and Visual Culture**

This panel explores how literature and visual art have depicted diseases like lovesickness, plagues, mental illnesses and other diseases across cultures and centuries. It examines how creative works have symbolized and questioned societal attitudes and misconceptions surrounding illness and the human body. Through interdisciplinary medical humanities perspectives, the panel aims to deepen our understanding of the human experience with both physical and metaphysical afflictions.

### **Flawed Detectives in Italian Giallo**

In one way or another, many protagonists of Italian detective fiction seem to exhibit a distinct propensity for failure. Whether marginalized by their community, isolated by their colleagues and superiors, or simply too human, these characters often defy the traditional structure of detective fiction by simply not succeeding: the mystery remains unsolved, the culprit is not apprehended, the social order is not restored. This panel welcomes proposals dealing with examples of "flawed" detectives in Italian detective fiction, broadly considered (giallo poliziesco/poliziottesco, thriller, noir...; literature, cinema, tv, comics...).

### **Italian Americans on the Small Screen or Streaming**

This session explores the role of Italian Americans via television, streaming services, commercials, etc. We are aiming to situate Italian-American media within a more contemporary and intersectional (race, class, gender, sexuality) debate about ethnic identity. We are open to theoretical approaches as long as original and haven't been previously published/presented.

### **Italian Emigration in Film**

This panel seeks to discuss how filmmakers have documented Italian emigrations not only within Europe, but also in other continents. From the beginning of the 20th century up to the present, cinema—Italian and otherwise—has offered a wide variety of perspectives on Italians emigrating abroad. The debate over their depiction through images not only provides different perspectives on the migrations, but also offers useful tools for the examination of the mutually reinforcing parallel paths of history, society, and cinema regarding this aspect of Italian history.

### **Italian Food as (R)evolution:**

Continuing last year's conversation, this panel proposes to focus on representations of food in Italian and Italian American Cinema, Literature and Media. Taking this year's theme, (R)evolution, into consideration it seems only fitting to discuss food. The idea of food or foodway as the subject of evolution or revolution leads us to consider the transformation of culinary history, identity, production, and consumption within or between the Italian and Italian-American (or Italo-Australian, Italo-Canadian, Italo-British, Italo-Hispanic) contexts.

### **Language and Art: How to Motivate Students through Art Discussions and Projects**

This panel seeks specific and practical examples of use of art in teaching language founded on pedagogical and methodology frameworks. Proposals can include art as basic ideas, geometric forms, numbers, clothing furniture; but also, projects, discussions, tools, and selected activities to motivate and stimulate learners' skills. Papers could also range between classic to modern, and contemporary periods with the inclusion of technology tools and media instruments as well.

### **Migration and Gender: Redefining Narratives in Contemporary Italian Culture**

Contributions from diverse disciplines, including literary studies, film studies, gender studies, cultural studies, and sociology, are encouraged. We aim to highlight the transformative impact of migration on Italian culture and the critical role of gender in shaping these narratives. Through these explorations, our goal is to deepen our understanding of Italy's evolving identity in a rapidly changing world.

### **Naples & Port Cities: Representing A Diseased Body in Early Modern and Modern Ecosystems**

This panel seeks to explore Naples' susceptibility to afflictions, both literal and metaphorical, through a comparative and interdisciplinary lens, examining themes of environmental exploitation and societal consequences.

### **Reimagining Italian Identity: Postcolonial Perspectives in Contemporary Italian Literature**

This panel aims to delve into contemporary Italian postcolonial literature, exploring not only its literary dimensions but also its sociological implications. By focusing on the evolving concept of Italianità (Italian identity), the discussion will uncover how these works challenge and redefine what it means to be Italian in the modern world. Through this exploration, we seek to understand how postcolonial narratives contribute to a broader, more inclusive understanding of Italy's history and its present-day identity.



**Representing Illness, Loss, Grief in Italian Literature, Film, and Theory**

This panel aims to explore the nuanced representations of illness, loss, and grief within Italian cultural production, spanning from the early twentieth century to the present. We invite proposals for individual papers that delve into the role of memory, trauma, and narrative in shaping both individual and collective responses to experiences of illness and loss.

**Representing the Past: Italian Literature and Film between History and Memory**

This session explores the many representations of the past that have occurred in literature and film within the strongly historicist foundations of Italian culture. These representations are rarely nostalgic, more often representing the urgency of remembering the past as pointing directly to the contradictions of the present. The panel therefore solicits papers that address the historical and retrospective gaze of Italian literature and film from a range of theoretical perspectives.

**Revolution, Evolution, Involution. Italian Scenarios Between Literature and Philosophy**

The roundtable intends to investigate this connection between philosophy and literature in the Italian context and the authors and philosophers who in this perspective had the courage to illustrate the impossible, real and failed revolutions that marked the Short XX century and the dawn of the new millennium in the Italian context.

**Scripting Dissent: The Power of Collaborative Writing in Italian Revolutionary Praxis**

This panel investigates forms of collaborative writing in Italy from the 1970s up to today. Contributions may include: co-authored pieces in grassroot movements, academic collective writing, interdisciplinary collaborations (theatrical performances, manifestoes, illustrations).

**Shaping Perceptions: Afro-Italian Representation in Italian Media**

This panel seeks to investigate how diversity is depicted in Italian media, with a focus on documentaries, music videos, and films featuring Afro-Italian artists. By examining how these portrayals both challenge and perpetuate stereotypes, the goal is to shed light on the influence of media on public perceptions of diversity.

**The Italian Giallo: Movies and Television Series**

In 1963, Mario Bava, with *La ragazza che sapeva troppo*, gave birth to the giallo all'italiana on the screen. This cinematographic genre would enjoy national and international popularity for at least two decades. Presently, the Italian giallo is enjoying a new and huge popularity on television. Thanks to the literary production of several Italian authors who devoted themselves to the giallo, many stories have been made available and have been transformed into very successful television series. This panel will investigate the Italian giallo in all its aspects, from its beginning to the present time, on the big and the small screen in order to examine its evolution in terms of gender, inclusiveness, and representations of both Italian society and contemporary issues.

**The Southern Re(volution): Rethinking the Italian South**

The proposed panel aims to contribute to a nuanced understanding of the Italian South, advocating for a recognition of its distinct

cultural contributions and challenging the monolithic narratives that have historically marginalized it.

**Women Writers and Commitment**

This panel intends to bring to light various strands of committed writing by women in Italian-speaking communities from the turn of the 19th century to our present time, and their impact across a broad spectrum of communities. Papers may focus on the contributions of single women authors, or else on the work by groups of women who strived to counter gender or racial discrimination, unequitable labor conditions, environmental exploitation, stagnant educational practices, or other pressing social causes.

**- PEDAGOGY & PROFESSIONAL -**

**(R)evolution-izing Collaborative Graduate Student Communities**

This roundtable hopes to promote conversation about potential methods of enduringly enriching virtual and in-person academic communities amongst graduate students; to encourage communications and collaborations between students with common research interests across institutional settings.

**Adjunct Faculty: Really the End? Of What?**

Closures of departments, programmes, even entire institutions, perennial (and deepening) budget cuts are making adjunct faculty more precarious than ever, and with us, the students and communities we serve. This roundtable seeks papers speaking to this development: who is being targeted, why, with what fallout, whether for higher education, students, academic freedom ...?

**AI in Second Language Education: Promises, Perils, Paradigms, and Perspectives**

This panel invites scholars, researchers, educators, and industry professionals to explore affordances and constraints of AI tools, reflect on AI as a critical topic in itself, and examine its transformative potential and far-reaching implications for language teaching.

**Applied Language Approach to Promote Engagement and Retention**

This panel explores innovative methodologies, best practices, and research findings that advocate for incorporating applied language approaches to improve student learning outcomes.

**Approaching Conflict and Peacemaking through Creative Pedagogy**

This session invites abstracts which consider imaginative ways of addressing conflict, and fraught or polarizing topics through creative pedagogy. Abstracts will examine the role of humanities teaching in fostering social change, justice and peacemaking. The proposed approaches can vary across different genres and disciplines.

**Approaching Politics in the Language Classroom: Pedagogical Strategies and Practices**

In language curricula, what potentialities are inherent in positioning political knowledge and conversation as a



## PEDAGOGY & PROFESSIONAL

foundational part of intercultural competence? This roundtable examines pedagogical practices that serve the learning goals of communicative language instruction through conversations and activities revolving around political issues, systems, and scenarios in the target culture(s).

### **Banned Ideas: Challenges and Opportunities in the Current Political Climate**

This roundtable sponsored by the Diversity Caucus invites scholars and teachers invested in dismantling white supremacy, misogyny, homophobia and transphobia to consider the challenges and opportunities of this moment. How can institutions make space for productive and strategic discussions about protecting academic freedom? What are some of the key challenges faced at public institutions? How do we protect the psychological safety of students, faculty, and staff from minoritized backgrounds who feel imperiled by these measures?

### **Broadening Our Research Horizons: Trials, Tribulations, and Triumphs**

This roundtable encourages a community exchange about those “eureka” or “alas” moments in our research practices, archival investigations, writing, and publishing and explores the methods most promising in tracing and tracking primary sources; access to private collections of diaries, letters, publication records; justifications for a neglected text’s primacy; the joys and frustrations in the hunt.

### **Disrupting Norms: Ungrading as Pedagogical (R)evolution**

This roundtable aims to dismantle the normalization of grading by analyzing how we as educators shift focus from metrics and embrace the pedagogical mindset of ungrading—providing individualized pathways to motivate learning and equity within our classrooms. We seek presentations that embrace (r)evolutionary assessment practices (e.g. contract grading, specs grading, gradeless classrooms) with respect to subjects including but not limited to: novice, intermediate and advanced L2 acquisition; literary and cultural analysis; composition and creative writing; linguistics and language ideologies.

### **EDI-tation: Rethinking and Revolutionizing the Graduate Student Experience**

This roundtable seeks a diverse group of participants with insights on how to negotiate issues around equity, diversity, and inclusion in graduate student-centric and life-affirming ways. Of special interest would be actionable strategies and programmatic ways that unravel the complex layers of lived experience that intersect with our roles as both students and employees who are also gendered, racialized, 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals, parents, immigrants, graduate students with disabilities, mature graduate students, and people across various socioeconomic strata.

### **Education for Liberation: Advocating for Social Justice in the Foreign Language Classroom**

This session invites scholars and educators to contribute to examining the essential role of foreign language education in promoting social justice and collective action on a domestic and global scale in light of the recent student activism in US campuses.

### **Environmental Justice Pedagogy and (R)evolution in the Arts and Humanities**

This ASLE-sponsored session explores pedagogies that enable

students to engage in activism or “(r)evolution” in environmental justice (EJ)-themed arts/humanities courses: how might (r) evolution extend beyond subject matter to teaching/learning practices and public engagement? Alongside this question, participants might consider what counts as (r)evolution; methods for engaging students in this question; aesthetics, emotions, stories, ideologies, and communities important to EJ (r)evolution/activism; (r)evolution/activism through integrative, performance-based, project-based, site-based, experiential, or service learning; diversity, equity, and inclusion concerns; arts/humanities institutions and unevenly distributed environmental resources and hazards; assessment of (r)evolutionary pedagogy. Participants will share a teaching resource and discuss their theoretical approach to it.

### **Fringe Benefits: Leveraging Revolutionary Teaching Models to Transform Education**

Teachers in the post-pandemic era are uniquely poised to challenge instructional norms and create new, revolutionary classroom structures. What are some of the ways that we can reimagine instructional and learning spaces and practices in the evolving sphere of higher education? We welcome abstracts that discuss any aspects of revolutionary teaching structures and encourage experimental ideas or ideas in development.

### **From Conjugations to Cervantes: Structuring Content-Based Courses in Modern Languages**

This roundtable serves as a space to discuss best practices for teaching in the undergraduate advanced-level, content-based course in modern languages. It seeks proposals that address the shift from highly structured, concrete learning in beginner and intermediate language courses to the more abstract topics of literature and culture that these courses cover, and how instructors can create highly structured lessons for them.

### **From Medical to Health Humanities: Evolving Interventions**

The fields of medical and health humanities often aim to intervene in socially embedded systems of care and advance health justice. This roundtable explores ways to work toward that goal through pedagogy, research, and community partnership.

### **Generative AI Tools in Teaching, Learning, and Assessment**

Language educators as well as educators and/or administrators from across various disciplines are invited to discuss the impact of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools on teaching, learning, and assessment.

### **Humanities at Work and in Service**

The goal of this roundtable is to foster conversation about ways that humanities-based skills and knowledge can be applied in contexts beyond humanities classrooms. Presenters at this roundtable will be asked to share information about applied humanities projects they have already tried, or to share ideas about projects they hope to try in the future.

### **Humanities through Phenomenological Experiences**

Our panel emphasizes the need to showcase skills, which highlight the intrinsic value of humanities in personal and professional growth. Humanities advance creative, analytical, and performative skills as well as interpretive, evaluative, expressive, aesthetic experiences to enhance individual and societal growth.

**Integrating Language Learning and Content-Based Instruction in Specialized Courses**

This panel aims to merge language acquisition with specialized content through effective strategies, curriculum design, and assessment techniques to enhance both language skills and subject expertise.



**Integration of Current Cultural Phenomena into Modern Language Classroom**

This panel will explore strategies to integrate current cultural phenomena connected to the target language with the learner's background and needs. The presenters are invited to share their best practices in integrating culture and media content into their modern language classrooms.

**Internships and/or Practicums for Enhancing L2 Conversation Skills and Cultural Awareness**

This roundtable panel seeks accounts of practicums and/or internships which immerse students in the language and culture of the target language, conducted as part of a foreign language class, which may be replicated in other L2 courses.

**Literary Translation for a Multilingual Environment**

In this roundtable, we will explore ways to build a supportive and rigorous multilingual environment through literary translation, particularly for undergraduate students who are not seeking a degree in a foreign language but want to draw on their multiple languages, learn heritage languages, or build on their interest in languages. The conversation will offer ideas both for fully developing a literary translation course and for units or assignments within other courses in which engaging translation can benefit the course. This approach incorporates the language diversity of our students and allows for cross-cultural connections among them.

**Mentoring for Scholars of Color**

The goal of this roundtable is to create a safe space for scholars of color to meet and discuss the challenges and opportunities in the area of mentorship among scholars of color. This session is sponsored by the Diversity Caucus and welcomes proposals from scholars at any level of their career, from graduate students to senior scholars.

**Mindfulness and the Humanities**

This roundtable session will discuss mindfulness practices that instructors of writing and literature can incorporate into

classrooms, and it will focus especially on the implications of mindfulness for the humanities and for its/their roles in education and society in honoring human, cultural, and global diversity in all its dimensions, enacting equity and inclusivity, and affecting change. Participants of this roundtable are welcome to discuss the theory and especially practice of mindfulness with attention to its benefits and drawbacks in the classroom, particularly with regard to the importance of mindfulness for the humanities and for humanity.

**Navigating the Online Language Classroom: Strategies for Engaging and Empowering Online Learners**

This panel seeks to explore diverse tools and strategies that facilitate active online learning experiences and foster student motivation and competencies in language acquisition. Submissions to this panel are invited to examine innovative approaches ranging from the integration of multimedia resources and interactive platforms to the implementation of gamification techniques and communicative tasks. Presenters are encouraged to share insights on how they leverage technology to create interactive and collaborative learning environments that transcend the limitations of traditional language classrooms.

**On the Revolution of Creativity: The Future of Reading and Writing in the Age of A.I.**

The idea of this panel is that a new literacy is emerging with A.I. To discuss new ways of reading and writing in education, contemporary experiences can be shared. Ethical aspects and the potential of creative intelligence will prompt us to imagine our future together.

**Pedagogical Problems of Practice**

This roundtable session will bring together faculty to discuss the "problems of practice" of teaching in the humanities. Panelists will present challenges or even failures in their pedagogical practice and how such roadblocks led to an evolution in or rethinking of their approaches. Some areas of particular interest include the role of AI, digital humanities, diversity and inclusion, disability studies, the pandemic, or mental health, but all topics are welcome.

**Pedagogical Responses to Whatever's Happening Now**

This roundtable will discuss how our pedagogy has evolved in response to the political and economic pressures confronting humanities and writing programs. How have we adapted our teaching to confront, or at least respond to, social, political, or institutional hazards?

**Rethinking Pedagogy: (R)evolutionary Teaching Techniques in the Humanities**

In a world constantly in flux, the Humanities stand as both a reflection and a catalyst for (r)evolutionary change. As we navigate through the complexities of cultural diversity, social justice, and technological advancements, it becomes imperative to reassess our pedagogical approaches within the Humanities. This roundtable invites contributions that explore innovative and (r)evolutionary teaching techniques that honor cultural and global diversity while fostering critical thinking, empathy, and creativity in our students.

**Revolutionary AI in GTA Teaching**

This GSC-sponsored session invites graduate teaching assistants to discuss the use of AI in undergraduate classroom teaching, including strategies, responses, reflections, and experiences of using or addressing AI in the classroom.

## PEDAGOGY & PROFESSIONAL

### **Revolutionary Approaches to Teaching the Literature of the Harlem Renaissance**

This panel will offer revolutionary approaches, perspectives, and/or lessons that can be gleaned from canonical and (non)canonical texts of the Harlem Renaissance, particularly those that challenge us to (re)evaluate African American identities as they have been and continue to be negotiated within complex social, cultural, and political contexts and promote vital conversations in and beyond the classroom regarding antiracism.

### **Revolutionizing Language Education: Innovative Approaches for a Changing World**

This roundtable invites educators to present their revolutionary approaches to language teaching in the post pandemic era, from AI integration, to project-based and task-based learning, to career preparedness. Contributions that address curricular innovations in all languages and learning modalities are welcome.

### **Revolutionizing Perspectives: Navigating Paradigm Shifts in Interdisciplinary Humanities Research**

This panel explores the transformative impact of paradigm shifts in humanities research. We invite contributions that examine how these shifts are challenging disciplinary boundaries, fostering new interdisciplinary approaches, and reshaping the future of knowledge production in the humanities.

### **Saving the Day for Medieval Studies: Using Comics for Teaching the Middle Ages**

Our focus in this session is on Medieval Studies and what comics can contribute to furthering the field. We seek to build upon the work of medieval-comics scholars and share strategies for incorporating comics into the teaching of the various subfields of Medieval Studies, including art, history, languages, literature, and philosophy. We hope these ideas can help invigorate the discipline and bring more students into our classrooms.

### **Social Annotation in L2 Reading and Writing**

Social annotation tools such as Perusall have been implemented in L2 learning environments to enhance the understanding of L2 texts and/or the writing process in L2 through collaborative textual organization and contextualization that foster an understanding of making meaning and shared knowledge. This session seeks papers that showcase as well as critically reflect on how social annotation has been implemented to help the L2 process of reading and/or writing.

### **Storytelling in and about the Humanities: (R)evolving Disciplinary Discourses**

This roundtable explores the functions and uses of storytelling in and about our discipline(s): What do we tell our students, their families, and our publics at this critical moment? What stories are told about us? What stories do we tell ourselves to keep going?

### **The Ever-Evolving Marketing of Language Programs: Searching for Strategies that Fit**

There have been a wide variety of approaches, especially in recent years, used to encourage and promote, entice and even cajole students into enrolling in a language class. How do language programs seeking to maintain their relevance know which strategy to adopt or when to change the approach and try a new one? This roundtable seeks to gather language program directors,

coordinators, and instructors with an interest in the topic at a programmatic level to discuss the value of different strategies for emphasizing the relevance of language learning as we engage with prospective students.

### **The Evolution of the Humanities PhD: Doctoral Training Beyond Traditional Paths**

This roundtable explores how doctoral training in the Humanities prepares professionals for career outcomes other than the traditional higher education faculty positions focused on academic research and production.

### **The Need for Revolutionary Introduction Humanities Classes**

In a time of great political and social strife, introduction humanities classes are needed more than ever. Calls for the cancellation of diversity and equity type courses become louder and louder each day from those in positions of political and economic power willing to strip funding from public higher education. This roundtable examines the importance of undergraduate introductory courses in the humanities and what they can accomplish or what they need to accomplish.

### **The Right to Read/The Right to Speak and Academic Freedom in the Classroom**

In educational settings, safeguarding free speech is crucial for upholding democratic principles, yet campuses increasingly face censorship and suppression of dissenting voices. By fostering an environment that values free expression and respectful dialogue, educators can prepare students to become informed citizens who think critically and contribute positively to the (r)evolution of democratic society. How do educators include censored, controversial and diverse perspectives into their curriculum and classroom?

### **Transforming Language Education with Innovative OER**

This panel seeks to showcase efforts in creating Open Educational Resources (OER) for language teaching, emphasizing themes of art, identity, and culture. Proposals can discuss how these adaptable resources can improve communication skills, cultural awareness, critical thinking, accessibility, and inclusivity, and foster a vibrant community among language educators and learners. Additional aspects related to the role of OERs in tying language education to cultural aspects are also welcome.

### **Using Narrative Nonfiction to Craft LGBTQ-Inclusive Classrooms**

Although many schools have begun prioritizing DEI professional development, there is a gap in prioritizing self-reflection and narrative within educator professional development, and this act of writing is essential to crafting authentic change. This session will look at ways that many well-intentioned practices are implicitly heteronormative in nature, suggesting that the education of teachers must move beyond promoting tolerance of LGBTQ+ individuals and into examining hegemony. This examination can only be done through a consistent writing and sharing of narrative nonfiction, which is the key to crafting more authentic inclusive spaces.

### **What Are You Looking At?: Applications of Emerging Technology in the Liberal Arts Classroom**

This session explores how instructors are making use of new and emerging technologies in the classroom and in their personal



pedagogies. We seek proposals from other scholars and graduates who can present on the technologies, methodologies, findings, and implications for pedagogy.

### **Writing (R)Evolution: Assessment for Generative Learning in the Age of AI**

Can the rise AI tools become an opportunity for us to reevaluate our views of assessment in writing and composition courses to center the learning outcomes that are most important to us and our students and to center human connection and communication? If so, what may these redesigned assessments look like, and how can we prioritize equitable teaching in light of the new affordances and challenges of these tools?

### - RHETORIC & COMPOSITION -

#### **(R)evolutionizing Writing Classrooms One Lesson at a Time: Strategies and Provocations**

“(R)evolutionizing Writing Classrooms One Lesson at a Time: Strategies and Provocations” is a poster session that considers how to prepare students for writing beyond university and engaging with a world that is in crisis. We invite proposals for posters detailing one specific lesson to equip students with the skills to imagine, communicate, and create radical change. We’re eager to hear from course instructors and teaching assistants who design their own courses or those working with standardized curricula. How do we teach Writing Studies in a revolutionary way?

#### **ChatGPT and Teaching Persuasive Communication: Friend, foe, or Frenemy?**

This roundtable will help colleagues learn how to effectively incorporate ChatGPT/GenAI systems into their persuasive communication curriculum, empowering their students to become more confident, effective, and ethical communicators in the digital age.

#### **Justice-oriented Pedagogies, Affordances in AI, and Ethical Advocacy**

It is high time to discuss how the promises and perils of affordances in AI, alpha persuasion, and persuasive technology are impacting our justice-oriented pedagogies. This panel calls for paper abstracts that examine how our justice-oriented pedagogical practices are being impacted by various types of tacit and manifest pressures to harness affordances in generative AI.

#### **Revolutionize Writing: Rhetorical & Creative Practices in Composition Classrooms**

From a rhetorical analysis to a researched proposal, writing courses develop crucial skills utilized across many disciplines. However, AI applications increasingly subvert and challenge those skills. This panel wishes to navigate pedagogies that encourage writing as a development of self, strategies that enhance humanities-writing as essential to thought, and creative and ambitious challenges to traditional forms of writing practices.

#### **Seeking a Friend at the End of a Writing Program**

This panel seeks abstracts from those who have sought to address calls at their local institutions for the elimination or reduction of

some aspect of their writing curriculum, whether for First-Year Composition, Writing-Across-the-Curriculum, Writing Tutor Centers, Undergraduate Writing Majors or Minors, etc. The goal of the panel is to share and constellate the tactical responses to such exigences and discuss how the respective local responses might be identified as potentially “prototypical” that could be adapted for others with similar situations at their local institution.

### - SLAVIC -

#### **Narratives of Displaced Lives**

This session explores narratives which shape stories of lives displaced by war, famine, political repression and other disasters in Eastern Europe, Russia and Eurasia in the 20th and 21st centuries. Central to our discussion is how literature and cinematography give unique form to the experience of displacement in the face of catastrophic historical events.

#### **Language, Literature and the Non-Visual Arts as a Source for Political Change in Ukraine**

From *The Lay of Ihor’s Campaign* to Oksana Zabuzhko’s *Museum of Abandon Secrets*, Ukrainian writers’ and artists’ seemingly apolitical works have often resulted in political and social change. This panel explores the intersection(s) of politics, identity, language and the non-visual arts in Ukrainian society.

#### **Love and Death in Dostoevsky’s Novels and Beyond**

This session seeks to examine how Dostoevsky’s portrayal of love and death reflects his broader philosophical concerns and how these themes interact within his narrative structures. Although this session primarily aims to explore the themes of love and death in the works of Fyodor Dostoevsky, papers on other Russian authors will also be considered.

#### **Nabokov and Philosophy**

The panel explores the philosophical aspects of Nabokov’s art and their importance for interpreting his literary works. Papers considering continental philosophy, philosophy of art, and aesthetics are welcome.

#### **Russian Poetry**

This panel welcomes proposals and abstracts on any aspect of Russian poetry, including intersections of poetry and other artistic media. Our timeline is primarily poetry from the 19th century to the present, but we can be flexible.



## SPANISH & PORTUGUESE

### - SPANISH & PORTUGUESE -

#### **A la espera: Género y Desplazamientos en la Literatura Española del Siglo XX**

This session delves into the intricate dynamics encountered by individuals who remain in their country of origin while their beloved ones undertake emigration during the 20th century in Spain, shedding particular light on the significant impact of gender roles within this complex experience.

#### **Addressing Heritage Speakers Needs Through Artificial Intelligence**

This poster illustrates how the incorporation of Artificial Intelligence—specifically ChatGPT in its oral version—can be an excellent tool for Spanish heritage speakers at the Advanced/Superior level (according to ACTFL guidelines)

#### **AEGS/AGSS-sponsored Session: Sex and Gender in Recent Films from Spain and Latin America**

This panel seeks to delve into the intricate tapestry of sex and gender representations in recent films from Spain and Latin America. With a focus on the diverse cultural landscapes of these regions, our interdisciplinary discussion will analyze the nuanced portrayals of sexuality, identity, and power dynamics depicted on screen.

#### **Afectos y emociones en el documental latinoamericano**

Este panel invita al envío de contribuciones, tanto en español como en inglés, que aborden las conexiones entre los afectos, las emociones y las significaciones sociopolíticas en el documental latinoamericano incluyendo, entre otros aspectos, la memoria traumática de los regímenes dictatoriales, cuestiones de género, raza, clase, sexualidad, etc.

#### **Allegorical Evolutions: The Formation of Latin American Images**

Allegorical referents, whether real or imagined, take on additional metaphorical value when transposed from their original settings. We welcome papers about such transpositions of images from anywhere in the world onto Latin American identities or about the adaptation of images across temporal/geographical boundaries within Latin America.

#### **Approaches to Teaching Culture at all Proficiency Language Levels**

This roundtable will be dedicated to discussing how best to incorporate cultural content (widely defined as authentic literature, historical essays, philosophical perspectives, political debates, religious manifestations, sociological data, and peoples) in a student-centered, proficiency building second language classroom.

#### **Approaching Speculative Fiction in Contemporary Latin American Literature**

The proposed session explores how contemporary Latin American literature's engagement with speculative fiction and all its sub-genres (fantasy, horror, and sci-fi, amongst many others) reshapes traditional themes like violence, dictatorships, and identity in today's globalized cultural context.

#### **'Archive fever' en la literatura, la fotografía, la televisión y el cine**

Esta mesa redonda estudia el ejercicio y la práctica del archivo

desde la pluralidad. Queremos analizar cómo se utiliza el archivo físico o no en las obras de escritores y/o artistas de Latinoamérica, España o Latinx de los siglos XX y XXI. Las presentaciones serán en inglés o español.

#### **Artificial Intelligence and Human Capacity in Contemporary Latin American Literature**

This panel invites papers discussing the depiction of Artificial Intelligence in dystopias or post-apocalyptic realities, and how can these be related to the current digital revolution and the access to generative AI.

#### **Basque writers: core or periphery?/ euskal idazleak: muin ala kanpoalde?**

Ettxepare Euskal Institutua sponsored Session. This roundtable explores recent cultural productions in Basque and invites not only scholars but also authors of this literature.

#### **Bibliodiversidad en Latinoamérica: producción, circulación y visibilización**

Este panel busca explicar los desbalances en el mundo literario impuestos por las industrias editoriales. Se estudiarán los participantes, materiales, espacios y mediaciones que contribuyen para la bibliodiversidad, es decir, la disponibilidad de los libros en sus diferentes formatos y que buscan incorporar la literatura latinoamericana dentro de la literatura mundial.

#### **Black Activisms in Contemporary Urban Spain**

This panel will explore activism surrounding the livelihoods and histories of Black communities living in Iberian cities--where the in-person public sphere still entangles us within socio-historical differences and political tension (Sennett; Ahmed). Our panel will expose the growing urban activism that seeks to historicize, educate, and publicly counter negative narratives and racist images of Afro-descendants, such as self-representation in cultural production and independent collectives.

#### **Blackface Performances in Latin America and the Caribbean**

This panel invites papers that further the study and theorization of blackface and racial impersonation in Latin America and the Caribbean across various historical periods, genres and forms.

#### **Cine, literatura y sonido latinoamericano en (re)volución**

El cine, la literatura y el sonido en Latinoamérica han funcionado como actos vitales de transferencia de conocimiento social y memoria histórica que posibilitan la reiteración de la identidad. ¿Cómo estas producciones culturales han contribuido a una (re)volución de cambio ya sea de manera radical o en el imaginario social en las comunidades latinoamericanas?

#### **Contra la edición independiente: precarización, trabajo y mercado en América Latina**

Este panel propone una serie de casos de estudio a partir de la figura de la casa editorial latinoamericana. El interés recae en analizar el trabajo de editoriales independientes de América Latina a fin de valorar las propuestas estéticas que engloban la publicación del libro.

#### **Creatures of Habit: The Animal in Latin American Literature**

By examining the aesthetic and philosophical dimensions of

animal studies in Latin America, this panel seeks to contribute to a growing body of scholarship that challenges human exceptionalism and explores more just and sustainable forms of multispecies coexistence.

#### **El cine español de la Transición (1973-1982)**

Este panel busca trabajos que se centren en el cine producido durante la Transición española a la democracia (1973-1982). De especial interés serán aquellas propuestas que se enfoquen en cómo el cine reflejo el intenso debate político que sobre el futuro de España se generó durante aquellas dos décadas. Se pueden presentar propuestas tanto en español como en inglés.

#### **España heterodoxa: una reevaluación cultural del siglo XIX**

Sesión sobre los usos culturales de la heterodoxia en la España del siglo XIX. Se aceptan trabajos que aborden, entre otros temas, el anticlericalismo, el krausismo, el catolicismo liberal, el orientalismo, el ateísmo y/o el darwinismo.

#### **Exploring Sex and Gender in Short Stories from Spain and Latin America**

AEGS- Sponsored session. This panel examines how gender boundaries and textual sexuality intersect in recent short stories from Spain, Portugal, and Latin America. Our goal is to celebrate the richness and complexity of narrative storytelling while advocating for more inclusive and equitable representations of sex and gender. We aim to illuminate the evolving panorama of sex and gender representation.

#### **Family Matters: Identity in Literature of Latin America and the Iberian Peninsula**

This panel will analyze matters of identity in terms of gender, race, ethnicity, and sexuality as connected to familial relationships as they are explored in literature of Latin America and the Iberian Peninsula, while also examining the ways these identities represented in the literature are embraced, rejected, or changed due to family pressures and opinions.

#### **Friendship in Spain's Contemporary Cinema**

This roundtable will bring together presentations (5-10 minutes) on contemporary filmic representations of friendship in 21st Century Spain. The objective of the roundtable is to expand the currently scarce academic research on such a revolutionary topic.

#### **Health and Gender: Representations in Hispanic Literature and Visual Culture**

This panel seeks to address interdisciplinary approaches to understanding the connection of medical humanities, health studies and disability studies with gender studies. With a focus on diverse medical circumstances (illnesses, disabilities, traditional healing, etc.) that are often connected or influenced by gender complexities, this discussion will analyze the representation of that connection as portrayed in Hispanic literature and visual studies, including but not limited to photography, graphic novel, comic, film, art, and any form of visual materials.

#### **Imagining Revolutionary Figurations of Age and Disability in Hispanic Cultures**

This roundtable invites proposals that examine figurations of age and disability in Hispanic cultural production. We encourage submissions that discuss cultural artifacts that effectively engage

in creative practices that disrupt ableist and ageist dominant representations and revolutionize cultural imaginaries, as well as submissions that interrogate the possibility of such revolutions within and across Hispanic cultures.

#### **Intertwining Narratives: Self-representation in Contemp. Latin American Cultural Production**

This seminar will utilize interdisciplinary theoretical frameworks to address ethical implications and discuss the complex self-representation of individuals as both victims and perpetrators in various media forms, including film, literature, painting, photography, and comics. It will also address the possible impacts of self-representation on contemporary Latin America and Iberian human rights issues. The seminar will be conducted in Spanish, Portuguese, and English, and abstracts can be submitted in any language.

#### **Language Diversity in the Public Sphere: Spanish in the USA through Translation**

Language serves as a vibrant reflection of cultural diversity within societies, especially in multicultural landscapes like the United States. Spanish, in particular, has emerged as a significant linguistic force in the American public sphere. This panel seeks to examine the multifaceted presence of Spanish and the role of translation, alongside language policies affecting translation, in various domains of public life, exploring their implications for identity, communication, policy, and cultural expression. By bringing together scholars from diverse disciplines, this panel aims to promote an understanding of the complex interplay between Spanish language use, translation, language policies, and the socio-political landscape of the USA.

#### **Literature, Publishing Industry, and Literary Criticism: Connections and Resistance**

This panel aims to explore the relations between literary works, the publishing industry, and literary criticism, in the 20th and 21st centuries, both in Latin America and in Latin America in conjunction with the US.

#### **Mapping Violence in Contemporary Hispanic Caribbean and Latin American Literature**

While incorporating theoretical frameworks on violence, this panel will explore the multiple intersections of violence in contemporary literature from the Hispanic Caribbean and Latin America. Additionally, the panel will explore topics such as erotism and the use of autobiographical forms. While the focus will be on novels and short stories, papers with a theoretical foundation are most welcome.

#### **Masculinity and National Belonging in the Américas**

This panel seeks to explore the construction of masculinity in the Américas in the 20th and 21st centuries. In this period, intellectuals were redefining what it meant to be a man and a good citizen via the reconceptualization of national masculinities. Drawing from a variety of theoretical frameworks including feminist theory, queer theory, critical race theory, environmental humanities, and postcolonial studies, this panel highlights the ways in which literary and cultural production explore the centrality of gender and sexuality in creating the boundaries of national belonging.



## SPANISH & PORTUGUESE

### **Memory and Exile: The Spanish Civil War in the Light of Female Voices**

The goal is to foster an interdisciplinary discussion about how memory and exile, that in many cases are intertwined in these narratives, deepen our understanding of how the female experience is portrayed in relationship to the Spanish Civil War and its consequences.

### **Mineral Extraction and Nature Collecting in Latin American Cultural Production**

This panel seeks to explore how mineral extraction and nature collecting are represented, discussed, or contested in Latin American cultural production of the 19th and 20th centuries. This interdisciplinary panel aims to highlight these and other topics from the perspective of the environmental humanities, the history of science, and global intellectual history. Papers working on literature, history, media (scientific newspapers and journals encouraged), cinema, and visual arts are welcome. Abstracts in Spanish, Portuguese, and English welcome.

### **Navigating the Micro and Macrocsm through Sci-fi, Technology, and the Human Body**

This panel invites proposals for readings that explore the intersection of technology, science, literature, and sci-fi within a planetary context. It seeks to reflect on the implications of our relationship as humans with the microscopic and macroscopic realms, as well as the role of science fiction and literature in shaping our understanding of reality. The purpose is to delve into sci-fi mechanisms beyond literature, situating them within a planetary context where humanity serves as both creator of realities and symbiotic being with the rest of the World.

### **New Approaches to Teaching Medieval and Early Modern Spanish-language Texts**

Medievalists and early modernists, while passionate about their research areas, may have difficulty in communicating the relevance of the literature of these periods to students in the modern-day. Those who study and teach courses on these topics may seek to embrace new approaches like incorporating modern critical models, popular culture, or interdisciplinary connections. This panel seeks papers that propose new and innovative approaches to teaching and researching texts of medieval and early modern Spain and Latin America.

### **Perspectives and Representations of Nostalgia in Latin American Cultures**

This panel examines the role of nostalgia in Latin American and Caribbean literary, film, and cultural studies, exploring its varied manifestations and impacts. It seeks to understand how nostalgic representations shape artistic expression and contribute to fresh perspectives in Latin American studies.

### **Proyectos pedagógico-humanistas latinoamericanos para la inclusión y la diversidad**

Esta mesa invita a explorar los discursos pedagógico-humanistas en Latinoamérica en todas sus expresiones culturales, con un enfoque particular en la intersección de la lengua, la literatura y la educación.

### **Representaciones, mundos posibles y ficción distópica en la narrativa hispanoamericana**

Reunir y presentar un conjunto de trabajos académicos

que indaguen sobre las representaciones urbanas, la ficción distópica y la hibridez textual y compositiva manifiestas en las narrativas hispanoamericanas y afrocaribeñas de los siglos XX y XXI.

### **(Re)reading the Resistance of the Disabled Body within Hispanic and Latinx Communities**

The purpose of this panel is to explore strategies for resistance of the disabled body within the Hispanic and Latinx communities in their cultural, artistic, and literary production. Abstracts are accepted in Spanish and English.

### **Rethinking Institutions and Populism in 21st-century Hispanophone and Lusophone Societies**

This roundtable aims to reexamine institutions in Hispanophone and Lusophone societies in light of the expansion of anti-institutional and often exclusionary populisms in the 21st century. Presenters will analyze the problems of populism and institutions as reflected in diverse forms of cultural production, including, but not limited to, film and visual media, literary texts, social media posts, political speeches, and institutional documents.

### **Revisiting Nineteenth-century Romances and Eroticism in Latin America and Spain**

This panel proposes revisiting Latin American and Spanish 19th-century novels and their uses of romance, desire, and eroticism. We aim to bring up the archive of romance novels to date in two ways: by renewing the critical lens from which they have been approached (i.e. critical race and ethnicity studies, gender and sexuality, feminist, and queer studies, psychoanalysis, animal studies, etc.), and by studying their influence in 21st-century literature.

### **(R)evolution on Stage: Theatre of the Spanish-speaking World**

This roundtable will focus on the theme of (r)evolution in the contemporary theatre of Spain and/or Latin America. Whether foregrounding contemporary cultural challenges or reimagining the past through a revolutionary lens, theater offers a unique space to engage with themes of social change, culture, and diversity. How do playwrights highlight the revolutionary struggles of the marginalized? How do they portray and critique societal change and progress? How do they address the challenges of cultural and global diversity? Finally, how might dramatists employ the idea of (r)evolution not only in terms of thematic content, but also in terms of theatrical form?

### **Revolutionary Imaginations from Latin America**

This panel is interested in papers that examine the historical relation of culture from Latin America — in any of its forms — and the possibility of imagining social change or contesting the social order. All historical periods and approaches are encouraged.

### **Social Affect and its Representations in Contemporary Latin American and Latinx Literature**

This panel seeks essays that discuss how powerful social and cultural lenses impact, and to a certain extent, dictate our (emotional) lives. Essays may ask how our understanding of Affect in the Humanities has changed our world, or failed to do so,



perhaps, as a consequence to humanity's lack of emotional control. Is there a role that literature can play to help us learn equanimity as a species? What literary examples of societal justice exist for us to emulate? What examples of failures, whether literary or historical, motivate us to become our best selves? Historical, psychological, and/or theoretical approaches are all welcome.

**Sociolinguistics in the Second/Heritage Language Classroom**

Scholars in second and heritage language acquisition widely believe that sociolinguistic competence is essential for effective communication in the target language. Most studies examining the sociolinguistic competence of adult language learners focus on students who have spent time abroad during their academic studies. This panel aims to better understand the influence of educational input on the sociolinguistic competence of language learners in a traditional or at-home setting.

**The (R)evolution of Female Characters in Latin American Literature and Other Arts**

Women have been often depicted to fit stereotypical roles, although their protagonism in various works, especially in the 21st century, has shifted to a more innovative viewpoint. All genres are welcome for analysis as we consider the shift in portrayals in contemporary Latin American literature.

**The Humanities and Black “(R)EVOLUTIONS” in the Americas**

The Afro-Latin/ American Research Association (ALARA) welcomes proposals for papers that explore this year's conference theme in relation to Black revolutions and/or social movements in the Americas.

**The "Wasted Lives" of the Global Age: Imaginative Peripheries in Latin America**

Thinking through Harvey's theories of uneven geographical development, Bauman's notion of "wasted lives," and how capitalism "seamlessly occupies the horizons of the thinkable" (Fisher 2009), this seminar discusses the role of the Humanities in illuminating discourses on peripheral populations or modes of living throughout Latin America. Contributing to this discussion, this seminar seeks to explore discourses surrounding issues of power imbalances and political fictions related to peripheral lives in Latin America, as well as how these historically underrepresented communities demonstrate agency (or lack of) in an economic system designed against them.

**Translating Success: Integrating Translation Courses into Spanish Programs**

This roundtable explores the integration of translation courses into Spanish language programs, addressing the growing need for specialized translators. It will discuss effective methodologies for merging translation training with language proficiency, and gain insights from educators and professionals on curriculum design, pedagogical strategies, and the future of translation education.

**Women in Revolution: Female Figures in Lusophone Literature, Film, and Art**

The roundtable "Women in Revolution" aims to discuss women's roles and figures (actively) engaged in revolutions and social change, both in reality and fiction, across the history and geography of the Lusophone world. We encourage proposals that explore real and fictional characters portrayed in various forms of art, literature, and cinema in Lusophone art, film, literature, and history. Abstracts in English, Portuguese, or Spanish.

**- WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES -**

**(R)évolution des représentations féminines dans la littérature maghrébine**

Explorez la (r)évolution de la représentation féminine dans la littérature maghrébine contemporaine à travers un dialogue interdisciplinaire stimulant. Soumettez vos contributions pour participer à cette réflexion dynamique sur les voix féminines émergentes

**(R)Evolutionizing the Family: from the Procreative Imperative to Radical Kinship**

This panel invites the exploration of and attempts to (R) Evolutionize the Family, through literary, filmic, and experiential examples, particularly through a radical feminist/queer lens. Possible topics include, but are not limited to: surrogacy, IVF/ART, (re)definitions of kinship, (re)definitions of caregiving, queer families, fetal personhood, family and/as acculturation.

**(Re)Thinking Feminist Movements: Where is the #MeToo Today?**

The focus on survivorship has been the cornerstone of the #MeToo movement, where issues of spectralized bodies and gender justice have become central to understanding the impact and influence of such protest narratives. This can be viewed as a critical juncture to rethink the scope of the feminist movement and understand where we see the movement today and where it is headed. We invite papers that examine the future of the #MeToo movement and propose novel ways of addressing how it can effectively serve the victim-survivors.

**Abortion, Single Motherhood, and Adoption Schemes in Magdalene Literature**

A transcultural and multilingual approach to Magdalene trauma can declutter narratives written by and imagined on Magdalene survivors of the first and second generations as well as highlight the specificities of their personal experiences of Magdalenism, depending on their social class, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and abilities. The panel investigates Magdalene literature beyond the borders of Irish studies to examine the transgenerational and intergenerational forms of trauma generated by Magdalenism around the world.

**Ages and Stages: Women in the Academy, Sharing the Conversation**

This roundtable aims to lend open and honest support to women at various career stages and to provide participants with tools to use in forging the paths of their own personal lives and careers. Participants will be given the opportunity to share individual and collective narratives as well as concrete advice and solutions.

**All That Remains Is Madness: An Examination of the Tragic Outcome for Women in A24 Films**

A24 horror films feature women in crisis. Most are struggling with their mental health, most are betrayed by their loved ones, most are literally or emotionally isolated, and most are victims of an uncaring world. In all cases, the films end with the physical or figurative destruction of woman. The question remains, should viewers accept these endings?

## WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES

### **Archival Activisms: Resistance In/Through Print [WGSC Session]**

This panel examines the limits and utilities of the material archive as a political and practical tool in activist, queer/feminist scholarship.

### **Archiving Alterity: Documenting Violence Against South Asian Women**

Thinking about South Asian archival practices, this panel invites papers on SA women's narratives of violence questioning whose experiences can be preserved, exhibited, remembered in the public spaces (curations, social media, exhibitions, museums).

### **Beyond Monogamy**

This panel begins by asking a simple question: Why is monogamy our default? From there, we hope to dive more deeply into questions of love, intimacy, romance, sexuality, and more.

### **Birth Trauma**

This panel aims to examine contemporary narratives of birth trauma appeared in the last 20 years in an interdisciplinary and transnational perspective, across disciplines and by using various methodologies. The panel investigates how creative and/or autobiographical forms of expressions help navigating traumatic experiences, the healing process, and change medical protocols.

### **Bodies of Feminist Resistance: Archives and Practices in Spain and Latin America**

Departing from 'the body' as a terrain of feminist analysis and resistance, this panel seeks to explore the wide range of interventions re-imagining 'the political' in contemporary Spain and Latin America.

### **Classical Queers Here and Now: Mythmaking in the 21st Century**

This panel welcomes papers exploring adaptations and retellings of Classical, or other, mythologies that center queer identities or are otherwise queer in terms of race, embodiment, narrative, form, etc. It suggests using these works to consider how these sources use the Classical past to make meaning in the present.

### **Contemporary Cyberfeminisms**

Today, in the uncertain transition between Web 2.0's era of Big Data and whatever comes next, the contemporary digital landscape continues to provoke feminist responses. This roundtable will explore recent works that respond to and develop contemporary cyberfeminisms, technofeminisms, or other critical feminist approaches to new media and technology. Presentations might focus on how contemporary writers, artists, and activists respond to tech issues (such as AI & machine learning, deepfakes, hashtag activism, data mining, extractivism, digital censorship, new media literacy, inequitable access, etc.); on particular literary, cultural, or theoretical works that use or transform new media for feminist purposes; or other relevant themes.

### **Embodied Revolutions: Artivism as a Tool for Alternative Discourses in Latin America**

This panel explores the transformative power of art in reimagining cultural narratives and promotes social activism, focusing on the intersections of queer theory, feminist performance, and Indigenous identity.

### **Gendered Embodiment/Disembodiment in Korean/Korean American Literature, Film, TV**

Korean/Korean American women writers and artists utilize representations of the Korean woman's body to articulate narratives of trauma, memory, and historical discontinuities. This panel seeks to investigate how these representations come to embody national identity, fidelity, disloyalty, and/or negotiate multiple affiliations and the movement between allegiances and consider how the Korean woman's body serves as a site for the reproduction of the sexualized and gendered Korean/Korean American experience.

### **Kristeva's Powers of Horror at 45**

This roundtable invites proposals that consider the influence of Julia Kristeva's *Powers of Horror* 45 years after its publication.

### **Literary Landscapes of Women's Pain: The Language of Suffering**

Language and literature are potent tools for fostering agency among women with chronic pain. By empowering women to articulate their experiences and share their stories, we can challenge societal biases, build supportive communities, and ultimately improve the quality of life for those living with chronic pain. We ask for papers that examine if and how the articulation of pain can lead to agency, change, and community.

### **Rebellion: Committing to 'Feminism for the 99%'**

This roundtable engages with *Feminism for the 99%: A Manifesto*, the anti-capitalist manifesto of Cinzia Arruzza, Tithi Bhattacharya, and Nancy Frazer (2019). The book clearly delineates the feminist "fork in the road" – that is, a liberal feminism that is inextricable from capitalism vs. an anti-capitalist feminism and feminist strike praxis. This roundtable seeks abstracts that engage with ways in which feminists work with other anti-capitalist movements, including anti-racist, environmental, labor, and migrant activism, to stop perpetual global catastrophes that threaten human and other-than human existence.

### **Representing Revolutionary Bodies**

This roundtable engages with feminism, queer theory, critical disability studies, critical refugee studies, southern childhood studies, and carceral studies to examine representations of revolutionary bodies. How do marginalized subjects embody radical possibilities for thinking about living, dying, relationality, politics, aesthetics? How do representations of revolutionary bodies negotiate norms, presenting pathways for change or new horizons of justice?

### **Running in a Straitjacket: Motherhood and the Academy**

This creative session is for all of the women in the world of academia who are balancing an impossible world of mothering and/or other caregiving while trying to be a professional scholar. Has the "(R)EVOLUTION" come far enough to produce a world where caregiving is no longer our polite and dutiful expectation on top of having a full time career? Come consider the internal battles, the guilt, the hard work, the burdens, and the future for female scholars.

### **Sapphic Arts and Studies in (and Beyond) the Academy: Nurturing a Nexus of Radical Desire**

This roundtable invites artists, activists, and academics with an interest in (re)making and maintaining a place for Sapphic studies and arts in and beyond the academy to come together to share



## WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES / WORLD LITERATURE (NON-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES)

work that demonstrates the importance of explorations, critical examinations, and celebrations of what comes under the heading of "Sapphic" in the past and present.

### **Snake Sisters in Literature and Film**

From Medusa and White Snake to snake women images worldwide, this session seeks to uncover the empowering narratives of these nonnormative women figures, who are delineating a genealogy of sister rebels in film and literature.

### **Stigmatization: Exploring Infertility in Latin American Literature and Cinema**

This panel invites scholars to explore the complex portrayals of infertility in Latin American literature and cinema, focusing on stigmatization and its interplay with trauma and intersectionality. By examining a variety of works, it aims to understand how cultural, social, and gendered dimensions shape and challenge narratives of infertility, highlighting the resilience and agency of marginalized groups. In doing so, it seeks to broaden the discourse on reproductive rights, health, and justice in the region.

### **"Theory in the Flesh": The Function of Praxis in Resistance**

Focusing on the intersection of theory and practice, this panel calls for contemporary discussions of "theory in the flesh," i.e., theory considering the material conditions of existence. While the panel is particularly interested in women of color writing, other engagements with the place of material reality in academia will be considered.

### **Visual Revolutions: Comics and Speaking the Unspeakable [WGSC Session]**

We invite participants who look at comics and visual narrative through the lens of gender, sexuality, feminist, and transgender studies, from the perspectives of editors, artists, writers, scholars, and teachers of comics.

### **We Can't Take on Old Shapes! Black Feminism and Unstable Thought**

Drawing inspiration from bodies that, although marked for a reproductive potential, refuse to be who/what is needed for the maintenance of our capitalist, ableist, and disaffected world, this roundtable commands an engagement with figures who have been discarded for their instability and wildness. Building on the work of Beverly Buchan and Audre Lorde, by "unstable" we invoke the architecturally and spatially unsound, the mad/Black, and the ecologically precarious. This panel embraces instability as a means of outlasting an increasingly uninhabitable world.

### **Women's Manuscript Literatures**

This session explores the study of women's manuscript literature that may be accessible primarily or solely through access to archives and the long-term implications that changing 21st-century practices may have for the preservation of difficult-to-access manuscripts written by women.

### **Write Smack In the Middle: Black Women, Autoethnography, Memoir, and the Academy**

What role do the genres autoethnography and/or memoir play in the revolution and evolution of Black women in the academy? This interactive roundtable aims to create an intentional space for Black women who serve in academia to reflect and center on their daily

experiences in their own words. We desire to use our written stories to explore how the genres of autoethnography and memoir can be vehicles for evolution and revolution and the springboard for much-needed and dire conversations on robust, whole, and healthy-bodied preservation strategies that may include well-being, joy, various modes of healing, rest, self-care, and resistance.

### **Zora Neale Hurston, Create, Live and Write**

Zora Neale Hurston born 1891 and died 1960 ethnographer, has been rediscovered in a manner unprecedented in the black tradition. Several black women writers in America today, have openly turned to her works as sources of narrative strategies, to be repeated, imitated, and revised. This panel explores Hurston's legacy in other works.

## - WORLD LITERATURES (NON-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES) -

### **Beyond the West: Ecocriticism and Non-Western Cultural Insights**

This proposed panel intends to explore the relevance of using ecocriticism to approach knowledges in non-Western cultural productions. By discussing these types of knowledges, the panel explores the transformative potential of the Humanities and their evolution to foster inclusive and imaginative solutions for a more equitable and sustainable world.

### **Effects of Environmental Degradation on the Dalit Community and Other Subaltern Communities**

Proposals are invited which investigate the relationship of the Dalit community and other subaltern communities of postcolonial nations, and ecological disasters—both natural and man-made faced by them.

### **The Literary Ecology of War: Moving Bodies, Technics, and Senses in Sinophone Literature**

This panel focuses on the mobilization of bodies and senses by war in Sinophone literature, broadly defined. We welcome papers that examine the relationship between literary writing and war violence from perspectives including, but not limited to, ecocriticism, post-colonial studies, sound studies, diasporic studies, film and media studies, and STS.

### **The Past, Present, and Future of the South Asian Revolutionary Cultural Praxis**

This panel analyzes progressive South Asian cultural movements from their inception in the 1930s to current times. Papers are invited on literature, cinema, theatre, and music, among other genres, to delve into the past and possible futures of revolutionary cultural praxis in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and beyond.

### **The Southern Question: Literary Forms of Revolution in Peripheries of the World System**

This panel brings together investigations of literary forms with that of revolutionary politics. The aim of this panel will be to locate the possibilities of counter-intuitive solidarities and imagination of alternative geopolitical formations.

# 2025 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FORUM

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 15, 2024

NeMLA will host its 7th Undergraduate Research Forum at its 56th convention. Undergraduate students are invited to submit an abstract.

This year's conference theme is (R)EVOLUTION, which looks at the relationship between revolutions and evolutions. This conference theme asks how the Humanities—in all their infinite variations, genres, and productions—have changed (in) our world, or failed to do so, or have maybe offered more (or less) progressive and imaginative mappings for more (or less) radical change. What role can the Humanities play in society, to honor our cultural and global diversity in all its dimensions?

## CALL FOR PAPERS

Students are invited to submit a 300-word abstract, a bibliography, and a 100-word bio by Nov. 15, 2024 through the NeMLA website. Accepted students can receive mentorship on writing and structuring their presentations.

For questions and further details, please contact us at [support@nemla.org](mailto:support@nemla.org).



The Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA) is a non-profit organization of teachers and scholars of literature, language, and culture, and the largest regional affiliate of the Modern Language Association (MLA).



# 2025 CONVENTION

March 6-9, 2025  
Philadelphia, PA  
Marriott Downtown

Opening Event:  
Benjamin Fraser

Keynote Event:  
Julia Alvarez



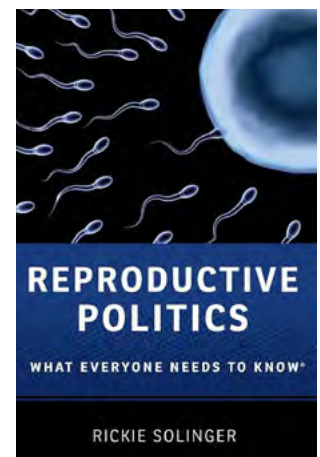
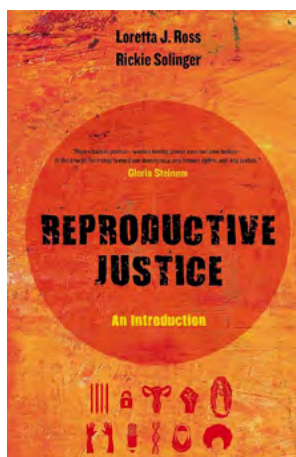
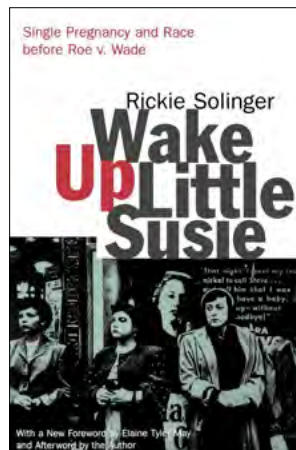
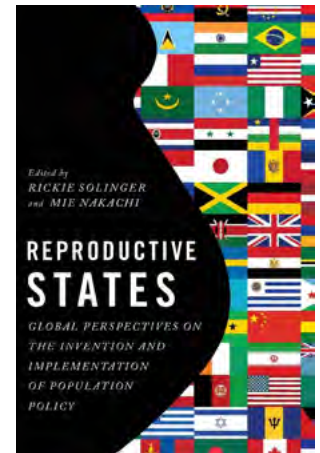
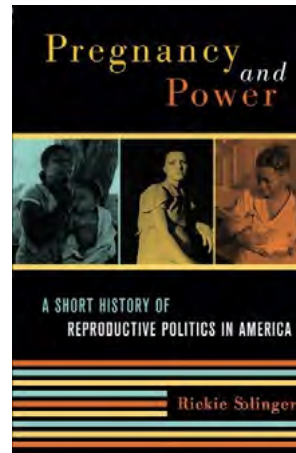
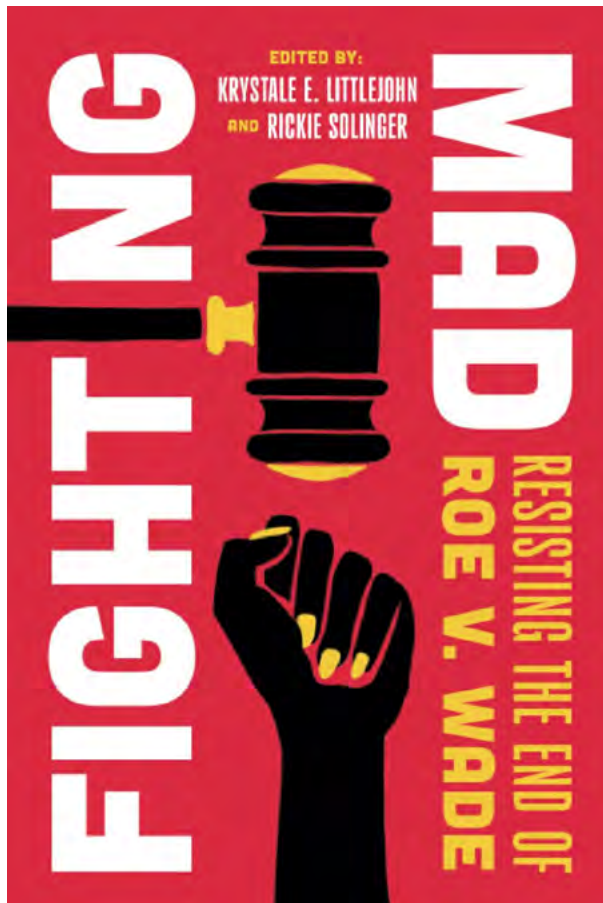
# RICKI SOLINGER'S 2024 KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Ricki Solinger delivered the keynote address at NEMLA's annual convention in Boston in March 2024. NeMLA is pleased to present to its members the full text of Solinger's remarks on the [Modern Language Studies journal website](#). Her work on behalf of reproductive justice has for many years informed how feminists and scholars understand pregnancy, motherhood, and sex. She has produced rich scholarship on the history and politics of reproduction, gender, race, and welfare in the U.S. by using a critical, intersectional lens to examine the feminist concept of *choice*.

## RESISTANCE AND REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE POST-DOBBS: AN INTERVIEW WITH RICKIE SOLINGER

MARY THOMPSON  
(JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY)

In this interview, Mary Thompson follows up with Ricki Solinger on issues raised in her keynote address, resistance and protest in the post-Dobbs moment, and Solinger's work on reproductive justice—including her new edited volume *Fighting Mad: Resisting the End of Roe v. Wade*. NeMLA is excited to offer its members this energizing and insightful interview, published on the [Modern Language Studies journal website](#).





# STATE OF THE WGSC AT NEMLA 2024

By Sheila Batacharya, Justine Dymond, Kelly Minerva, Lisa Propst, and Maria Rovito

Every year at the annual convention, the Women's and Gender Studies Caucus (WGSC) has two sponsored sessions and an invited speaker, along with copious sessions with women's and gender studies as a subject area. 2024's special sessions addressed ways of responding to injustice through literature and practical strategizing. In the process, they strove to build community by centering a feminist ethics of care: care for one another in the particularities of each person's context and perspective. In this article, we share highlights and inspiration from three of these events:

- "(Re)reading Feminist Speculative Fiction Post-Roe v. Wade" asked how feminist re-imaginings of possible futures can help us respond to present-day political circumstances.
- "Refusal, Disruption, and Persistence in Academia" drew inspiration from Rebecca Subar's *When to Talk and When to Fight* (2021) to share stories about striving for systemic change from diverse standpoints.
- In a WGSC Special Event, attendees heard directly from Subar, who shared insights about how to shuttle between dialogue and confrontation in working toward change.

2024's special sessions addressed ways of responding to injustice through literature and practical strategizing.

The roundtable "(Re)reading Feminist Speculative Fiction Post-Roe v. Wade" focused on how future-oriented novels and short stories by feminist authors can illuminate

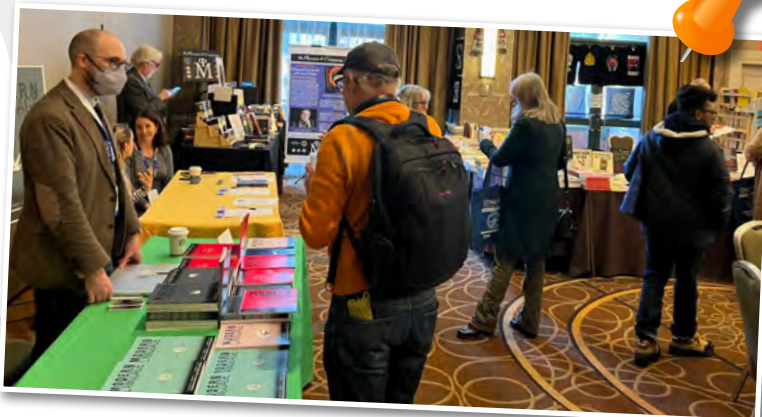
our present moment in the wake of the *Dobbs* decision. Swarnima Banerjee analyzed the subversive power of speculative fiction by South Asian authors under "double colonization." Rachel Harrison argued that feminist fictional utopias enabled late 19th and 20th century women writers to enter conversations about science and futurity they were otherwise excluded from and imagine autonomy over reproductive technologies. In more recent dystopian novels, Sarah Nolan examined how the medicalization of reproduction limits character autonomy and the possibility of choice. Carolina Cassese de Vasconcellos Serelle highlighted the role of dystopian stories by Octavia Butler and Samanta Shweblin in representing the impact of infertility on marginalized groups. The session generated a rich discussion that reflected keynote speaker Rickie Solinger's claim that the *Dobbs* decision is "another phase in the centuries-long project to revive archaic notions of womanhood."

At "Refusal, Disruption, and Persistence in Academia," presenters discussed strategies for change-making inspired by Subar's *When to Talk and When to Fight*. JoAnn Michel elaborated on agency, transparency, and critically redirecting her awareness. Vidya Natarajan highlighted the tremendous energy required for talking and fighting, especially in institutional contexts. Ellen Moll theorized the "everyday stuff" of EDI labor that is frequently co-opted, undervalued,

and poorly compensated. Maria DiFrancesco affirmed positionality, collegial compassion, and that "institutions are not our homes." Zoë Newman emphasized that avoiding binaries between talking and fighting is crucial for discerning why direct action by Jews Say No to Genocide is constructed as "peaceful" while Palestinian youth activism is constructed as "violent." Finally, Soraya Zarook critiqued discourses of personal choice in responses to Covid-19 that impose disability on individuals. Overall, the presenters offered an interdisciplinary conversation inspired by Subar's book to define situated and urgent perspectives from the frontlines of community and academic locales. Subar offers a metacognitive approach to activism, and this WGSC roundtable encouraged participants to think carefully about approaches to scholarly activism and building power.

The next morning, Subar's talk, "Balancing Instinct and Intention when Approaching Conflict in Liberation-Oriented Spaces," provided ways of recognizing our own biases and intentionally making choices that align with commitments to justice and care. Much like the "Refusal, Disruption, and Persistence" roundtable, Subar's talk created a space to build community and gain tools for responding to injustice. The session validated the importance of practical and material strategizing to create structural change in academia. People asked concrete questions that centered on their specific locations but had applications for varied contexts, so attendees could adapt Subar's advice to their own institutions and practices.

Here we share our reflections on how to carry forward the ideas raised in these sessions, at NeMLA and beyond. The focus on ethics of care in these sessions offers ways to think about issues under discussion by the board and the broader NeMLA community. There is a growing demand for greater accessibility at NeMLA. The current structure of in-person conferences neglects the rights of scholars with disabilities, chronic illness, and impairments. At the same time, creating a hybrid conference structure that uses audiovisual equipment, WiFi, Zoom, and closed captioning is a costly matter. NeMLA must create a policy that addresses disability rights and accommodations while maintaining the quality of networking and discussions. If NeMLA desires to build spaces for disabled presenters and disability studies in languages and literature, then we must foster feminist ethics of care for these marginalized voices in academia. We must make material changes within higher education that are not merely lip service to inclusivity.



## NeMLA Board Openings in March 2025

### Nomination Process:

Nominations for open Board openings are due at [nemla\\_nominations@nemla.org](mailto:nemla_nominations@nemla.org) by October 1, 2024. Self-nominations are welcome. NeMLA's Nominating Committee will consider all nominations, based on the candidates' experience, statements, and years of involvement with NeMLA, before the membership vote. Elected members will begin their duties on the last day of the upcoming convention.

- Second Vice President
- Creative Writing, Publishing, and Editing Director
- French and Francophone Studies Director
- Hispanophone and Lusophone Studies Director
- Graduate Student Caucus Representative

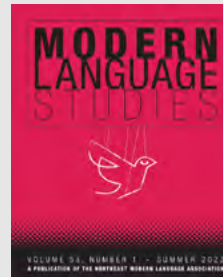
For more information about the nominating process and about the responsibilities and duties expected of board members, please contact [nemla\\_nominations@nemla.org](mailto:nemla_nominations@nemla.org).

Deadline for nominations: October 1, 2024  
Email nominations to [nemla\\_nominations@nemla.org](mailto:nemla_nominations@nemla.org)



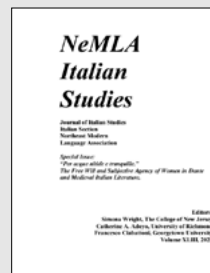
NeMLA proudly sponsors the publication of three journals dedicated to the production of award-winning scholarship.

### *Modern Language Studies*



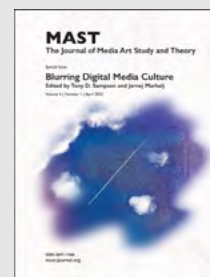
*Modern Language Studies* is a peer-reviewed journal representing the wide-ranging critical and creative interests of NeMLA members. We publish scholarship, interviews, fiction and poetry, reviews, and commentary on teaching, research, and writing in all areas of English, American, comparative studies, as well as the literatures of the modern languages.

### *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 includes sections dedicated to creative writing in Italian (primarily poetry or short prose fiction), translations of contemporary and classical works/ authors, cultural debates, and interviews. A section of the journal is dedicated to book reviews.

### *MAST: The Journal of Media Art, Study and Theory*



*MAST: The Journal of Media Art, Study and Theory* is an online, open-access, and double-blind peer-reviewed journal featuring interdisciplinary scholarship in the domain of media studies with a focus on both practice and theory. MAST stands for "Media Art Study and Theory" and welcomes original high-quality submissions from artists, practitioners, scholars, writers, theorists, curators, academic faculty, and graduate students in artistic research, theory, and practice-based/ practice-led studies in media arts.

# 2024-25 AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Complete information for current awards and fellowships can be found at <https://www.nemla.org/awards.html> with only brief descriptions and deadlines listed here.

## Annual Book Awards

NeMLA solicits book-length manuscripts for its two Annual Book Prizes for:

- The best unpublished book-length manuscript on any of NeMLA's focal literatures, languages, media, or cultures
- The best unpublished fiction book in English

Manuscripts cannot be under review at a press. The authors must be current members 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 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.

Deadline: October 15, 2024

Email submissions: [book.award@nemla.org](mailto:book.award@nemla.org)

## Creative Writing Award

The award will be given for a presentation given on a Creative Session at the previous Convention.

Deadline: December 15, 2024

Email submissions to [support@nemla.org](mailto:support@nemla.org) with "NeMLA Creative Award Submission" as the subject line.

## Caucus Essay Awards

There are four different caucus essay awards. Submissions should be between 6,000 and 9,000 words. All essays are to be revised and expanded from original papers presented at previous NeMLA convention(s). Submissions should be written in or translated into English. Each Caucus Essay Award winner will be awarded a \$100 prize bestowed at the membership brunch, and essays will be considered for publication by *Modern Language Studies*. All essays are subject to *MLS's* double-blind review.

## Caucus Essay Awards Descriptions:

### Postcolonial Studies Essay Award

NeMLA is proud to sponsor a special essay prize for a revised paper in Postcolonial Studies presented at one of the previous two NeMLA Conventions. Please email submissions as two separate Microsoft Word document files to [postcolonial.essay.award@nemla.org](mailto:postcolonial.essay.award@nemla.org): (1) a cover sheet with the title, author's name, address and academic affiliation. (2) the essay with "NeMLA Postcolonial Essay Award" in the subject line.

Deadline: December 15, 2024

### Caity Essay Award

NeMLA awards an annual prize for the best essay developed from a paper presented by contingent faculty, adjunct instructors, independent scholars, and two-year college faculty members. The competition is limited to papers presented by Caitymembers at a session during the NeMLA convention earlier in the year. Email submissions to [Caity@nemla.org](mailto:Caity@nemla.org) as two separate Microsoft Word documents: (1) a cover sheet with the title, author's name, address and academic affiliation. (2) the essay with the title "NeMLA Caity Essay Award Submission" in the subject line.

Deadline: January 6, 2025

### Graduate Student Caucus Essay Award

NeMLA awards an annual prize to the best graduate student paper presented at any of the sessions of the previous three conventions. Email submissions as two separate Microsoft Word document files to [gsc@nemla.org](mailto:gsc@nemla.org): (1) a cover sheet with the title, author's name, address and academic affiliation. (2) the essay and "NeMLA GSC Essay Submission" in the subject line.

Deadline: January 15, 2025

### Women's and Gender Studies Essay Award

The NeMLA Women's and Gender Studies Caucus invites submissions for the "Best Essay in Women's and Gender Studies Award" given for a paper presented at the previous two sessions of the NeMLA Convention using women and/or gender-centered approaches. This essay may not be submitted to another contest for the duration of the award's deliberation. Essays must be submitted in English. Send entries to the President of the NeMLA Women's and Gender Studies Caucus as two separate Microsoft Word document files at [wgsnemla@gmail.com](mailto:wgsnemla@gmail.com): (1) a cover sheet with the title, author's name, address and academic affiliation. (2) the essay with "NeMLA WGSC Essay Award Submission" in the subject line. Decisions will be communicated in winter.

Deadline: January 15, 2025



# 2024-25 AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

## Travel Awards

NeMLA offers three different travel awards to members accepted to present papers at the upcoming annual convention. Applicants are eligible to receive only one of the awards below.

### Graduate Student Travel Awards

The Graduate Student Caucus provides a number of travel awards to graduate students accepted to the upcoming Annual Convention. Email the accepted abstract and a 250-word statement of the presentation's relevance to the field to [gsc@nemla.org](mailto:gsc@nemla.org).

Deadline: November 30, 2024

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

### 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 the upcoming annual convention. Caity Travel Awards are not meant for panel chairs or for participants in creative sessions or roundtables.

Deadline: January 13, 2025

Email submissions: [Caity\\_travel@nemla.org](mailto:Caity_travel@nemla.org)

### Antonio Cao Travel Award

NeMLA is sponsoring a special graduate student travel award in memory of Antonio Cao, member of the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at Hofstra University, a passionate scholar, and an invaluable and loyal member of NeMLA. To honor Dr. Cao's memory and his unwavering support of students, this prize will be awarded to a graduate student who is presenting on any aspect of Spanish culture or literature at our annual convention. Applications are evaluated on basis of the quality of the abstract; the relevance of the topic to Spanish studies; the funds available from the student's institution; and the travel distance to the Convention.

Deadline: January 10, 2025

Email submissions: [cao.travel@nemla.org](mailto:cao.travel@nemla.org)

## Summer Research Fellowships

The NeMLA Summer Fellowship Program is designed to support the research of NeMLA members, especially untenured junior faculty, graduate students, and independent scholars. This does not preclude senior faculty from applying. Fellowships up to \$1,200 are intended to defray the cost of traveling incurred by researchers in pursuing their work-in-progress over the summer. This program does not provide funding for conference travel, equipment, food, or general office expenses.

Deadline: February 6, 2025

Email submissions: [fellowship@nemla.org](mailto:fellowship@nemla.org)





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ADMINISTRATIVE HOME



## Key Dates for 2024–2025

Sep 30	2025 Conference Abstract Submission Deadline
Oct 01	Board Nominations Deadline
Oct 15	Book Awards Submission Deadline
Nov 15	Undergraduate Forum Abstract Submission Deadline
Nov 30	GSC Travel Grant Applications Deadline
Dec 15	Creative Writing Award Submissions Deadline Postcolonial Essay Award Submissions Deadline
Dec 31	Antonio Cao Memorial Award Application Deadline
Dec 09	Registration Deadline
Feb 25	Board Elections Voting Deadline
Feb 05	Exhibitors Registration Deadline
Feb 06	Summer Fellowship Application Deadline
Jan 06	CAITY Essay Award Submission Deadline
Jan 13	CAITY Travel Award Application Deadline
Jan 15	GSC Essay Award Submission Deadline WSGC Essay Award Submission Deadline
Mar 06–9	56th Annual Convention in Philadelphia

## Upcoming Convention Dates

**2025** March 6–9, Philadelphia, PA  
Host: La Salle University

