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More Information at www.NeMLA.org

President's Letter:



Greetings to all NeMLA members. This year's conference in Harrisburg was a great success, thanks to you, our members, and NeMLA's collaboration with host institution Susquehanna University. I want to take this opportunity to thank

Susquehanna for bringing noteworthy speakers to our conference, and to thank George Saunders, our opening speaker, and David Staller, our keynote speaker, for two remarkable events during the conference. Both speakers were extremely engaging, and each contributed to make NeMLA 2014 a memorable occurrence. Our 45th annual meeting also confirmed the strong image of NeMLA as a growing community of scholars. We had 1,700 attendees and 380 sessions, featuring a variety of panels, seminars, roundtables, workshops, and poster sessions.

We now look forward to Toronto for our upcoming conference. Our host institution, Ryerson University, has demonstrated great enthusiasm and willingness in assisting to plan our next convention. I want to extend my thanks to Professors Dennis Denisoff, Marco Fiola, and Kinga Zawada for being so very helpful and cooperative, and Dean Jean-Paul Boudreau for making all necessary arrangements during initial negotiations.

NeMLA 2015 will be an exciting convention emphasizing traditional and new session themes. We are delighted to mention the addition in our CFP of the new category "Interdisciplinary Humanities," intended to explore the widening possibilities for humanistic study and research that reach across the Arts and Humanities. We are also very happy to remark on new topics that will be featured in the CFP: Digital Humanities, Disability, Diversity, Language, Madness, Poetry/The Word, Urban Ecology/The City, and Visual Cultures/Photography. We hope that this attractive new variety of topics will give members the opportunity to share their scholarly expertise and research and to engage in stimulating dialogues.

Our 46th annual meeting in Toronto will feature two opening speakers, both acclaimed poets, who will entertain the audience with readings from their published works. Our first speaker, M. NourbeSe Philip, is a poet, novelist, playwright, and essayist from Tobago who lives in Toronto. She has published numerous books, including the highly acclaimed poetry collections *Zong!* (2008) and *She Tries Her Tongue, Her Silence Softly Breaks* (1988),

winner of the Casa de las Américas Prize. She has received a number of international awards and recognitions, including the Guggenheim Fellowship and a residency in Bellagio, Italy, with the Rockefeller Foundation. Our second speaker, Madeleine Stratford, is a poet, literary translator, and associate professor at the Université du Québec. She is also the recipient of the 2013 John Glassco Translation Prize for her literary translation from Spanish, *Ce qu'il faut dire a des fissures*, by Uruguayan poet Tatiana Oroño. Thank you, Ryerson, for selecting these remarkable speakers.

We are also excited to announce our keynote event, inspired by the latest addition to our categories, "Interdisciplinary Humanities." This event will be presented by Christopher Innes, York University Distinguished Professor, and conductor-mezzo soprano Brigitte Bogar of the Toronto Swedish Singers. This event will feature literary, musical, vocal, and visual components that emphasize interdisciplinary approaches in the Arts. Innes and Bogart have performed together throughout the United States, Canada, and abroad at invited public lectures that combine scholarly discussion with vocal illustration. Innes is author of 18 books, translated into eight different languages, and Bogar holds degrees in Theater and Music from the University of Copenhagen.

I would like to close with an acknowledgement of some of the many people who have made NeMLA so successful. Elizabeth Abele, NeMLA's previous Executive Director, worked very hard with a team of committed individuals to ensure the excellent result of the conference in Harrisburg. We thank Elizabeth for her commitment and dedicated service to NeMLA these past years. At the same time, we warmly welcome Carine Mardorossian as the new Executive Director. Her enthusiasm and energy, together with her leadership, will ensure NeMLA's continued success and growth.

A group of very dedicated people completed their service on the NeMLA Board on Sunday April 6, 2014, and we want to extend our sincere thanks for their enthusiasm and dedication to Giovanni Spani, Italian Director; Suha Kudsieh, British and Anglophone Literatures Director; Margarita Vargas, Cultural Studies and Film Director; Barry Spence, Graduate Caucus Representative; Donovan Ramon, Diversity Caucus Representative; and Astrid Weigert, German Director.

We take this opportunity to also welcome the newly elected members of the Board of Directors: Hilda Chacón, Second Vice President; Susmita Roye, British and Anglophone Literatures; Lynn Kutch, German Director; Barry Spence, Culture and Media Studies Director; Suha Kudsieh, Pedagogy and Professional Director; Marie-Eve Monette, Graduate Caucus Representative; Gloria Pastorino, Italian Director; Vetri Nathan, Diversity Caucus Representative; and Emily Lauer, CAITY President and Representative. We count on them for bringing new ideas to the Board and to the NeMLA community.

The deadline for abstract submissions is September 30, 2014. Please encourage your colleagues and friends to submit and to join us in Toronto, because it is our membership that makes NeMLA's conference a success each year.

On behalf of our Executive Director and the Board of Directors, we wish all of you our best wishes for a wonderful summer—and *au plaisir de vous voir à Toronto!*

Daniela Bisello Antonucci
NeMLA President, 2014–2015

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FEATURED SPEAKERS

2015 Opening Speakers

The 46th annual meeting of NeMLA will open with readings by two noteworthy poets.



M. NourbeSe Philip is a Toronto-based poet, fiction writer, and Guggenheim fellow. Born in Tobago, Ms. Philip moved to Canada to attend Western University, where she graduated with a law degree in 1973. Also a playwright and an essayist, she has published numerous books,

including *Zong!* (2008), the highly-acclaimed book-length poem based on the eighteenth-century court case *Gregson vs. Gilbert*, the only public document related to the lives and deaths of 150 Africans murdered for insurance money aboard the slave ship *Zong*. Ms. Philip's other major works include the young adult novel *Harriet's Daughter* (1988); her second novel *Looking for Livingstone: An Odyssey of Silence* (1991); and the award-winning poetry collection *She Tries Her Tongue, Her Silence Softly Breaks* (1988), winner of the Casa de las Américas Prize. Author of four collections of essays, Ms. Philip's writing situates themes of colonialism, race, memory, identity, and place at the contrasting intersections of political and poetic innovation. Ms. Philip has held residencies and other academic posts at the University of Toronto, the University of West Indies, McMaster University, the University of Windsor, and Western University.



Madeleine Stratford is a poet, literary translator, and associate professor of translation at the Université du Québec en Outaouais. Her first poetry book *Des mots dans la neige* (2009) was awarded the Orpheus Poetry Prize in France. Her French translation

of *Ce qu'il faut dire a des fissures / Lo que hay que decir tiene grietas* by Uruguayan poet Tatiana Oroño (2012) was awarded the John Glassco Prize for Literary Translation and received a commendation from the jury of the 2012 Nelly Sachs Translation Prize in France. Dr. Stratford has published translations in various journals, including *Calque*, *Corresponding Voices*, *K1N*, and *Alba Londres*. She has also written contributions for *Translating Women* (2011) and *Translation Peripheries: Paratextual Elements in Translation* (2011). Her scholarship has appeared in journals worldwide, including *TTR*, *Meta*, *MonTI*, *ReCIT*, *AErea*, and *Point of Contact*. She was recently selected to participate in the 2014 Banff International Literary Translation Centre Program for her current project, a French translation of a book of short stories by Marianne Apostolides for *La Peuplade* editors.

2015 Keynote Event: Christopher Innes and Brigitte Bogar

The keynote event for the 46th annual meeting of NeMLA will feature Christopher Innes and Brigitte Bogar of York University, Toronto. Through their unique blend of public presentation and musical performance, Dr. Innes and Ms. Bogar combine scholarly discussion with vocal illustration. They have performed combined concert readings and recitals worldwide, including at the International Shaw Society conference, the Comparative Drama Conference, and additional performances in Sweden and Denmark. Dr. Innes and Ms. Bogar are also editors of the book *Carnival: Theory and Practice* (2012), and they are currently preparing their next book *Art and Myth: The Operas of R. Murray Schafer* for McGill/Queens University Press.



Christopher Innes is Distinguished Research Professor at York University and Research Professor at Copenhagen University. Author of eighteen books and more than 130 articles on modern drama, he is general editor of the Cambridge "Directors in Perspective" series and has been co-editor of the quarterly journal *Modern Drama*. Among his most recent books are *Directors/Directing* (2009) and *The Cambridge Introduction to Theatre Directing* (2013). A Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and of the Royal Society of Arts in the United Kingdom, he holds the Canada Research Chair in Performance and Culture at York University.



Brigitte Bogar holds degrees in Theatre and Music from Copenhagen University and is currently studying in the PhD Music Program at York University. She conducts the Toronto Swedish Singers and has sung at the Black Creek Festival with the London Symphonic Orchestra under the baton of Lorin Maazel in 2010. Ms. Bogar's most recent stage appearances include Louise in Offenbach's *La Vie Parisienne* for the Toronto Operetta Theatre; Dorabella in Mozart's *Così fan tutte* for Opera By Request; and Romeo in Bellini's *I Capuleti e i Montecchi* for the Toronto Summer Opera Lyric Theatre. Ms. Bogar performed in a concert at Ayot St Lawrence in England illustrating Bernard Shaw's music criticism and is currently rehearsing the part of Agathe for a performance of Weber's *Der Freischütz*.

WELCOME TO TORONTO!



The 46th annual meeting of the Northeast Modern Language Association will be held in Toronto, Ontario, and will be hosted by Ryerson University. With more than 100 cultures found there, Toronto is one of the world's most cosmopolitan cities, known for its diverse culinary scene and multicultural urban vitality. The city is integral to the works of numerous authors, as captured in the literary works of Margaret Atwood, George Elliott Clarke, Robertson Davies, Michael Ondaatje, and M. G. Vassanji. NeMLA convention delegates can explore galleries and museums, shop at historic markets, and discover vibrant international villages. Miles of waterfront, boardwalks, parks, and trails nestle together with urban delights like cafés, artisans' exhibits, and one-of-a-kind shops. Diners and shoppers will have no shortage of options: trendy Queen Street West, Yorkville's designer boutiques, and downtown's underground walkway PATH, which features more than 1,200 shops along 16 miles of underground concourses.

The arts in Toronto are also vibrant. The city hosts numerous performing arts companies and theatres, including the Four Season Centre for the Performing Arts, the National Ballet of Canada, the Canadian Opera Company, and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Among the city's numerous museums are the Art Gallery of Ontario, the Museum of Inuit Art, the Royal Ontario Museum, the TD Gallery of Inuit Art, and the Toronto Sculpture Garden. Furthermore, stunning architecture reflects the varied history of Toronto. This city's skyline includes both historic limestone facades and of course the CN Tower, one of the Modern Wonders of the World.

The 2015 convention will be in the heart of downtown Toronto at the famous Fairmont Royal York. Events will be planned to help you make the most of your stay. A low Toronto rate of \$165 will be offered, with hotel blocks opening mid-December.

Stay up to date at NeMLA.org and on your mobile device at app. NeMLA.org.

Visit SeeTorontoNow.com and toronto.ca/visitors for more information.

2014 NeMLA Caucus Essay Award Winners

NeMLA awards paper prizes to essays developed from its annual convention. These prizes were awarded to papers presented at the 2013 Boston Convention:

CAITY ESSAY AWARD

Colin Carman, Colorado Mountain College, "Godwin's *Fleetwood*, Shame, and the Sexuality of Feeling"

CARIBBEAN STUDIES ESSAY AWARD

Laurie Lambert, University of California, Davis, "Romancing the Revolution: Black Radicalism and the Immigrant Writer in the Work of Dionne Brand"

GRADUATE STUDENT ESSAY AWARD

Casey Hayman, University of Massachusetts Amherst, "Hypervisible Man: Techno-Performativity and Televisual Blackness in Percival Everett's *I Am Not Sidney Poitier*"

WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES ESSAY AWARD

Victoria Muñoz, Ohio State University, "Female Translators and Their Detractors: Theories of Early Modern Translation in Development"

Honorable Mention: Kara Johnson, Northwestern University, "A pure young voice': Textual Performance in the Journals of Frances & Mary Willard"

Criteria for Caucus Essay Award Submissions

Qualifying 2014 participants are invited to submit essays for the coming round of Caucus Paper Prizes. Submitted essays should be between 6,000 and 9,000 words (there is a 10,000-word limit, notes and works cited included). All essays are to be expanded from original papers presented at the Harrisburg and previous conventions. Unrevised paper presentations are not accepted and will be returned. The author's name, address, and academic affiliation should appear only on a separate cover sheet. Submissions not meeting these criteria may not be considered for an award. Essays and cover pages should be attached as separate Microsoft Word document files to the email.

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

For full information, visit the individual caucuses at: <http://www.nemla.org/about/caucuses/index.html>

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Caucus Essay Awards

CARIBBEAN STUDIES ESSAY AWARD

NeMLA is sponsoring a special essay prize for a revised paper in Caribbean Studies presented at the NeMLA Convention in 2013 or 2014. Please send submissions to Vetri Nathan at Vetri.Nathan@umb.edu.

Deadline: December 1, 2014

CAITY CAUCUS ESSAY AWARD

This award is for a paper presented at the 2014 Convention by an independent scholar or a contingent, adjunct, or two-year college faculty member. Please submit revised conference papers to Emily Lauer, laure@sunysuffolk.edu.

Deadline: December 1, 2014

GRADUATE STUDENT CAUCUS ESSAY AWARD

NeMLA awards an annual prize to the best graduate student paper presented at any of the sessions of the 2014 Convention. Please send submissions to Sara Cole at communications.nemla@gmail.com.

Deadline: January 15, 2015

WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES CAUCUS ESSAY AWARD

This award is for a paper related to women's and gender studies presented at the 2014 Convention. All essays using women- and gendered-centered approaches are welcome. Please send submissions to wgsnemla@gmail.com with "NeMLA WGS Essay Award Submission" in the subject header.

Deadline: October 21, 2014

Research Fellowships

NeMLA members are invited to apply for the

1. **The NeMLA Newberry Library Fellowship**
2. **The NeMLA American Antiquarian Society Fellowship**

The application deadline for both fellowships is January 15, 2015.

3. **The NeMLA Summer Research Fellowship.** Summer fellowships range from \$500 to \$1,500 and support primarily untenured junior faculty, graduate students, and independent scholars, while not precluding senior faculty from applying.

To apply for 2015 Summer Research Fellowships, please visit <http://nemla.org/about/awards/>. Please address questions to Hilda Chacón, Nazareth College, hchacon6@naz.edu. **Deadline:** February 6, 2015

Graduate Student Travel Awards

The Graduate Student Caucus provides a number of travel awards to graduate students. The awards are open to any M.A. and Ph.D. student who has been accepted to present at the upcoming Toronto convention. Evaluation is based

on the quality of the student's abstract; the relevance of their topic to their respective fields; the funds available from the student's institution; and the travel distance to the Convention. Applicants must use the online application which will be available between December 1 and December 31, 2014: <http://nemla.org/about/awards/travel.html>. Students can expect to hear from the Graduate Caucus by mid-February. **Deadline:** December 31, 2014.

ANTONIO CAO MEMORIAL 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 the upcoming NeMLA Convention in Toronto. Please send applications to Gloria Pastorino at gloria.pastorino@gmail.com. Applications will be evaluated on the basis of the quality of the student's abstract; the relevance of their topic to Spanish studies; the funds available from the student's institution; and the travel distance to the Convention. **Deadline:** December 31, 2014.

NeMLA Book Award

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

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

The prize includes a \$750 cash prize, and NeMLA will assist winners with contacting presses about the publication of their manuscripts (at the winner's discretion). The winners will be announced at the annual business meeting, held at the end of NeMLA's spring convention.

Please email file submissions to book.award@nemla.org. Please visit <http://nemla.org/about/awards/bookaward.html> for more information. **Deadline:** October 30, 2014.

2014 AWARD RECIPIENTS

NEMLA BOOK AWARD WINNER

The NeMLA Book Award winner for 2014 is Bartholomew Brinkman, assistant professor of English at Framingham State University, for his book manuscript "Poetic Modernism in the Culture of Mass Print." The reviewers of the manuscript noted its cohesiveness, its lucid writing, and its applicability to areas beyond poetry, poetics, and modernism. The project conveyed multiple strands of cultural studies in order to show that the beginnings of mass print enabled archiving. The author was awarded \$750, and NeMLA will forward the manuscript to Fairleigh Dickinson University Press.

NEMLA SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOWS

The Board of Directors congratulates the 2014 NeMLA Summer Research Fellows:

- Daria Bozzato**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Elena Deanda-Camacho**, Washington College
- Erica Delsandro**, Bucknell University
- Emily Fine**, Brandeis University
- Christine Mills Jeansonne**, Louisiana State University
- Kristine Jennings**, Binghamton University, SUNY
- Candice Nicolas**, Armstrong Atlantic State University
- Mo Pareles**, New York University
- Amanda Stuckey**, College of William and Mary
- Nicole White**, University of Connecticut
- Kimberly Ziegler**, New York University

NEMLA NEWBERRY LIBRARY FELLOWSHIP WINNER

Lucas Dietrich, a PhD Candidate at the University of New Hampshire, was awarded the Newberry Library Fellowship for his project, "Future Readers: W.E.B. DuBois, Sui Sin Far, and the A.C. McClurg & Co. Catalogue."

NEMLA AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY FELLOWSHIP WINNER

Megan Walsh, Assistant Professor of English, St. Bonaventure University, and William Hunting Howell, Assistant Professor of English, Boston University, "Broadview Edition of Frank J. Webb's *The Garies and Their Friends*"

In Memoriam: Celine G.L. Philibert

Celine G.L. Philibert, Past President of NeMLA (2000–2003), passed away on December 14, 2013, in Massena, NY. She was 57. After earning her M.A. and Ph.D in French Literature and Cinema from Ohio State University, Dr. Philibert joined the Department of Modern Languages at SUNY Potsdam in 1990. She served as Chairman of the Department for a number of years. She traveled extensively throughout the world and took much pride in her French heritage and her newly acquired American citizenship. In commemoration of her contributions to NeMLA and her work in film studies, NeMLA is sponsoring the session "New Technologies and Networks in French and Francophone Literature and Films" in her honor in Toronto.

2015 CALL FOR PAPERS

46th Annual Convention

April 30–May 3, 2015 at the Fairmont Royal York, Toronto
Local Host Institution: Ryerson University

Nearly 400 sessions cover the full spectrum of scholarly and teaching interests in modern languages and literatures. Below they are listed under their Primary Area. To see session cross-listing, visit <http://www.nemla.org/convention/2015/cfp.html>. Sessions will run Thursday afternoon through Sunday midday, with convention workshops on Thursday and Sunday.

Abstract deadline (unless otherwise stated): **Sept. 30, 2014.**

If not stated otherwise, abstracts should be 250 to 500 words. To submit a proposal, sign up for an account at <https://nemla.org/convention/2015/cfp.html> and log into NeMLA's new CFP submission system. Include additional information as requested in the same field as your abstract.

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

Call for Papers

American Literatures	6–11
Anglophone Literatures	11–14
British Literatures	14–17
Canadian Literatures	17–18
Comparative Languages and Theory	18–20
Creative Writing	20
Culture and Media Studies	20–24
French & Francophone Languages & Literatures	24–27
German Language and Literatures	27–28
Interdisciplinary Humanities	28–32
Italian Language and Literatures	32–36
Pedagogy and Professional	36–38
Rhetoric and Composition	38–39
Russian and Eastern European	39
Spanish & Portuguese Languages & Literatures	39–44
Women's and Gender Studies	44–46
World Literatures	46–47

American Literatures

Alterity and the Body in Twentieth- and Twenty-First Century American Literature and Culture How do individuals negotiate the social world when their bodies do not clearly fit defined hegemonic frameworks such as: male/female, various racial binaries, gay/straight, citizen/non-citizen, able-bodied/disabled, natural/unnatural, and other binaries? This roundtable will examine representations of the body in the context of alterity

American Literatures

and otherness in twentieth- and twenty-first century American literature and culture. Please submit 300- to 500-word abstracts to Stacie McCormick and Shelagh Patterson.

American Poetry: Word (As) Object In *A Sense of Things*, Bill Brown argues that American novels both promote and decry materialism through the vehicle of the object. Papers are invited that focus on this question of materialism and objecthood in late twentieth- and twenty-first century American poetic productions. Please submit 250-word abstracts to Elisabeth Joyce.

American Women Writers' Path to Publication Early American female writers often made their literary debuts in the periodical press, where they would publish poems, articles or contribute to the women's page. Authors who gained some notoriety would eventually put together a collection of their poems or publish their serialized novel as a book. In this session, we propose exploring specific case studies of female authors in the United States, from the mid-nineteenth through the early twentieth century, who followed this publishing trajectory.



Amiri Baraka and the Black Arts Movement: Redefining Black Literary Aesthetic

This panel seeks critical and creative papers that offer an interdisciplinary approach for accessing, redefining, and evaluating a Black literary aesthetic for the twenty-first century. Panelists are encouraged to consider

contemporary, canonical, and non-canonical works in their presentation. Papers that use the Black Arts Movement and/or Amiri Baraka as a milieu are highly encouraged. Please send a 500-word abstract to Fran L. Lassiter. Also include your name, academic affiliation, a brief biography, and contact information.

Bright and Risen Failures: The Writing of William T. Vollmann

This panel is devoted to the work of William T. Vollmann. The sheer quantity and diversity of Vollmann's work have established him as an important voice in contemporary letters but have also rendered him an intimidating and elusive figure for readers. Providing both an introduction to Vollmann for novices and rigorous scholarship for aficionados, this panel will assess Vollmann's place within American and global literatures. 300–500 word proposals.

Cities Afloat What happens when cities and other concrete geographic spaces become uprooted and mobile? On sailing vessels and modern cruise liners alike, land-based social and political issues are transformed, and new hierarchical power systems can develop. We welcome proposals that consider how the boat functions as a type of floating city or community and possibilities this suggests for new ways of thinking about these spaces. Please send 250-word abstracts.

College in Crisis: Higher Education in Literature and Popular Culture

Higher education in the United States is undergoing a crisis of legitimacy as constituents question its costs and benefits. Many scholars have analyzed this crisis, and simultaneously, narratives about higher education in fiction and popular culture have become a flourishing subgenre. This panel looks for papers about how fictional treatments of college and university life inform or are informed by the crisis of legitimacy in higher education, as well as how they connect to other scholarly treatments of the subject.

D19: Pedagogical Approaches to Digital Nineteenth-Century American Literature

This roundtable will explore how digital technologies impact pedagogical approaches to nineteenth-century American literature. The roundtable format will consist of several short (8- to 10-minute) presentations aimed at audience participation. Panelists are invited to share sample syllabi and/or innovative assignments, including the use of digital archives and electronic editions, GIS/mapping, and/or the pedagogical uses of social media.

The Descent of Darwin: Evolutions in Literary Representation

Charles Darwin's work transformed scientific knowledge in the nineteenth century by offering new modes of understanding and classifying humans that had serious consequences for the studies of race, animals, and affect. How did late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century British and American literature engage, affirm, or resist Darwin's theories? What possibilities did Darwin open up for science in fields such as post-humanism and affect theory? 200–500 word abstracts and brief bios.

The Determining Significance of Home: Authorial Geography in American Literature

Papers from various disciplinary angles are welcome from a variety of themes and from any American region. Themes may include but are not limited to: the geography of gender, class, race, or faith; cross-cultural encounters for migrant authors; regional influences on the political persuasions of American authors. Please provide a title, a 250-word abstract of your paper, and brief biographical information.

Early American Literature and Performance Theory

This panel seeks fresh scholarly and pedagogical approaches to early American literature (to 1865) through the lens of performance theory and performativity. Proposals can work with intersections between performance theory and a wide range of topics, including ethnicity, identity politics, (trans) national identity, social roles, power relations, democracy, the culture of novel reading, contact literature, missions literature, travel literature, and so on.

Ecocriticism and Asian North American Literature

This panel solicits proposals that examine the relation between ecocriticism and Asian minorities in North America. As Asian American/ Canadian Studies is an interdisciplinary field, proposals in literary studies, political science, anthropology, sociology, film and media studies, arts and design, environmental justice, and

American Literatures

the like, that have not been presented before, are welcome. This is the traditional paper format of 3–4 participants, reading a formal paper of 15–20 minutes (2500–3000 words) as set by the chair, followed by Q&A.



Epistolary Children's and Young Adult Literature

Children's and Young Adult literature is replete with first-person narratives told through journals,

letters, texts, blogs, etc., in order to create a sense of immediacy and the semblance of truth. This panel seeks to understand whether or not the epistolary strategies employed by Children's and Young Adult literature in fact does anything new or different compared to eighteenth-century epistolary narratives. How do we tell new stories differently when technology enables new kinds of correspondence?

Excavating the Voice: Literature of 19th-Century African-

American Women This roundtable explores the ways in which literature by African-American women in the nineteenth century discusses motherhood, slavery, madness, spirituality, challenges to patriarchy and sexuality. In particular, how do African-American women's voices in nineteenth-century American culture situate themselves within the cults of womanhood and domesticity in the midst of tremendous adversity? How, then, did these women struggle to establish, cultivate, and protect a sense of home even if it was merely 'home' within the individual self?

Existential Thought in African American Literature Before 1945 This panel seeks papers that explore existentialism in African-American thought that predates the codification of the term by Jean-Paul Sartre in the post-World War II period. The premise of this panel explicitly makes the case for the genealogy of African-American existentialist thought, tracing and situating it as a proto-existential literature. Revisiting such literary works prior to World War II will illustrate a rich tradition of African-American existentialist thought.

Fresh Perspectives on August Wilson This panel presents fresh critical perspectives on August Wilson's works, life, and legacy ten years after his death. Potential topics include but are not limited to: Wilson on Broadway, Wilson's Pittsburgh, Wilson's ten-play cycle, Wilson's female characters, Wilson and his critics. Please submit 250- to 500-word abstracts and brief biographical statements to Cigdem Usekes.

Ghosts in the Machine: Technology, Image, Body, Language

This panel will investigate the specter of technology—photography, cinema, print media, machines of all kinds but in particular those connected with the production of

visual culture—and its haunting of modern and postmodern American literature. We will explore the seductions, the terrors, the delights, and the disasters of technology and their intersections with embodiment, language, and subjectivity in the American landscape.

The Harlem Renaissance at the Margins Although recent scholarship has declared the Harlem Renaissance a 'well-worn paradigm,' a substantial body of writing and art from the period remains forgotten or under-examined. This panel invites considerations of marginalized Harlem Renaissance-era literatures and performances. How do such works force us to adjust common assumptions about blackness, gender, sexuality, class, and other aspects of this era? Please submit abstracts to Clark Barwick.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow: His Circle and World As the renaissance in the study of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow continues, this panel seeks to examine Longfellow's engagement with a circle of friends, correspondents, fellow artists, and admirers who made up an integral portion of the intellectual life of the United States in the nineteenth century. Papers for this panel should consider Longfellow's relationships, whether personal, artistic, or intellectual, with important nineteenth-century figures and perhaps lesser-known persons. The panel will imagine Longfellow's world and milieu.

Imagining the World's End: Apocalyptic Representations in American Literature This panel investigates representations of the apocalypse and welcomes submissions from contemporary American literature or analyses of film adaptations. The focus of this panel is to investigate why the apocalypse continues to be increasingly depicted in fiction and what accounts for the mainstream appeal of this genre, a popularity that is especially demonstrated by the commercial success of *The Hunger Games* and *The Walking Dead*. 250- to 300-word abstracts.

Imposture and Self-Making in American Literature, 1850–1950 U.S. literature and culture, at least since Franklin, have been perpetually preoccupied with mythologies of both the self-made man and confidence-man. What accounts for this preoccupation, and where do the two identifications of these 'men' intersect or blur? Further, why are they 'men,' and how do women and people of color fit into these categories? This panel seeks papers investigating these connections, including but not limited to discussions of self-making within passing, gender imposture, and criminal imposture in American culture.

'In the Wider Sense': Poetry at Black Mountain College This panel will explore new approaches (i.e., sociological, material, bibliographic, and theoretical) to the poetry and poetics associated with Black Mountain College. The panel welcomes essays that expand the purview of Black Mountain College poetry beyond discussions of Olson, Creeley, Duncan, and Levertov. Papers that situate Black Mountain poetry in relation to other artistic practices are especially encouraged. Areas

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of interest include: The Black Mountain Review; poetry and pedagogy; neglected women poets; and artistic collaboration.

Kay Ryan and Poetic Play This panel will explore the poetic play of 2008–2010 U.S. Poet Laureate Kay Ryan from a variety of perspectives to bring greater critical attention to her work and to her contributions to the literary canon. Please submit an abstract of 350 words for consideration.

Kurt Vonnegut's America This panel will explore the connections between Kurt Vonnegut's authorial presence in his work and the America in which he lived, following Jerome Klinkowitz's argument that both elements are central to the author's message. Papers will seek to understand Vonnegut as uniquely American and how Vonnegut's writings represent and shape America of the late twentieth century and beyond. Submit a 250- to 500-word abstract about American culture as seen through the lens of Vonnegut's fiction.

Literature and Religion after 1900 How does fiction imagine faith as a possibility in an increasingly pluralistic and secular world? How might recent theoretical discussions of the 'post-secular' intersect with literary explorations of faith? This panel seeks papers exploring the themes of religion, faith, or spirituality in literature after 1900. Topics might include: mysticism in fiction; syncretic religious themes in literature; death-of-God theology; madness and secularization; treatment of spiritual melancholy in literature.

The Little Things: American Miniatures in Cultural Contexts Flash fiction, Lena Dunham's film *Tiny Furniture*, sliders, the tiny house movement: contemporary American culture harbors a love for the miniature. Why do small objects appeal? How is the miniature represented in American culture and what does it mean? This Interdisciplinary Humanities panel will explore the phenomenon of the American miniature including but not limited to its contexts in literature, film, media, and popular culture. Special consideration will be given to papers employing interdisciplinary topics or methodology.

Local Color Outside the Lines: American Literary Regionalism's 'Others' Literary regionalism can negotiate cultural geographies and implicitly enforce distinctions of race, class, and culture. The genre pivots on themes of 'difference,' most apparent in literary regionalism's most celebrated 'local': the disenfranchised ex-slave of Southern dialect tales. This panel seeks papers that address literary regionalism's 'others' construed narrowly or broadly; the gendering of the genre; regionalism-as-other; regionalism vs. local color; or textual analysis. Diverse theoretical methodologies welcome.

Love and Loss in Modernist Poetry While poetry itself has played a historically long and significant role in the discourse of love, the period of modernity seems to be largely associated with its opposites. Citizens the world over felt overwhelmed and frightened by the sundry and rapid changes—literal, conceptual, moral, and beyond—brought about by

industrialization, scientific developments, World War I, etc. But what happens to poetic love in the early twentieth century? What specifically happens when love, loss, and poetry come together during such a fraught time?

Madness in American Literature: Alienation, Disorder, and Narcissism This panel examines the ever-evolving subject of madness in American literature, considering how it might be manifested fictionally as a form of alienation, intrinsic mental disorder, or narcissism. To what extent have these categories of madness contributed to the evolution of American literature? Are the causes of the disorders depicted as external or internal? What role does madness play thematically in the text, especially when the label can be reflected back by the victims to identify madness in the hegemonic victimizers?

Making Something Happen: Poetry and Citizenship This panel will consider how poetry and citizenship can intersect to 'make something happen': How have poets responded to the obligations of citizenship? What are the effects of the representation of, and response to such issues of citizenship as social and political equality; resistance, dissidence, and revolution; community formation; colonization and imperialism; nation building and maintenance; patriotism? How do poets revise poetic aesthetics to include politics? 250- to 500-word abstracts to Kirsten Ortega.

Malcolm X's Assassination and Autobiography Fifty Years Later What are the literary legacies of Malcolm X's life and death? In 1965, after Malcolm X's life came to an end, *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* cemented his status as icon. Malcolm's death galvanized a nascent Black Arts Movement, inspiring the generation of black nationalist artists that Amiri Baraka termed 'Malcolm's sons and daughters.' This panel invites papers that engage with the enduring resonance of Malcolm X's life and death for literary and black studies.

Mood and the Making of Worldviews in Modern and Contemporary Poetry From Cavell to Cascardi, theorists of language and aesthetics have argued for the place of mood, temperament, disposition, or attitude in understanding how experience is mediated by 'interest, value, and physical embodiment,' as Walter Jost argues. This panel seeks to understand the ways in which quotidian experience consists of concepts, arguments, evaluations, decisions, and actions negotiated in poetic discourse. We welcome papers especially on recent American poetics, aesthetics, and ethics, though earlier periods are also of interest.

Performing Freedom, Troubling Race This panel seeks papers that explore performance and racial identity in twenty-first century Afro-diasporic literature and dance. Topics include Afro-futurism, urbanity, soundscapes, mourning and melancholia, race, gender, and sexuality. Proposals that examine aurality in contemporary Afro-diasporic literature are of particular interest. Papers that explore urban dance as a performative mode

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that grapples with race, mobility, and embodiment are also especially welcome. Please submit 250-word abstracts.

The Politics of Self-Representation in Autism Memoirs and Testimonies The autism memoir or testimonial has become a growth industry. This panel will consider a raft of questions on the nature and impact of this burgeoning genre. Are there formal and stylistic characteristics of so-called ‘autie-biographies’? Do these characteristics also hold for parental/caregiver narratives? Do they bear specific affective and political implications accessible to a range of theoretical interventions, from queer to psychoanalytic to affective to disability? What role do these formal elements play in the popularity of the genre?

Reading and Writing (in) the American Gulag Prison culture and culture in prison in the era of mass incarceration. How have representations of prisons and prison life evolved over the decades of the War on Drugs and the incarceration boom, both in terms of narratives produced by prisoners and by others? How has cultural consumption behind bars, in classroom settings and elsewhere, been affected by these trends? 500-word abstracts to Ed Wiltse.

Reading Indigenous Literatures of North America Outside of Western Theory This panel invites papers that read Indigenous texts via an Indigenous theoretical lens. Key questions to consider are: How can Indigenous texts be read and analyzed without falling back on Western theoretical traditions? What is Indigenous theory? This panel welcomes various paper topics including: 1. The state of Indigenous theory/theories—present and future; 2. Commentary on important moments/critics from the past; 3. Application of Indigenous theory to Indigenous American texts (literature, art, music, pop-culture, etc.)

Remixing Ethnicity, Place, and Creative Writing This panel includes writers’ creative innovations across ethnic and racial identity and senses of place. Contributors will read their work, including poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction, that subtly or explicitly relate spatial encounters to ethnicity, including experiences of mobility, immigration, displacement, exile, diaspora, and border crossings, both physical and virtual. To apply please send a one-page writing sample and a 200-word proposal about the role of place in your work by Sept 30, 2014.

Spineless: Slippery Virtual Literature This panel engages with the conceptual frameworks of digital texts to understand this literature not only in the context of developing technologies, but also through the aesthetic, formal, and theoretical foundations that undergird them. This panel asks what, if anything, happens when readers ‘trust in the pixels,’ as Robert Kendall has observed, rather than in printed and bound texts, considering works by authors such as Michael Joyce, Shelley Jackson, J. R. Carpenter, and Deena Larsen. Please submit 250- to 500-word abstracts to Jamie Popowich.

Staging Peace: The Little Theatre vs. War in the Twentieth Century This panel seeks papers that examine the roles of playwrights and producers of one-act plays as peace advocates in their writing and the productions that respond directly to contemporary hostilities. Please submit a 250–300 word abstract and brief bio to Richard Henry.

Still Standing: Trayvon Martin in Popular Culture Trayvon Martin’s murder is the latest in a long string of unpunished assassinations and assaults—from Emmett Till to Medgar Evers to James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner to Amadou Diallo to Sean Bell—that have set a limit on the possibilities of black life in the United States. This panel seeks to evaluate popular culture’s reactions to this spectacular event.

Subjective Geographics: Gender, Place, and Mobility in U.S. Women’s Writing Focusing on issues of gender, geography, and subjectivity, this panel will consider the ways that women writers in the United States have examined, resisted, and revised dominant ideologies of gender and selfhood. Genre and period are open, but all submissions should focus on texts of travel, place, and/or emplacement. Please submit 300- to 500-word abstracts to Shealeen Meaney.

Toni Morrison and Expanding the American/African American Literary Canon This roundtable seeks critical and creative treatments of Toni Morrison’s novels and non-fiction texts. Papers that explore fresh approaches to Morrison’s body of work, offer critical readings of the recent fiction, and suggest responses to her non-fiction writing and work in other genres are encouraged. Proposals on any Morrison work will be considered, but presentations are limited to 10 minutes (culled from longer formal papers) because of the roundtable format. Please send a 500-word abstract to Fran L. Lassiter.

Transnational Utopian Literature: Influences on the U.S. into the Twenty-First Century America was viewed in the eighteenth and nineteenth century as a land of opportunity. Thinkers such as Edward Bellamy, Robert Owens, Charles Fourier and others utilized the vast American territory as an experimental testing ground for their proposed theories. What influences do the utopian theorists have on ecology, environmentalism, technology, and/or corporate hegemony in the twenty-first century as depicted in print or on stage?

Twentieth-Century American Narratives of Redemption This panel seeks to explore the politics of redemption in American culture. Redemption has occupied a special place in American history, especially in the culture of American exceptionalism. Focusing on more recent manifestations of redemption in American culture, this panel welcomes papers on twentieth-century literature, film, and other forms of cultural production that engage and possibly disrupt American narratives of redemption, whether at home, abroad, or lost in between.



Two Sides to the Story

Many contemporary novels use a technique that narrative theorist Brian Richardson calls 'denarration': the act of narrating an event, then admitting that it did not occur. This move allows writers to comment

reflexively on the role of storytelling and fiction today, and it opens a space to argue the value of fiction at a time when we have come to distrust narrative as a mode of knowledge. This panel seeks submissions that explore the implications of the use of fictional versions of events in already fictional novels.

The Underground Railroad in Popular Culture This panel will examine the interplay between the historical Underground Railroad and the mythology that developed around it. What kind of Underground Railroad stories can be told and why? In addition to the necessary secrecy surrounding Underground Railroad activities, what other conditions contributed to the distortion of its historical record? What forces continue to shape popular conceptions of the Underground Railroad?

Urban Pests, Ecology, and Social Justice While we often think of city parks and urban gardens as sheltering the preferred forms of nature in urban settings, we often forget about or denigrate those aspects of nature we consider 'pests' (e.g. rats, pigeons, bugs, and weeds). This panel invites papers addressing cultural works from all periods of American history that allow us to identify the line between accepted and rejected forms of nature in urban landscapes across the United States and the various intended or unintended environmental and/or social consequences caused by this line.

Walk Poems: Moving Through America on Foot This panel seeks papers on the ways in which American poets write about walking and the significant role the walk poem has played in American literature. What is it about the walk poem that suits American poets so well? How can a walk poem capture the American spirit (or, rather, an aspect of that spirit)? What role has the walk poem played in the development of American poetics? Please submit 300- to 500-word abstracts to Wendy Galgan.

Waste Matters: Environmental Pollution and Materiality

This seminar, sponsored by the Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment, will explore how writers, filmmakers, and artists represent pollution and waste as material concerns. Papers might address cultural and historical contexts shaping understandings of waste, polluted bodies as moral and material contaminants, environmental justice, the production of knowledge and uncertainty regarding pollution, waste as "vital" actant (Bennett 2010) or "violent" social force (Nixon 2011), or ways of engaging audiences aesthetically,

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affectively, and critically in representations of pollution and waste.

'What Sticks to Memory': Vietnam War Representations in American Culture As this year's NeMLA conference correlates with the fortieth anniversary of the Fall of Saigon on April 30th, this panel welcomes submissions from contemporary American literature or analyses of film adaptations of the Vietnam War. The focus of this panel is to investigate Vietnam representation, and the role of collective memory in historical events. 250- to 300-word abstracts.

'What's Law Got to Do With It?' Post-9/11 Diasporic Literature This roundtable session aims to examine what Lisa Lowe calls the 'immigrant acts' of contemporary diasporic writers whose work portrays or represents challenges to legal edicts and documents in the post-9/11 era. Possible questions to address are: How do literatures of immigrant experience respond to and transform legal constructions of citizenship? How do authors incorporate legal documents legislation, executive orders, birth certificates, Homeland Security documents, etc. into narrative or poetry?

Women's Fashion and Identity in 19th-Century Word and Image This panel will examine the relationship between identity and fashion for women in the 19th-century American text and image. How did women construct personal identities through fashion? How did fashion help women to maintain national and international ties?

Writing the American Domestic in the 19th and 20th Century This panel will investigate late 19th-century and early 20th-century American home and design periodicals. We invite papers on all aspects and forms of home writing, including projects that look at women's magazines such as Godey's *Lady's Book*, *Good Housekeeping*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *House Beautiful*, recipe periodicals, etc. We are especially interested in the production of visual culture and its political implications in these publications. 300-word abstracts.

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Fifteen Years of Zadie Smith To celebrate the fifteenth-year anniversary of Smith's first novel, *White Teeth*, this roundtable invites presentations on any aspect of Smith's fiction or creative nonfiction. Critical, creative, and pedagogical approaches to her work are particularly welcome. Please submit 250- to 350-word proposals.

The Artist-Critic: Aesthetics and Ideology in Criticism by Twentieth-Century Writers Artist-critics such as Virginia Woolf, T. S. Eliot, Robert Penn Warren, Ngugi wa Thiong'o, Toni Morrison, and Zadie Smith are key parts of the twentieth-century Anglophone literary canon. This roundtable seeks critics and creative writers invested in assessing the artist-critic's role in the public sphere, or how the artist-critic transforms art and ideology into creative and political praxis

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alike. The roundtable will address the artist-critic's role in the practices of postcolonialism, cultural studies, queer theory, disability studies, and so on.



Changing Forms, Changing Genres This panel investigates the transmutation of literary genres in twentieth-century British/Anglophone fiction. How does a specific genre or a fictional form reveal its representational

limits in colonial, postcolonial, or transnational contexts? How does the transmuted form represent or fail to represent new social relations and the tension between hegemonic and resistant forces? Possible topics include: realist fiction, the Bildungsroman, the romance novel, and the estate novel. Send 300-word abstracts to Minjeong Kim.

Darkest Ecology: Ecocritical Approaches to Disaster Fiction

In recent years disasters both sudden (tsunamis, hurricanes) and prolonged (droughts, rising oceans) have impacted the lives of millions. Present and historical narratives of disaster (in prose, on film, etc.) can help us understand our charged environmental rhetoric and its impact on public discourse. Can disaster fiction spur action against anthropogenic climate change? Do spectacular representations of disaster blind us to what Rob Nixon has called the 'slow violence' of ecological degradation? Send 200- to 300-word proposals to Steve Asselin.

Detective Fiction and Emerging Technologies This panel will examine the relationship between detective fiction and technology, broadly defined. Why do detective characters choose their technologies—notebooks, magnifying glasses, DNA analysis? How can we read detectives as figures in active response to emerging technologies, both historical and contemporary? Does technology pose its own mysteries which require the negotiation of the detective figure, or is the detective himself or herself a technological development?

Digitizing the Past: Historical Narrative and Media

Technology How are digital technologies affecting the way we narrate historical events? What alternatives to linear narration are made possible by new media, and how might these alternatives help to shape narratives of memory, trauma, and the event? How have established forms such as the novel, and even twentieth-century forms such as film and television, begun to re-imagine their own role in a new media ecology? For this panel both theoretical arguments and readings of specific works are welcome.

The Ecocritical Caribbean This session welcomes ecocritical readings of Caribbean fiction and nonfiction alike. What

function does the representation of the environment and the physical landscape play in these texts? How is the relationship between the human and nonhuman worlds depicted? How is the Caribbean region's profound alteration by colonialism represented through the depiction of its physical environment?

Engaging with the Poetics of Peripheralization According to Hosam Aboul-Ela, the poetics of peripheralization differ from those of modernism: while both manifest similarly at the level of the text through experimental techniques, the former engages with the political histories and economies of peripheral regions. This panel explores the ways in which the literature of the Global South combines modernist aesthetics and a commitment to exposing the traumas and violence resulting from colonialism. How does this literature use the poetics of peripheralization to challenge structures of power?

Giving Voice, Appropriating Voices: Representing the Singularity of Suffering Efforts to give voice to the silenced are central to postcolonial and feminist thought. Yet scholars in both disciplines, following Gayatri Spivak and Chandra Mohanty, have insisted that recuperating silenced voices always risks re-appropriating those voices. This session seeks papers responsive to the quandary of how to represent experiences of silencing in ways that do justice to their singularity. Discussions of all genres and media are welcome. Please submit a 300-word abstract and a brief biographical statement to Lisa Propst.

The (Ir)real City: Writing About the Changing Metropolis in the Twentieth Century For Raymond Williams, the disorienting ephemerality of the modern city is like the form of a film fragmented yet appearing to flow. This duality becomes characteristic of twentieth-century city narratives. The city becomes a space both real and unreal, existing simultaneously as a concrete place and as ephemera that allows for authorial intervention. This panel explores the evolution of the representation of the city in twentieth-century Anglophone fiction to discuss its subsequent impact on narrative. Submit 300-word abstracts.

Literature as Incantation: Magic Words and the World of Reading This panel seeks submissions on the theme of magic and reading. In many works of children's and young adult literature, reading and books seem to facilitate or release supernatural power. Magical languages eliminate the gap between representation and reality. Labyrinthine libraries deliver a book meant only for one special reader; reading aloud opens doorways to new realities or ushers creatures from the world of words into the reader's reality. Please submit 250- to 500-word abstracts to Tanya Radford.

Medieval and Anglo-Saxon Cultural Translation Translations and revisions of a text provide academics with a fresh, historical lens with which to view and interpret said text. Utilizing this historical lens provided by translators and revisionists further allows academics to uncover specific

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purposes behind translation. Ultimately, applying this approach to ancient and medieval literature is vital to literary study, as it is possible to then reveal important, underlying historical motives, which can then help readers to decode, understand, and properly apply texts.

'Memsahib' Re-defined: Exploring the Connotations of the Term 'Memsahib'—literally meaning 'Sahib's wife' or 'mistress'—is usually associated with white women in British India. However, in postcolonial India, the term lives on, and is no longer exclusively linked to white-skinned women. This transformation complicates the dialectical relationship between race, gender, colonial heritage and postcolonial identity-formation. This panel will delve deeper into understanding and re-defining this term to explore the complex power play and politics of nuances associated with the evolution of its connotations.

Neo-Slave Narratives as Witnessing Since the last decades of the twentieth century, writers across the African Diaspora have attempted to recover elements of the narrative structure and thematic configuration of slave narratives. This panel seeks to bring together scholarship on contemporary neo-slave narratives in varied forms that ultimately challenge the conventions of the genre. Submit 300-word abstracts to Maria Helena Lima.

Postcoloniality, Diaspora, and Globalization: What's Next? The panel seeks to trace the trajectory of terms like 'postcoloniality,' 'diaspora,' and 'globalization' and how they evolved from the main root of colonial discourse or colonization. Papers are invited from all areas of postcolonial and global discourse. Please send abstract of no more than 250 words.

Representing Afghanistan This seminar is designed to bring together scholars whose work examines representations of Afghanistan in literature, non-fiction, film, and new media published in the aftermath of 9/11 and the subsequent U.S. invasion. Works on genre, methodology, as well as papers on individual authors are welcome. Participants interested in interdisciplinary approaches and new media analysis are also encouraged to apply.

Revisiting the Idea of a 'Black' British Aesthetics Does it still make sense to attempt to define a 'Black' British Aesthetics? A younger generation of writers seems to be (re)creating identity within more global paradigms. Some recent texts move from one culture to another, allowing for a more fluid, transnational and transcultural model for both the production and consumption of art. It has been almost ten years since the groundbreaking Conference at Howard University, so it is time to engage such questions again—and, hopefully, think of new ones.

Urban Ecologies in Writing About India, 1800s to the Present This panel focuses on the interplay between cities and their

natural environments in writings about India. It seeks to address such questions as: What is the interplay between cities and the natural world, and what does this imply in regard to the writer(s) under discussion? Do Indian writers differ in significant ways from non-Indian writers in relation to this topic? If so, what are possible reasons for these differences? Do urban ecologies described in works about India speak to the gender concerns of their particular period?

Urban Ecologies: Historical Perspectives Ecocriticism increasingly focuses on urban environments, often in contemporary contexts. But the city has affected ecologies for centuries. Seeking papers dealing with literary perspectives on urban ecologies from the premodern to 1900, including topics such as (but not limited to): pollution, population, nonhuman city dwellers, anti-urbanism, migration, early globalization, cosmopolitan environmentalism, etc. 250-word abstracts of 15-minute papers.

Urban Ecology and the Postcolonial Global Subject This panel considers the specific role of urban environments in imagining postcolonial subjects' relationship to the world. How and why do cities function as the locus for a cosmopolitan identity, while villages remain the bearers of tradition? How have discourses of globalization and environmental justice changed considerations of postcolonial subjectivity and environments in the twenty-first century? What literary innovations have helped represent the sedimented historical landscapes of colonialism, global capitalism, and histories of devastation?

The Urban Metropolis in Caribbean Literature This panel seeks papers on the representation of the urban metropolis (Toronto, Brooklyn, etc) or on comparative studies of such representations in Caribbean literature. Papers on the writings of Austin C. Clarke and Paule Marshall are particularly welcome. So are explorations of literary depictions of Toronto as sanctuary, refuge, menace, or promised land for Caribbean immigrants who flocked to Toronto in droves in the 1960's in pursuit of the great Canadian dream. 250-word abstracts and short bios.

World Literature/Immigrant Literature A *New York Times* review of Dinaw Mengestu's *Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears* called the work 'a great African novel, a great Washington novel, and a great American novel.' This panel will further probe these critical classifications, at once distinct and overlapping: What is immigrant fiction? What is American literature? What is World literature? And when and how do these categories converge? Papers will consider the boundaries of contemporary 'immigrant' narratives and their relationship to American and world literary traditions.

Writing Black/Writing British The panel invites the rethinking of 'British' by focusing on the literary contributions of contemporary Asian-, Afro-Caribbean, and Afro-British writers. While recent critical attention has focused on some aspects of 'Black' British writing, much too often the attention has been

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restricted to a few spectacularly successful writers such as Zadie Smith or Andrea Levy. The aim of the panel is to look more broadly at the contemporary literary scene in order to assess what it means when one is simultaneously writing black and writing British.

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Amidst the Ruins of Monuments

For centuries, the monument was central to our concept of the city. The monument was designed not merely to store communal memory but to make the city itself significant to its citizenry. With the rise of postmodern 'post'-urbanity, however, the hermeneutics of the cityscape are no longer oriented toward monumental memories but

toward patchwork histories stripped of context. This panel reconsiders the monument as a site of memory, examining the psychogeography of the city and the memorial's changing status within the literature of the last century.

Anonymity and Anxiety in Nineteenth-Century Narratives of London

This panel will explore the anxiety generated by the experience of anonymity in nineteenth-century London and the problems of identity, trust, and security that emergent urban existence generates. While papers might consider crowds as an aggregate of unknowns, the panel will be primarily preoccupied by the stranger who suddenly stands out or comes forward, particularly in a disconcerting fashion, the unfamiliar person who disrupts and even possibly imperils the subject's habitual life. Proposals on any genre of prose narrative are welcome.

The Art and Surprise of Dickens's Female Characters This panel invites abstracts for papers exploring Charles Dickens's ability to create memorable, endearing, unusual, and even radical female characters. Do they follow specified patterns? Does his depiction of these women undergo an artistic evolution? Does Dickens deviate from societal expectations and realities? Papers are invited to examine the traditional, non-traditional, expected and unexpected constructions of womanhood found in Dickens's works. Please send 250-300 word abstract to Kristin Le Veness.

Bakhtin and Shakespeare: New Directions In notes about the state of literary scholarship published before his death, Mikhail Bakhtin (1895–1975) wrote about 'immense treasures of potential meaning' that have yet to be discovered in Shakespeare's works. What is the current state of Bakhtin in Shakespeare studies? This panel invites papers examining new directions for Bakhtin and Shakespeare. Papers may address

methodological or theoretical issues, engage in meta-critical surveys of current scholarship, or propose new applications of Bakhtinian concepts to the poems or plays.

Charlotte Brontë and Europe: Images of Europeans in Her Juvenilia and Novels This panel invites papers that address Charlotte Brontë's views of Europeans and European culture, especially the French and Belgians, and how her views evolved and changed from her juvenilia and early writings through to her later novels, especially *Villette*. The often held opinion that Charlotte Brontë was simply a Francophobe who held rigid ethnocentric views of European culture is far too reductive and needs to be reevaluated. Charlotte Brontë's views of European culture are more complex than a simple view that she was Anglocentric.

Chaucer and Italian Poetics One of the first English readers of Dante, Petrarch, and Boccaccio, Chaucer did more than translate the poetry of his Italian predecessors: he interpreted and transformed what he read. Chaucer's encounter with Italian literature shaped his conception of vernacular authorship and the construction of a literary tradition. This panel seeks papers focusing on the interaction between Chaucer and his Italian sources. A wide range of critical approaches to the theory and practice of interpreting intertextual relationships are especially welcome.

Crossing Borders: Delineations of Space in Medieval and Early Modern Literature

This panel seeks to explore the significance of geographical boundaries, cartographical nuances in texts, literary and historical representations of 'setting,' the compartmentalization of otherness, and the use of space to shape individual or collective ritual behavior. Additionally, consider the juxtaposition of the urban and rural, representations of conflict in 'close quarters' or public venues, the martyring of saints, the farcical humiliation of foolish husbands, food riots, public dancing or processions.

Crowded in at the Crystal Palace: Responding to the 1851 Great Exhibition

The 1851 Crystal Palace Exhibition was a place to see and be seen, and many important figures of the era, including Charlotte Brontë, visited and recorded their response to this dazzling spectacle of modern technology and diverse crowd. This panel invites work that examines the bodies of poetry, satire, newspaper reviews, and journal entries that emerged in the immediate wake of the Crystal Palace exhibition. Papers that examine the diversity of visitors/crowd members or feelings in response to being part of that crowd are especially welcome.

Dramatizing Old Age: Ability, Impairment, and Old Age in Early Modern England

This panel seeks papers that contextualize early modern examples of old age within modern disability studies. Are ability and the normative body temporary? Do protestations of impairment by these aged speakers match their dramatic reality? Please send submissions that center on old age and early modern England, such as generational

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politics and the English court or old age and performance, to Will Youngman.

French Shakespeare This panel seeks to explore Shakespeare and the French by tackling Shakespeare and French sources, French characters and settings, neoclassical critics on Shakespeare, Enlightenment and Romantic writers on Shakespeare, French stage and film versions, Shakespeare in translation, and twentieth-century French criticism. The impact of the engagement between Shakespeare and the French continues to be immense, and this panel seeks to explore and appreciate the ever-changing nature of this impact.

'Hysteria Beyond Freud': Nineteenth-Century Nerves How are we setting new ground for our cultural and literary approaches to hysteria, or revisiting and problematizing previous conceptions? This roundtable invites redefinitions of the representation and use of hysteria in long nineteenth-century literature, medical texts, and art. Presenters may explore the intersection of hysteria with the national body, gender ideology, form or genre, political affinity, iconic cultural discourses, etc. Please submit 300–400 word abstracts to Melissa Rampelli.

'(Im)modest Witnesses': Women and Scientific Work in the Long Eighteenth Century Feminist critics argue that when Robert Boyle proposed his ideal scientific spectator, the 'modest witness,' he set an exclusionary standard, barring women from scientific production. This panel explores femininity and the female body in the making of scientific knowledge from the Scientific Revolution to the early 1800s. Did women employ discrete processes or ideologies, devise experiments, and construct evidence in ways that were fundamentally distinct from the masculine university model? Broadly, how did gender affect their scientific acts?

Interpretive Pathways for Digital Texts in English Romanticism This panel seeks to gather the experience of scholars of English Romanticism to discuss the interpretive pathways that digital texts offer, including new methods, questions, and results that are possible with digital texts that would have been difficult if not impossible before their introduction. We are also interested in examples of how the availability of digital archives have shaped what a scholar may investigate, and what he or she may conclude that is different from what would have been likely in a world where only physical texts exist.

Intersections: Complicating Sexualities in Middle English Literature This panel seeks papers that consider the specificity of sexual experience in Middle English literature. How do characters' sexualities intersect with other factors, including ethnicity, social position, age, legal status, disability, or species? Papers might explore how intersections affect the sexuality of one character, show how intersection removes a character from an otherwise normative sexual role, or even consider the way modern perspectives might intersect with medieval sexualities.

Just for Boys? Reconsidering Victorian Adventure after 1855 Celebrating the sesquicentennial of the founding of *The Boys' Own Magazine* by Samuel Beeton, this roundtable examines adventure post-1855. Abstracts may theorize how Victorian authors of adventure texts problematized empire; or analyze how authors/publishers dealt with codes of adventure; consider how female readers and authors responded to/ worked within the genre; scrutinize how adventure authors used historical examples. Tropes such as natural science, scouting and fieldcraft, travel, sailing, mountain climbing, and camping are welcome.

Literature of Imperialism before the Age of Imperialism Names like Kipling and Conrad represent British colonial literature. Yet the phenomenon of this kind of literary endeavor and the ethos of imperialist expansion and appropriation can be traced back to early seventeenth-century works like Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. This panel seeks to challenge the limits of our understanding about British literature of imperialism by inviting papers on works about imperialism in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, particularly texts/authors we do not usually associate with this category.

Memory, Temporality, and Revisiting the Past in Early Modern English Culture Paul Ricoeur claims that 'the revisiting of the past' not only reveals how 'our cultural identities' are forged, but that it also unveils 'forgotten possibilities...in the supposedly closed past.' So, too, was late sixteenth- and early seventeenth-century English culture deeply invested in questions regarding how to interpret the past and the various 'potentialities' made available by differing modes of historical recollection. This panel explores how these authors revisit their respective past(s) in individual, social, religious, and political ways.

Neo-Victorianism in the Twenty-First Century Twenty-five years after the publication of A. S. Byatt's *Possession*, the drive to recreate the Victorian Era in contemporary fiction, graphic narratives, film, and other cultural texts shows no sign of abating. If Neo-Victorianism is a cultural commentary on its own time, as well as on the Victorians', then what is the specific resonance of Neo-Victorianism for the twenty-first century? Papers especially welcome that map out new directions in Neo-Victorianism. 250- to 300-word abstracts to Dana Shiller.

Nineteenth-Century Dangerous Pedagogies Many politicians, religious leaders, and educators in nineteenth-century Britain celebrated the expansion of schools. Yet there emerged a persistent strain of resistance to dominant pedagogies in literature. This panel welcomes papers that explore British writers from the long nineteenth century who depict any form of institutional education as dangerous, to one's health, to one's morality, or to the existent class structure.

Onwards and Upwards: Moments of Friction in Victorian Teleological Thinking This panel engages with the

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repercussions of teleological imagery on Victorian thought. Civilization was widely imagined as a cumulative, unidirectional social development through time, which profoundly shaped the Victorian understanding of society and empire. For instance, common metaphorical similarities between descriptions of cultural primitivism and developmental immaturity grounded the rhetoric of both imperialism and social conservatism. This panel examines moments when this teleology is thrown into confusion, disagreement, and paradox.

Poetry/The Word: Choices, Forms, and Sensibilities

This panel seeks papers that show how arrangements of words contribute to poetic forms and sensibilities. Lexical arrangements include, say, words paired together, compounds, similes, and metaphors. Sensibilities, evocative of worlds imagined within and elsewhere, may characterize the work of a poet, a period, or cultural differences. The overall theses invited, then, involve exploring the interplay between lexical choices and patterns, poetic forms, and evocative sensibilities. Please submit your abstracts to Eugene Green or Carol Kountz.

The Romance of Sidney and Spenser This seminar explores how Sidney and Spenser engage with and develop the romance framework alongside and against their contemporaries. How do these poets revise, contest, or maintain conventions of romance in their own works? How do they represent and reconcile the genre's tendency toward contradiction, conflation, and multiplicity? How do they influence later authors and contribute to the evolution of the genre and its concerns in the English tradition? Submit 300-word abstracts to Julia Gingerich and Allison Goff.



Romantic and Victorian Echoes:

A Transatlantic Exchange This panel applies a transnational approach, which is interested in links between British Romantic and Victorian authors with American writers such as (but not limited to) William Wordsworth and Ralph Waldo Emerson, Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Margaret Fuller, Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Emily Dickinson, Alfred Lord Tennyson and Walt Whitman, Thomas Carlyle and Ralph Waldo

Emerson, William Wordsworth and Henry David Thoreau, etc. Papers will focus on how British writers influenced the form, content, and sensibility of American writers.

Science, Ethics, Progress vs. Science, Vice, Crime/Disaster

This panel invites papers which, by focusing on the 'scientific mind' with ethical concerns or, in Hawthorne's words, the 'awful' one—which, though 'motivated by a sense of wonder and discovery,' 'conceal a deadlier malice' as it is 'affected with inward disease' or 'fancy grown morbid'—draw attention

to the importance of the ethical uses of science. Panel includes but is not limited to Swift, Poe, Hawthorne, M. Shelley, R. L. Stevenson, H. G. Wells, E. M. Forster, A. Huxley, and Orwell. 300-word abstracts.

The 'Self-Made' Man (or Woman) in Victorian and Edwardian Fiction and Drama The ideal of the 'self-made man' gained supporters and critics in transatlantic ways in the 19th century: as exertion and perseverance in Frederick Douglass's 'Self-Made Men' or as caricature of selfishness masquerading as heroic autonomy in Charles Dickens's *Hard Times*. Were 'self-made' men or women new types or melded into pre-existing lines? How did Shaw, Wilde, Pinero and other late Victorian/Edwardian playwrights trouble notions of 'self-made' by reforming genre, gender politics, & staging? Papers on either genre or intersections welcome.

Spectral Uprisings as Imperialist Critique: Rethinking the Anglo-Indian Gothic This panel aims to explore how the Anglo-Indian Gothic was an important cultural statement on the anxieties that existed between the British colonizers and their native Indian subjects during the Raj. Suggested topics include: ghosts, second sight, madness, violence/crime, dead/undead bodies, anxiety, revenge, the occult, reincarnation, Gothic representations of the Indian Uprising, Indian writers, reappraisals of Kipling, Anglo-Indian women writers, and gender issues. Send 300-word abstracts to Melissa Edmundson Makala.

Steampunk Femininity: Recasting the Angel in the House

Through consistent creation of powerful female heroines the likes of which we have never seen in Victorian literature, Steampunk has emerged as a strong feminist voice that addresses contemporary and current discourses on femininity simultaneously and rethinks our ideas of Victorian gender roles. This panel seeks to examine how Steampunk Young Adult and graphic novels subvert Victorian patriarchy and Empire by creating an alternate past that reimagines them both. 300-word abstract and short biographical statement.

Troubling Victorian Masculinities Recent scholarship has acknowledged a spectrum of masculine ideals in the Victorian era. As heteronormativity, chivalry, and moral heroism were being troubled in fascinating ways, a range of 'alternate masculinities' began to emerge across this period. How were these multi-form constructions of gender expressed or challenged? What were their social, historical, and political underpinnings and repercussions? We invite papers exploring how traditional and unconventional Victorian masculinities respond to and impact their social moments.

Unexpected Affect in Shakespearean Drama This panel will explore the ways in which Shakespearean drama delivers emotional intensity (passions, affectations, embodiment, and so forth) in unexpected places. When might certain emotional reactions be surprising in Shakespeare's plays? Are there particular characters that share their feelings unexpectedly, yet

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with astonishing resonance? After four centuries of exposure, is it possible for these works to be emotionally disturbing enough to merit a 'trigger warning' on syllabi?

Victorian Courts, Victorian Courtship This panel invites papers on the marriage plot and the law in Victorian culture. Practices governed by both tacit and explicit rules, legal and romantic trials structure much Victorian fiction, warranting an examination of their intertwined development across the century. Possible topics include: marriage law reform and courtship literature; laws, lawyers, and criminal investigations in the marriage plot; shared narrative structures in legal and romantic writing; and tensions in publishing, publicity, and private (legal or extra-legal) affairs.

Victorians, Suicide, and Self-Harm This panel seeks papers on self-harming and suicidal behaviors in Victorian literature. What can self-harming behaviors reveal about Victorian concerns with sexuality, legality, morality, psychology? How does suicide intersect with concerns relating to gender, race, or social class?

'A Wind Freshened and The Anchor Weighed': Seamus Heaney's Career When Seamus Heaney died last August, he seemed to be the kind of literary figure the world of poetry had not known for some time. This session aims at a range of presentations exploring from various perspectives the nature of Heaney's particular and unusually visible career and achievements. What can we make of the rich play of his relationship(s) to the past (an Irish and a classical past), to his present, and to the future (his example as model, his creative and critical principles as guide)?

Woodland Exile and Medieval Romance Medieval romance often features individuals exiled to the woods, such as the displaced wives and children of duped sovereigns, fugitive lovers, or knightly families fleeing violence. As most such exiles are of noble lineage, class clearly plays a role in the medieval forest. This panel seeks papers exploring the significance of sylvan settings for exiles in medieval romance. Papers may come from British or Continental literatures. 300- to 500-word abstracts to Randy Schiff.

Canadian Literatures

French-Canadian Writers 'hors Québec': Under the Prairie Sky This panel invites abstracts (250-300 words) on the Franco-Manitoban writers and poets, artists and illustrators, whose creativity has radiated from under the prairie skies to beyond the borders of the 'francophonie.' What elements shape such a unique, vibrant artistic community that celebrates a global reputation in the francophone world?

Intertexts and Intersections: Charting Anne Carson's Work What does it mean to produce writing that is 'arguably not poetry,' but to be one of Canada's preeminent poets? Can we situate Carson, who actively resists stable notions of place,

space, and temporality, in a contemporary Canadian context? Even more, her work often thematizes dislocation and eruption in imaginative and interdisciplinary ways. This roundtable will consider papers that address Carson's interdisciplinary body of work, especially in light of *Red Doc* (2013).

L. M. Montgomery's Ontario Years, 1911–42: A Changing World L. M. Montgomery lived in Ontario from 1911–42, writing fiction that confirmed her place, established by the early Anne novels, in not just Canadian letters but world literature. This session will explore familial, cultural, historical, and geographical influences on her writings during the period that Montgomery lived in Leaskdale, Norval, and Toronto and vacationed in Bala. Bookended by the First and Second World Wars, this period is characterized by changes such as redefined roles for women, increasing commercialization and commodification, and power struggles among those in the literary establishment to shape the canon.

Margaret Atwood and Toronto Toronto has been the scene of much of Margaret Atwood's fiction. This panel will look at Atwood's relationship with Toronto, her use of the city in her work and how it contrasts with her other settings. Since Atwood writes in a variety of genres—poetry, fiction, non-fiction—submissions could focus on any of those genres. How did her Canadian identity inform her work and her worldview? How has her perspective changed over her long career and as the world has become more globally connected?

North and South and Its Literary Spaces, 1850–1930 This panel seeks papers that explore American and Canadian literature of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries as a transnational site for studying the creation and publication of texts in North America. The panel welcomes a range of critical approaches which may include topics such as publishing opportunities and copyright issues; alignments and contrasts in literary streams such as local color realism; transnational literary relationships, either personal or influential, among others. Submit a 250–300 word abstract and a brief biography.

The Search for Self: Canadian Literary Identity in 'American' Novels This roundtable will take a close look at the nature of Canadian literary identity through a review of contemporary authors who are labeled as American. Atwood, Coupland, Cohen and Kerouac have long been considered important American authors; yet, they all have Canadian roots which emerge from their writings and their lives. What does it mean to be a Canadian author in an American world?

World War I: Ecologies of Canadian War Literature How does the ecological turn in the humanities complicate or reinforce Canadian interpretations of the 'Great War'? Canadian war literature of the past and present makes connections between war and geography—transgression of boundaries, remapping borders, landscape as antagonist, mud, trenches. Hundred years later, how has our changing relationship with the

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environment changed the way we read war literature? Please submit 300- to 500-word abstracts to Alicia Fahey.



Writing From the Promiseland: Revisions to the Narrative of Black Life in Canada This panel explores the unique ways in which black literature troubles the conventional path to freedom found in slave narratives, i.e. the idea that the movement from South to North equaled social progression and freedom. As works written out of the US and/or the Canadian contexts might address questions of Canada as a space of refuge in different ways, papers focusing on examples of black Canadian and/or African American

literature are encouraged. Send 300- to 500-word abstracts and brief biographical statements to Sherry Johnson.

Writing Toronto, Toronto Writing Many of Canada's greatest writers —Alice Munro, Michael Ondaatje, Margaret Atwood, Irving Layton, Al Purdy, Leonard Cohen—have written works that directly or indirectly deal with Toronto. This roundtable juxtaposes presentations of creative and critical works that engage with the city of Toronto. Writers of fiction, poetry, experimental works, and critical prose are encouraged to put their works into the context of the greater tradition of Torontonion writing.

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'All Proceeds into Deepest Darkness': Problems Speaking in Kafka Franz Kafka's parables provoke an unsettling sense that their messages, even if interpreted correctly, might not explain anything or direct us anywhere. Whether it is even possible to communicate successfully is a question persistent in thinkers as varied as Nietzsche, Benjamin, Peirce, and Wittgenstein. Critics like Theophanidis wonder whether the 'apparent failure to communicate ... is not always to be overcome, corrected, avoided, or fixed.' Papers are invited which creatively explore this critical problem in relation to Kafka's work.

Can Words Be 'Certain Bad?' Yeats said, 'Words alone are certain good,' but what about ethics involved in translation when words can be 'certain bad'? Should a translator discard ethical concerns about authors, their beliefs, and the text, and thus 'work only with words'? Is it even possible? Is it ethical for translators to refuse a project if they perceive a conflict between their and the author's worldview? Or would translating an ethically challenging text expose the 'unacceptable,' and thereby justify the translation? How do translators navigate such challenges?

Early Modern English Representations of World Languages

As the aural landscape of London grew in the sixteenth

century, the literature and drama of the period reflected the new linguistically diverse urban center. This panel seeks papers that address early modern Anglophone authors or playwrights writing other languages and dialects. What are the results of English encounters with the Other? What do we learn about Englishness or perceptions of foreignness when multiple languages or dialects interact? Is there potential for satire, theatricality, or political commentary within linguistic encounters?

The Environmental Picaresque: Narrating 'Slow Violence' in the Global South In light of Rob Nixon's argument regarding "slow violence" and the environmental picaresque, this panel will discuss the new picaros living in the global south—the "shadow people" displaced by ecological imperialism. These are the protagonists of a tale of migration and displacement in works like Amitav Ghosh's picaresque *Ibis Trilogy* or Chris Abani's *Graceland*. The panel welcomes papers that consider the picaresque genre specifically as well as work on environmental displacement and enclosure more broadly. Please send abstracts of 250–300 words.

From the Language of the Oppressed to That of the Oppressor The objective of this seminar is for literary translators to share excerpts of translations in progress or recent translations. The focus of the discussion will be the difficulties of translating a marginalized cultural context into English, as well as the challenges of getting these translations published. Please submit abstracts of 200–300 words to Jim McCutcheon.

Languages on Trial: Translation and the Law This panel will examine the relationship between law and translation, and the degree to which one can understand the law as the embodiment of the project to compare literature(s) and language(s). The centrality of law to literature and language to law reminds us of the continuing importance of translation, above all, for those working in comparative literature, whose sources range from Plato to Shakespeare, from legal fictions to Truth and Reconciliation Commissions. Please submit 350–500 word abstracts to Oisín Keohane & Ian Thomas Fleishman.

Literature and Celebrity after World War II Despite tendencies to distance themselves from popular writing and mass culture, Modernist and Victorian writers developed strategies of self-promotion that implicate them in the early praxis of modern celebrity culture. This panel seeks to understand literary celebrity (or the literature of celebrity) in light of post-war political, technical, and cultural changes. The scope will be broad and inclusive, but proposals on literature and culture beyond the US and Britain are encouraged. Submit 250-word abstracts to Bill Harrison.

Literature Everywhere? Finding Literature in Other Forms and Media This panel will consist of papers that examine the concept of 'the literary' through its extension into other modes, forms, and media. Papers may take a broadly theoretical stance, or argue from one or more study-examples, but

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should make it clear how they address this topic. Scholarship grounded in a variety of languages and cultures, or using comparative approaches will be most welcome. Papers based on pedagogy will also be considered. Please submit a short bio with your abstract.

The Many Dangers of Photography: The Image of Photography in Literature This panel will examine the picture of photography in literature since the nineteenth century to modern days. We especially invite papers concerned with the problem of various dangers associated with photography. This includes but is not limited to: photographers harming their models or injuring themselves; photographs causing problems in peoples' lives; cameras threatening people; and possessing photographers. Please submit 500-word abstracts to Joanna Madloch.

The Messianic Figure in Twentieth-Century Texts The messiah appears in works by Benjamin, Derrida, Agamben, and Žižek often in new and inventive ways. Interestingly, the messiah or messianic expectation can be found in twentieth-century cultural projects as well. Why would such a religious concept arise in our secular world? How is the messiah reinvented for a secular age? Is the concept represented in positive or critical terms? Proposals considering the trope of the messiah in twentieth- and twenty-first century works of theory, philosophy, literature, film, and other media are welcome.

Networks of the Historical Avant-Garde This panel invites contributions on the notion of the network in the historical avant-garde. Questions might include the following, amongst others: Were Cubo-Futurist 'wireless imagination' and words-in-freedom the first networked art? In what ways did avant-garde journals and other means of dissemination anticipate modern-day Internet art and digital poetry? To what extent did the historical avant-gardes anticipate the aesthetics of the computer screen and the graphic user interface? Please submit 250- to 300-word abstracts to Eric Robertson.

The Poetics of Friendship We are seeking papers that address the theme of friendship through a theoretical, poetic, and/or creative lens. Against the notion of an 'economics' of friendship—against the price-tag model of friendship wherein each friend demands reciprocity from the other as a means of confirming or legitimizing their presence and friendship as such—Maurice Blanchot and Georges Bataille, for instance, offer us a radical reimagining of friendship.

Poetry and the Unfinished We are seeking papers that explore the hermeneutic challenges and opportunities of studying poetry that is unfinished, unauthorized, or in some other way insufficient and not considered worthy of critical attention. Topics might include works that are incomplete, have competing versions, or lack a definitive edition; works whose authorship or date is unknown; works that do not fit neatly into a national or linguistic tradition. Please submit abstracts to Jessica DeVos.

Reading the River: Literary Representations of the Parsley Massacre The appearance of the Parsley Massacre in novels and poetry from Caribbean writers and beyond calls us to examine the influence of boundaries, physical and otherwise, on the (un)making of diverse identities by interrogating the structures, figures, and processes that seek to create and control these divergent communities. This panel invites papers that engage, explore, (re)imagine, and illuminate literary representations of the Parsley Massacre from both sides of the river and beyond. Comparative approaches are especially welcome.

Representations of Lost Cities The goal of this creative session is to discuss, among translators, authors, and critics, the multiple aspects involved in representing urban-centric literary texts and to celebrate the results with a multilingual reading. How do we represent a city that no longer exists? An underground city? A secondary city? A city that has never been seen? An unidentified city? A secret city?

Ruin, Rubble, and Remembrance: Explorations of/on the Traumatic The purpose of this panel is to invite a set of theoretical conversations about how architecture is both mobilized to monumentalize and commemorate, and is understood to represent trauma through the representation of its decay. Through a critical exegesis of texts that deal with issues concerning architecture, ruin, and their relationship to remembrance practices, it is hoped that this panel will underscore the ways by which historical memory always already appears to straddle the fine line between the remembrance and the forgetting of trauma.

Seeing is Believing: Antiquity and Beyond We will trace the evolution of the visual imagination in all genres from its ancient origins to the present day to consider why sight has been a vital component of literary and philosophical discourses throughout so many centuries. Approaches may include ancient ekphrastic theory and later literature, post-Classical 'ekphrases' of ancient subjects; Classical imagery through modern theories of language and cognition; Classics' use of image-based language and modern art terminology/media, etc. Please send 300- to 500-word abstracts to Claire Sommers.

Specters of Deconstruction: Reading de Man Again There is a growing renewal of serious interest in Paul de Man's brand of theory, especially in the context of a return to formalist approaches to literature. Papers will be welcome which try to account creatively for what makes his more radical formalism at once so unsettling and appealing to new generations of scholars who are drawn to a practice of rhetorical reading de Man described as 'something of a wild card in the serious game of the theoretical disciplines.'

To Instruct, to Delight...or to Move? Forgotten Eloquence in Fictional Texts Contemporary theories of meaning have taken as their starting point the notion that language addresses itself to the understanding, that the purpose of communication is

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to be understood. But is communication actually addressed to such a faculty, or aimed at other targets? Cicero, for one, maintained that oratory must move, delight, and instruct its audience, with the first being indispensable and the purpose to which the others were subordinated. Papers that creatively explore this question in relation to specific works of fiction are welcome.

Translating the Past: Literature Across Time and Space The translation of non-contemporary literary texts highlights a number of difficulties that are distinct from the problems of translation of contemporary texts. This panel will explore cases in which the translation of a text is separated from the source text by significant amounts of time, whether significant in terms of length or historical events. Proposals are welcome that deal with modern or historical translations, so long as the object of translation is temporally (as well as linguistically) distant from the moment of translation.

Urban Eco-poetics This session seeks to promote creative, cross-disciplinary engagement with cities and city poetry from the US and around the world by addressing a range of questions, including but not limited to: What is a city poem, and what purposes does it serve? Where are the poetic city's margins, and what are its limits? Which urban relations are most crucial? What are the poetics of urban development and protest? Where/how does the queer city intersect the straight one? What are the possibilities of an affective poetics of the city?

Writing the City, Performing the City Is urban space best described as a text (Michel de Certeau) or experienced as a performance? How might the two methodologies of literary studies and performance studies contribute in different ways to our understanding of cities past, present, and future?

Creative Writing

Art Writing and Conversational Theory In the introductory interview to *Hatred of Capitalism* (2001), Sylvère Lotringer and Chris Kraus discuss the evanescent meeting point of literature, art and critical theory, coining the term 'conversational theory' to imagine a kind of theory that 'would be grasped as naturally as you breathe.' Through an analysis of contemporary artistic and literary practices that use the confessional form/voice to question the limits of genre, this panel asks: when and how does theory become life and life become theory? 250-word abstracts in French or English.

The Creative Archive: Found Materials and Hybrid Writing How do writers make creative use of archives? How do such encounters occasion new modes and genres of storytelling? What happens when archival materials become the expression of the writing itself? This session seeks cross-genre writers working with archival materials (found, family, public) to create multimedia texts. In this 'show-and-tell' session, presenters are invited to share projects and reflect on questions of

process and method. Send 250- to 300-word abstracts with relevant links or work samples to Erin Anderson.

Creative Criticism This reading will provide a space for writer-academics whose work straddles the creative-critical divide. Proposals that swerve, deviate from, or cross generic and aesthetic bounds, and that generally remain unclassifiable are encouraged.

Fiction Intensifying: Spin & Narratives of Authenticity in Twenty-First Century Culture This panel will examine new relationships between fiction and fact-based narratives in twenty-first century culture. We will explore how the language of finance and economics, science and politics has become embedded by fictional strategies, and consider what the exploitation of fictional language strategies by political actors, journalists, economists, and scientists might say about the material conditions of those fields and about our understanding of the role of genre in literary interpretation.

Mad Women in the Twenty-First Century Mad women in many incarnations have a long tradition in literary history. Much has changed for women in the last fifty years, and as NeMLA features madness as a theme, it seems appropriate to ask what makes for a twenty-first century mad woman? Or what makes women mad in the twenty-first century? Please send fiction for a fifteen-minute presentation that grapples with this theme.

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Ability, Disability, and the Human This panel considers disability studies as a foundational discourse for engaging the socially and culturally expressed nature of the human being. It will address how questions of dis/ability are fundamental to or paradigmatic for conceiving what counts as human, what is acceptable for humans to do, what permits access to material and ideological value, and other matters that depend on how human existence is articulated. We will see how these issues emerge in literary texts and other cultural documents, including in various media and criticism.

The Anxiety of Influential Antiquity: Contextualizing Ancient Egypt This panel will capture the fascination with ancient Egypt in literature. Papers will not be restricted to nineteenth-century Egyptomania and will include textual representations and characterizations of ancient Egypt in fan books, comic strips, film, fictional writings, art history, historical, Egyptological and archaeological works. We will consider not only representations of antiquity but also explore the fascination with ancient Egypt as expressed in textual form.

The Beautiful Body and Its Discontents In a recent article on Hazlitt, Navneet Alang identifies a discourse of labor that accompanies the aesthetics of the beautiful body. The beautiful body, particularly the celebrity body, is the 'locus of how capitalism has turned the self into its most valuable

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commodity.’ We invite papers that uncover how the self-as-commodity shapes or constitutes our perceptions and understandings of bodies. How are cultures of resistance to normative discourses of the body vulnerable to co-optations by neoliberal cultural capitalist markets?



The Becoming of Archival Images in Documentary Filmmaking Archiving is in itself a gesture of the present caring about a past that one wishes to project into the future, or as Jacques Derrida puts it, a token of the future. This seminar seeks to elicit the

debate around the use of archival images (including quasi-infinite digital storages) in documentary filmmaking (circulation, appropriation, creation of new meanings) as well as to open the possibility to reflect on the appropriation of the archive—as a genre (the mimicking of the archives’ aesthetics) and its ethical implications.

Collage: Theory, Pedagogy, Practice Sampling, remixing, and mashups are now topics of widespread interest in composition and literary studies. But all of these methodologies have their roots in 20th-century histories of visual, written, and filmic collage. How is collage being theorized, taught, and practiced today? This roundtable will emphasize a crossdisciplinary approach, encouraging submissions from scholars and practitioners in literary, composition, and new media studies.

Comedy and Comics: Parody, Satire, and Humor in Superhero Narratives Stan Lee bristles at calling them ‘comic books,’ lest readers think they are only ‘funny books.’ This panel identifies how humor operates in works centered around superheroes as parody, satire, and comedy. Potential topics include comedic twists on the superhero archetype; ‘campy’ TV and film adaptations of ‘serious’ characters; webcomics and humorous children’s books; teaching satire through comics; and cross-cultural appropriation of the superhero motif.

Contemporary Medievalisms The proliferation of medievalism in popular culture — as Chaucer’s Twitter account, *Game of Thrones*, and historical young adult novels set in Medieval Europe all attest — expresses varying ideas about what the Middle Ages could mean to our current historical moment. This panel seeks papers that explore contemporary ideas about the Middle Ages as they appear in a variety of popular culture venues. We especially welcome those that engage with global perspectives on the idea of the ‘Middle Ages.’

Critical Themes in Young Adult Literature from Madeleine L’Engle to John Green Young Adult literature as a genre has grown important in readership as well as in sales, but it has not attracted much in the way of serious critical attention. This

panel will address the themes, issues, and themes of Young Adult Literature from Madeleine L’Engle to John Green.

Death, Mediation, and Imagination This panel will examine the representation of death in contemporary literature, photography, film, and other forms of cultural production. What do these representations tell us about mankind’s fear of death? How is the corporeal reinscribed/reincarnated as information after life? And is there such a thing as an identity politics of the dead?

Detective Fiction: Replenishing the Exhausted This panel will feature papers on work in and about detective fiction, which continues to push past boundaries of every kind. ‘Exhaustion’ has been claimed, even pleaded, on every front: from rehashing the ‘same’ plots, to ‘recycling’ protagonists to pandering to shallow, predictable commercial interests. Yet, even if nowhere else, in works of detective fiction and criticism, new resources and energy continue to emerge. Papers focusing on the work of such authors and critics, and/ or promising developments, are sought for this session.

Downton Here, Downton Now? *Downton Abbey* has generated tremendous interest in early twentieth-century culture, creating opportunities and hassles for scholars. How do scholars engage *Downton*’s recreation of this period to advance historical and literary understanding in scholarship, the classroom, and the community? This panel seeks responses to *Downton*’s depiction of early twentieth-century British culture that consider the tension between historical accuracy and contemporary sensibilities, and between *Downton* and its antecedents in film, TV, and literature.

Folklore and Material Culture of Canada This panel will investigate Material Culture in Canadian Folk Groups. How do we express who we are, where we come from, and what we believe in? One of the many ways we establish our social identities is through what we make, why we make it, and how we use it. This is a brief definition of Material Culture, and every social/folk group demonstrates it. The creations we come up with, both in terms of usefulness and aesthetics, reflect who we are. Topics may include but are not limited to foodways, folk art, tools, tapestries, and architecture.

From Video Games to Internet Literature: Digital Artifacts and Media Theory This session focuses on the complex interrelations and overlaps of digital humanities, (new) media theory, and cultural studies. Papers should bring together digital artifacts and theoretical/philosophical approaches (e.g. Benjamin, Deleuze, or Baudrillard) to examine the exchanges between technology and art ‘after the digital divide’ in specific national or historic contexts. Potential topics could include (but are not limited to) nationalism in video games, the ‘depth’ of virtual space(s), or the utilization of e-literature in the classroom.

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The Future in/of Television Contemporary television has turned speculative. Series such as *Doctor Who*, *Fringe*, *Revolution*, and *Almost Human* present how science and technology have changed the world. These innovative series also offer ideas about the future of television. Papers are sought that consider contemporary series' representations of the future; innovative series' expansion of the boundaries of their medium; and how technology (DVDs, DVRs, and streaming) has changed how we see television.



Hip-Hop: Interrogating Identity, Authenticity, and Transnationalism As hip-hop has become a transnational and multicultural phenomenon, one must stop to ponder the aspect of authenticity within the movement. This panel seeks to examine the ways in which hip-hop has evolved within each of its cultural manifestations, and navigates the politics of authenticity within each (socio)

cultural/political realization. This roundtable seeks to discover the cultural, rhetorical, and socio-political realizations of Canadian hip-hop as they relate to its American counterparts in form, style, and modes of dissemination.

Human Rights in the Humanities: Practices, Methods, and Pedagogies This panel will examine current practices, methods, and pedagogies of human rights research in the humanities. How have studies of rights narratives, rhetorics, and pedagogies developed? What are the challenges of representing rights and circulating knowledge about rights violations?

Italian Cinema and Disability The primary goal of this session is to discuss how disability is represented or misrepresented in Italian cinema. We welcome papers on Italian movies that represent people affected by visual, hearing, speech, physical, or learning impairments, and that investigate the aesthetic and political undertones of these representations.

Listen to This: Musical Narrators Across Media What does it mean to employ music to tell a story? How is listening to a musical narrative different from other modes of narrative reception? This panel aims to bring together scholars of literature, cinema, philosophy, and music to investigate the category of musical narrators/agents who deploy music or musicality to tell or present a story. Candidates include explicit and implicit narrative agents of theater and film who either perform or incorporate music as part of their narration as well as the musicality of writers like Thomas Mann.

Memory Palaces, Dream Houses, and Possessed Bodies How do places bind and anchor their inhabitants? In the spirit of Benjamin and Sebald, this includes: the live burial of

dreams, haunting by memory palaces, and how places occupy us, changing our inner ecological systems, and re-wiring our desires. Papers that explore the uncanny connections between subjects and the built environment of modern urban spaces (domestic or industrial, commercial and ex-urban) from a literary, popular culture, ficto-critical, or filmic perspective are especially encouraged.

The Migrating Word: Collectivities Outside State Boundaries This panel will engage with the ways in which diasporic and racialized spoken word performers (refugees, Dalits) summon collectivities outside the nation state. Troubled by the legacies of colonialism, and carrying the trauma of political upheaval and displacement, these artists imagine communities formed via digital media. Their explorations of the word, whether spoken, ranted, sung, or depicted, test the limits of contemporary theorizations of culture and discipline.

The Mind, the Medium, the Message: Neuroatypicals in Popular Culture This panel will explore the ways that popular culture depicts those with differently-wired brains. From bipolar disorder in *Homeland* and *Silver Linings Playbook* to the rising popularity of spectrum-focused autopathographies, how popular media portrays and marginalizes madness and other neuroatypical manifestations can tell us a lot about the relationship that society has with illness and, ultimately, what we value in ourselves and in one another.

The Modernist Stage and Screen Reception of Ancient Theater This panel invites papers that analytically and/or theoretically explore instantiations of modernist engagement with any dramaturgical tradition or practice, playwright, or specific play from among the broad range of ancient theaters, whether that engagement is manifested on stage or screen or through a layered combination of the two. Included in this panel's focus is an interest in examining modernist conceptions of the relationship between the theatrical and cinematic storytelling modes.

The Monsters in the Machine New technologies are often framed in either utopian or dystopian terms. Haunting the gray area between these competing visions are the monsters within our machines, entities that resist our dominant ontological and epistemological schemas. This panel seeks proposals that interrogate these figures which often provoke fresh understandings of narrative and communication. We welcome papers on the topics of digital media, contemporary literature, electronic literature, history of science/technology, and other related or interdisciplinary fields.

Motion in Pictures: Dance in Film, Television, and Digital Media This panel investigates the intersection of two art forms: dance and the moving image. The topic spectrum is broad, comprising silent cinema, American film musical, avant garde film, reality TV, Bollywood, YouTube, et al. The clear affinity that dance and film have with each other offers unique insights into the place of spectacle, language, and affect in cinema.

Culture and Media Studies

The goal of this panel is to gain a deeper understanding of the kinship of dance and the moving image and to forge new theoretical directions for dance film/screendance.

Multimodal Representations of War This seminar will consider how digital humanists have attempted to create, supplement, and digitally archive twentieth- and twenty-first-century texts that represent the trauma of war. How do scholars, authors, artists, photographers, filmmakers, journalists, and citizens note the affects of trauma in texts that represent war and bring the experience of war to domestic settings? Which theoretical interventions are useful for considering how multimodal texts are engaged, and how might we include multimodal scholarship in our courses?

Narratives of the Interior Body As the interior of the body has become increasingly visible, viewers have learned to, in Lynda Birke's words, read the text of the body's insides. Popular media have helped make this text legible to viewers but do so by normalizing medical images and a biomedical view of the interior body. This panel seeks papers that problematize popular narratives of the interior body. Can we interpret the interior body other than through a biomedical lens? How do writers and artists develop counternarratives that contest the biomedical view of the body?

New Visualities: Hybrid Media in Post-National Digital Spaces This panel seeks papers that examine how hybrid, multimodal, and new media forms influence visual culture in a time when the popular mode of creation, distribution and consumption is gradually shifting from print to digital displays. What is the impact of digital mediation on the acts of reading, seeing, and experiencing when text and image hybrids circulate freely in a post-national digital space far from their original contexts?

Philip K. Dick: Literary and Cinematic Visions for the Twenty-First Century This seminar seeks papers that engage any aspect of Dick's work, cinematic adaptations of his work, or work that was inspired by his vision—social, economic, religious, political—which has become so relevant in the twenty-first century and possibly beyond. Let us reflect on the immanence and historicity of the work and its adaptations while exploring it alongside contemporary issues and developments.

Photography, Testimony, and the Voyeuristic Gaze: Bearing Witness to Trauma This panel seeks papers on the relation between trauma and representation in photography and related visual media. How do images of atrocities both provoke and disarm our voyeuristic gaze? How does bearing witness differ within visual, oral, and literary fields? This panel will explore our engagement with the spectacle of atrocities via the work of artists such as Alfredo Jaar and Richard Mosse. Preference will be given to papers that examine both photography and literature.

The Poetics of Intercultural Analogy This panel explores the myriad ways in which we use analogies to make sense of confusing or obscure practices that might otherwise isolate diverse cultures and traditions from each other. We wish to explore rich examples of such analogies. How are they manifest in different domains such as texts, rituals, images, and digital media? How should we study them? How might such research shed light on the nature of language or analogy in general? Are intercultural analogies merely poetic, or is poetry the ground of intercultural communication?

The Puppet Metaphor Across Media This panel welcomes papers exploring the cultural and philosophical ramifications of puppet images and puppet traditions through a variety of media (literature, film, theatre, video games, visual arts). It aims to stimulate a discussion of how a culture makes puppets and other performing objects vessels for identity and how these vessels in turn influence a culture. Papers with links to the history of popular theatre, cognitive sciences, cybernetics, and animation design are welcome.

The Queer Child in Contemporary Literature & Culture From Michel Foucault's foundational assertion that by the nineteenth century, the homosexual had become 'a personage, a past, a case history, and a *childhood*,' homosexuality and childhood have been strange but necessary bedfellows. This panel seeks to interrogate this odd pairing by looking at the figure of the queer child. The panel invites papers that examine the way the 'queer child' figure is deployed and represented in contemporary literature and film.

Queer Middle Eastern Cinema This session aims to explore LGBT/queer cinema in the Middle East. Cinema plays an important role in the globalization of Euro-American sexual identities, yet films also portray the painstaking process of localizing them. Submissions that engage with LGBT/queer themes from the perspectives of Orientalism, nationalism, and gay and human rights activism, as well as all other theoretical, methodological and cultural approaches to the Middle Eastern LGBT/queer experience, are welcome.

Reconsidering the Great War: Pre-War and Early Years, 1914–1916 This panel will explore a wide range of cultural responses to the pre-war period and first two years of the Great War. What are the reactions to the rush to war in art? How is the outbreak of war portrayed? How is national pride portrayed? How does the war affect popular and high culture? What methodological perspectives are best suited to grasp the Great War? Proposals from literature, film, painting, graphic arts, and other cultural forms are welcome. Works from any chronological period 1900–2015 will be considered. 200 word proposals.

Shakespearean [Re]Visions: Adapting the Bard in the Twenty-First Century Visual Culture In what ways do twenty-first century adaptations of Shakespeare's works refashion, reinvent, and comment upon the Bard's texts? How is

Culture and Media Studies/French

Shakespeare transformed through adaptation into visual media? What new insights are revealed about Shakespeare's works through the art of adaptation in the digital age?

This panel seeks proposals that examine interpretations, adaptations, and/or [re]visions of Shakespeare's works in the twenty-first century.

Song of My Selfie? Literature and Culture in the Selfie Age

How is the Selfie shaping contemporary literature and culture? How do modes of self-portraiture broaden our understanding of the Selfie, its roots, risks, and potential? How have we defined, theorized, embraced, and/or rejected the Selfie as a cultural practice? How do gender, race, class, and sexuality come into play? Papers on topics ranging from Whitman's self-fashioning to social media controversies and textual and visual memoir projects are all welcome.

Tarantino's Moral Universe Quentin Tarantino's films situate characters within groups and institutions that are morally suspect (e.g., drug dealers, hitmen, assassin squads, Nazi Germany, American slavery). In doing so his films interrogate the parameters within which we frame moral codes. This panel seeks papers that trace Tarantino's moral vision, especially analyses that consider how his films manipulate and explode formalist conceits and boundaries to engage the audience in investigating individual and collective morality.

'To (Not So) Boldly Go': Science Fiction as Instrument of Colonial Enterprise Both science fiction and postcolonial theory are concerned with troubling normative understandings of movement, diaspora, and hybridity, yet there is a relative lack of postcolonial voices within mainstream science fiction. This panel seeks papers that interrogate how various SF works further enshrine colonial attitudes. How is the postcolonial subject marginalized or disembodied when figured within an 'alien' Other? How might institutional barriers affect the emergence of postcolonial science fiction?

Undocumented Migration in Film, Media, and Visual Culture

In this seminar, we want to explore the diverse representations of undocumented migration in film and media, including international cinema, television, photography, art, and other forms of visual culture. The increasingly diverse body of films and other media about and by undocumented migrants provides an exciting opportunity for discussions spanning a range of genres, geographical regions, and topics.

Urban Protest: Global Migrants and the Public Sphere

This panel will examine the rhetorical strategies and aesthetics of protest movements that draw attention to the situation of global migrants. What counter-narratives do transnational migrants create against newly mainstreamed discourses of exclusion and invisibility? How do gendered migrant bodies stage their reduction to bare life in 'willful' urban protest actions? (Agamben 1998; Ahmed 2011). How might performance art, film, or fiction act to politicize its spectators (Rancière 2009)?

Visualizing Communities Through the Digital Humanities

Textual and Historical From early-modern theater troupes, to local LGBTQ networks, to the characters populating Dickens's London, communities vary in their formal qualities and the cultural or affective 'glue' that sustains them. Focusing on the digital humanities' visualization of communities, this session seeks papers addressing the current, critical crossroads of digital technology and humanities-based modes of inquiry. Presenters may theorize dh visualization methods, address technical research issues, or demonstrate challenges faced in actual projects.

Where Have We Been, Where Are We Going? Intersections in Race and Technology

What is the relationship between race and media technology? This panel attempts to reckon with the under theorized relationship between race and the development of media. From the early importance of blackface minstrelsy in *The Jazz Singer* and the emergence of sound cinema to the evolution of 3D technology and James Cameron's 2009 film *Avatar*, this panel welcomes broad approaches to the contact zone of race and media. Papers are encouraged to engage with the visual arts, 'new media,' music, and sound as well as literature.

Women in Trouble in Contemporary Cinema Women lost, isolated, backed into corners the troubled woman pervades contemporary culture. This panel invites papers that address representations of breakdown, loss of identity, obsession, violence, victimization, criminality, and other kinds of trouble. What is this trouble? Is trouble necessarily a bad thing? Does trying to get out of trouble always lead to more trouble?

French and Francophone

Authors Without Borders: The Blending of the Francophone World

This panel invites papers showing how contemporary francophone writers and filmmakers expand their horizons beyond their own borders. What happens when francophone authors explore topics outside of their national identity? How are they perceived, how do they perceive others? Looking at authors who delve into other cultures or authors who export their art beyond their own borders, let us investigate how and if they maintain a cultural specificity.

De parenté à parenté: Destinées acadiennes chez Georgette LeBlanc

Cet atelier explore le traitement de l'histoire et l'inscription de la communauté dans les oeuvres de Georgette LeBlanc, qui s'appuie sur des personnages souffrants pour ramener l'histoire acadienne marquée par la tragédie à ses dimensions humaines. Nous nous intéresserons entre autres au rapport posé entre passé et existence contemporaine, ainsi qu'à la façon dont LeBlanc manie la notion de parenté pour redessiner une communauté inclusive.

Disability as a Social Phenomenon Using the interactive social model of disability proposed by the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities as a point of departure, this panel will address disability as it appears in French

French and Francophone

and Francophone literature. In what format or genre is the account presented? To what extent, if any, does the narrator or character witness to history? What emphasis does the narrator or character give environmental conditions or does he or she focus on other elements?

L'éveil d'une littérature togolaise pionnière: la reconquête du dû africain Ce panel se veut une plateforme de découverte [ou de redécouverte] de la portée du discours esthétique et social d'une littérature togolaise non superfétatoire en pleine évolution qui ne demande qu'une critique émancipée à la hauteur de ses contemporains. De Felix Couchoro à Edem Awumey en passant par Kossi Efoui, Kangni Alem et Sami Tchak, comment cette littérature en émergence repositionne-t-elle le courant littéraire en Afrique?



Folie guerrière Une fois les injonctions patriotiques ou idéologiques mises de côté, quelles autres manifestations la guerre produit-elle? Bilan positif, mitigé ou traces de folie guerrière dans la chair et les esprits? Cette session s'attachera à l'aspect folie

de la guerre sous toutes ses formes dans les divers conflits qui ont secoué le vingtième ou le début du vingt-et-unième siècle et ce dans le roman français ou francophone.

Franco-African Relations in the Twenty-First Century The purpose of this interdisciplinary roundtable is to assess the value of Franco-African relations from the perspective of Africans. Is the Franco-African cooperation a colonial pact leading to the permanent marginalization of the participating African countries? Is it the road to 'salvation' in the global 'marketplace' of the twenty-first century? We are soliciting contributions from a variety of fields (literature, cultural studies, and the social sciences).

French and Frenchness in Louisiana: Literature, Language, and Identity This panel explores themes regarding the construction of discourses of French and Frenchness in Louisiana. We invite submissions about Louisiana's francophone literature, language, and discourses focusing on social actors' identities. We welcome abstracts investigating the role played by history and its narration. How do language revival movements intertwine within the complex range of Louisiana's social, political, economical, and racial issues?

From Medieval to Modern: New Approaches to French Women and Authorship This session will explore new approaches to French women writers and concepts of authorship in a range of periods (medieval through modern). We are interested in intersections between women's authorship and topics such as: discourses of embodiment, race and ethnicity, religion, politics, popular (including media and celebrity) culture, biography,

ecocriticism, science, material culture, class/ family relations, queer studies, and disability studies.

History and Herstory: Gendered Narratives of Migration and Displacement This panel seeks papers on narratives of migration and displacement in French-language cinema and literature through the lens of gender and ethnicity. In what ways have migrant men and women experienced diasporic life in France after World War II? What techniques do writers and filmmakers employ to render these stories? How are femininity and masculinity constructed in their works? Various migrant groups will be considered: Maghrebi, Sub-Saharan, Caribbean, and Asian.

Intersecting the Past as 'Subjects': Class, Race, and Women Writers in French This panel encourages papers on Francophone women writers challenging modes of oppression as well as notions of race and 'post-racial' societies. How do they question the subjection of women by oppressive power structures, and in turn, make us reflect on the historical links between capitalism and slavery? Can such literature change the way we currently think about living in a post-colonial/post-racial era?

La littérature franco-ontarienne et l'institution littéraire Ce panel examinera l'institution littéraire et le milieu culturel de l'Ontario français afin de célébrer la richesse de cette littérature minoritaire. Quels rôles jouent les éditeurs, les revues, les universités, les prix littéraires et la critique dans son émergence? Comment des auteurs franco-ontariens tels que Daniel Poliquin et Marguerite Andersen représentent-ils l'écrivain et ses rapports avec son oeuvre, ses lecteurs, et le milieu littéraire?

Le mot en crise : l'art et l'indicible dans la littérature contemporaine Cette séance s'intéresse à la crise de la représentation, devenue vers 1940 le sujet paradoxal de l'art. On explorera comment différentes formes d'art permettent à la littérature contemporaine de (tenter de) dire l'indicible et de représenter l'irreprésentable. Par l'intertextualité ou l'emprunt de techniques artistiques, on verra comment la littérature se fait discipline interdisciplinaire cherchant à explorer et à esquiver simultanément ses faiblesses.

LGBT Human Rights in North African Literature and Film This panel offers to analyze how North African literature portrays the Maghreb Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender community and its human rights, with a focus on changing attitudes toward LGBT communities as portrayed in literature and cinema. Panelists are invited to consider analyses in queer and gender studies, socio-anthropology (among others, Foucault, Ribbon and Bouhdiba), semiotics, post-structuralism, deconstruction, or feminist theory.

New Perspectives: Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century French Writers This panel will focus on revisiting the works of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century French writers. Using new

French and Francophone

and original perspectives, we will attempt to shed new lights on their ideas, beliefs, and value systems. Major seventeenth- and eighteenth-century authors may include female and male philosophers, moralists, essayists, poets, novelists, and playwrights. The method of analysis is open.



New Technologies and Networks in French and Francophone Literature and Film This panel will address the topic of new technologies and networks in contemporary French and Francophone fictions (in both literature and film). Some themes

to consider: What kind of technological/economical/spatial networks do contemporary films and literature refer to? Have networks lowered our ability to feel empathy? Have networks made us more alone than we were before? Have they altered our sense of space and time?

La nouvelle poésie africaine et ses discours Ce panel propose d'analyser les figures et les pratiques dans la poésie africaine. Les communications pourront s'articuler autour des auteurs, des pratiques génériques (poésie urbaine par exemple), des renouvellements thématiques et esthétiques, des politiques d'édition en Afrique et dans la diaspora. Des communications visant une tentative de périodisation vingtième et vingt-et-unième siècles ou une étude comparative de textes sur ces deux périodes seront aussi recevables.

The Nouvelle Vague at 60: A Reassessment The Nouvelle Vague changed the way that people watch, critique, and make movies for generations to come. However, what happens when the New Wave is no longer new? Has its elevation to classic status stripped it of its power to provoke? What is the continued relevance of the French New Wave? This roundtable seeks to engage with these questions by looking at its criticism, filmmakers and key New Wave films, and the current status of the Nouvelle Vague.

Recipes for Power: Food and Literacy in French and Francophone Literature This session will consider when and how French and Francophone authors write about food in order to address questions of identity, marginalization, agency, and more. It will also examine what this writing communicates regarding the relative merits of cooking as a form of creative expression or social influence (particularly for women) as compared with other means of empowerment, especially literacy.

Reflection on Occultism in Francophone African Literature and Cinema Occultism in masterpieces is often concerned with the African nation-state's postcolonial condition and the African. The articulation of identity, tradition, healing, and divination are some of its staples. Possible topics are:

occultism and the detective novel; occultism as a postcolonial means of resistance; occultism, the subaltern and the African elite; occultism, orality and myths; occultism and ethnicity; occultism and the discourse of legitimation; and the cinematography and theatrics of occultism.

(Sub)Liminal Identities in Pre-revolutionary French Literature This panel provides a forum for seventeenth- and eighteenth-century French literature specialists working on identity and borders. Possible questions: what constitutes an identity? How does 'identity' live up to the seemingly rival concept of French 'différence'? Does the Revolution have any impact on re(de)fining identity? What constitutes a border? How do the liminal markers of the 'ancien régime' measure up to the pre-revolutionary signs of deterritorialization? How far into our unconscious can these borders reach?

Timeliness: Unfolding, Alignments, Constellations, Events This panel aims at exploring the notion of timeliness in French, Francophone, Comparative Literature and Theory as a challenge to Western teleological conceptions of time and history. Some themes to consider are anachronism, anamnesis, alternative histories, delays, event, return, revolution, timing, time as experience/feeling.

Twenty-First Century Tunisian Women Writers' Literary Production This roundtable invites papers exploring the twenty-first century literary production of Tunisian women writers in French and/or Arabic. Possible topics include: preoccupations, aspirations and dreams; changes from traditional to contemporary society; physical and spiritual relationships and alliances; literary devices to circumvent censorship; women and revolution; women and sexuality; challenges to male-centered models. All critical and theoretical approaches welcome. This roundtable is sponsored by WIF (Women in French).

Uncovering History in Visual and Literary Arts of the Maghreb This panel will focus on buried and silenced moments in historical narratives of the Maghreb, through multiple media and overlapping techniques such as painting, photography, writing, music, and installation. While the panel will take a long view of history, its focus will be on contemporary artists and the postcolonial era. In soliciting papers which deal with different media, it stresses the importance of a multidisciplinary interpretive framework for historical analysis.

Women and Self-Representation through Writing and Visual Media This session aims to explore self-representation in women's autobiographical writing, comic strips, photography, and cinema. We invite paper proposals that will examine a variety of means used by female artists to express or/and (re-) create their identity, personal experience, or their condition in the world.

Writing the City of Light: Paris in Literature, Philosophy, and History This panel seeks papers that uncover or provide fresh examinations of any and all who have attempted to translate

French/German

Parisian life onto the page. Possible topics include: Paris, Capital of Modernity; The Gothic City vs. The Renaissance City; Zola and Haussmannization; Surrealist Explorations; Colonial Cities as Extensions of the Metropole; Le Corbusier and la ville radieuse; G. Perec and His Parisian Games; Literature from the Banlieue(s); Representations in Non-Francophone Literature.

German Language and Literatures

200 Years of Eichendorff This panel will feature papers treating works by or about Joseph von Eichendorff (1788–1857). Possible topics include, but are not limited to, translations of his works, analysis of his lesser known works, trends or gaps in criticism, how he influenced or was influenced by other authors, and what the author might have to say to readers living a century and a half after his death, including our students. 20-minute presentations may be in English or German.

Alpine Myth or the Myth of the Alps in Austrian and Swiss Literature and Film The representation of the sublime of mountains and the Alps as a location of mysticism and aesthetic essence of nature was theorized by classical German authors (Goethe) and immortalized by Schiller's 'Wilhelm Tell.' Recent films such as *Alpsommer* (2013) and the controversial movie *Sennentuntschi* (2010), as well as travel media and literature by a new generation of writers have rediscovered this lure of mountain life and alpine culture. This session presents a critical discussion of the traditional and rediscovered 'Alpen Mythos.'

Censorship and Subversion in German Literature and Film This panel seeks papers on German texts and films that developed under censorship, or any instance in which the government sought to influence cultural production. How does censorship influence writing/film? How do certain works 'slip through'? Are they subversive? To what extent is self-censorship maybe even more damaging than governmental guidelines? And are there examples of productive governmental influence (Bitterfeld)? Is freedom of expression possible in a highly subsidized German art scene? Please submit 300- to 500-word abstracts.

From Excavation to Representation: The Role of Archaeology in German Culture This panel investigates manifestations of archaeological and historical scholarship within German culture from the nineteenth century until today. From Freud's 'Seelenarchäologie' to David Chipperfield's reconstruction of the Neue Museum, the panel seeks to demonstrate that uncovering and presenting history has as much to do with the present as with the past. This is the traditional paper format of 3–4 participants, reading a formal paper of 15–20 minutes (2500–3000 words), followed by Q&A.

The German Graphic Novel and (Auto)biography This panel focuses on the graphic novel as a venue for presenting autobiography and in particular the artist's experience. Possible questions could consider how the artist uses the

multimedia format to perform self-reflexive literary tasks, or ways that the visual genre allows for the artistic formation and presentation of identity.

German-Jews, Nostalgia, and Redemption This panel examines forms of nostalgia in Jewish, German-language cultural production at the beginning of the twentieth century into the interbellum period. Topics include: visualizations; languages and narratives of nostalgia; patriotism; romantic longing; theories and theologies of Jewish nostalgia as it intersects with messianic ideas; and ideas of pre-figuration as metaphor and material in German-Jewish writers. Submissions concerning gender, intellectual history, and public discourse are encouraged, as are single-author/artist reflections.

German-Speaking Women Activists Without Borders Since the late nineteenth and throughout the twentieth century, German-speaking women worked towards global ideals by participating in international organizations and pan-European programs: Bertha von Suttner paved the way for the UN, Annette Kolb advocated for French-German friendship in the first half of the twentieth century, Erika Mann exposed the National Socialists' usurpation of German children's bodies and minds. This panel will examine the motivations behind German-speaking women's pacifist and/or altruistic activism from 1871 to 1945.

'The Greatest Show on Earth!': The Circus in German Literature and Film This panel explores the space as well as the performative elements of the circus in its various manifestations in both past and present German cultural productions, with particular emphasis on identity construction/production, entertainment, surveillance, pleasure, and violence. Submit 250-word abstracts in English or German to Vanessa Plumly and Anna Stainton.

'Ich verstehe die Welt nicht mehr!': (In)Sanity in German Literature and Culture 'Sapere Aude!' was the motto that accompanied the Enlightenment on its quest for rational knowledge and scientific progress. Its literary aftermath, though, is populated with ghosts, doppelgängers, and madmen. The lack of sanity has kept German literature thriving as it bears witness to scientific, social, and political changes throughout the centuries. Topics can include the relation between madness and all aspects of the arts, society, or science, as well as the author, narrator, genre, or reader.

Re-Defining 'Germanness' Germany is ethnically diverse. Migrants participate in a new German culture, and thereby, in re-defining what it means to be German. Traditional terms, like migrant literature, suggest an addition to an otherwise national German literature. This panel will investigate approaches to a new form of Germanness, one that includes mono- and multicultural 'Germans.' We welcome theoretical papers that offer new readings of 'Germanness,' and practical contributions that show the incorporation of diverse authors in the classroom.

German/Interdisciplinary Humanities

Religious and Sexual Freedom in German Literature Starting with the Reformation and continuing into the Enlightenment era and beyond, the concept of religious freedom exerted a profound influence on German literature and culture. The concept of sexual freedom could be seen as resting on similar cultural foundations. Papers exploring how religious and sexual freedom are intertwined, and how they might come into conflict with each other, in German literature of the sixteenth century through the present, are welcome.

‘Sadness and Madness?’ Reconsidering Melancholy This panel seeks to explore the complex and often contradictory notion of melancholy and its representations as madness and genius/creativity. Ideally, presentations will contribute to a better understanding of: (1) melancholy beyond the dichotomy of healthy/unhealthy, productive/unproductive, disability/gift, apathy/mania; (2) melancholy as representation of an active engagement in Trauerarbeit; and (3) artistic engagements with melancholy creating a therapeutic space between writer and reader, artist and audience.

Sciences and Scientists in German Literary Discourse: An Ecocritical Approach The images of the scientist, explorer, and researcher, ranging from ‘world-illuminator’ to ‘mad scientist,’ have been a strong discourse-building element in German-speaking Europe. This panel will examine the representation of science and scientists (explorers and researchers), as well as the related concepts (scientific disciplines, discoveries, moral aspects of scientific activity) in German-language literatures of any period in the light of more recent methodological and theoretical developments of ecocriticism. 100–250-word abstracts.

Social Justice in Twenty-First Century German Culture This panel explores how twenty-first century German-language authors and artists are grappling with social-justice issues that affect residents of Germany and the world beyond its borders. These works expose the obstacles to achieving social justice by means of various narrative modes and genres. Central themes may include the legacy of the 1968 generation, the unification process, socioeconomic inequality, feminism, the role of immigrants and minorities, environmental politics, and religious promotion of ethical behavior.

Sounds German II: Sound, Text, and Music in German Literature This panel examines the multiple links between text and sound in German literature and culture and the relationship between text, sound, music, and poeology. Possible topics: the performative aspect of text as spoken and heard; the musical nature of poetic language; insights from auditory biology into aesthetic investigations; research intersections between musicology and literary studies; the mimetic function of poetry; literary depictions of instrumental music and the voice; how to bring the sound of texts into the classroom.

Subversive Voices and Revolutionary Bodies: Heiner Müller’s Legacy Twenty years after Heiner Müller’s death, it is time to

reassess the deep impact his work has had on German and American culture. Müller’s provocative work not only helps to found postdramatic theater, but continues to influence contemporary playwrights, artists, and directors. This panel seeks contributions that explore the wide-ranging influences that Müller has had on the cultural sphere. 500-word abstract and brief biographical sketch to Pascale LaFountain.

The Tourist in Contemporary German-language Films and Literature According to Dean MacCannell, the tourist is a cipher of a changing world. How do travel and tourism change the way we think about the ‘other’? This panel invites papers that explore the gaze of the privileged traveler in contemporary German-language films and literature. Contributions may relate to one or more of the following topics: post-colonial studies, anthropology, sociology, film studies, transnational literature, travel literature.

Translating German Literary Texts Acknowledgement of creativity and interpretation in translation studies challenges the idea that translation is a simple, uncreative process. Papers will explore how social, historical and cultural perspectives, creativity, literary analysis and interpretation affect both translations and re-translations of German literary texts of all historical periods, but with particular interest in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Presentations addressing one’s own approaches are also welcome. Please submit 250-word abstracts to Eleanor ter Horst.

Interdisciplinary Humanities

1968 Onward: Its Repercussions in Europe In 1968, most European countries were affected by the turmoil of protests and political unrest. This panel seeks to analyze the impact of the 1968 upheaval had in Europe and how artists perceived and reacted to it in the following years. Contributions in literature, visual arts, theater, and cinema are welcome.

Aesthetics and Agency: A Novel Look at Madness This panel seeks papers in English on the aesthetics and representations of madness, and the agency that may be found in an otherwise oppressive and vilified identity, focusing on texts from the first wave of mental health reform in the nineteenth-century through the second wave of reform in the mid-twentieth century. Please submit 300- to 500-word abstracts and brief bios to Aubrey Mishou.

Alfred Jarry’s Legacies This panel invites papers that examine the influence that modernist Alfred Jarry (1873–1907) has had on North American writers and artists. Most famous for his play *Ubu Roi*, which caused a riot in Paris in 1896, Jarry’s invention of pataphysics — the ‘science of imaginary solutions’ — has recently gripped critical imaginations. Topics might include: the Toronto Research Group, Canadian Pataphysics, Marcel Duchamp, Thomas Chimes, William Kentridge, and Harry Mathews.

Interdisciplinary Humanities

Beyond the Virtual Bubble: Toward an Embodied Intercultural Discourse

This panel will address the value of actual multicultural experience at home and overseas and why the lack of it threatens to hold students back in their careers. Topics include: technological interconnections vs. actual experience in a foreign country; crosscultural experiences and individual responsibility for setting and achieving goals based on needs in each context; integration of cultural studies in the classroom with experiential learning in multicultural contexts to create mutually beneficial opportunities for growth and understanding.

Contemplating the Missing Pieces: The Fragmented and Grottesque Body

This panel seeks to reflect on disturbed representations of the human form in literature, comics, and graphic novels. Depictions of the fragmented or even monstrous figures as opposed to the normalized body bring forth tensions having to do with marginality, transgression, hybridity, and the otherworldly. This interdisciplinary panel will focus on representation of the fragmented body especially as it relates to gender and race. Please submit 300- to 500-word abstracts to Carmen Serrano.

Digital Classics: Where the Ancient Meets the Future This panel will explore what more can be gleaned from ancient texts through the new tools and methodologies of the digital humanities. We welcome all projects and ideas that are utilizing digital tools in order to further explore all kinds of texts (e.g. epic, mythology, tragedy, comedy, vases, epigraphs, inscriptions, etc.) from any area of antiquity (e.g. ancient Greece, Rome, Mesopotamia, etc.). Please send abstracts to Shelly Jansen, Rochester Institute of Technology.

Digital Diversity: Literacy, Cultures, and The Inclusive Classroom How can digital technologies foster literacy, address cultural differences, and build inclusive classrooms? What are the transformative power of digital humanities for teachers and students? How important is context awareness in digital humanities? What are the latest developments in interactive platforms on literacy and cultures, or interdisciplinary humanities bridging cultures? Submit abstracts between 200-300 words to Dr. Ellen Dolgin and Dr. Kay Li with a short bio.

Digital Humanities and Latin America: New Trends, Challenges, and Developments This roundtable explores the impact of the Humanities going digital in Latin America, from both a Latin American and United States perspective. Papers will explore new trends and developments on the subject such as the inclusion of initiatives to create databases and other interactive tools. 250-word abstracts.

Environmental Futurity What are the histories of environmental discourses of futurity? Who belongs in their worlds? This seminar will interrogate hegemonic modes of environmental futurity and consider alternative or resistant modes in literature and culture. Futurity will be examined in relation to the temporalities and geopolitics of material processes like climate

change, and to the temporal structures, narrative modes, and authorizing practices of specific imagined environmental futures, such as *buen vivir*, the Anthropocene, sustainability, and resilience.



The Essay Film at the Intersection of Literature and Cinema

This panel will address recent developments in the essay film genre and invites submissions that specifically explore recent essay films at the intersection of literature and non-fiction film. The topics of the panel include but are not limited to: relationships between spoken word and image in the essay film, notions of authenticity and the creation of

meaning in the essay film, and explorations of essay films as located at the juncture between documentary and fiction.

Food and Sustainability: Towards a Culinary Ecology Both the fields of sustainability and food studies allow us to investigate our identity and its relationship to ecology. Food can be a text that constructs identity through what is produced and consumed. Therefore, food texts allow us to recognize the discourses and disconnects between society and ecology which mark our identity. We are seeking abstracts of no more than 300 words that engage with the intersection of food and sustainability studies.

Haptic Aesthetics: Exploring the Tactile in Literature This panel explores the tactile and sensory aspects of literature, examining how the 'sensory turn' and theories of touch—or haptic aesthetics have impacted the production of literary theory. Papers from this panel are encouraged to survey diverse subfields of literature, including different genres, texts, and eras, and should investigate how haptic theory has proliferated an ongoing interest in the tactile, affective, and sensual aspects of literature. Please submit 250- to 300-word abstracts to Nicole Birch-Bayley.

Heresy Redeemed! Modern Usage for Condemned Texts This panel seeks papers that explore the modern usage of texts once considered heretical. Authors like Marguerite Porete and Giordano Bruno have found new homes as champions of modern causes: Porete as a defender of women's roles in the Church, and Bruno as a martyr for science. While the intent of their works may not completely justify this repurposing, it does allow us to reconsider the importance of these authors to modern thought. We welcome multidisciplinary and multilingual responses to medieval/Renaissance condemned works.

Identity, Politics, and Universals in Literary Theory and Beyond This panel addresses the relationships between politics, identity, and biological, cognitive, emotive, and moral

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universals (Nussbaum). Submissions will examine these concepts in light of the humanities and social sciences. Subtopics may include: Literary Theory, Narrative Universals and Empathy, Cognitive approaches to Literature, Postcolonial Studies, Film Studies, Global and Nativist Studies; Subaltern studies; Genocide studies; Nature and Cognition; Gender Studies; South Asia Studies. 300- to 500-word abstracts and brief bios.

Independence, India, and North America in the Long Nineteenth Century (1776–1947) As historian Susan Bean has noted in *Yankee India*, trade between North America and India in the nineteenth century exceeded that between India and all of Europe combined. Expanding this connection, this roundtable seeks submissions exploring the understudied literary, rhetorical, and philosophical networks between North America (Canada and US) and India in the long nineteenth Century from Revolution (1776) to Independence (1947). Potential areas of submission: translation; adaptation and reception; travel; serial fiction; transcendentalism; nationalism.

Literary Landscapes as Imagined Places: Historical, Psychological, Ecological This panel will examine how landscape theory provides insight into the literary process of transforming images of physical landscapes into conceptual networks of images that embody historical, psychological, and ecological perspectives. We raise the question: How does the deep feeling resulting from an attachment to place, as embodied in a literary image, convey the role of that place as part of a conceptual network embodying visions of history, psychology, and ecology? We invite papers on works from many literatures and historical periods.

Losing Touch: Visual Art and Materiality Desiring to reconcile craft and criticism, this panel emphasizes studying the visual arts with an attention to craft, materiality, and objecthood. How can critical inquiry be edified through familiarity with artistic process and material form? Are we, as academics, guilty of 'losing touch' with the arts? Papers are encouraged to consider the influence of form upon content with respect to any visual art, including but not limited to photography, film, painting, the book arts, and new media.

Mixed Modalities: Literature and Performance This panel explores the intersections between what are typically considered non-performance genres/modes of writing and performance-based art forms. We welcome abstracts related to any foreign language literary tradition, and the panel highly encourages submissions from nineteenth- and twentieth-century works of literature. Possible topics of interest include: transmedialization in literature; the dramatization of poetry; poetry slams and jams; intermediality studies; and effects of mixed modalities on the author, audience, or work of art.

Modernist Harlequinade: Early Twentieth-Century *commedia dell'arte* across the Arts Modernists recast familiar figures of *commedia dell'arte* to sharpen social critique. Millay's anti-

war play *Aria da Capo* is a prime example. Pierrot became central, embodying artists' sadness and isolation, and was eponymous with or without the all-white costume: onstage (Bert Williams), in film (Chaplin and Keaton), or in Ballet Russes sets and costume (Picasso). This session welcomes papers on literature, film, theatre, and/or visual arts, regarding creation or reception.

'The Moment Made Eternal': At The Intersection of Photography and Poetry From the Imagist poem, to the aesthetic experimentation with visual poetic structures in the late twentieth century, to the contemporary digital intermingling of poetry and photography, the intersection of the poem and the photograph is a rich comparison for exploration. This panel delves into photography and poetry, pursuing nuanced and unexpected insights by placing the two artistic genres in conversation. This call solicits papers that interrogate how these arts influence one another.

Networks of Conspiracy Across Time, Space, and Media This panel aims to expand current discussions of conspiracy theory by tracing the dissemination of those theories across time, space, and different media. Of particular interest are papers that show how conspiracy theories are appropriated and changed as they shift across national literatures, the news media, (pseudo) science, social networks, and other discursive fields.

New Work in Transnational North American Book History: Canada, U. S., Mexico This panel will take a hemispheric approach to new research in the transnational North American history of the book. Papers are welcome that explore the movements of texts, authors, printers, and publishers across the Canada-United States-Mexico borders and borderlands, and how this movement affects our understanding of the creation, production, distribution, consumption, reading, and reception of material texts and textualities, from the colonial period to the present. Submit 300-word proposals to Jeffrey Makala.

Oceanic Turns: The Politics of Hemispheric American Studies This roundtable examines the locations, terminologies, and methodologies that shape the oceanic turn in contemporary American literary studies. Taking the Pacific and Atlantic oceans as our loci, we are seeking papers that address the material conditions, literary constructs, and social imaginaries that function as oceanic spaces in literary and historical discourses. Scholars working on Atlantic, Black Atlantic, transnational, or hemispheric studies are invited to submit abstracts.

Off the Page: Verbal and Visual Manifestations of Poetry What are the imaginative possibilities of poetry outside the written page? What can this type of intersection reveal about the poetic text and about the text in relation? We welcome papers that discuss both ekphrasis and adaptation. Papers might consider poetry in relation to sculpture (including sound

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sculpture), photography, music, painting, performance, film, and other arts.

‘One Love?’ Examining Contemporary Caribbean Literatures and Cultures For this panel, we invite participants to explore the rich cultural production of Caribbean artists (writers, musicians, sculptors, photographers, filmmakers, dancers, etc.) of the last hundred years. How are we defining the Caribbean in the twenty-first century? How are we in conversation with each other? How do the arts portend the future of the region? We recognize ‘Caribbean’ to include the attendant international diasporas and welcome abstracts in all of the national languages spoken there.

Paradigms of Criticism The roundtable will consider how the spaces available for criticism, both inside and outside the academy, as well as the stylistic and disciplinary conventions of criticism, determine, in part, the kinds of critical work that gets (or doesn’t get) produced and how that critical work advances (or doesn’t) conversation and engagement with literature, art, science, and thought. Proposals representing a variety of disciplinary perspectives, historical eras, and methodological approaches are all welcome.

Poetry and Contemporary Regimes of Affect How do poetic forms represent, conduce to, (re)enact, and intervene in affective experience under neoliberalism? This seminar invites participants to consider poetry’s mediations of contemporary regimes of affect. We seek proposals on poetry that attend to new and traditional forms of affective labor (e.g., social media, the service economy, care work) while negotiating and disclosing power differentials and social divisions. Send 300-word abstracts to co-chairs Judith Goldman and Cathy Wagner.

Questioning Boundaries: New Applications of Black Transnationalism Beginning with Paul Gilroy’s *The Black Atlantic* in 1993, the study of black transnationalism has proven fruitful in exhibiting the extent to which transatlantic and global concepts continue to factor into black identity. This panel seeks papers that utilize the lens of black transnationalism to illuminate and enhance our understanding of literary texts or cultural movements. Possible paper topics might include, but are not limited to: migration and alienation; identity construction; national boundaries; space and spatiality; black Canada.

Roma, Gypsies, and the Politics and Poetics of (Mis-)Representation Over the last two decades, prejudice against Roma(ni) known as Gypsies has escalated in Europe. This panel investigates the place of Roma(ni) in Europe and within current debates about global cultures. Papers that examine the constructions of their culture in literature, the arts, and popular culture are welcome. We are particularly interested in work that investigates their role in our imaginary, their position within debates about global cultures, and work that focuses on literary texts (either in English or in translation).

Science and/of the Word: Alter-Humanisms in Caribbean Poetry and Philosophy This session proposes to explore and assess the contributions of Caribbean poets and intellectuals both to the postcolonial/ecocritical/feminist/queer polemics against Enlightenment modernity and neoliberal humanism and to the invention of alternative modes of being, thinking, and figuring the human. We welcome papers engaging the artistic and intellectual productions of Caribbean writers in the broad context of post-, anti-, and alter-humanisms. How do Caribbean texts unsettle and (re)invent relations between the Sciences and the Humanities?

The Table Comes First: Gastronomy’s New Place in the Humanities In this panel, we will consider broadly the role and relationship of food and literature, and food and history, without specific national boundaries. Yet papers on Spain and Latin America will be especially welcome; so will the inclusion of film, painting, multimedia, theory as well as literature and history of one or more cultures. Other topics around gastronomy might include hunger, starvation, abundance, and cannibalism.

Technology and Society: Shifting Identities and Digital Worlds This roundtable invites papers about the intersections of digital technology and constructions of identity and difference, including gender, race and ethnicity, class, nation, disability, and sexuality. Papers should focus on contemporary culture, literature, or art. Possible topics might include digital humanities projects, cyborg feminisms, representations of technological change in literature and film, digital-born literature, online activism, technology and the global/local, and the representations of identity in social media.

‘Total Work of Art’: From *Fin de Siècle* Forward Taking Wagner’s idea of *Gesamtkunstwerk* as a starting point this roundtable will consider different artistic expressions—cinematic, theatrical, literary, musical, and visual—in order to examine how the Arts blend together and create a complete illustration of this historical period.

The Ugly Laws and Beyond: Beholding and Regulating Disability in Urban Landscape This panel welcomes submissions of original essays that examine the intersections between urban planning and anxieties and constructions/representations of disability in literature from any time period or genre. Essays may examine the construction of disability in relation to urban concerns of vice, criminality, racial difference, hygiene as well as changing meanings of ‘ableism.’

Urban Ecology, Art, and The Elements How does the encounter between literature/art and the elements contribute to the sculpting of contemporary landscapes? How do art and literature influence urban ecology (and vice-versa)? How do they inform the planning of our continually transforming environment? This roundtable welcomes paper proposals having to do with the interrelationships between literature, fine art, sound, or performance, and urban ecology, with particular

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attention to the elements (earth, air, fire, water). Please submit 250-word abstracts to Jodie Barker.

‘We have art...’ Practicing Ekphrasis in Poetry Related to Corporeality How is the body related to what we consider aesthetically ‘interesting’? This roundtable seeks papers practicing or theorizing about ekphrastic poetry as it relates to corporeality. Panelists will discuss their interest in and approaches to ekphrasis alongside reading their own poems, and collaborations that include poetry and visual art. We also welcome academics interested in alternative theoretical models for discussing ekphrasis in poetry. 250–300 word abstracts and a creative writing sample (2–3 poems) to Tiffany Austin.

Italian Language and Literatures

Bodies That Matter? The Female Body in Italian Film Culture

This panel aims to discuss different representations of the female body in Italian film culture across various decades and genres (commedia sexy and all’italiana, cine-panettoni, dramas, auteur film, and independent film, among others). Different theoretical frameworks are welcome, and relevant comparative studies between American, European, and/or non-Western cinema are strongly encouraged. 250- to 300-word abstracts to Francesco Pascuzzi.

‘Buono da pensare, buono da mangiare’: Food

Representations in Italian Culture This panel examines the socio-political and literary implications of food in Italian culture (i.e. literature, art, film studies, social sciences, etc.). It will be open to all centuries and genres and may focus on the alimentary necessity for subsistence on the individual or social level, as well as food as a tool for societal and political definition, or as a medium for art. Papers from a variety of disciplines are welcome. Please submit a 300–400 word abstract to Daniele De Feo.

‘Buttatemi giù qualche idea!’ Scrivere sul set (o lì vicino)

La sessione prende in esame romanzi, racconti, poesie, saggi, pièce di teatro, sceneggiature, memorie, reportage giornalistici e quant’altro scritto da chi ha avuto stretti rapporti col cinema: registi, sceneggiatori, attori, critici e collaboratori a vari livelli. Si intende dare particolare rilievo alle convergenze e interferenze tra cinema e letteratura nelle forme dell’espressione e nell’immaginario collettivo.

Calvino’s Combinational Creativity This panel will examine how Italo Calvino’s creativity takes inspiration from other authors and movements. By examining the way he incorporates the languages, images, and other literary techniques or theories into his work, the panel will shed light on Calvino’s literary philosophy and poetics. Participants may examine any work by Calvino and the way it dialogues with texts by other authors or literary movements.

The Case of Roberto Saviano In May 2016 it will be 10 years since the publication of *Gomorra*. Subsequently, Roberto Saviano became one of the most famous and widely read Italian writers in Italy and abroad. This panel will explore the figure and works of Roberto Saviano. Papers in English and/or Italian on his books, his journalistic works, his collaboration with cinema, theater, and TV are welcome. Interdisciplinary and innovative approaches will also be accepted.

Il caso Moro Modalità e forme di costruzione della memoria

Our session examines the modalities of employment of the Moro case in the Italian contemporary culture. We are particularly interested in the analysis of novels, short stories, pamphlets, films, plays, journalistic reconstructions, television films, iconic documentation. We are also interested in papers that contribute to broaden the perspective according to the point of view of the victim and following testimonies and memories of the years of lead. Papers can be either in Italian or in English. Please send abstracts of 200–250 words.

Cinema and the ‘Traditional Arts’ vs. New Media: Italy

1970–Present This session will explore the relations between cinema and contemporary media (TV, Web, video, etc.), their relation to market forces (including commercials) and to the artistic ideals of contemporary Italian artists and intellectuals. Italian theories about contemporary media most welcome, but the session is open to all approaches. Proposals relating to all forms of reflection and creation (including commercials, advertisements, etc.), from interviews to documentaries to blogs to YouTube are invited.

Contemporary Italian Novels What has happened to narrative in the past 40 years? How have new technologies and political events shaped the way Italians (and new Italians) write novels? This session explores the themes and techniques (traditional and otherwise) of novels written in the past 40 years (give or take a year or two).

Dealing with Change: Unconventional Reading in Early

Modern Europe The European continent witnessed widespread transformation between 1500 and 1700. This panel will explore the role of literature as a driving force behind this time of social innovation and cultural turmoil. Possible topics: the interplay between orthodoxy and heterodoxy; the re-appraisal of magical literature and its dialectic with empiricism; the re-interpretation of folklore and popular beliefs; the role of the printing market in the circulation of unorthodox texts; the *raison d’état* underpinning the birth of national states.

The Diary in Italian Literature and Cinema This panel explores questions of identity and recognition as well as the relationship between self and otherness in the narrative form of the fictional or non-fictional diary in Italian literature and cinema: books of memoirs, travel journals, logbooks, diet journals, sleep and dream journals, *Tagebuch*, war diaries, unusual diaries, medical journals, fictional diaries, etc. Proposals on Italian authors and non-Italian authors, who either wrote in

Italian

Italian or wrote about Italy in another language, are welcome. 300-word abstracts.



Digital Humanities for Medieval Italy

We welcome proposals dealing not only with Dante, Petrarch, and Boccaccio but also with chronicles, religious works, illumination,

illustration and iconography, geography, architecture, music and so on. Of special interest are projects that deal with the development and application of recent technologies (including innovative uses for encoding, Data-Driven Documents, spatial mapping, GIS and GPS, text/data mining, corpus construction and so on) or new tools for dissemination, visualization and archiving.

Donne di mafia Questa sessione intende esplorare il modo in cui registi e registe del cinema italiano contemporaneo raccontano la presenza femminile nell'ambito delle organizzazioni criminali. Please submit a 200-word abstract to Fulvio Orsitto.

Ghosts, Monsters, and (Inner) Demons: The Fantastic in Italian Literature This panel focuses on particular instances of fantasy literature, that is writings with a significant supernatural component. It will critically examine this literary mode in Italian fiction, poetry, or theater from the 16th to the 20th century in terms of its theoretical exegesis in historical context. What does the fantastic say about what haunts us in terms of identity and modernity? In what ways is it a historical or ideological discourse, and how is it a means for understanding our experience of the real? Proposals in Italian or English.

Giacomo Leopardi and the Senses This panel aims to explore the role of the five senses in Leopardi's writings. Given the importance attributed by Leopardi to human physicality, what is the role of the senses in relation to the desire for happiness? And vis-à-vis humankind's relationship with the outside world? Topics include, but are not limited to: the role of sight, touch, smell, taste and hearing; the notion of gusto as a parameter in aesthetics and/or ethics; the role of the senses in the cognitive processes. Please submit 300-word abstracts to Emanuela Cervato.

Il grottesco nel cinema italiano What happened to the social and political satire of the cinema of the 60s' and 70s' expressed through grotesque situations? What has changed in the political arena of the past 40 years that determined a shift in the way cinema addresses social issues? Who has taken the place of Fellini, Risi, Germi, Ferreri, Scola, and Brusati in

the third millennium? This roundtable will attempt to answer these questions. Please submit a 200-word abstract to Gloria Pastorino.

History, Stories: Revisiting History in Literature, Cinema, Essays, and Memoirs This roundtable aims at exploring the complex experiences of Italian people worldwide through the lenses of historiography, literature, cinema, social studies, and popular culture. We are particularly interested in analyzing memoirs, historiographical essays, historical novels, historical graphic novels, historical films and documentaries, and sociological studies that narrate the history of Italy and of Italian minorities (from gays to new Italians), the history of Italian emigration, and/or the history of immigration to Italy.

Imagined Worlds in Verbal and Visual Cultures Writers and artists often imagine new worlds in an attempt to resolve social tensions and fulfill desires. Futurists, for example, described a universe renovated thanks to speed and technology. Later, those affiliated with the movements of the 1960s resorted to art to represent utopian communities based on free love. This panel explores how and why imagined worlds in verbal and visual cultures since 1900 in Italy and/or in other locations have captured and transformed real crises, anxieties, and dreams. 250–400 word abstracts and short bios.

Insight and Innovation in Nineteenth-Century Italian

Poetry This panel is intended to give space to innovative or interdisciplinary approaches to Italian poetry in one of the peninsula's most critical periods of sociopolitical and literary history. Has poetry of the nineteenth century become too canonized and categorized in a medley of -isms to allow insight into the thought of both major and minor figures? Might certain aspects benefit from a different approach? Abstracts of 200–250 words in English or Italian to Carlo Anelli.

Intersecting Gazes: Transnational Visions of Italy and the United States The strengthening of commercial, cultural, social, and diplomatic relations between Italy and the United States in the late 19th century, in conjunction with the mass arrival of Italian immigrants in America, saw an increase in the reciprocal attention between the two countries. Papers with a multidisciplinary approach—history, literature, politics, visual arts—should seek to examine how Italians have perceived the United States and how Americans have viewed Italy. 250-word abstracts.

The Italian canzone d'autore: Musicological and/or Literary Perspectives Critical studies on the Italian canzone d'autore are becoming numerous. This panel proposes to reflect on the status of the art and define possible academic approaches to this fascinating field of interdisciplinary scholarship. 150-word abstracts.

Italian Cultural Production and the Post-Humanist Body This panel seeks papers on Italian contributions to the re-imagining of the body in light of post-humanism. Possible areas of inquiry

Italian

include Italian cyborgs; queer and queered Italian bodies; Italian rhetorics of disability; Italian figures of the monstrous; challenges to familiar embodiments of raced, gendered, and sexed Italians; formulations of Italianicity that offer differently embodied national (or post-national) subjects; the role of Italian Studies in the critique of Enlightenment humanism.

The Italian 'Grand Tour': From Myth to the Present This panel aims to collect papers about the myth of the 'Grand Tour' in Italy during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The goal of the session is to foster a reflection on the theme of travel in Southern Italy, seen as a way of expanding knowledge on relatively unexplored regions and as key to understanding the personal changes that each new journey brings. Papers highlighting the intellectual value of the 'Grand Tour' for British, French, and German artists, poets, and scholars from the eighteenth century to the present are welcome.

Italian Literary and Cinematic Representations of the 'Orient' From portrayals of the fabled East in Marco Polo's travelogues to more recent representations of the 'Orient' in film or fiction, Italy has a large corpus that establishes its relationship with the 'Orient.' This roundtable will explore how images of the Oriental 'Other' unveil Italy's complicated positioning within the imagined community of the European or 'Western' Self. We welcome papers that represent 'Eastern' cultures through different frameworks: literary, fiction or nonfiction, cinematic, TV or popular culture from all periods.

Italo Svevo: His Legacy and Work The panel will focus on the widely recognized and critically investigated Italo Svevo's novels, but also on his minor, yet very important, literary production like letters, short stories, and plays. Interdisciplinary and/or comparative approaches or papers that explore the importance of his literary legacy are also welcome. Papers in Italian or English.

Italy in the 1970s: Between Lead and Flowers This panel seeks to investigate how literature, cinema, visual arts, and historiography essays and narratives responded to or represented the 1970s or, more specifically, the Moro affair. The panel is especially, but not exclusively, interested in papers on: i) memoir writings by relatives of victims and former terrorists alike; and ii) graphic novels. Papers can analyze fiction or non-fiction published from the 1970s to the present, provided the texts represent, illustrate, or speak of the 1970s decade.

'La ferita dell'essere': itinerari poetici nella letteratura italiana del '900 La sessione si propone di esaminare alcune delle più significative testimonianze liriche del ventesimo secolo, approfondendo tematiche di carattere esistenziale, letterario, politico e storico. Si accettano proposte anche su manifestazioni poetiche contemporanee. 150-word proposal.

The Legacy of Michelangelo Antonioni's *Blow Up* (1966) This session examines how Michelangelo Antonioni explores and

questions reality through art, photography, and cinema. We are interested in exploring how the issues raised in *Blow Up* (how we perceive and de/construct reality) anticipated not only the modes of representation but also the critical discourses of the post-sixties. What is the nature of Antonioni's distinctive cinematic vision and its impact on subsequent cultural trends, from filmmaking to fashion, from visual art to architecture? 150–200 word abstracts in English and brief bios.

Lecturae Boccaccii An ongoing tradition of the American Boccaccio Association, the lecturae are close readings of individual novellas from the *Decameron*. This panel seeks enlightening interpretations of one of Boccaccio's tales, analyzed within the framework of the macrotext and other medieval traditions. Please upload title, 200-word abstract and brief bio.

Il Modernismo italiano al femminile Il panel si propone di indagare la prospettiva femminile nell'evoluzione estetica del romanzo italiano del Novecento. L'opera di alcune scrittrici quali Serao, Banti, Morante, Ortese, Masino, De Cespedes, ecc.—caratterizzata dall'estremo sperimentalismo linguistico, dall'insanabile frammentazione dell'io e, in ultima analisi, dal ricorso all'ineffabilità moderna ha origine dalla privilegiata condizione di displaced che le esclude dal canone maschile. 250-word abstracts in English or Italian.

Narratives of Migration This panel seeks to explore how the protagonists of migration narratives from and to Italy have negotiated their feelings of dislocation and desire of belonging. Papers that analyze and compare diverse forms of textuality such as fiction, visual art, cinema, docufictions, and oral narrative accounts in light of the issues of identity, home, otherness and sameness, memory of the past, and language are welcome. Please send 250-word abstracts in English or Italian to Giusy Di Filippo.

The New Italian Epic: Trends in Contemporary Italian Literature Using Wu Ming 1's 2008 'Memorandum' on the New Italian Epic as a point of departure for the discussion, this panel seeks papers which investigate authors, works, and narrative trends that characterize the literature produced in Italy since the beginning of the Second Republic. How is this literary production both a response to and a product of the Berlusconi era, and what is the significance of these tendencies in terms of the intellectual impegno of the authors in question and the role of literature in contemporary Italian society?

New Perspectives on Italian Futurism (1909–1944) The aim of this seminar is to provide an overview of Italian Futurism and to serve as a forum to present and debate new interpretations of it. Interdisciplinary investigations are welcome on all the areas explored by the Futurist avant-garde, such as painting and sculpture, architecture, design, fashion, photography, advertising, literature, and theater.

Italian

Orlando Furioso Before and After: An Exploration of its Sources and Aftermath This session investigates Ariosto's *Orlando Furioso* from a dual perspective: not just in terms of the presence of traditional sources and the shadow of cantari cavallereschi and chivalric poems preceding it, but also of its influence on subsequent chivalric poems. These poems either expressly refer to it or focus on a different character or event within it, revealing the presence of the *Furioso* in aspects such as context, structure, purpose, and style. Submit a 250-word abstract to Daniela D'Eugenio.

'Le parole sono importanti!' Cinema e politica in Nanni Moretti La politica è uno dei temi ricorrenti del cinema di Nanni Moretti. Negli anni Moretti ha creato un personaggio semi-autobiografico che, pur essendo un feroce oppositore dei partiti di destra, non ha mai mancato di manifestare apertamente delusione nei confronti della linea politica del PCI e del PDS/DS. La sessione è aperta a contributi che esplorino tali tematiche ma tenendo presente che per Moretti, così come per i movimenti degli anni '70, anche 'il personale è politico'. I contributi possono essere sia in inglese che in italiano.

Per un teatro 'minore' La sessione si propone di esplorare il rapporto tra dialetti e lingua nel teatro italiano moderno e contemporaneo (post-1870), e in particolare la funzione delle lingue minori all'interno di un sistema letterario, con particolare interesse per l'uso dei dialetti sulla scena come 'lingua minore' (Deleuze & Guattari), per la mimesi linguistica di nuove identità migranti, e per la riscrittura di archetipi letterari da prospettive minori, periferiche o subalterne.

Representing World War II in Italy This panel seeks papers on representations of World War II in Italy, across genres, media, and languages. What does it mean to represent World War II? How are narrative conventions challenged/strengthened (language, genre, structure)? Does narrating war restrict or open new spaces in which to negotiate identity? What is the role of memory in production and reception? What are war's intertexts? Papers may focus on war's impact on individual cities; Allied-Italian relations; the fall of fascism, etc. Interdisciplinary, comparative papers are encouraged.



Il Risorgimento e la formazione dell'idea di nazione: il ruolo della letteratura

This panel aims to investigate the formation of the idea of the nation in Italy during

the Risorgimento years, and to examine the transmission and circulation of national, patriotic beliefs throughout the peninsula. Proposed papers should address questions such as: how was the idea, or the imaginary, of the Italian nation

represented and articulated in the Risorgimento literary canon? What was its appeal in Risorgimento Italy? What were the political implications of the use of a language of nationalism?

The Road Less Traveled: Ecocritical Voices in Italian

Literature and Film The study of the representations of nature in Italian literature and film is still limited compared to other types of critical approaches. This panel welcomes papers on different ecocritical and interdisciplinary approaches to the environment in Italian literature and film. Representations of nature, the environment in the media and in popular culture, activism, environmental and sustainability issues, relationship and awareness between nature and culture are some of the possibilities that can be explored. Papers in Italian or English.

Sex and Theater in Italy Between Licentiousness and Censorship

Theater, as well as actors, actresses, and *cantarine* (female singers) carried the stigma of sexual promiscuity since the origins of their very profession. The study of sexuality, censorship and their relations with the performing arts represents a fundamental aspect of the study of Italian theater. The panel seeks papers focusing on the various aspects of sex and sexuality in the Italian theater, and/or in the lives of Italian actors, actresses, and singers from the fifteenth century to today.

Teaching Fully Online or Blended Italian Language, Literature, Culture Courses

The roundtable has the goal of discussing different strategies of teaching online courses in a fully online mode or in a blended format (at least 20% delivered online) in the area of Italian studies. We are especially interested in evaluating pros and cons, costs and benefits, and the different types of assessment, of language instruction at the lower and upper level, as well as courses of Italian literature, culture, and film delivered online (fully or blended). Please send a 200-word abstract in English or in Italian to Chiara De Santi.

Teaching Italian Culture, Literature, and Film: Strategies and Experiences

The objectives of this roundtable are to gather together university faculty in order to discuss strategies for developing and teaching advanced undergraduate courses (beyond the fourth semester of language/culture study), and to share experiences from the classroom with colleagues. The discussion will especially benefit from those new faculty that have had experience teaching more than one advanced course and those more seasoned instructors that can provide deeper insight into teaching upper-level undergraduate students in the target language.

Translator-Poets in Twentieth-Century Italy

The aim of this panel is to investigate the impact of the figure of translator-poets—Ungaretti, Montale, Sereni, Caproni, Magrelli, Pusterla, among many others—at large in the shaping of modern Italian poetics. We welcome papers (in English or Italian) on these aspects of translation practice: comparative and stylistic analysis of poetic translations; co-translations (e.g. *traduzione a quattro mani*) and self-translation; translation and theatre

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(e.g. works by Pier Paolo Pasolini, Cesare Garboli); and translations during fascism.

Writing the Body: Women in Contemporary Italian Literature, Theater, Cinema This panel welcomes scholarly contributions that explore the relationship between contemporary literature, cinema, theater, and the woman's body. Of particular interest are works that analyze the position of female authors with regards to the representation of women within phallogocentric society and in relation to feminism. Please submit a 250-word abstract in English or Italian to Sara Mattavelli.

Pedagogy & Professional

Coping with the 'New Normal': Adjunct Faculty's Treatment in Higher Education That adjunct faculty are doing more and more teaching is a given but does not mean that all institutions treat their adjunct faculty equally or similarly. This roundtable seeks a range of perspectives and narratives on the modern adjunct experience: negative to positive, as well as resources and support made available to adjunct faculty. Every aspect of how welcome, supported, and integrally part of their institution/ department adjunct faculty are made to feel is of interest.

Creativity and Rigor in the Online Instruction of Literature This roundtable will generate a conversation about creativity and rigor in online instructions of literature and will feature presenters who are either 1) teaching a literature class entirely online or 2) incorporating an online teaching component in conjunction with a face-to-face literature class (blended). In most cases, presenters will reference a live or archived class, projected onto a screen, for a 5–10 min show-and-tell style presentation of effective/ineffective strategies for teaching literature online. Discussion will follow.

Current Issues in Grammar and the Teaching of Grammar in FL classrooms This panel seeks (1) papers that discuss how grammar is explicitly conceptualized, presented, and applied in recent published textbooks and materials (especially those with online components geared towards flipped or hybrid classrooms) to determine whether they reflect current research-based perspectives on grammar teaching, and (2) papers that propose alternative methodologies or approaches to presenting and teaching grammar.

Dealing with Academic Stress and Personal Crises This board-sponsored roundtable aims to help NeMLA's members deal with academic stress and personal crises (e.g. divorce, death, serious health issues, caregiving, among other challenges). The goal of this roundtable is sharing helpful suggestions and strategies with the audience rather than telling personal stories. To ensure that participants represent different professional categories and that all types of crises are covered, interested participants are invited to submit their detailed 300- to 350-word proposals.

Digital Humanities and Publishing Humanities Scholarship

Today This panel will discuss the digital humanities from various perspectives relevant to the publishing of humanities scholarship. Owing to the current situation worldwide whereby fewer students are interested in literature and culture, digital humanities has promise for the social relevance of the humanities insofar as content is linked with practice and pedagogy including technical matters. Submit abstracts on any aspect of the digital humanities and digital publishing including the electronic publishing of journals and ebooks instead of print.

Digital Tools for Enhancing Communicative Skills in Task-based Language Teaching

This panel will showcase how task-based language teaching can take advantage of readily available digital tools. It will present innovative and effective examples in which these tools are being used in task-based language teaching to enhance not only our students' linguistic skills and their communicative competence, but also to improve their motivation and their critical thinking skills.

E-books and E-assignments: Digitizing Today's Humanities Classrooms

What are the advantages and/or challenges faced by instructors who are 'translating' the traditional tools of the Humanities classroom, namely textbooks and written assignments, for use in the digital world? The roundtable welcomes discussions on how to enhance this process, and the benefits this can have for students and instructors alike. The roundtable will focus on how to optimize the use of digital books and assignments in various humanities settings.

Embracing Language Musicality in L2 Classrooms The goal of this panel is to examine language musicality, both in terms of linguistic phenomena and as a teaching tool for L2 learners. The topics of the panel include, but are not limited to: musical analysis of languages, acquisition of language through music and performance, guided reading or singing, recognition of accents and dialects, and non verbal reinforcement. It will also consider the potential of language musicality to explain more subjective aspects of language, such as beauty, persuasiveness, humor, and emotion in L2 classrooms.

Flipped Learning and Blended Learning for Languages

This roundtable seeks participants to share expertise and experiences about the flipped learning approach and/or blended learning format in language classrooms. Topics such as program implementation, use of technology tools to create online units, strategies to transition learning activities inside and outside the classroom, and examples of engaging activities are particularly welcome. Please provide a good overview of what these approaches have to offer.

Freirian Pedagogy: Creative and Collaborative Approaches to Teaching

The diversity of the community college population offers the Freirean educator a fertile environment in which to develop and practice transformational pedagogy. This roundtable seeks to discuss, more than 40 years after the

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publication of *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*, creative pedagogical approaches that activate community college students' conscientização through the teaching of literature and composition. Abstracts that discuss collaborative approaches to Freirean pedagogy are particularly encouraged.



Getting Inside the Outsider: Credentials and Queerness in the Academy

What is the experience of new queer-identified members of the academy in the tightening job market? Has there been stricter inspection of doctoral candidates and adjuncts, now that

funding is more scarce and controversy more risky? Has what Warner described as 'queer studies' critical edge,' gained 'by defining itself against ... normal business in the academy,' been dismissed in the guise of maintaining greater health, the greater good, and greater approval by communities at large? Send 500-word abstracts to Dustin Parrott.

Instructional Technology as (De)motivator of Learning

This roundtable discussion on the connections between the instructional technology and learning motivation seeks participants with 5–10 minutes presentations addressing such questions as: Why and how do educators use technology in teaching languages and literatures? How can educators ensure that the use of technology increases learner motivation? What techniques and best practices work especially well in language and literature instruction to address learning motivation? What does not work? Submit 100–200 word abstracts.

It's All About the Personalization: The Challenges of the Online Professor

This roundtable looks to examine the pains and joys of teaching in the online classroom. There has been a rise in the quantity of online degree programs, but has the quality gone with it? Let's look at what educators could and should be doing to reach out to students that choose this medium for their education. In return, what possible online classroom staples and lessons could be used and brought into the face-to-face classroom as well?

Learning German in the 3D Virtual Town of Plauderstein

This session describes the use of 3D virtual world technology to provide a video-game like experience for students who are learning a foreign language. The students find the role-playing activity to be fun and challenging, and at the same time they are expanding their vocabulary and interacting verbally with their classmates. This new form of pedagogy holds promise for instructors of foreign language, and two clear results from the completed study were that the students learned more vocabulary, and enrollment increased significantly.

Let's Get Published! Student Writers as Content Providers

In our interconnected age, publication opportunities abound

for developing writers. This panel will examine strategies for turning a writing classroom into a community of freelance writers working toward the goal of getting published. We welcome discussions of success stories, cautionary tales, and theoretical considerations associated with a publication-oriented approach to composition studies.

Literary Science? The Science of Literature? Thoughts Toward an Evolving Field

In recent years, the function of literature and the purpose of reading have become the focus of studies in a number of fields beyond literature—including cognitive psychology, neuroscience and management and organization. This session explores the implications of interdisciplinarity. Is English being colonized by scientific inquiry? Should it become an empirically-based discipline if it is to survive? Can literary studies contribute to other fields, including the sciences?

Marginalized Texts and Modern Editions

In recent years, a number of overlooked and forgotten texts have made their way to modern readers through new scholarly editions. This roundtable discussion hopes to address the following questions: How do new editions of marginal texts come to be? What is at stake in recuperating and reissuing neglected works? How can editors of these texts best address the needs of contemporary audiences—including undergraduates, graduate students, instructors, and the broader reading public?

Perspectives on Historicist Pedagogy

How has the historicist turn in literary studies changed undergraduate teaching? What do historicist and/or materialist scholars teach, how, and with (or without) what kinds of materials? Inviting perspectives from the range of languages and fields represented by NeMLA, this roundtable session invites proposals for presentations that either theorize principles in historicist pedagogy or present examples of syllabi, course texts, classroom practices, and assignments informed by historicist approaches to scholarship.

Preparing Successful Course Syllabi

This is a board-sponsored panel that aims to help graduate students, adjuncts, and faculty members from all ranks to prepare successful course syllabi for the following types of courses: large lecture courses, seminars and small classes, composition courses, language courses, online courses, hybrid courses, and graduate courses. Since this is a special panel, proposals must be sent as early as possible along with sample syllabi.

Pursuing Alternative Career Paths

This board-sponsored roundtable includes participants who earned their Ph.D. degrees and opted to work outside academe, in alternative careers such the government, editing, corporations, private companies, consulting, technical writing, and similar career paths. The panel will cover suggestions that look for jobs outside academe, the workload, and professional advancement and promotion. We'd like to hear from colleagues who have pursued non-academic careers, other than university or college administration.

Pedagogy & Professional/Rhetoric



Race's Rhetorical Dynamics and the Pedagogue's Subjectivity

How do we operate from serious investment in and critical distance from issues of race and difference? In class, institution, and

theory, we negotiate complex rhetorical and affective space between them. Varied historical traces complicate those zones: neither we nor our students can fully inhabit theory's ideal spaces. How do we perform (our) (own) race with students while navigating texts about it? How does affect figure in this work—as comfort, discomfort, or cool? Please submit 300-word abstracts.

Reimagining the Humanities PhD The narrow definition of success for PhDs—typically a tenure-track job—is an outmoded and problematic discourse that labels all other ambitions and trajectories as failures. This reductive vision holds us back from re-imagining the PhD. This roundtable will weigh the range of opportunities and potentialities that exist for PhDs and yet are not reflected in the current discourse surrounding the doctorate. Those interested in contributing should submit a 250-word abstract to James Van Wyck and Dan Olson-Bang.

Rethinking Flexibility in Higher Education: Raising or Lowering the Bar? In order to acknowledge students' diverse backgrounds and address their increasingly varied learning needs and styles, Higher Education needs to rethink, redefine, and re-invent both the concept and practice of flexible pedagogy. In this session, participants will reflect on the many facets of flexibility and will engage in a discussion on the benefits, challenges, pitfalls, and outcomes of such flexible pedagogies as these were applied in their courses or in other (institutional) initiatives. Please send 250-word abstracts to Malama Tsimenis.

Teaching (Future) Teachers: Success and Challenge in Certification Programs We will explore strategies used by successful L2 teacher certification programs that balance the dual learning objectives of their students: develop necessary language skills in L2 teacher candidates while also developing professional competence in L2 instruction and assessment.

Teaching Medieval Literature in 2015 Do you teach medieval literature? What have you found that works for twenty-first-century students in North America, either in your choice of texts, or what you do with them? How do you justify your courses or convince students to take them, and meet (or skirt) the challenge of 'contemporary relevance'? Do knights and castles, *The Lord of the Rings* or *Game of Thrones*, do the trick? This session is a forum for presenting new ways of teaching

medieval literature that you have found to be effective and engaging.

Teaching the Classics in the Foreign Language Classroom

This roundtable looks for ideas to make the classics of World literature (*The Divine Comedy*, *Don Quixote*, *Madame Bovary*, *War and Peace*, etc.) more accessible to Foreign Language Students. Of particular interest are proposals that include a technological (Web 2.0, etc.) or any other innovative approach to the teaching of these books. The 4–6 participants in this format give brief, informal presentations (5–10 minutes) with the remainder of the session given to a conversation between the participants and the audience.

Tomorrow's Web 2.0-Enhanced Language, Literature, and Culture Courses

Today This roundtable seeks participants who will demonstrate the application of web 2.0 tools for creative, collaborative, presentational, organizational, authoring and/or other purposes in a literature, culture, or language classroom. BYOD methods are particularly welcome. Preference will be given to those proposals that can be delivered using the methods described in the presentation. All presenters will be expected to provide handouts to audience members.

Using Films to Develop Language and Cultural Skills in the FL Classroom

This panel seeks (1) papers that discuss how we can use films in the classroom in order to improve learners' linguistic competence, and (2) papers that present different ways to promote cultural and intercultural skills while teaching a foreign language. The ultimate aim of the panel is to present and share new ideas on how to use movies in the foreign language classroom in order to develop students' linguistic and cultural skills.

Write it Down! Teaching Writing in the Foreign Language Classroom

This panel seeks papers on approaches to teaching writing in the foreign languages in innovative and creative ways. How can writing be incorporated early on in the classroom? How can we teach language learners what the appropriate writing style is for different genres? How can writing be used to learn about culture or to expand on materials covered in class to foster language skills? Please submit 250- to 500-word abstracts in English.

Rhetoric & Composition

Current Perspectives on Teaching Composition

The roundtable examines a variety of approaches to first-year writing (FYW) that render Composition Studies an interdisciplinary field that encompasses many pedagogical approaches distinct from literary and other language studies. The panel will cover both scholarly/theoretical and practical foundations in the classroom approaches to FYW in the twenty-first century. Examples can include, but are not limited to writing studies; writing about writing; teaching for transfer;

genre studies; mindfulness and reflection; and other rhetorical approaches.

Growth in Writing, Teaching, and Learning In his classic composition text *Writing Without Teachers*, Peter Elbow asks us to consider the metaphor of growing as a way to encourage and teach fluid, flexible writing. The idea of growth applies to so many aspects of scholarship, as we approach the profession simultaneously as teachers, students, and researchers in our own rights. This roundtable session seeks to explore the idea of growth broadly conceived, thinking about the ways we develop our writing and teaching, as well as the ways our students' writing develops.

Multimodality and the New Critical Literacies: Developing Composition Pedagogy This panel will address how evolving technologies, multi-modal communication, and new literacies have created the need to reconsider the role of composition pedagogies in preparing our students to communicate in the world today, as well as to critically analyze and respond to the situational exigencies of tomorrow. To do so, panelists might reexamine composition's pedagogical boundaries, learning outcomes, teaching methods, assignment modes, genres, etc. If you would like to join our panel, please submit a 200- to 300-word abstract to Rod Zink.

Seeing American Me: Composition, Image, and Memoir of First-Generation Americans This roundtable will focus on student memoirs and visual self portraits (photography, etc.) to bring into relief what students mean when they self-identify as 'other' rather than mainstream. Presentations incorporating first- and second-generation North Americans, disability studies (cognitive and physical), gender identification, sexuality, immigration, and ethnicity are most welcome. Multimedia presentations and the sharing of student portraits and narratives/memoirs is encouraged in this best practices session.

Teaching Grammar in Developmental Writing Research into the efficacy of teaching grammar in composition classes is discouraging at best. Nonetheless, many instructors in developmental writing resort to grammar instruction out of desperation. This roundtable seeks to gather instructors and researchers to discuss the usefulness of formal grammar instruction in developmental writing. We are seeking new models for thinking about why and how we teach grammar, and what results, direct or indirect, we expect and actually experience.

When Wikipedia Is Not Enough: Teaching Effective Writing in the Humanities "This roundtable focuses on panelists' best practices and evaluation materials which have proven to produce quality undergraduate research papers. The brief 5–10 presentation should address the following questions: How do you teach critical thinking? Are online sources enough? Is there room for personal reflection in a research paper? Do your assignments require an extensive bibliography? Do you

teach students how to reference or cite properly (according to prescribed standards)?

Writing Practices' Teaching in L2 or Foreign Language: Framework and Experience This panel seeks papers focusing on empirical data and research findings about teaching writing in second or foreign language classes. What theoretical backgrounds have assumed more relevance in the field? Which practices have proved to be the most effective? Papers may be submitted in either Portuguese or English.

Russian and Eastern European

Exploring Connections in Spanish and Russian Literature, Art, and Film This seminar seeks proposals that explore links between Spanish- and Russian-speaking writers and artists. What historical, artistic, and cultural parallels do their works exhibit? How do they show aesthetic proximity despite the geographical distance between their countries of origin? Papers may address either language, while seminar discussion will respond to common tropes in a theoretical framework. Potential topics include, but are not limited to: travel literature, exile, realism, modernism, dictatorship, and post-dictatorship narratives.

Politics in Post-Communist Russian and Eastern European Literature and Film Recent events in Russia and Ukraine prompt us to consider politics and the political anew. This panel seeks papers that examine emergent political categories in post-Communist Russian and Eastern European literature and film. Considering politics in its broadest form, we will explore an array of issues arising from current political imperatives: What is the relationship between politics and public/private life? What role do mainstream politics play in the fight for gender and LGBT rights? How do common representations of the political in Russia differ from similar representations in the west?

Post-Soviet Socialist Cultures and Identities This panel invites papers on the subject of post-Soviet/socialist space understood in broad terms. Topics include, but are not limited to: the notion of post-Soviet/Russian/post socialist national identity, the role of gender, class, sexuality in political discourse, political protest, media, film, and advertising. Please send a 300-word abstract to Dr. Elena Rakhimova-Sommers.

Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures

Advertising and Counterculture in Spanish and Latin American Film This panel invites 20-minute contributions on TV and radio commercials, magazine ads, billboards, and other aspects of marketing in connection to emerging forms of oppositional culture during the 1960s and 70s. Topics may include material and consumer cultures, symbolic economies, ideological production, intermediality, iconoclasm, and the visual arts. Please submit 250- to 500-word abstracts in

Spanish and Portuguese

Spanish, Portuguese, or English to Ana Fernández Cebrián and Elizabeth Hochberg.



Alternative Corporealities in Hispanic Digital Art Forms

This panel proposes to explore how Hispanic digital art forms that fuse cinematic elaborations with

choreographic, musical and theatrical elements and techniques experiment with corporeality in order to produce alternative identities, sexualities, histories, knowledges, memories and (dis)abilities that challenge hegemonic notions of normativity. We accept 300-word proposals in English and Spanish. Please contact Marie-Eve Monette or Maria-Adelaida Escobar-Trujillo.

Arts in Literature: Interdisciplinarity and Ekphrasis in Lusophone Letters This roundtable aims to be a meeting space for Lusophone and Hispanic researchers that dedicate their proposals to the analysis of the presence of art in literature by Portuguese, Brazilian, Spanish, and Latin-American authors from medieval times to the twenty-first century. Those interested may submit an abstract of 400 words (max.), along with their academic affiliation to Dolores Juan-Moreno or Susana Antunes. Proposals will be accepted in Portuguese, Spanish, and English.

Best Practices in Teaching Introduction to Spanish/Hispanic Literature Courses Most undergraduate programs in Spanish require an introduction to Spanish/Hispanic literature, a course tasked with both introducing a significant selection of 500 years of Spanish/Hispanic literature and with teaching literary analysis in Spanish. This roundtable discussion will focus on sharing and analyzing course objectives, curricular design, decisions on texts, supporting materials, and best practices in teaching the course effectively.

The Body in the City: (Im)migrant Subjects in the Spanish Speaking World This panel explores representations of immigrant subjects in hispanophone literature, film, performance, and theater. Possible topics include: (im)migrant subjects as they relate to economic and political fluctuations; the (im)migrant subject as the representation of the city in ruins (past or present); the *flâneur* in the city; cultural manifestaciones and appropriation of the city by (im)migrants; the relationship of the (im)migrant body to the city historically; music, performances, and festivities of (im)migrants in the city.

Book Censorship in the Early Modern Hispanic World The panel session aims to explore the state of scholarship and new perspectives on book censorship in the early modern Hispanic world. Topics may include: censorship and the field of book production; censorship in literary and/or book history; new

perspectives on the study of book censorship; censorship and reading; church and/or royal censors; the New World and book censorship; censorship of printed media beyond the book; book censorship and interlocking roles of church and state; circumventions, gaps, and slippages, of book censorship.

Breaking Conventional Frames of Representation in Contemporary Spanish Theater Contemporary Spanish playwrights subscribe to a postmodern view of reality and artistic representation. Characterized by decentered subjects, structural fragmentation, indeterminacy, reflexivity, intertextuality, montage techniques, spatial and temporal conflation, and contextual randomness, their theater challenges the notions of underlying truth, permanence, and a single worldview. This panel will address how contemporary Spanish playwrights employ alternative form and content to challenge the conventional theatrical frame of representation.

Canadian Diasporic Voices: Latin American Women's Testimony We seek proposals that focus on testimonies from Latin American women testimonialists who came to Canada as immigrants, exiles, or political refugees. Topics to be discussed can include: testimonies by survivors (or secondary witnesses) of human rights violations, trauma, memory, exilic and transnational witnessing. This seminar seeks to investigate the ways in which these works politically engage in cultures of redress and transnational justice processes. Submit 250-word abstracts.

Changing Role of Mother-Daughter Relationship in Contemporary Hispanic Fiction This panel seeks papers on contemporary Hispanic fiction that represents and redefines Mother-Daughter relationships. How is 'success' defined from the mother's perspective? From the daughter's? This relationship can impact the ways in which each character or protagonist experiences transformation: their perspective on education, womanhood, identity, culture, on their relationship with men. 300- to 500-word abstract and brief biographical statement.

Contemporary Writings of The Hispanic Caribbean in The United States This panel seeks papers that address the socio-cultural impact of migration to the United States on the literary works of Contemporary Latino writers from the Hispanic Caribbean. The topics of the panel include, but are not limited to: the (re)construction of (trans)national discourses; gender representations; language and identity; integration of mainstream popular culture; cultural hybridity; spatial configurations; technoculture. Please submit 250- to 500-word abstracts to Sharina Maillo-Pozo.

Dissent from Within: Contesting Basque and Catalan Nationalist Narratives The polarizing political rhetoric of nationalist debates in Spain paints a simplistic opposition between center and periphery that eclipses the voices within the Basque Country and Catalonia that contest the dominant nationalist narratives. This panel seeks papers exploring contemporary Basque or Catalan cultural production that challenges those communities' nation-making projects,

Spanish and Portuguese

especially with regard to their marginalization of cultural, linguistic, racial, economic, sexual, or religious others.

Distinction: Identity and the Politics of Exclusion in Modern Spain

This panel examines the formation of identity in nineteenth-century Spain, specifically in relation to discourses of exclusivity, distinction, and marginality. Papers may focus on topics such as race, class, nation, empire, religion, gender, and/or sexuality. Projects that address the question of intersectionality by interrogating more than one category of identity are especially welcome. 250- to 350-word abstracts.

La escritura autobiográfica en Hispanoamérica Este panel pretende explorar la multiplicidad de formas que ha adoptado y adopta la escritura autobiográfica en la Hispanoamérica (autobiografía, memorias, diarios, novelas autobiográficas y autoficciones) en todas las épocas, desde la colonia hasta el presente enfocándose, aunque no exclusivamente, en la manera en que el elemento ficcional permea la realidad autobiográfica hispanoamericana. Enviar propuesta de 250-300 palabras a Viviana Rigo de Alonso.

¿Es posible lograr justicia y reconciliación en una sociedad luego de un genocidio?

Las fotografías de víctimas y victimarios de Ruanda parece indicar que la reconciliación sería posible si los victimarios piden disculpas a las víctimas. En Argentina, no sólo se continúa juzgando a las fuerzas de seguridad sino también a civiles acusados de complicidad con la última dictadura militar. El caso Argentino en contraposición al de Ruanda, parecería interpelar el asunto de la reconciliación sin justicia ya que la justicia sólo se lograría cuando todas los responsables sean juzgados. Un llamado a la reflexión y discusión del tema.

The Experience of Displacement in Cuban American Writing

This panel seeks papers related to the representation of displacement in Cuban American writing in the twenty-first century. This panel proposes special attention to the evolving nature of displacement and to the concepts of immigration, assimilation, transnationalism, and/or postnationalism. Papers can be in Spanish or English. 250-word abstract to Belén Rodríguez Mourelo.

Exploring Connections in Spanish and Russian Literature, Art, and Film

This seminar seeks proposals that explore links between Spanish- and Russian-speaking writers and artists. What historical, artistic, and cultural parallels do their works exhibit? How do they show aesthetic proximity despite the geographical distance between their countries of origin? Papers may address either language, while seminar discussion will respond to common tropes in a theoretical framework. Potential topics include, but are not limited to: travel literature, exile, realism, modernism, dictatorship, and post-dictatorship narratives.

La ficcionalización del sujeto poético en la poesía española actual

El presente panel se propone abordar el estudio de

un aspecto relevante en la poesía española de nuestros días: la frecuente ficcionalización del sujeto poético, con su consiguiente fragmentación y gran riqueza de matices que esta aporta al poema.

From Aristotle to America: Nature and Society in Medieval and Colonial Studies

This seminar explores how the natural world is used as the foundation for diverse visions of society in writings spanning from the twelfth century through the sixteenth century in the Iberian Peninsula and Latin America. What role does classical thought, through its diverse Arabic and Latin commentators, play in conceptions of nature and society in this period? How does the discovery of the New World impact how classical figures are read and interpreted, and how society and nature are understood? 250- to 300-word abstracts.

Human Rights Narratives in a Globalized Latin America

This panel will examine the relation of narratives of human rights in an increasingly globalized Latin America. How are human rights conceptualized when globalization's tendency to obscure and/or dissolve borders is considered? How do the narratives, for example fiction/testimonial/poetry/social dissent, support the citizens whose lives are governed by globalization? On the other hand, how might globalization open a space for human rights advocacy? Please submit 200 word abstracts in English or Spanish.

Hy/stories of Exile

From ancient times, the topic of exile has been an inspirational leitmotif showing a migrant soul suffering from geographical as well spiritual displacement. This panel invites submissions about narratives of exile, especially from deviant or dissident voices: religious exile, inner exile, outlaws, gender exile, and political exile, in the Portuguese, Catalan or Spanish speaking world. Abstracts should not exceed 250 words. The time allotted for each presentation is 20 minutes.

In Celebration of Her Quincentenary: St. Teresa's Legacy to Early Modern Women

St. Teresa of Avila realizes her *vita activa/contemplativa* in a prescriptive society. For women who followed her, she represents a paradigm for success in both the private and public sphere. This panel will address the representation of secular/religious women in the historical, literary, and cultural discourses that frame Spain's social ideologies of power in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Please submit a 300-word abstract and a brief biographical statement.

Latin American Cities: Places to Live, Spaces to Imagine

This panel looks for proposals on cities in Latin America. What similarities and differences exist among Latin American cities? How do these shape Latin American identity/identities? How have urban spaces changed in Latin America? How are cities represented in media? The panel aims for an interdisciplinary perspective and welcomes presentations from different disciplines—film, literary studies, ecocriticism—to foster a

Spanish and Portuguese

critical dialogue on urban spaces in Latin America. Please submit 300-word abstracts in English or Spanish to Mayra Fortes.

Latin American Perspectives on Disability Studies Roundtable fostering a dialogue with Latin American perspectives on disability studies in the humanities. Participants will speak on disability studies theory and criticism produced in Latin America in response to local and regional realities. Speakers may also highlight literature, film and media that raise questions about the representation or self-representation of people with disabilities in Latin America, or engage with disability studies concepts and theories. 250-word abstract to Beth E. Jörgensen.

Latin American Vanguards and Technological ‘Progress’ Our panel proposes to analyze the intricate relations between the avant-garde artists of early twentieth-century Latin America and their fascination with technological advances. Despite characterizations of early 20th-century Latin America as lacking the technological ‘progress’ and industrialization that would rival the developed world of those times, its intellectuals engaged with industrial production and technologically imbued art forms that problematized the boundaries between tradition and modernity. We welcome 200- to 300-word abstracts.

Latin American Women Travelers: Circulating Knowledge in the Transatlantic World This panel welcomes papers dealing with Latin American women travelers from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Its purpose is to demonstrate how these women were able to participate in transatlantic intellectual enterprises and scientific endeavors by traveling outside of their own nations. Works dealing travel writing, gender, nationality, natural history, science, and related topics are welcome.

Latin America’s New Historical Novels of the Conquest: Reimagining the New World This panel focuses on the representation and reimagining of the cultural interaction between the Spanish conquerors and the indigenous peoples, women, and Jews in the new historical novel using innovative critical and theoretical approaches. Studies from the lens of decolonial thinking, postcolonial and subaltern studies, ecocriticism, and post-feminism are particularly welcome. Analyses of novels that show the perspective of women, Amerindian, or Jewish characters are especially welcome. 250-word abstract to Javier Valiente.

Las literaturas hispanas en el laberinto digital Este panel propone explorar las intersecciones entre las literaturas de habla hispana y las nuevas tecnologías en dos vertientes diferenciadas pero no excluyentes: por un lado, la articulación de lo literario en formatos digitales, y por otro, la representación de lo digital en el tradicional formato papel. Se aceptarán presentaciones en castellano relacionadas con la narrativa, la poesía o el ensayo tanto en España como en América Latina. Enviar propuestas de 300 palabras a Rafael Ponce-Cordero.

Literary Forgery and the Power of Discourse The retellings and (re)creations of history have been as numerous as the communities that appeared and disappeared, either holding power or being marginalized. This panel will examine literary forgeries (official history, biographies, testimonies, remaking and retelling of genealogies, etc.) that impose a certain belief or help a political agenda through imagination and textual creativity. Please submit 300- to 500-word abstracts in English or Spanish to Safiya Maouelainin.

Metacritical Cervantes Who was ‘Cervantes’ and who have we made him out to be? How do we read his life and works? Why have we opted for one ‘Cervantes’ over another? These questions are central to any metacritical analysis of Cervantes’s biography and literary oeuvre. This panel will deal with issues surrounding how we interpret Cervantes’s biography, drama, prose and poetry. Papers may be presented in English or Spanish. Please submit 250- to 500-word abstracts to Stephen Hessel (Ball State University).

Mexico and Other Territories: The Novels of Carmen Boullosa This panel seeks papers that study Carmen Boullosa’s novels in terms of the historical eras and geographical territories she explores, as well as the wide array of ‘pre-texts’ she mirrors to emphasize the resonance of the past while producing new meaning. We invite discussions of the feminist, utopian, and intertextual dimensions of Boullosa’s work, and especially how and why her novels re-imagine Mexico as a political construct.

Minimalism in Contemporary Hispanic Poetry In the age of Twitter, Instagram and hashtags, with their cult of instantaneous gratification and shorthand communication, much of contemporary Hispanic poetry has followed suit, reducing the text to its absolute bare minimum and adding visual and even digital elements, including ‘found poetry’ in the manner of the avant-garde and Marcel Duchamp, among others. This roundtable seeks to examine examples of this minimalist approach and its effectiveness in communicating with the reader or spectator.

Never at Home: Footloose Women in the Early Modern Hispanic World Prescriptive literature praised enclosure as the natural state for women and warned against talkative and footloose females. This panel seeks to bring to light the impact of wandering/traveling women in the broader historical, political, and cultural context of the early modern Hispanic world. Papers may focus on archival documents, pictorial and historical accounts, literature and correspondence as well as other cultural artifacts such as garments.

Nineteenth-Century Portuguese Literature Abstracts on any aspect of nineteenth-century Portuguese Literature to Frank Sousa.

Nuevas configuraciones de la mujer en el teatro contemporáneo Este panel pretende analizar nuevos planteamientos de la mujer en el teatro español e

Spanish and Portuguese

hispanoamericano contemporáneos, que difieren de antiguos modelos de la mujer en la sociedad y el teatro. Los tópicos pueden incluir (pero no se limitan a): la sexualidad ambigua, el travestismo femenino, el papel de la mujer en la sociedad hoy día, la mujer en la edad tecnológica, y los diferentes tipos de relaciones generaciones/ intergeneracionales de la mujer con su compañero/a, con la sociedad, y consigo misma.

Memoria y post-memoria: cine documental del Cono Sur en la post-dictadura El cine documental de Argentina, Chile y Uruguay desempeña un rol significativo a la hora de recuperar la memoria doliente del pasado dictatorial. Cabe preguntarse: ¿Cuáles son las estrategias cinemáticas empleadas por los documentales del Cono Sur para evocar la memoria traumática de la dictadura? ¿Cómo procesan la tensión memoria/olvido y cómo dialogan con la memoria 'oficial'? Este panel solicita trabajos en inglés y en español sobre cualquier aspecto relevante al tema de la memoria de la dictadura en el cine documental del Cono Sur.

Queer Belongings: Circuits of Intimacy and Kinship in Luso-Hispanic Fiction This panel welcomes research on Luso-Hispanic literary works that explore possibilities of other modes of relating that take on new significance based on non-heterosexual and non-reproductive behaviors. As it is crucial to explore how feminist and queer theorizations can transcend the North American and European contexts in which they are articulated, papers on debates regarding the following areas are of interest: bodies, gender, sexuality, family, communities, etc. 300-word proposals in English or Spanish.

Race, Gender, and Modernity in Luso-Afro-Brazilian Literatures and Cultures This session seeks papers that examine the representations of race and gender in modern Luso-Afro-Brazilian literatures and cinemas, roughly from the 1800s to the present. We particularly encourage the submission of abstracts that focus on the intersection of gender, race, sexuality and the problematic of belated modernities. Other related topics of interest include, but are not limited to: postcolonial reconfigurations of gender and sexuality; race, gender and sexual deviance; lusotropicalism; emerging cinemas of Lusophone Africa.

Recovering Historical Memory and National Reconciliation from Zapatero to Rajoy This panel invites papers that analyze, discuss, and interrogate the active ways in which literature and cinema have been influencing and affecting the collective memory and national identity of Spaniards since the approval of the Historical Memory Law. How are the contradictory and conflicting historical memories of the two Spains being proposed through literary and cinematic representations in the twenty-first century? Please submit 250-word abstracts in English or Spanish to Javier Venturi.

La Renovación de la Identidad Nacional en la Novela Histórica Latinoamericana Este panel busca ponencias sobre la Nueva Novela Histórica Latinoamericana (NNHL) y su rol en

la concreción o el replanteamiento de una nueva identidad nacional a partir de los 70, basada en la búsqueda de nuevos referentes históricos y culturales. ¿Cuál es la relación entre las sucesivas crisis político-económicas y la creciente popularidad del género? ¿Qué tipos de imaginarios populares crea esta novelística para replantear una nueva identidad nacional? Enviar abstractos de 250–500 palabras en español o inglés a Silvia Belén-Ramos.

Staging Iberia: Theater and Performance in Post-Authoritarian Spain and Portugal The advent of democracy in the mid-1970s ushered dramatic changes into the Iberian cultural landscape. No longer confined by State censorship, independent and experimental theater companies proliferated throughout the Peninsula's major cities, paving the way for a myriad of revolutionary tendencies and new generations of playwrights whose works deconstruct notions of utopia, linear historicity, and clashes between public and private spheres. Submissions on the history, evolution, and tendencies of this democratically staged Iberia are invited.

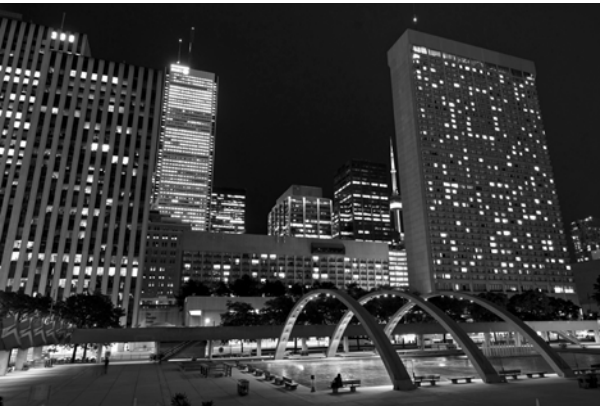
The Struggle for Recognition: The Hispano-American Novel in the Twenty-First Century This roundtable seeks to examine the ways in which the twenty-first century Hispano-American novel provide insights into pressing questions of representation and recognition in a context which has been greatly impacted by the forces of globalization and neoliberalism. The nuances of contemporary realities in these novels can be explored within the realms of identity politics, human rights, (post)nationalist, post-conflict, gender, and postcolonial studies, among others. Please submit 300- to 500-word abstracts to Carlos Gardeazábal and Charles LeBel.

Translating Medias: From Literary Text to Television and Film The purpose of this panel is to discuss the translation or 'transmutation' (Jakobson) of non-audiovisual media, particularly literature and songwriting, to television and/or film. The various processes used by screenwriters and directors, the final broadcasting product, the reception of general public and critics, and the definitive outcome DVD version are issues that also interest this discussion. Please submit 250- to 500-word abstracts in English or Portuguese to Rodolfo A. Franconi.

Violence and Literature in Latin America: Voices of Women This panel examines the voices and actions of women throughout Latin America in their search for justice, and the meaningful, effective, and creative ways they have found to express the violence and terror that they and their communities have endured while fighting for human rights. Papers will analyze the linguistic difficulties of expressing that violence; the struggle of the indigenous peoples of Latin America; the mechanisms of internal colonization, torture and its effects; the role of literature in contemporary Latin American struggles.

Visiones de lo trágico en la cultura hispana contemporánea Este panel busca trabajos que se centren en la pervivencia de la tragedia en el ámbito hispano en la literatura y el cine

Spanish and Portuguese/Women's and Gender Studies



de lo siglos XX y XXI. De especial interés serán aquellos trabajos que se enfoquen en el resurgimiento de la tragedia que bajo el paradigma modernista se produce en las primeras décadas del siglo XX y en las tensiones que

se producen a lo largo de la última centuria entre tragedia y melodrama, puesto que éste último parece haber ocupado el espacio que un día llenara la primera.

Women and Writing in Latin America: Love and Contempt

This panel will explore the concepts and stereotypes that lay behind the vision of love and womanhood expressed by Latin American authors. Its purpose is to create a dialogue about writers' depictions of love, contempt, and womanhood, and how those ideas reflect or challenge Latin American societies. Comparative approaches in Spanish/English/Portuguese are suitable, but non-comparative studies would also be considered. Send abstracts to Dr. María Cristina Campos Fuentes, DeSales University.

Women's and Gender Studies

Activist, Professor, or Scholar? Best Practices in Gender Scholarship

University professors who 'do gender' refuse to spend their careers in an ivory tower, but because of this choice, we are sometimes faced with a dilemma: How do we divide our time between teaching, research, and practice? How much of our own advocacy work do we mention in the classroom? This roundtable session is looking for excellent examples of theory-informed research that incorporates timely, practical examples of volunteerism and advocacy.

Alice Munro and the Body This panel seeks papers on representations of the body in fiction by Nobel laureate Alice Munro. How do Munro's depictions of the body—and especially the body of the 'other'—work within and against social conventions? What is the relationship between bodies and the language used to represent them? How do Munro's treatments of the body engage with generic conventions including those associated with the Gothic and with regional literatures? Please submit 300- to 500-word abstracts to Alison Arant.

Beyond 'Green Gables': L. M. Montgomery's Darker Side L. M. Montgomery's last work, *The Blythes Are Quoted*, and how it came into being, remains largely untouched. This collection of stories and vignettes emphasizes disillusionment and 'despair' alongside hope; it is an experiment in form, but a continuation of earlier works in content. This panel seeks to explore the darker

threads of Montgomery's earlier writings, from dark humor and wit to tragedy, examining earlier iterations and themes that better illuminate how her final work came into being.

Beyond 'the Wounded Surgeon': Nurses' Construction and Recovery of the Wound From Florence Nightingale to Nurse Ratched, nurses have been portrayed by others and by themselves as, in turn, idealized paragons of femininity and vilified portents of social disintegration. This roundtable seeks papers that consider the complex ways in which this ambiguous figure has navigated the wounded bodies, minds, places, and social relationships that litter the pages of literature.

Coming-of-Age Novels by Contemporary Latina Authors The session seeks to call attention to the upsurge of coming-of-age novels by Latina writers. Centered on the mother-daughter relationship, these contemporary novels posit the multiple obstacles faced by Latinas to escape monolithic definitions of womanhood and the creative ways through which Latinas re-define themselves. Papers may focus on the work of individual Latina authors or take a comparative approach analyzing common themes among various writers.

Contemporary Representations of Mother-Daughter Relationships By exploring contemporary representations of mother-daughter relationships in literature and film from multiple countries and diverse perspectives, this seminar interrogates how mothers can realize their own subjectivity and help their daughters achieve agency in our globalized, patriarchal society. Papers should analyze mother-daughter dynamics in literature, film, and other media, particularly in comparative historical, cultural, and linguistic perspectives. Non-traditional individual and family identities are encouraged.

Feminist Pedagogies This roundtable, which is jointly sponsored by the Women and Gender Studies Caucus and the Graduate Caucus, will be a resource for educators at all levels to discuss either how feminist and gender theory informs their teaching or, more practically, techniques that they have used to prompt critical thinking and class discussion about gender, race, and sexuality. Please send 250-word proposals for 8–10 minute papers.

Flying Home: Contemporary Women Writers, Migration, and Identity This panel investigates how/if contemporary women's travel narratives integrate an awareness of recent feminist theoretical constructs about travel narrative in their current publications. This panel examines autobiographical writings of contemporary (1995–present) women travel writers to discover if presentations/discussions of imperialism, identity, and/or self-concept, as well as a more thoughtful 'gaze,' find their way explicitly or implicitly into their publications. Please send an abstract and a short bio to Jane Wood.

'Geographies of Home' in Ethnic American Women's Literature How do literary works employ the tropes of location and dislocation, of belonging and exile, of inside(r) and

Women's and Gender Studies

outside(r), to highlight the complex relationship we have to home—the 'place' that shapes our identities and destinies? This panel seeks papers from any theoretical or critical perspective that interrogate the notion of home and belonging in gendered, aesthetic, political, and/or social dimensions in contemporary ethnic American women's literature. Send abstracts of 250 words to Jami Carlacio.

Latin American and Caribbean Women Playwrights: From Crisis to Harmony This panel will discuss the dramatic strategies that Latin American and Caribbean women playwrights are currently using to depict conflictual situations with an aim towards resolution. The papers will focus on how time and space as well as lighting and sound are deployed in order to dramatize the social, political, professional, or personal conflicts.

Locating the Androgyne: The Status of In-Betweenness in Gender Studies This panel seeks papers that explore the presence of androgynous subjectivities—of sexual and gendered in-betweenness—in literary works and visual culture. Studies that put visual and verbal representations of androgyny into conversation are particularly welcome. Please submit 500-word abstracts to Geoff Bender.

'Mail and Female': New Approaches to Women's Letters Historically, letter writing has been a mode of written expression that was open to women when other forms of writing were not. Letters can be the most personal of all written forms, yet they can also be political, historical, performative, among other aspects, and engage varying contexts that complicate representation and challenge analysis. This international and interdisciplinary roundtable invites papers (8–10 minutes) that seek new ways to analyze letters and incorporate them into literary studies and pedagogical discussions.

Maternal Hauntings in Asian American Literature and Popular Culture This panel seeks to theorize the maternal haunting, spectral identities, and ghost figures in Asian American literature and popular culture. Are these representations vehicles through and by which postcolonial and diasporic trauma is articulated? What are the haunted spheres of the Asian American experience in the literary field and in the field of cultural production? Are hauntings the vehicle by which the politics of the body and interracial explorations are negotiated? How are iterations in popular culture distinct from literary ones?

Queer Theory After *Mad for Foucault* In *Mad for Foucault* (2010) and *Are The Lips A Grave?* (2013) Lynne Huffer shatters a number of long-standing assumptions in queer theory and charts new directions for this field. In particular, Huffer calls on scholars to pursue a feminist-attuned relational 'ethics of eros' that challenges the anti-social stance of Bersani and Edelman. Despite Huffer's vital insights, the impact of her work has yet to be fully appreciated. This panel aims to fill that gap by exploring the question: what does queer theory look like after *Mad for Foucault*?

Queer/Geek: Theorizing the Convergence of Fandom, Camp, and Other Deviances This panel explores the intersections of queer and geek subcultures, identities, and practices with regard to their intersecting possibilities. Non-mainstream sexual and gender expression, as well as creative experiments with post-human and other transformative identities or alter-egos, comprise important elements of various geek cultures. Meanwhile, there are also deep strains of misogyny—as well as homophobia and white supremacy—that run through geek culture. 300-word abstracts and brief CV.

The Search for Self: Canadian Literary Identity in 'American' Novels This roundtable will take a close look at the nature of Canadian literary identity through a review of contemporary authors who are labeled as American. Atwood, Coupland, Cohen and Kerouac have long been considered important American authors; yet, they all have Canadian roots which emerge from their writings and their lives. What does it mean to be a Canadian author in an American world?

Sex Outdoors This panel seeks papers that link sex to the outside world, historicizing models of desire and pleasure that somehow exceed subjectivity or personhood. We are particularly interested in papers dealing with materials circulating in the late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century, before or at the cusp of sexology and psychoanalysis. These materials represent the experiences and expressions of what we call sexuality, but do so in ways that resist the organizational force that term implies. Please submit 300–500 word abstracts.

Teaching Nineteenth-Century American Women's Literature: New Texts, New Approaches The field of nineteenth-century American women's literature is continually changing, with the recovery of new texts and new perspectives on recovered texts. This roundtable focuses on approaches to teaching nineteenth-century American women's literature. Possible topics include best practices on teaching newly recovered texts and on considering race, class, religion, genre, and aesthetic value when selecting texts. 250–500 word abstracts.

The Various Utilizations of Life Writing The panel will analyze how working women use a variety of literary genres in their life writing to construct a sense of self, possibly using, to that end, material feminist theory. Auxiliary goals possibly comprising literary recognition, political affirmation, and autonomy are a few of the impetuses this panel will postulate. Presentation options will include various time periods and geographic locations in order to acknowledge the vast array of strategies women employ to achieve their goals.

The Versatile Genius: Renaissance Women Artists and the Canon This session seeks papers on pioneering women whose innovative work opened new fields of artistic expression in literature, theater, music or the visual arts; on female artists who created or re-wrote the canon; versatile talents who crossed genres and disciplines; women who resisted or rebelled against the coeval limitations of their gender or socio-

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economical condition through art. Areas of interest: European female artists between the 15th and 17th century. Please submit a 250- 300-word abstract to Elisa Modolo.

Women Poets Writing the City Urban spaces have often proven to be rich environments for poets, often providing them with both freedom and a community of like-minded artists. This panel will explore how women poets are influenced by and, in their representations, influence the city. Representations may be of the city and its inhabitants, or they may be in a style that mimics the urban space. Possible topics include author studies, studies of schools, or comparative works. Papers on any historical period or nationality are welcome.

Women Writing the Holocaust Only a few decades ago, gender was viewed as an inappropriate point of inquiry for researching the Holocaust. The pioneering works of Myrna Goldenberg, Sara Horowitz, Dalia Ofer, Lenore Weitzman paved the way for a gendered understanding of women's experiences of the Holocaust. This international panel will examine women's experiences and representations of the Holocaust in various genres including fiction, drama, journalism, letters, diary, and autobiography. Papers in any language are welcome but will be given in English. 500-word abstract.

Women's Narrative as Social Construction: Writing Memory, Self, Identity, Power Does writing about the self preclude social construction or empowerment? The effort of writing about one's own self may lead an author to a 'narrative of empowerment' or to a lack thereof. 'To be vulnerable is...simply to be susceptible, exposed, at risk.' To be vulnerable is also the ability to risk it. We seek research which lays special stress on the care with which memory is made 'consciousness,' and 'memory-writing' shapes the narrative style of an author, including the experience of vulnerability.

Women's War Images: Through the Female Gaze This transnational panel will examine women's visual narratives of the wars of the twentieth century, seeking to uncover how women depicted themselves and their work beyond the public images that shaped women's traditional wartime roles. How did female artists, women on active service, women in occupied zones, and women who worked at home visually depict the war and their roles in it in artwork, albums, and illustrated texts? Do such depictions contradict or reinforce traditional gender roles?

Wonder Tales in A. S. Byatt's Fiction This panel will address the relevance of A. S. Byatt's wonder tales within the wider context of her fiction and invites submissions that specifically explore this relationship. The topics of the panel include, but are not limited to: gender and genre; female identity; the relationship between narrators and tales; postmodern and/or feminist undertones vs traditional modes of wonder tale narrative; frame tale and embedded stories. Please submit 250- to 500-word abstracts to Alexandra Cheira.

World Literatures (non-European Languages)

Building a Proficiency-Oriented Arabic Curriculum With the dramatic increase in Arabic enrollments and expanding opportunities for Arabic speakers, the demand for written and spoken Arabic proficiency has never been greater. This panel will consider the challenges and opportunities in building an effective proficiency-oriented Arabic curriculum. The experiences, visions, and concerns of Arabic teachers on integration of social media, online learning, new forms of assessment, integration of Colloquial and Standard Arabic, and selection of course materials are particularly welcome.

The City in Contemporary Arab Women's Writings This panel seeks papers that focus on the representations of the city in the literature of the Arab Uprising and in all contemporary Arab women's writings, both fictional and non-fictional: travel narratives, autobiographies, memoirs, testimonials, etc. Possible topics include but are not limited to: rebel cities, Utopian cities, cities at war, cities of exile, foreign cities, World capitals, literary capitals, sacred cities.

The Epic of Gilgamesh This panel seeks papers that study and examine *The Epic of Gilgamesh*. Topics include but are not limited to the role of the text in Iraqi and Arabic literary texts; teaching *The Epic of Gilgamesh* in world literature courses; and translation. 500-word abstracts.

(Im)migration and Postcolonial Women's Novels This panel invites abstracts for papers on postcolonial women's novels that focus on women's experiences of (im)migration (within and/or across borders). How do these novels depict diasporas formed, cultures transported, or the effect of migration on identity, belonging, or nationalism? Which gender or women's issues do we see at play, and how are these issues influenced by the experience of (im)migration? Submit abstracts to Kim Evelyn.

Literary Economies of Authority and Debt This roundtable discussion centers itself on the relation between economics and literature, via theoretical intervention. We are especially interested in thinking logics of debt, measurability, and accountability in literary works of world literature (or those that challenge, undermine, and otherwise interrupt these economic regimes). Our aim is to investigate the authority of systems of value and their modes of subjecting and subjectification. 300- to 500-word abstracts.

Literature and the Armenian Diaspora In recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide, abstracts are sought on the Armenian diaspora in literature. Papers might address depictions of diasporic Armenians in other literatures, or the subject of diaspora or the Genocide in any literature that Armenians have participated or are represented in, including in (but not limited to) the Armenian language.

Memory, Trauma, and Violence in Modern Arabic Literature

This seminar welcomes papers that discuss how acts of violence and trauma have been remembered, invoked, and commemorated in Modern Arabic Literature. Trauma here is not limited to the outcomes of historical events but includes the ongoing trauma of the everyday; of experiencing political coercion and state apathy; of living under patriarchy, of struggling in poverty; as well as a mental situation meriting close attention. Please submit abstracts of no more than 250 words to Diana Obeid.

Representations of Alexandria in the Arabic Novel Due to its mythical past, cosmopolitan history, and literary significance, representations of Alexandria are far from coherent, chronological, or clear. This panel seeks papers that view the city as a space that hovers between past/present, local/global, center/periphery, private/public, etc. Papers may focus on the specific ways the city is imagined, invoked, and invented. They may also use different iterations of the city to draw larger conclusions on the development of the Arabic novel. Please send 250-word abstracts to Sally Gomaa.

Slave Narratives from the Mediterranean and Middle East

This panel seeks to explore various slave narratives in Mediterranean and Middle Eastern cultures and literatures. Panel topics include, but are not limited to, slave narratives in Ottoman Empire, Greece, and Egypt. We will explore multiplicity of slave voices and experiences and ask how slavery was maintained as a social, economical, and cultural institution. We will examine how these narratives are represented, documented, transmitted, and remembered.

Space and Place in World Literature This panel seeks to bring together papers that explore the issues of space and place in world literature. We are interested in work that investigates the multiple ways in which space and place are imagined, produced, and consumed, or disputed and dismantled in today's world literature. Presenters are encouraged to explore the panel's theme using a variety of methodological approaches, situating the work both within global and national contexts.

Teaching World Literature at the Boundaries: Methods, Approaches, and Practices This roundtable seeks to explore new approaches to the teaching of world literature to college undergraduates, especially those in survey courses. How can we introduce students to traditional issues of national myths and exile in new and innovative ways? What are the boundaries of 'world literature' and how can we shape our syllabi and course goals to extend to exciting horizons beyond these limits? Please submit 300- to 500-word abstracts to Michael Modarelli or Alla Ivanchikova.



NeMLA's Previous and Current Executive Directors: Elizabeth Abele (L), Carine Mardorossian, Josie McQuail

A Letter from the Executive Director

Taking over as the next Executive Director of NeMLA is both an exhilarating and deeply humbling experience. Over the years, I have witnessed the remarkable team effort involved in making a convention like NeMLA a reality; I have seen the organization grow from a small convention of fewer than 500 members to a healthy organization of 2,000 members; and I have admired my predecessor's administrative savvy and organizational skills. At the same time, I am absolutely thrilled to contribute to NeMLA's further growth. This is an organization that has not only produced a plethora of enriching intellectual encounters and opportunities in my own professional life, but also, as I like to say, it is "the friendliest conference in North America." Every year, NeMLA provides another occasion for mutual and joyful teaching, stimulating learning, and warm togetherness. Maybe it is our regional and cultural identity (or a healthy response to a colder climate), but our members always know how to make intellectual inquiry a thoroughly enjoyable and sustaining enterprise.

I am especially excited about the partnership between NeMLA and the University at Buffalo (UB), which marks the beginning of my tenure as Executive Director. This relationship will provide NeMLA with more resources with which to grow. Join me in welcoming our wonderful new administrative coordinator Renata; our UB graduate assistant Jesse; our UB graduate fellows Min Young, Seth, Shayani, and Veronica; and in thanking our continuing staff Alison, Andrea, Brandi, Caroline, Derek, Francisco, Kristin, Maria, and Michael. Enjoy our newly redesigned logo, and be on the lookout for a revamped website, as well as new fellowship opportunities to enjoy the University at Buffalo archives and manuscript collections.

Finally, we are looking forward to working with our local host institution Ryerson University in Toronto to make NeMLA 2015 one of our most popular and successful conventions yet. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any suggestions about our organization or the convention.

Carine Mardorossian, University at Buffalo
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Key Dates for 2014–2015

- Sept 30** Deadline for Abstracts for 2015 Convention
- Oct 15** Deadline for Finalizing 2015 Sessions
- Oct 21** Deadline for Women’s & Gender Studies Caucus Essay Award
- Oct 30** Manuscript Deadline for NeMLA Book Award
- Dec 1** Deadline for Caribbean Studies Essay Award
- Dec 1** Deadline for CAITY Caucus Essay Award
- Dec 31** Deadline for Cao Memorial Graduate Student Award
- Dec 31** Deadline for Graduate Student Travel Awards
- Jan 15** Application Deadline for American Antiquarian Society Fellowship
- Jan 15** Deadline for Graduate Student Caucus Essay Award
- Jan 15** Application Deadline for Newberry Library Fellowship
- Feb 6** Application Deadline for Research Fellowships

Upcoming Convention Dates

- 2015** April 30–May 3; Toronto, ON
 Host: Ryerson University
- 2016** March 17–20; Hartford, CT
 Host: University of Connecticut
- 2017** March 24–27; Baltimore, MD