

***UNCORRECTED DRAFT
PROGRAM/SCHEDULE
SWPACA 2025 CONFERENCE
AS OF 12-18-24***

This **uncorrected** draft is provided for attendees' planning purposes. An updated final schedule will be released at the start of February 2025. This means:

1. We have **very limited ability** to change presentation days/times from this draft schedule.
2. You may **make travel plans** using this schedule; changes to your presentation's assigned time will not be made without contacting you.

This is an **uncorrected draft**. We recognize that typos and inconsistent formatting may exist. Full editing will be done prior to the final schedule's release. We appreciate your understanding.

Direct all questions to
Kathleen Lacey, klacey@southwestpca.org.

DRAFT SCHEDULE – SWPACA 2025 CONFERENCE AS OF 12-18-23

The Official Version of the Program:

1. The official version of the program will be released in early February with updates.

The Conference App:

1. An app will be released a few days before the conference begins. We will send out information at a later time.

Overview of Schedule:

| Time Slot | Sessions | Wed 2/19 | Thur 2/20 | Fri 2/21 | Sat 2/22 |
|----------------|---------------------|----------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| 8:00-9:30am | Breakfast Events | | X <i>area chairs only</i> | X <i>students only</i> | |
| 9:45-11:15am | Concurrent Sessions | | X | X | X |
| 11:30am-1:00pm | Concurrent Sessions | X | X | X | X |
| 1:15-2:45pm | Concurrent Sessions | X | X | X | X |
| 3:00-4:30pm | Concurrent Sessions | X | X | X | X |
| 4:45-6:15pm | Concurrent Sessions | X | X | X | <i>Wrap up</i> |
| 6:30-8:00pm | Evening Events | | X <i>opening reception</i> | X <i>student dine out</i> | |
| 8:15-10:00pm | Late Night Sessions | X | X | X | |

Key events:

1. **Check-in** will begin before sessions each day, beginning mid-morning on Wednesday. Signage with specific times will be posted on site.
2. The **Annual Reception, Keynote Address, and Awards Ceremony** is **Thursday evening, 6:30-8:00** in the Grand Ballroom. Plan to attend! (*NB: travel award winners are expected to attend and be recognized; grad student paper awards will be announced at the event; applicants must be present to win*).
3. The **Exhibitors & Vendors room** is open Wednesday afternoon through Saturday morning. Select presses will be in attendance, as well as local artisans!
4. We have several **Professional Development, Networking, and Social activities** in the evenings and during the 3:00-4:45 session on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Registration & Attendance:

1. All attendees, including presenters, are required to register to attend. The early bird registration period ends January 5, 2025.
2. If your plans change and you no longer intend to attend and present your paper, please notify support@southwestpca.org as soon as possible.

Digital and Analog Cultures 1: The Politics of a Digital Dystopia: Power, Technology, and Control

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Acoma

Moderator: Jonathan Lillie, Jonathan J Lillie

Foucaultian Bots, Mods, and Mobs of Discord and Facebook: Technologies of Knowledge/Power in Social Media Moderation

Jonathan Lillie Jonathan J Lillie

When Robots Read the News: AI News Anchors

Melissa Wall melissawall@gmail.com

Cyberpunk Teleologies

Ben Fuqua Eastern New Mexico University

The Fall of the Digital Commons: A Marxist Examination of Social Media's Corporate Turn

Addison Boozer University of Arizona

Esotericism, Occultism, and Magic 1: Space, Place, Time, and Land

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon C & D

Moderator: George Sieg, Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

Mapping The No Place

Camille Goering Florida State University

Stay in School: The Psychogeography of the Campus in "Jude the Obscure"

Jorge Arana jarana5332@sdsu.edu

Terri Windling's "The Wood Wife" and the Land

Angela Gustafsson Whyland Independent Scholar

Between two worlds: The Spatial Anomalies and Temporal Paradoxes in Twin Peaks

Mara Mbele Witwatersrand university

Film Studies 1: Film Genres & Gender

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon A & B

Moderator: Eric Riddle, Colorado Mesa University

Satellite Communities: Women in Orbit in Apollo 13

Annie Culver Schreiner University

A Promising Young Woman: Redefining the Rape-Revenge Genre by confronting Rape Culture

Nicole Neece Nicole.Neece@ucf.edu

Finding Female Agency in the Male Gaze

Nicole Mcgee West Texas A&M University

Man and Witch: A Nostalgic Fantasy Film for The Modern Age

Eric Riddle Colorado Mesa University

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Game Studies, Culture, Play & Practice 1

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Santa Fe

Moderator: Judd Ruggill, University of Arizona

Pokémon Is a Game of Conquest: The Territorial and Aggressive Behaviors of Pokémon Fans and the Fandom

Alexis Shrewsbury California State University, Northridge

“Do You Believe in Death or the Bank?” Transhumanism and Religion in Nobody Wants to Die

Alexander Orelup alexporelup@gmail.com

Kintsugi for the Soul: The Construction of Identity Within Game Architecture

James Segura West Texas A&M University

To Play within the mind: an analysis of the use of psychological concepts in the design of Celeste

Kiernyn Funk Utah State University

Grateful Dead 1: Literary Contexts of the Grateful Dead

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Cimarron

Moderator: Nicholas Meriwether, Grateful Dead Studies Association

A Far-Gone Lullaby: Echoes of Nineteenth Century America in the Music and Lyrics of the Grateful Dead

Alden Murphy Pennsylvania State University

Neal Cassady and “Alligator”

Granville Ganter ganterg@stjohns.edu

“Victorian Cobwebs”: Robert Hunter’s Lost London Poems

Nicholas Meriwether Grateful Dead Studies Association

Mothers, Motherhood, and Mothering in Popular Culture 1: Literary Motherhood in Global Culture

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon E

Moderator: Renae Mitchell, UNM Los Alamos

The Dark Descent of Motherhood: A Framework for Critiquing Motherhood Roles in Post-feminist YA Literature

Emily Birtwistle University of Arkansas

"Motherhood as Counterstory: An Intersectional Analysis of Motherhood, Global Trauma, and Identity in Kamila Shamsie's *Burnt Shadows*"

Jennifer Judd jjudd1@twu.edu

Escaping Established Conventions: A Mother-Daughter Relationship Redefined through Chinese Diasporic Lives

Sewon Um Ewha Womans University

DRAFT SCHEDULE – SWPACA 2025 CONFERENCE AS OF 12-18-23

Myth and Fairy Tales 1: Magic, Moonlight, and Monsters

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon H

Moderator: Sheila Dooley, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Genderization of the Moon in Global Mythos

Daelin Tripp Ohio University

Contemporary Myth and Magic: Examining How the Fantastic Enables Generative Readings of Human Will in Madeline Miller's Circe

James Tickle jtickle112@gmail.com

Myths by Monsters: Reimagining Queer Latina Archives

Mina Quesen Brown University

A Different Gift of Fire: Exploring the Myth of Prometheus in Octavia E. Butler's Lilith's Brood

Nathan Klayman University of Texas at Dallas

Pedagogy & Popular Culture 1: AI & Technology

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Las Cruces

Moderator: Laura Dumin, Univeristy of Central Oklahoma

CTRL+ALT+DELETE: Remaking the Teaching Pedagogy for Ethical AI Approaches Across the Educational Landscape

Rebecca Dupont Community College of Allegheny County

Working Alongside Digital Natives: Initial Implementation of an Attention Training App in a Social Media Course

Mitzi Lewis mitzi.lewis@msutexas.edu

Analysis of AI research project in first year English Composition

Laura Dumin Univeristy of Central Oklahoma

The Newsroom Model: Journalistic Publications to Enhance Digital Media and News Literacy

Nancy Garcia - Franken West Texas A&M University

Visual Arts 1: Grounded Perspectives

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon G

Moderator: Sandra Williams, University of Nebraska Lincoln

CROSSING: FEMINIST INTERVENTIONS AT THE INTERSECTION OF CRITICAL AND AESTHETIC PRACTICE

Theo. Triandos University at Buffalo

Soft Minimalism: Innovations in Interior Design in Georgia O'Keeffe's Home at Abiquiú

Chris Fernald fernald.chris@gmail.com

The Poor Man's Bible: Stained Glass Windows as Artistic and Educational Tools

Aaron Krone Friends University

At the Intersection of Hopper and Hitchcock: Surveying the Cinematic World of Painting

Carl Schmitz University of California San Diego

Women, Gender, & Sexuality 1: The Embodiment of Body and Lived Spaces

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Carlsbad

Moderator: Serena Richards, Collin College

"Perfect Breasts Community": Violations of the Thin-Ideal are not a Post-Feminist Act

Hanne Murray Texas Tech University

Calendar Girl: Mise en Abyme in Alice Munro's "Boys and Girls"

Larry Van Meter larry.vanmeter@blinn.edu

Comedic Tactics and the Negotiation of Gender Politics within American Stand-Up Comedy

Ezra Langlois University of Arizona

Migrating to a New Gender Norm: Gender Roles in Migration (2023)

Kylie Olson Friends University

Adaptation: Literature, Film, & Culture 1: Myth and Colonialism

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon A & B

Moderator: Amy Fatzinger, University of Arizona

Hades in Pop culture: Antagonization and Reclamation of the Dead God

Joseph Self Northern Michigan University

The Secularization of Don Juan and the Theophilus Myth in Contemporary Children's Media

Persephone Hernandez-vogt phernandez@wtamu.edu

(Re) Creating The Little Mermaid

Feroza Jussawalla University of New Mexico

The Last Picture Show, cinematic adaptation, and settler colonial haunting

Daryl Meador Texas Tech

**Children's/Young Adult Culture 1: Adapting Stories, Challenging Norms:
Identity, Adaptation, and Representation in Young Adult Narratives**

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon F

Moderator: Ashley Johnson, unaffiliated

Before Twilight: Popular Mythologies in Roger Zelazny's A Dark Traveling

Carl Lund Bemidji State University

Watered Down Witchcraft: Wyrld Girls Casting Spells and Making Friends

Robin Gray Nicks rnicks@utk.edu

Creating a Successful Book-to-Screen Adaptation: A Case Study on Percy Jackson and the Olympians

Alyssa Bobich Loyola Marymount University

The Gay Agenda: Reducing Bullying of LGBTQ Students Through Integration of Inclusive LGBTQ+ YAL Literature

Elizabeth Vest Pleasant Valley Middle School

Crime and Culture 1: Murder, Monsters and Mythic Misfits

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon J

Moderator: Kristina Downs, Tarleton State University

The Murder of Sarah Alice Morgan and the Redemption of her Identity

Hazel Walker Texas Tech University

When the Devil Came to Lubbock: The Problem of Satanic Panic and Law Enforcement's Search for a Killer

Melissa Lambert melissa.lambert@ttu.edu

The Body of the Monster

Kristina Downs Tarleton State University

Digital and Analog Cultures 2: Surveillance and Embodiment in Social Media

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Acoma

Moderator: Mohammad Kasifur Rahman, The University of Texas at Dallas

Health Data Sharing Practices on Facebook and its Impact- A Bangladesh Perspective

Maruf Rahman University of Texas at Dallas

Mental Health in the Digital Age: Social Media's Role in Raising Awareness and Shaping Perspectives in Belize

Lauren Griego Lauren.Griego@enmu.edu

Targeted Ads on Social Media: Race, Surveillance, and Data Colonialism

Mohammad Kasifur Rahman The University of Texas at Dallas

Touched Up: Two Different Visions of RuPaul on YouTube

Alex Neal Pacific Northwest College of Art

Esotericism, Occultism, and Magic 2: The Western Paradise

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon C & D

Moderator: George Sieg, Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

“The Theme of Revival the Heart Asks For”: Robert Duncan's Atlantis

Cassandra Lerer University of Chicago

The Occult in the Western United States, an Omeka Creation

Jay Williams jay.williams@du.edu

Dylan Prentiss University of Denver

Unveiling Cassadaga: Separating Fact from Fiction in America's Psychic Hub

Virginia Mccue Eastern New Mexico University

Talbot Mundy: Lomaland and Esoteric Adventure Literature for the Masses

George Sieg Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

Game Studies, Culture, Play & Practice 2

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Santa Fe

Moderator: Marc Ouellette, Old Dominion University

Global Justice Gaming: Teaching Sustainable Social Justice Practitionership Through Games

Aaunterria Bollinger-deters Colorado State University

And I Start Juggling: Trans* Worldmaking within Dungeons & Dragons—A Reflexive Adventure

Kelly Ancharski kancharski@arizona.edu

Reclaiming My Controller: Slime Rancher as a Site of Black Feminist Intervention

Myranda Bell Myranda Bell

Dark Play in a Rejection Simulator: Toxic Queer Feminist Romance in The Class of '09: The Re-Up

Luke Hernandez The University of Texas at Dallas

Grateful Dead 2: Roundtable: The Wall of Sound and the Quest for Audio Perfection

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Cimarron

Moderator: Nicholas Meriwether, Grateful Dead Studies Association

Brian Anderson independent scholar

Julie DeLong Independent Scholar

Nicholas Meriwether Grateful Dead Studies Association

This roundtable discussion is a model event for So Many Reads: A Grateful Dead Book Club in which host Julie DeLong interviews Brian Anderson, author of the forthcoming book Loud and Clear: The Grateful Dead's Wall of Sound and the Quest for Audio Perfection.

Humor and Comedy in Popular Culture 1

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon H

Moderator: Jeremy Vaughan, Independent scholar

Larger Than Life: The personification of fatness in popular film comedies and its influence on identity construction

Tyler Majer Trent University

Reconceptualizing Representation and Marginality in African Migrant Humour

Ibukun Filani ifilani@umass.edu

Sissy that Talk: The Subversive Power of Puns in RuPaul's Drag Race

Kevin Van Winkle Colorado State University Pueblo

Amusing Delight in Ryan Singer's Art

Margaret Vaughan Metropolitan State University

Literature 1: Mapping Identities in International Spaces

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon I

Moderator: Samantha Lay, Meridian Community College

Pinocchio, Education Standardization, and Rise of Nationalism

Bonnie Roos West Texas A&M University

“Russians in Paris:” Exploring the Eastern European Presence in Jean Rhys’s Good Morning, Midnight

Amanda Reeves ajreeves2@crimson.ua.edu

From Identity Crisis to Identity Construction: A Critical Analysis of Indo-Canadian Writer Uma Parameswaran’s ‘The Door I Shut behind Me’

Amrita Basu Roy Chowdhury Lady Brabourne College, India

Mary MacLane, The Forgotten Female Romantic: A Feminist Examination of Whitmanian themes within MacLane’s pop cultural phenomenon I Await the Devil’s Coming

Diana Furman Texas State University

Mothers, Motherhood, and Mothering in Popular Culture 2: Motherhood on Stage and Screen

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon E

Moderator: Renae Mitchell, UNM Los Alamos

The Chili Effect: Bluey as a Support to Motherhood Experience, Identity, and Agency

Ashley Watson SUNY Geneseo

America’s neoliberal sweetheart: Jenny McCarthy and the rise of vaccine hesitant mothers

Andrea Dekeseredy dekesere@ualberta.ca

Mothering Her Children Through Joy and Pain: Queen Bee’s Renaissance Project

Sarita Cannon San Francisco State University

Maternal Separation: Star Trek Discovery, Political Terror, and the Future Written by Mothers

Renae Mitchell UNM Los Alamos

Pedagogy & Popular Culture 2: Music

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Las Cruces

Moderator: Christopher Smith, Luna Community College

Teaching The Flaming Lips' Zaireeka: Expecting Electronic Chaos

Christopher Smith Luna Community College

Honey, Life is Just a Classroom: Teaching Undergraduates about Identity, Narrative, and Creative Processes through the Work of Taylor Swift

Sarai Brinker s.brinker@ttu.edu

A Lonesome Hope for Critical Pedagogy’s Influence on Public Education

Richard Hartsell University Of South Carolina Upstate

Visual Arts 2: Shaping Identity, Culture, and Global Impact

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon G

Moderator: Sandra Williams, University of Nebraska Lincoln

Digital Dystopias and the Canadian Aporia: The National Film Board of Canada's Vision of a World on the Edge

John Bessai University College of the North

The Presence of African Symbols in North American Quilts

Myrah Brown Green drmyrah@gmail.com

Silent Stories for Invisible Voices: Wordless Narratives as Visual Art Research

Jeff Horwat University of New Mexico

Exploratory Analysis of Artwork Portraying the Anti-Nuclear Movement

Emma Camp Texas Woman's University

Women, Gender, & Sexuality 2: The Voices of "Other"

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Carlsbad

Moderator: Anna Ortiz, The University of Arizona

Voices of Resistance: Hondureña Testimonio and Environmental Struggle Through a Postcolonial Ecofeminist Lens

Anna Ortiz The University of Arizona

Tales about Afghan Women Refugees in U.S. News Media Framing after the U.S. Military Withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021.

Ismat Begum ismat@unm.edu

Intersectionality and Media Representation: News Framing of Two Prominent Muslim Women in the U.S. Politics

Saiqa Shahzadi University of New Mexico

Mediating Gender, Racial, and Immigration Narratives in Univisión's Coverage of Kamala Harris

Iliia Rodriguez Nazario University of New Mexico

Chican@ Literature, Film, & Culture 1: Time, Space, & Place

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon J

Moderator: Myrriah Gomez, University of New Mexico

Across the River: Environmental Catastrophe and Social Injustice in Ito Romo's El Puente/The Bridge

Theda Wrede Utah Tech University

A Problematic Alternative

Anne Carrica acarrica@unm.edu

A Love Letter to Oppenheimer: Analyzing Querencia in Antonia Quintana Pigno's "La Jornada"

Myrriah Gomez University of New Mexico

Memory as Medicine: Land, Water, and Spirituality in We Fed Them Cactus

Karina Bolaños University of New Mexico

Digital and Analog Cultures 3: Aesthetics, Authenticity, and Nostalgia

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Acoma

Moderator: Erik Stanley, Eastern New Mexico University

Three Miles, Vast Temporalities

Julian Francolino Eastern New Mexico University

Remediating Vernacular (Found) Photos Through Digital Production

Gretchen Busl gbusl@twu.edu

Translating and Reimagining: Indigenous Games in Digital and Analog Modernities

Erik Stanley Eastern New Mexico University

Nostalgia for Analog Aura: reflections on art in the age of digital (re)production

Michelle Schmidt Eastern New Mexico University

Disability Studies 1: Social Constructions of Madness

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon 1

Moderator: Kassia Krone, Friends University

Neurogothic Narratives: Reexamining "Madness" in Gothic Literature

Abigail Josey University of Texas at Arlington

Let's Get Mad: Metal Music, Mental Health, and Mad Studies

Gabby Mcfey gmcfey@mc3.edu

Childless Crazy Women: Clock's Depiction of Mental Illness and the Childless by Choice

Kassia Krone Friends University

Eclectica 1: Community and Counterculture

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Carlsbad

Moderator: Cody Smith, Dallas College

Live Music Tonite!: Exploring the Role of Live Community Music in Fostering Engagement, Inclusion, and Wellbeing

Thomas Barker The University of Alberta

"This is a culture of destruction": The Culture Industry, Punk-Rock, and Manic Street Preachers

Jenna Orsak jo046@my.tamuct.edu

"Greedheads, Land-Rapers, and Other Human Jackals:" Hunter S. Thompson, Aspen, and the Countercultural Environmentalism of "Freak Power"

Elliott Lelaure University of New Hampshire

Esotericism, Occultism, and Magic 3: Alchemical Metamorphosis

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon C & D

Moderator: Karin Valis, Gnostic Technology

LeviaThen, LeviaNow, LeviaForever: The Long Twisted Secret History of the Devilish Sea Serpent Leviathan

Eric Millikin University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Merging Traditions: Alchemical Knowledge in Early Modern and Modern Manuscripts

Sergei Zotov sergei.zotov@warwick.ac.uk

Fiery Flukes: Occultism and Alchemy in Moby Dick

Michael Edgerton independent academic

Pseudoalchemical Cut-Ups

Tom Banger Self-affiliated

Film Studies 2: Film & Video Archives and Experiments

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon A & B

Moderator: Jo Canterbury, University of Arizona

flex, likes, and videotape: Film's Depictions of Self-Taping as Queer Embodiment

Jo Canterbury University of Arizona

A Sea of Images: Alternative Temporalities in the Films of Michael Robinson

Josh Vieth joshvieth@gmail.com

A Queer and Fragmented Past: De Profundis and The Art of Collage

Kyle Heger Independent Scholar

Paris, Texas, USA: Two (Euro)Visions of the American Southwest

Michael Poling University of New Mexico

Game Studies, Culture, Play & Practice 3

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Santa Fe

Moderator: Yasheng She, University of Idaho, The Habib Institute for Asian Studies

Simlish Orientalism: A cultural studies investigation of The Sims 3 Adventure World

Niyayesh Arshadnia Utah State University

Grilled Space Hamster & Other Suspicious Meats: An Analysis of Food in Baldur's Gate 3

Ashley Rezvani ashleyrezvani@gmail.com

Mako Metaphors: Final Fantasy VII Remake/Rebirth's Eco-Revolution in the Activist Era

Reuben Martens Manchester Metropolitan University

Cultural Custodianship in Play: Heritage and Commodification in World of Warcraft and Assassin's Creed

Leo Sailas Student

**Grateful Dead 3: Roundtable: The Grateful Dead, Collaborative
Improvisation and Interdisciplinarity**

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Cimarron

Moderator: Dave Jannetta, Cal Poly Humboldt

Jennifer Brown Cal Poly Humboldt

Dave Jannetta Cal Poly Humboldt

James Woglom Cal Poly Humboldt

The three co-authors will unpack collaborative improvisation across multiple fields, drawing on Baradian posthumanist concepts as a conceptual framework, but comparing that newer philosophical development to the influences of Theodore Sturgeon on the early conceptual endeavors of the Grateful Dead. Each will provide examples from their own artmaking and university instruction that serve to provide direct empirical examples of what combinative creative action, drawing together collaborators and the materials they manipulate and are subsequently affected by, looks like in their respective disciplinary endeavors and output.

Humor and Comedy in Popular Culture 2: Your Basic Smorgasbord

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon H

Moderator: Jeremy Vaughan, Independent scholar

Learning the Slapstick Genre: Monty Banks and His Adaptation to American Silent Film Comedy, 1916-1928

Lisa Haven Ohio University Zanesville

Themes of Resilience and Memento Mori in Dark Sitcom “Wooden Overcoats”

Kimba Wisotsky kimba.wisotsky@gmail.com

Will the Real Dummy Please Stand Up?: Tropes and Jokes in 1950s Ventriloquism

Eva Grandoni UMBC assistant professor of animation

National Lampoon, American History, and the 199th Birthday Book

Jeremy Vaughan Independent scholar

Pedagogy & Popular Culture 3: Literature

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Las Cruces

Moderator: John Wegner, Angelo State University

Embracing the “Plastic and Uncertain”: Teaching Contemporary Literature By Asking Students to Write Like Contemporary Writers

John Wegner Angelo State University

"The Stories That Meant Something": Inclusion of YA Fantasy as Culturally Responsive and Trauma Informed Pedagogy

Danny Saldana dsal1701@colostate.edu

"The Game's Afoot: How Murdles Can Reinvigorate the Inquiry Process"

Brianna Casey Texas Woman's University

Salena Parker Texas Woman's University

Teaching the Storied American West through Pop Culture

Julie Peterman University of New Mexico

Professional Development: Publishing with McFarland

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon F

Moderator: Layla Milholen,

Join McFarland representative Layla Milholen for a discussion about publishing with McFarland.

Visual Arts 3: The Confluence of Art and Science in Undergraduate Education

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon G

Moderator: Sara Ishii-Bear, Texas Woman's University

Aaron Loeb Texas Woman's University
Sara Ishii-Bear Texas Woman's University

Join us for a meaningful conversation about the confluence of art and science in an academic setting. Discover how undergraduate visual art and nursing students virtually collaborated across campuses to create artworks depicting chronic illnesses experienced by aging adults. The presenters reflect on the refreshing nature of academic freedom, pedagogical benefits of interdisciplinary collaboration, the ways visual art can be used to educate the community on healthcare, and unanticipated positive outcomes. Use the discussion points to influence your teaching strategies, engaged students, and to facilitate creative new professional partnerships!

War & Culture 1: Processing Trauma

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon E

Moderator: Stacy Fowler, St. Mary's University

Post-Traumatic Stress and the Female Veteran: Healing Through Songwriting

Stacy Fowler St. Mary's University

Picturing War: Art by Children Experiencing War

Deborah Deacon deborah.deacon@asu.edu

The Presence of Mirrors: War as Seen Through the Fairy Tale Lens of Marissa Meyer's Lunar Chronicles

Alissa Simon Harrison Middleton University

Reality Misarranged: Disordered Psychological Realism, Combat-related PTSD, and the Disruption of Narrative

Austyn Kobs North Carolina State University

Chican@ Literature, Film, & Culture 2: Challenging History, Challenging Stereotypes

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon J

Moderator: Maria Duarte, Eastern New Mexico University

Subverting Chicana/o Stereotypes by Embracing Monstrosity: Cultural Expressions of Reclaiming Brown Identity in the Film *Blue Beetle*

Christy Frederick University of New Mexico

Reframing Hollywood: The Evolution of Chicanas, Cholas, Chicanx, and the Cholx Subcultures

Veronica Caro veromcaro@gmail.com

The Ballad of Gregorio Cortez: A Mexican American Tale of Injustice and Resistance

Maria Duarte Eastern New Mexico University

Which demographic knows the most about La Llorona?

Avah Pacheco Eastern New Mexico University

Digital and Analog Cultures 4: Digital Transitions in Libraries, Archaeology, Body Art, and Humanities

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Acoma

Moderator: Michelle Schmidt, Eastern New Mexico University

Computational Thinking Meets Narrative Craft: Exploring Self Through Digital Humanities and Texts by Cisneros, Tan, and Walker

Adero-zaire Green CUNY Medgar Evers College

The Rise, Fall, and Rise Again of Public Libraries in the Digital Age: an evolution of digital and analog services in the public library.

Cate Sweeney cateswe@gmail.com

Blackwater Draw in the 21st Century: New ways of generating and interpreting data from an old archaeological site

Brendon Asher Eastern New Mexico University

Men Crying on Reality TV: Masculine Affect in *Ink Master*

Henna Messina Eastern New Mexico University

Disability Studies 2: Intersectional Representations of Autism and Neurodivergence

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon I

Moderator: Lexey Bartlett, Fort Hays State University

Intersectional Crip Utopia in Octavia Butler's *Parable of the Sower* & *Parable of the Talents*

Sam Weiss University of Illinois, Chicago

Harmful Stereotyping and the Transformative Power of Black Autistic Representation

Zoe Parris zparris@depaul.edu

Autism in Anime

Callan Longacre Friends University

Esotericism, Occultism, and Magic 4: Gnostic Technology

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon C & D

Moderator: Tom Banger, Self-affiliated

There Is No Spoon: The Mythic Aspect of Traditional Craft

Jake Fee Gnostic Technology

The Mystical Significance of Observational Art

Matthew Cangiano mcangiano22@gmail.com

Fringe Spirituality: Unpacking the Mental Health Effects of Paranormal Phenomena

Gabriela Bezakova Gnostic Technology

Glitched Encounters: Truly Random Generative Image as an ESP Transmission Conduit

Karin Valis Gnostic Technology

Film & History 1: Genre and Gender

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon A & B

Moderator: Brad Duren, Tulsa Community College

From The Wild One to The Bikeriders: Tragic Masculinity and the Neoliberal Turn

Randy Mcbee Texas Tech University

From Meathead to Talking Heads: The Influence of Rob Reiner's When Harry Met Sally and This Is Spinal Tap on Band of Brothers

Hervé Picherit picherit@utexas.edu

Revisiting Wen/Wu: Gender Roles, Genre Origins, and Women Warriors in the Global Martial Arts Cinema Classroom.

Jean Amato Fashion Institute of Technology

The Electric Western, X-Rated Cartoons, and The Werewolf of Woodstock: Genre Mixing and the Decline of the Hippie Film

Britt Rhuart Maricopa County Community Colleges

Game Studies, Culture, Play & Practice 4

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Santa Fe

Moderator: Matthew Payne, University of Notre Dame

UFO 50 and Nostalgia for a Fictional Past

Hunter Bishop Northern Michigan University

The Wild Wasteland: Robert Frank's "Hoover Dam" (1955) and Fallout: New Vegas (2010)

Kile Lowery klowery1@arizona.edu

The Evolution of Gendered Avatars in Final Fantasy XIV

Marco Rodriguez Old Dominion University

Dr. Darling in the Machine: Iterative Identity and Remedy Entertainment's Control (2019)

Aubrey Dickens University of California, Riverside

Graphic Novels, Comics, & Popular Culture 1: Space, Place, and the Comics Form

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon H

Moderator: Robert Peaslee, Texas Tech University

Comics and Topophilia

Amaris Ketcham University of New Mexico

When reading isn't believing: science fiction and fictionality in Chris Ware's 'The Seeing-Eye Dogs of Mars', within *Rusty Brown* (2019)

Elizabeth Moulin elizabeth.moulin@yahoo.com

Simple, Legible, and Clear: Comics and the Demand for Clarity

Alexander Ponomareff University of South Florida

Grateful Dead 4: Nature, Spirituality and Theology in the Grateful Dead

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Cimarron

Moderator: Daniel Pinti, Niagara University

Sugar Magnolia: An Ecofeminist Exploration of The Dead's Relationship with Nature

Eden Young University of Arkansas

Grateful Dead and Spirituality

Rhoney Stanley rhoney.stanley@gmail.com

The Theology of Matthew Fox: Toward Furthering the Dialogue between Christianity and the Grateful Dead

Daniel Pinti Niagara University

Politics 1: Framing Political Culture

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Las Cruces

Moderator: Darrell Hamlin, Fort Hays State University

"The Donfather" vs. "The Ho": Sex, Race, and Pop Culture and the 2024 Election

Jane Caputi jane.caputi@atlanticu.edu

Primed for Prejudice: Liberal and Conservative News Media Set Audience Expectations About Anti-DEI Legislation

Darrell Roe darrell.roe@enmu.edu

Nut Country: How Dallas Crazy Became American Normal

Darrell Hamlin Fort Hays State University

Covert Operations of the CIA: Honour, Glory and Dark Secrets of Operation Canadian Cap and Operation Cyclone

Anirban Bhattacharya Inspiria Knowledge Campus

Taylor Swift and Swiftie Studies 1: The Eras Tour

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon F

Moderator: Danielle Brady, Texas Woman's University

I'll Watch Your Life in Pictures: Iconographic Tracking of The Eras Tour Poster

Danielle Brady Texas Woman's University

Juliette Holder Texas Woman's University

“I’m feeling 42”: A Senior Swiftie’s “Friendship Bracelet Test” for Finding a Belonging in Enchanted Moments while Shaking Off the Hate, Hate, Hate

Lauren Burrow laurenburrowedd@yahoo.com

The Eras Tour: An Exercise of Engineering in the Arts

Eleanor Williams UC San Diego

Empowering Eras: A Cultural Critique of Taylor Swift’s Eras Tour as a Multi-Generational Phenomenon

Skyleur Prince loyola marymount university

Visual Arts 4: The Power of Collective Resistance

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon G

Moderator: Sandra Williams, University of Nebraska Lincoln

Empowering through Art

Elizabeth Gonzalez Our Lady of the Lake University/Texas Southmost College

Can zines save democracy? Artistic activism in a time of electoral crisis

Bronwyn Mauldin bronwynmauldin@protonmail.com

Black Orchid: Black Queer Liberation Through Art

Lance Smith Artist

Stree Art and Restorative Justice

Sandra Williams University of Nebraska Lincoln

War & Culture 2: War in/as Popular Culture

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon E

Moderator: Julia Lange, Hamburg University

Graphic Novels/Comics/Films Skewer Military Ideologies

Myra Tatum Salcedo Independent Scholar

Orchestrated Violence: The Communal Experience of Horror

Tom Jacobs tj201@nyu.edu

Memory, Silence, and the Paraguayan War in R. B. C. Graham’s “A Meeting” (1912)

Aaron Landau Ben Gurion of the Negev

We were victims, too! German American WWII internment narratives and the memory of the Holocaust

Julia Lange Hamburg University

Women, Gender, & Sexuality 3: As Seen Behind the Lens

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Carlsbad

Moderator: Emma Delight, Texas Tech University

Secret Identities and The Trans Body: Spider Gwen as a Trans-Women in Spider Man: Across the Spider Verse

Emma Delight Texas Tech University

Gender is a Major Piece of Evidence: A Rhetorical Analysis of the Menendez Brothers' Case

David Corwin dcorwin@gmu.edu

The Feminist Dimensions of Hustlers: A Critical Analysis

Maria Ortega Texas Tech University

To Undo or Be Undone: Social Regression, Misogyny and Unmasking the Abject in Alex Garland's Men

Katherine Brizendine Dallas College & University of Texas at Arlington

Esotericism, Occultism, and Magic 5: Roundtable: Magical Generation, Esoteric Intelligence, and Occult Artifice

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 8:15 pm - 10:00 pm, Salon C & D

Moderator: Eric Millikin, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Kachine Moore University of Glasgow

Karin Valis Gnostic Technology

Matthew Cangiano Gnostic Technology

Gabriela Bezakova Gnostic Technology

Tom Banger Self-affiliated

This roundtable will investigate intersections between artifice, intelligence, generation and generativity, and esoteric, occult, and magical practices and worldviews. The capabilities of creating life, creating intelligence, and creating intelligent life hold a fascination and allure that cuts through and across worldview categories and the genres through which they are popularly represented in secular fiction, religious text, and traditional mythology alike. Whether physically formed, fashioned, molded, or crafted by divinity, demonic or diabolical agencies, or the tricksters beyond and between, the narratives concerning the mystery of human origins have provided inspiration and counterpoint for narratives and endeavors concerning human as the origin of new created life, sometimes gifted with intelligence, sentience, and even sapience.

DRAFT SCHEDULE – SWPACA 2025 CONFERENCE AS OF 12-18-23

Screening: Annual Noir Night: The Red House (1947)

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 8:15 pm - 10:00 pm, Las Cruces

Moderator: Matthew Kelley, Shelton State Community College

Another SWPACA tradition returns with Noir screening night! This year's film is 1947's *The Red House* with Edward G. Robinson, Lon McCallister, and Judith Anderson. Hailed by Martin Scorsese as one of the best noir melodramas ever made, and widely considered a classic, it features Edward G. Robinson's character Pete Holmes keeping secrets from his adopted teen daughter Meg, terrible secrets of screams in the night from *The Red House*! Your host, Dr. Matthew Kelley, will have some introductory remarks, and there will be a general discussion and fun trivia contest to follow with noir themed prizes! Please join us for what promises to be another interesting evening as we return with the "usual suspects" at SWPACA 2025 to investigate the place of Noir in popular culture.

Special Session on Educational Freedom and Censorship: Perspectives from the Frontlines

Wed, 02/19/2025 - 8:15 pm - 10:00 pm, Salon F

Moderator: Ashley Johnson, unaffiliated

Khrisma McMurray Indiana University Indianapolis

Wesley Jacques Wheaton College

Elizabeth Vest Pleasant Valley Middle School

Megan Riddle Colorado Mesa University

This Special Topics Session will address the rising challenges of political and parental interference in K-12 education, focusing on its impact across core curriculum areas, including books and literature, history, government, economics, and other subjects essential to fostering critical thinking and civic engagement. As debates over curriculum content intensify, educators and communities face increasing pressure to navigate book bans, restricted classroom discussions, and the politicization of teaching materials.

Area Chair Breakfast and Business Meeting

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 8:00 am - 9:30 am, Acoma

Moderator: SWPACA Executive Team

Business meeting and breakfast for SWPACA Area Chairs, hosted by the Executive Team. All Area Chairs are encouraged to attend.

Adaptation: Literature, Film, & Culture 2: Gender and Indigenous Stories

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon A & B

Moderator: Amy Fatzinger, University of Arizona

Poor Things–The Woman’s Body and Sexuality

Chien Chien Li New York University

The Haunting is a Circle: Cycles of Femininity, Domesticity, and (In)Dependence in The Haunting of Hill House and Its Adaptations

Olivia Noriega onorieg2@asu.edu

Deer Woman Lives: Transforming Tradition and Liberating Voices in Indigenous Literature and Popular Culture

Yingwen Yu Texas Christian University

“I merely wanted to tell a tale our ancestors would have been proud of”: Modern Adaptations of Tricksters and Monsters in Drew Hayden Taylor’s Novels

Amy Fatzinger University of Arizona

Chican@ Literature, Film, & Culture 3: Community & Resistance

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon J

Moderator: Myriah Gomez, University of New Mexico

“If we were in Mexico”: Mestiza oppositional consciousness in family negotiations of (dis)ability

Cindy Rauth Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies Program University of Arkansas

Magnifying Leadership within the Workforce for the Latino Community

Brittany Munoz-garcia bmunozgarcia@gwacademy.org

Not Just a Telenovela: Examining the Historical Legacy of Telenovelas and its Impact on the Identities of Oppressed Communities

Jose Amaro California State University, Northridge

"You can feel like you belong in safe places": Defining Servingness in Hispanic Serving Institutions Through a Photovoice Study

Jolina Lopez Texas Tech University

Esotericism, Occultism, and Magic 6: Occult Legacies

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon C & D

Moderator: George Sieg, Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

The Modern Occult Novel: Imagining Inner Christianity in the British Fin de Siècle and Beyond

Zane Johnson University of Denver/Iliff School of Theology

All the Golden Tablets: The Literature-Religion Dialectic in the Work of ETA Hoffmann

Tommy Cowan tpcowan@fsu.edu

Baptisms for the Undead: Occult Hyperreality and Mormon Identity in W. H. Pugmire’s “Recompense of Sorrow”

Scott Maybell University of Oxford, St John's College

Aleister Crowley in Yu-Gi-Oh!

Andrew Chen Minnesota State University Moorhead

Food and Culture 1: Identity, Pleasure, and the Body

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon I

Moderator: Ami Comeford, Utah Tech University

Reclaiming Heritage: Food, Identity, and Modernity in the Borderlands

Lois Stanford New Mexico State University

Food for Thought, Food for Life: Doris Dörrie's Ways of Cooking Your Life

Erika Nelson Mukherjee nelsone@union.edu

Food and the 'Edible' Bodies in Octavia Butler's Fiction

Bishnu Pada Roy Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Chocolate: The Magical Enchantment of Pleasure

Ami Comeford Utah Tech University

Game Studies, Culture, Play & Practice 5

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Santa Fe

Moderator: Ken McAllister, University of Arizona

Playing at White Supremacy: Memes, Humor, and History in Paradox Interactive's Gaming Community

Doug Stark University of Texas at Arlington

Walkers and Watchers: Affective Horror and the Politics of Cross-Racial Identification in Telltale's The Walking Dead

Penelope Ingram pingram@uta.edu

"Flat butt gaming has taken over": Affective Publics and Discursive Patterns of the Manosphere within Gaming

Kristen Spaeth University of Texas at Arlington

Graphic Novels, Comics, & Popular Culture 2: New Explorations in the DC Universe

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon H

Moderator: Robert Peaslee, Texas Tech University

Fraggin' the Superhero Genre: Satire, Parody, and Carnival in DC's Lobo

Ryan Johnson Dallas College

A Return to Sparta: Helen Reimagined in Leigh Bardugo's Wonder Woman

Haley Mimms haleymimms@gmail.com

Truth, Justice, and Corn Nuts: Advertisements in Superman Comics

Joshua Imken The University of Kansas

Masculinity in the Modern Gotham/Batman Multiverses

John Rose University of Texas at Arlington & Dallas College

Grateful Dead 5: Taping and the Grateful Dead

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Cimarron

Moderator: Joe Jupille, Institute for Jerry Garcia Studies

The Grateful Dead and the Logic of Good Reasons

Noah Franken West Texas A&M University

Experience and Memory in the Taper's Section

Robert Drew rdrew@svsu.edu

Tape Archaeology: Making Sense of Jerry Garcia's Personal Tape Collection

Joe Jupille Institute for Jerry Garcia Studies

Horror 1: Robert Eggers

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon E

Moderator: Tony Perrello, Stanislaus State University

'Your bear-minds burn in the bodies of men': Abysmal Horrors in The Northman

Tony Perrello Stanislaus State University

Myth, Madness, and Metaphor: Narrative Depth and Allusive Horrors in Robert Eggers' The Lighthouse

Julian Saenz-payne jjsp914@gmail.com

A New Trip to the Land of Phantoms: Reviving the Vampire in Robert Eggers' Nosferatu

Nathan Wilke University of Nevada, Reno

The Horror of the Nuclear Family in Robert Eggers' The VVitch

Reagan Oliveira California State University Stanislaus

Myth and Fairy Tales 2: The Heroine and The Beast

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon G

Moderator: Sheila Dooley, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

The Wolf as Bodily Liberation

Mary Beth Kemp University of Arkansas

Tales as Old as Time: Gender Norms and Disney's Reinforcement of Traditional Roles

Hannah-grace Bolting hgbolting@gmail.com

A Poetics of Abjection within Sylvia Plath's Juvenalia

Maximilien Vis The University of Texas, Permian Basin

Greek Myths in Claudia Piñeyro's recent novels

Carolina Rocha Parkland College

Pedagogy & Popular Culture 4: Reframing Popular (Culture) Narratives

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Las Cruces

Moderator: Kurt Depner, New Mexico State University

An Analysis of Water in Avengers: Endgame

Maria Eloisa Nuguid Purdue University

Panels, protests, and politics: Teaching strategies for reading racism and reframing resistance in comic books on civic engagement and social movements

Brandon Hollingshead bph@yorku.ca

University Library, Professional Development, and Gen Z Relevance

Nancy Barron Northern Arizona University

Using Custom Course Evaluations in Student-centered Learning Environments

Cloyce Kuhnert West Texas A&M University

Christopher Meerdink West Texas A&M University

Taylor Swift and Swiftie Studies 2: Parasocial Relationships

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon F

Moderator: Brian Donovan, University of Kansas

Parasocial Relationships in the Taylor Swift Fandom: A Tripartite Perspective

Brian Donovan University of Kansas

Taylor Swift and Parasocial Relationships: The Impact on Identity of Women

Marley Chavarria marleyc725@gmail.com

The “Authentic” Gen Z Pop Star: Taylor Swift’s Politics in the Rise of Anti-Media Training

Ashton Wronikowski Clemson Student

"With No One Around To Tweet It:" Narrative Ambiguity and Parasocialism Through Folklore

Audrianna Witcher Clemson University

Women, Gender, & Sexuality 5: Why are we Still Talking About This in 2024? Because it's Still Happening.

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Carlsbad

Moderator: Ramona Burns, United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians

Why can't we talk about the truth? Sexual assault in a rural community

Chloe Kirk United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma

Developing safe-dar instead of gay-dar; Growing up queer in small town Oklahoma

Aidan Drain aidandrain@cavesprings.k12.ok.us

How a girl living with very traditional expectations became a very untraditional state champion weightlifter

Emily Newman United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians

Chican@ Literature, Film, & Culture 4: Legacies

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon J

Moderator: Amanda Belantara, New York University

Bibliopolítica: Documenting the History of the Chicano Studies Library.

Amanda Belantara New York University

Lillian Castillo-Speed UC Berkeley

Richard Chabrán UCLA / UC Berkeley, University of Arizona

Passing Chicano Literature on to New Generations: Archival Research on Rudolfo Anaya's Student Course Evaluations

Charlotte Auh cauh@unm.edu

New Mexican Girls as Storytellers - Comparing Anaya's "Serafina" to American Girl's "Josefina"

Madison Hogans University of New Mexico

Esotericism, Occultism, and Magic 8: Mantics, Mermaids, and Chainsaws

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon C & D

Moderator: Elizabeth Sanderson, Oakton College

Exploring the Attitudes and Perceptions of Tarot as a Holistic Healing Journey from the Experiences of Practitioners and Clients: An Ethnographic Study

John Cann Eastern New Mexico University

"The work of remembrance": Shamanism and Buddhism in Sumi Hahn's The Mermaid from Jeju

Chris Kocela ckocela@gsu.edu

From Keris to Athame: Witchcraft, Dreaming and Malay Magic

Douglas Farrer Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg

"Everything means something": Occultism and Folk Horror in The Texas Chain Saw Massacre (1974)

Kristen Gragg University of Pittsburgh

Film Studies 3: Cinematic Representation, Past and Present

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon A & B

Moderator: Derrick Byrd, Abilene Christian University

Another Sister Act? The Troubling History of Black Characters in Catholic Films

Eleanor Nickel Fresno Pacific University

Racial Alienation in Alien: Romulus (2024)

Derrick Byrd dlb23a@acu.edu

Hollywood's Myth of Inclusivity: The Greatest Showman as a Disguised Modern White Savior Film

Eun Hye Lee Ewha Womans University

The Misrepresentation of American Sign Language and Deaf Culture in Mainstream Film Media

Katherine Hamilton University of Texas at Arlington

Food and Culture 2: Food and Class

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon I

Moderator: Ami Comeford, Utah Tech University

Who's On the Menu: Class and Labor in Recent Culinary Films

Keene Short University of Southern Indiana

Beyond Sustenance: Unpacking Caste and Identity in Dalit Kitchens of Marathwada

Vaibhavi Chaturvedi vaibhavi@unc.edu

Class, Colonialism, and Suicide on Anthony Bourdain's Bookshelf

Carl Warmuth University of New Mexico

Game Studies, Culture, Play & Practice 6

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Santa Fe

Moderator: Ryan Moeller, utah state university

Leaning into the Limitations of Physical Gamebooks

Jeremy Johnson St. Edward's University

Democratizing the Museological Visitor Experience: The Digital Reproduction of a French House Museum by Way of The Sims 2

Nina Kirkegaard nina2@utexas.edu

The Compleat Gamer; or the Contemplative Person's Recreation: Ecology, Self, and Society in Modern Fishing Games

Christopher Morrow University of Texas Permian Basin

Graphic Novels, Comics, & Popular Culture 3: Memory and (Graphic)

Memoir

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon H

Moderator: Robert Peaslee, Texas Tech University

Bodies and boats: vessels of memory in Thi Bui's The Best We Could Do

Andrea Tran Claremont Graduate School

Memory in the Gutters: A reading of graphic memoirs

Ishita Sehgal isehgal@iu.edu

Unveiling Freedom of Choice: Persepolis, Graphic Memoir, Gender Apartheid and a Women's Revolution

David Seelow Nevada State University

Grateful Dead 6: Roundtable: (Re)Thinking Grateful Dead Studies

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Cimarron

Moderator: Barry Barnes, Retired

Julie Delong Independent Scholar
Barry Barnes Retired
Susan Balter-reitz Montana State University Billings

This round table will share experiences from 3 Grateful Dead researchers who have come multiple times to the Grateful Dead Scholars Caucus (GDSC) in Albuquerque and/or the national Grateful Dead Studies Association (GDSA). Each of us has taken our passion for the Grateful Dead and it's music to drive our research skills studying the band and its organization. Today we hope to show those here how they may follow their music passion and become stronger researchers, and offer advice to novice presenters and audience members on how to refine their work for publication.

Horror 2: Fungal Horror

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon E

Moderator: Kyle William Bishop, Southern Utah University

Poe's Fungal Turn: The Mycological Horror of T. Kingfisher's What Moves the Dead

Kyle William Bishop Southern Utah University

Mold Mitigation: The Intersectional Feminism of Mexican Gothic and the Evolution of the Modern Female Gothic

Charla Strosser charlastrosser@suu.edu

Re-Writing the Monster: Mycological Maleficence in ANNIHILATION

Todd Petersen Southern Utah University

I Am Not Returning Home: Revisiting Jeff VanderMeer's Southern Reach Quartet

Hans Staats Austin Waldorf School

Literature 2: Cultural Identities

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon G

Moderator: Samantha Lay, Meridian Community College

The Fragmented Identity in the Arab World in Saleem Haddad's Guapa

Majed Alenezi Northern Border University

War Ecology and Ecophobia in Numair Atif Choudhury's Babu Bangladesh!

Muhammad Manzur Alam malam@uiwtx.edu

Documenting Domesticity in The Captivity of the Oatman Girls

Laurie Lowrance Schreiner University

Deep Love: The transformative power of queer love in "The Deep"

Tiziana Friedman University of New Mexico

Pedagogy & Popular Culture 5: Cultivating Self Through Expressive Writing and AI Imaging in Integrated Communities

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Las Cruces

Moderator: Dawn Armfield, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Prescott

Shadow Armfield Northern Arizona University
Dawn Armfield Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Prescott
James Ingram Northern Arizona University
Andrew Oxley Northern Arizona University

Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ID) often live without having control within their lives. Using AI technologies allows individuals with ID the opportunity to create a world where they have a voice within a community. Within the context of creative expression, AI provides a platform where any participant has the ability to present themselves however they choose. This sense of empowerment allows individuals with ID to enter an equitable space with peers of any ability. It is our expectation that this new sense of empowerment will be reflected across a variety of environments for adults with ID.

Taylor Swift and Swiftie Studies 3: Literary Connections and Interpretations

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon F

Moderator: Meg Wesling, UC San Diego

‘I don’t belong, and, my beloved, neither do you’: (Anti)Utopia and Narratives of Escape in Taylor Swift

Keyona Fazli University of St Andrews

“What Died Didn’t Stay Dead”: Gothic Features in Taylor Swift’s Discography

Harmony Chillas learynn@gmail.com

Who’s Taylor Swift Anyway? An Examination of Reinvention, Jungian Literary Archetypes, and Celebrities in Their Storyteller Eras

Elizabeth Feins Florida Gulf Coast University

“Heteropessimist Commiseration and Popular Feminism in Taylor Swift Fan Culture”

Meg Wesling UC San Diego

The American West 1: The West in Fiction

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Acoma

Moderator: Larry Van Meter, Blinn College

The American West through Lonesome Dove

Catherine Nutter Oklahoma State University

Vanquishing Oppressive Binaries: How “My Antonia” Critiques Gender Expectations Through the Gender Fluidity of Characters

Gabriela Bustillo-herrera igb20a@acu.edu

State(s) of the Nation: Regionalism and the Recurrence of the Wagons West series

Abel Fenwick University of Arkansas

John S. McClintock and the Myths and Making of Deadwood

Laura Beard University of Alberta

Women, Gender, & Sexuality 8: Framing the Body

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Carlsbad

Moderator: Kathleen Eck Thorman, Saint Louis University

She's Crazy: The Cultural and Medical Language of Madwomen from the Victorian Era to Today

Kathleen Eck Thorman Saint Louis University

The Complex Relationship of Trauma, Trauma-informed care and Gender; Addressing The Gendered Aspects Of Trauma And Trauma-Informed Care

Princess Egoh princesssegoh@gmail.com

The Role of TikTok Influencers Toward Sexual Illiteracy; A Discourse Analysis Study

Mona Othman University of New Mexico

Psychology and Popular Culture 1: Gender in Online Spaces

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon J

Moderator: Matthew Kelley, Shelton State Community College

Lions and Tigers and Bears... and Men? Oh My! Exploring Fear, Perception, and Social Media Trends

Alicia Macchione WTAMU

Engaging and Escaping Through Erotica: Exploring the Pros and Cons of Reading Erotic Literature

Kiley Clendennen kjclendennen1@buffs.wtamu.edu

Unpacking Online Paranoia: Women's Engagement with Domestic Conspiracy Theories

Ashley Pinkham West Texas A&M University

Traditional Masculinity Ideologies and Men's Mental Health

Jordan Smith University of Texas at Dallas

Alfred Hitchcock 1: Zones of Suspension

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon A & B

Moderator: Michael Howarth, Missouri Southern State University

Before I Ate: Consumption and Structural Discontinuity in Psycho

Tim Galow Carroll U

Beyond the Climax: Jouissance and the Death Drive in Alfred Hitchcock's Rope

Jason Montoya montojmm@gmail.com

The Strange Meeting: Poetics of Omission, Obliteration, and Longing in Hitchcock's The Birds

Corinne Dekkers Southern Illinois University Carbondale

The Man Who Heard Too Little: From Textual to Sonic Suspense in The Man Who Knew Too Much (1934, 1956)

Junha Jung University of Oregon

Janet Cho Willamette University

Children’s/Young Adult Culture 2: Shaping Voices: Agency, Trauma, and Cultural Narratives in Younger Children’s Media

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon G

Moderator: Diana Dominguez, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Unlocking Conversations: Using Picture Books as Tools for Tackling Tough Topics

Khrisma McMurray Indiana University Indianapolis

On the Rise: Consent and Body Autonomy in Children's Picture Books

Megan Riddle megstraw11@gmail.com

Cuteness Challenge: Politicized Aesthetics and Inequities of Book Bans

Wesley Jacques Wheaton College

Unpacking the Unseen: The Impact of Hidden Trauma in Media for Young Girls

Jena Cordle Marshall University

Creative Writing 1: Narrative 1

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Cimarron

Moderator: Alissa Simon, Harrison Middleton University

Mystic Salvation

Judith White University of New Mexico

The Cheese Monger's Daughter Excerpt

Joshua Kampe joshua_kampe@student.friends.edu

The Personified Impersonal

Alissa Simon Harrison Middleton University

Of Friends and the Undead

Jiovanna Perez South Texas College

Esotericism, Occultism, and Magic 9: Preternatural (Un)Death and Transmortality

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon C & D

Moderator: George Sieg, Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

Death & Afterlife in Edgar Allan Poe’s Short Stories

Linyan Zheng Rice University

The Cosmic Undead? Ascended Master Saint Germain, Alchemical Spiritual Praxis, and Aspirational “Transmortality”

Madeline Duntley dmadeli@bgsu.edu

The Undead in Literature and Visual Media

Connie Nugent Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

Street drugs and the zombie phenotype

Kenneth Nugent Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

Horror 3: Women of Substance

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon E

Moderator: Lauren Phillips, University of Arkansas

The Devil's Tits: The Older Woman in Horror Cinema

Occulta Dama Manchester metropolitan university

The Substance: The Strange Case of Elisabeth Sparkle and Sue

Dustin Dunaway dustin.dunawaypcc@gmail.com

There's Something Wrong with Esther: "Orphan" and a Decade of Uncanny Inversions

Lauren Phillips University of Arkansas

Female Gothic Writers Write Feminine Body Horror

Brenna Franklin University of Texas at Arlington

Humor and Comedy in Popular Culture 3: Roundtable: Dead Funny: Culture at the Intersection of Humor and Horror

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon H

Moderator: Jeremy Vaughan, Independent scholar

Myra Tatum Salcedo Independent Scholar

Tony Perrello Stanislaus State University

Arlo Gross Concordia University

Hans Staats Austin Waldorf School

David Scott Diffrient Colorado State University

Though the coexistence of horror and humor may seem counterintuitive, both share a wide variety of functions—from the transgressive to the cathartic—within popular culture. While the horror film's thematic preoccupations with death and violence are no laughing matter, it's difficult to find a horror film that is grimly and deliberately unfunny. Comedy, by the same token, frequently ventures into dark territory. With a wide field of texts to choose from, this roundtable will explore the horrific in comedy, and the comedic in horror.

Sociology of Popular Culture 1: Representation, Social Media and Meaning

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon I

Moderator: Bruce Day, Central Connecticut State University

From Chart-toppers to Classrooms: Media Coverage of Sociology Pop Music Courses

Jacob Arndt Emory University

Zoe Grotjan Emory University

Devon Goss Oxford College of Emory University

Spectacularly Newsworthy: How Media Representations of Fake and Unqualified Sign Language

Interpreters are Addressed in News Media

Ryan Kraft kraftryan@gmail.com

Hallowed Halls: Representations of Elite Universities in Fiction

Anastasia Kulpa University of Alberta

Social Media and the emergence of GLP1 influencers

Patricia Dekeseredy West Virginia University

Taylor Swift and Swiftie Studies 5: Taylor as Text

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon F

Moderator: Jay Jolles, The College of William and Mary

Haters Gonna Hate: A Critical Musicological Study of Taylor Swift's Dichotomous Personas

Emma Cortelyou Western Illinois University

Rethinking "Gaylor": The Problematic Nature of Queerbaiting Accusations in the Swiftie Fandom

Jessica Johnson johnson.jessi@northeastern.edu

This is Why We Can't Have Stuff: Curriculum: Teaching Swift Alongside Classics in High School English Classrooms

Mahailey Oliver Stephen F. Austin State University

The Classroom Era: Critical Reflections on Teaching Taylor Swift

Jay Jolles The College of William and Mary

Television 1: Television as Social Commentary

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Las Cruces

Moderator: Melanie Cattrell, Blinn College

"You're actually gonna pay me?" Latino Markets and its Working Class

Alex Vazquez Syracuse University

Prism of aesthetic refracting race - negotiating aesthetic choices to unpack the racial dynamics through supper elements in TVD

Asmita Hati asmitahati09@gmail.com

Aishiki Bandyopadhyay student

Early Environmental Satire on TV: The Dinosaurs

Linda Hess University of Augsburg

Understanding Zombie Apocalypse Through Ancient Wisdom

Julia Giacomet Thomazoni Texas Tech University

Luana Peters Garcia Buriche Coutinho Texas Tech University

The American West 2: Place and Identity

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Acoma

Moderator: Larry Van Meter, Blinn College

"A Wayward Geography: Time in Judith Freeman's Red Water and Space in Mountain Meadows"

Remy Barnes University of Southern California

Pacific Paniolos: A Historical Analysis of "Aloha Rodeo" and the Hawaiian Cowboys Who Competed in Cheyenne's 1908 Frontier Days, Highlighting Themes of Identity

Mackenzi Butson mackenzicareer@gmail.com

Representational Architecture of Frontier Communities

Sean Williams University of West Florida

Centering the Work of Diverse Identities on a City Commission

Precious Yamaguchi Southern Oregon University

Asian Popular Culture / Asian American Experiences 1: Nostalgia, Afro-Anime, Colorism, and Historical Fantasy

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon G

Moderator: Jered Mabaquiao, UT Arlington

Onigiri and Nostalgia: A Comparison of Kamome Diner and Spirited Away

Sophie Calderon University of Southern California

The Afro-Anime Initiative: Growing Similarities Between East-Asian and Afro-centric Comic Aesthetics

Oluwafunmilayo Akinpelu akinpeluoluwafunmilayo@gmail.com

Black in Bollywood

Ketaki Deshpande University of Arkansas

The Poppy Wars as a Textbook: Decolonization through Historical Fantasy

Alyssa Froemel East Carolina University

Creative Writing 2: Poetry 1

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Cimarron

Moderator: John M. Yozzo, retired

Gravity: A poetry reading

Courtney Huse Wika Black Hills State University

Lighter Poems for Night Terrors

John M. Yozzo johnmyozzo@att.net

New Poems

Joseph Chaney Indiana University South Bend

Digital and Analog Cultures 5: Roundtable: Access, Affect, and Ethics: The Pros and Cons of AI in Podcasting

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Acoma

Moderator: Amelia Chesley, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Caroline Koons Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Prescott

Amelia Chesley Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Phil Chauveau Embry-Riddle Aeronautical

This roundtable panel will grapple with the diverse ways AI is being used in podcasting, with particular focus on questions of accessibility, representation, music and other non-speech content, media literacies, and ethics.

Esotericism, Occultism, and Magic 12: The Gnosis, Falsely So Called?

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon C & D

Moderator: George Sieg, Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

The Deficiency of Sophia in the Valentinian Tripartite Tractate as a Mystery of the Self-Deified: Paper as Mutation

Alana Eisenbarth Rice University

Jung's Dilemma Regarding the Afterlife and the Spirit World

Dionysios Psilopoulos triptolemos@acg.edu

Reverse Gnosis & the Fragmented Digital self

Michael Barros Independent

Sex, Lies, and Spiritualism

Mary Ann Scott University of West Florida

Film Studies 4: Film Genres, Style, and Authorship

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon A & B

Moderator: Wyatt Phillips, Texas Tech University

Recommendations System, Secret Codes, and Industrial Structures: Netflix's Utilization of Genre

Wyatt Phillips Texas Tech University

City of Stars & Delusion: A Formal Color Analysis of Damien Chazelle's "La La Land"

Molly Pruetz MKPrue4744@schreiner.edu

Collaboration and Auteurism: Comparative Study of Cillian Murphy & Christopher Nolan and Song

Kang-ho & Bong Joon-ho

Jeewon Chon University of Massachusetts Amherst

Reality Bites: Examining Generation X through Cinematic Self-Portrayal

Christian Chambless Texas Tech University

Game Studies, Culture, Play & Practice 7

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Santa Fe

Moderator: Jennifer Dewinter, Illinois Institute of Technology

Levels of Accessibility: Reframing Elite and Pro Controllers as Accessibility Devices

Victoria Braegger Missouri University of Science and Technology

Bargaining with Foreign Gods: Embodying and Reframing Mental Illness in Hellblade: Senua's Sacrifice

Saramanda Swigart sswigart@ucsc.edu

Representations of Psychosis in Gaming: An Analysis of Hellblade: Senua's Sacrifice

Stephen Park Texas Christian University

Wendi Sierra Texas Christian University

Ways of Journeying: Embodiment and Disability Justice in Wanderhome

Raegan Harvey Texas Woman's University

Graphic Novels, Comics, & Popular Culture 4: Disruptive and Emancipatory Strategies in Graphic Storytelling and Assemblage

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon H

Moderator: Robert Peaslee, Texas Tech University

Caroline Cash and the Value of the Low

Kenneth Oravetz University of New Mexico

‘Cause Papers are Boring: The Benefits of Offering Zines as an Alternative Final Assignment

Meshell Sturgis msturgis@unm.edu

The Place Keeps Score: Retelling Queer BIPOC Stories at the University of Maryland

Roshida Herelle University of Maryland, College Park

Code Shift: Popular Culture in Special Collections

Mark Peterson George Mason University

Horror 4: Queering Horror

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon E

Moderator: Ryan Glover, University of Arkansas

Drag Monsters: Connecting Queerness and Horror in Dragula and Frankenstein

Ryan Glover University of Arkansas

Queering the child in horror cinema — locating Otherness. Destabilising the heterosexual reproductive imperative through the representation of monstrosity in childhood in *Village of the Damned*, *It’s Alive!*, and *The Omen*

Arlo Gross arlo.gross@hotmail.com

Queering Clive Barker’s *Hellraiser*: an Analysis of Desubjectification

Marley Goldman Emory University

Monstrosity and Marginalization: Female Experience in Frankenstein Through Botting’s Lens

Madsion Lynae Ochoa The University of Texas at Arlington

Professional Development: Publishing with Academic Presses

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon F

Moderator: Elise Mchugh, University of New Mexico Press

From a revised dissertation to a senior scholar’s latest book, memoirs and novels to guidebooks, university presses are an important part of the publishing world but can seem difficult to navigate. Elise McHugh, humanities editor at the University of New Mexico Press, will demystify the process of what UNM Press and university presses in general are looking for, how to submit your proposal, and what to expect when working with an academic publisher.

Psychology and Popular Culture 2: Creativity, Identity, and Communities

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon J

Moderator: Matthew Kelley, Shelton State Community College

The Unconscious Appeal of the Unicorn Symbol to Neurodivergent Communities

Alicia Anderson Independent

Transpersonal Facilitation for Creatives

Jules Kennedy jules@juleskennedy.com

GirlBosses, Leaning In, and the Whitewashing of the Female Entrepreneurs' Experience

Jacqueline Shaulis National Center for Intersectional Studies

Science Fiction & Fantasy 1: Star Trek

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon I

Moderator: Aaron Adair, MIT

Star Trek, The United States, and Cultural Change

Jeff Hirsch University of Southern Mississippi

It's Autism, Dear Data: An Examination of Autistic Coding and Experience in Star Trek: The Next Generation's Commander Data

Danika Brabec dbrabec@fortlewis.edu

Libraries Evolved – LIS Research on Library Development Meets Images of Libraries in Star Trek to Form Dreams for Justice in our InfoFuture

Michelle Vannatta Dominican University

Memes and Metaphor: Allusions to The Epic of Gilgamesh in Star Trek: The Next Generation

Ryanne Ross Abilene Christian University

Television 2: Gender, Age, and Queerness on TV

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Las Cruces

Moderator: Linda Hess, University of Augsburg

“Think Easy, She Said”: Translating Japanese Queer Culture in Netflix's “The Boyfriend”

Donna Knaff Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

“We Contain Multitudes”: Muslim Women, Feminism, and Queer Identity in the BBC's We Are Lady Parts

Katherine Lehman klehman@albright.edu

“I'm not middle-aged...I'm still young and beautiful”: Televisual Representations of Female Middle-Age in Disney+/Hulu's Rivals

Melanie Cattrell Blinn College

“Because I look so aged”: Thomas Hardy, Jude the Obscure, Broadchurch, and Time

Hayley Ellisor Blinn Community College, Texas, Faculty

Women, Gender, & Sexuality 4: Violence Against the Mind, Body, and Soul

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Carlsbad

Moderator: Anthony Nwanze, Mykolas Romeris University Vilnius

Cultural and Social Determinants of Child Marriage: Lessons from the Global South

Anthony Nwanze Mykolas Romeris University Vilnius

(Un)Drowned: Impossible Death, Feminine Excess and l'Inconnue de la Seine

Oona Cullen obc5@cornell.edu

Living / Dead: The De-gendering of Grief in “The Unquiet Grave”

Kat Gibson University of Maine

U.S. & International Press and its (mis)Coverage of Violence Against Women

Laura Torre University of New Mexico

Adaptation: Literature, Film, & Culture 3: Genre

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon A & B

Moderator: Amy Fatzinger, University of Arizona

““Bones and all”: The Cultural and Social Impact of Adaptation”

Roberta Di Carmine Western Illinois University

From Neptune Frost to MartyrLoserKing: Hacking the Rules of Adaptation

Ben Friedman bnf2017@nyu.edu

Literary Adaptation as a Form of Technical Communication

Mariah Hawkins Weber State University & University of Texas at El Paso

I Wanna View Bad Things with You: Adaptation, Rhetorical Refusal, and Gothic-Horror Tropes in True Blood

Rene Hoff North Central Texas College

Asian Popular Culture / Asian American Experiences 2: Hybridity, Representation, Ideological Rigidity, and Misogyny

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon G

Moderator: Elaine Cho, American University

Immigrant Song: Meta-Poesis, Hybridity, and Liminality in Ayesha Raees's Coining a Wish Tower

Daniel Ooi Abilene High School

"a perfect all-american b*tch": Hybridity, Representation, and the Filipino American Body in Olivia Rodrigo's Pop Stardom

Angela Estavillo estaviar@dukes.jmu.edu

The Sympathizer HBO series

Valerie Cato Augusta University

“Oxford should study that shit”: Anti-Asian Tiktok Abuse against Asian Women and the History of Interracial Couples in Media

Diana Zhu University of California Santa Cruz

Consumerism and Culture 1: Traditional America and Modern Consumerism

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Acoma

Moderator: Jillian Viveiros, Texas Woman's University

Pumpkins and Centerpieces and Pies, Oh My!

Jillian Viveiros Texas Woman's University

Buy American, Be American: Republican Selfhood and Consumerism in Mid-Century Magazine Advertising

Autumn Pate autumn.e.pate@gmail.com

Full Metal Metropolis: Guns, Consumer Culture, and the Making of Modern America, 1870-1920

Courtney Slavin Clark University

Creative Writing 3: Narrative 2

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Cimarron

Moderator: Jewell Medina, PHD candidate

Heavy Metal Thunder: Writing about Music

Darci Schummer Colorado State University Pueblo

Limpieza de Sangre: Fiction as Alternative History

Catalina Bartlett catalina.a.bartlett@gmail.com

All Our Value

Jewell Medina PHD candidate

The Conservationist

Nathaniel Weber South Texas College

Esotericism, Occultism, and Magic 13: Diabolical Doubling and the Demonic Other

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon C & D

Moderator: Kachine Moore, University of Glasgow

Singularity of the Devil: Diabolism and Diabolatry at the Crossroads of Mythic Psychohistory, Antagonist Projection, Antinomian Identification, and Preternatural Synergy

George Sieg Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

The Diabolic Messenger: Tutelary Devils in Paulo Coelho's The Pilgrimage

Sebastian Torruella Alvarado storruella.alvarado@gmail.com

Four Stages of Power: The Quadripartite Witch as Metaphysician and Cultural Revolutionary

Kirsten Imani Kasai Emerson College

Political Demonology in Thailand: Linking Sovereignty, Necessity and Grievance

Mark Cogan Kansai Gaidai University

Game Studies, Culture, Play & Practice 8

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Santa Fe

Moderator: David Ogrady, UCLA

"Would You Kindly?": the Denial of Agency in Interactive Storytelling

Kevin Cosby University of California at Berkeley

Consuming Creation: A Paradox of Individualism on Collectivist Narratives in Contemporary Gaming

Kanak Gupta Kmg2126@columbia.edu

Weighted Dice: How Video Games Handle Perceived Probability

Samuel Rowles Utah State University

Metalepsis Through Player Agency: Coding, File Alterations, and Achievements in Video Game

Narratives

Bradley Markle Penn State University

Graphic Novels, Comics, & Popular Culture 5: History of/in Comics

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon H

Moderator: Ben Quail, University of Texas at Austin

Hitler and the Hulk: The Usage of Comic Books as Propaganda During the Second World War

Connor Tully Providence College

"Gimme a hot puppy!": The Dark Optimism of Early Comic Strips

Kevin Scott kscott1@uwf.edu

Supermen vs. Mad Scientists: Cultural Meanings of the Outbreak Narrative in American Superhero
Comic Books (1930s-1980s)

Karolina Kowalska University of Warsaw

Spider-Man's America: The Wall Crawler, War and Popular Culture

Ben Quail University of Texas at Austin

Psychology and Popular Culture 3: Trauma, Drama , and the Intellect

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon J

Moderator: Matthew Kelley, Shelton State Community College

“The Angel's Fall: Castiel and the Exploration of Religious Trauma in Supernatural”

Elizabeth Talbert Winthrop University

Resettlement Realities: Coping with Trauma and Stress for a Yemeni Asylum Seeker

Ifeloluwa Bankole ifeloluwabanky@gmail.com

Fell, Wolfe, Goodwin, and Sternberg Go into a Bar: The Great Detective and the Triarchic Theory of
Intelligence

Matthew Kelley Shelton State Community College

NEXT TO NORMAL: Mental Health and the Musical

Kathleen Potts The City College of New York, CUNY

Science Fiction & Fantasy 2: Ancient World to AI

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon I

Moderator: Lewis Call, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

"Born to Set Our Steel on the Scales of Justice": Feminist Historiography in Kelly Sue DeConnick's Wonder Woman Historia: The Amazons

Lewis Call Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

Watch Out for That Comet! Victorian Science Fiction and the Benevolent Martian Messenger

Kristine Larsen larsen@ccsu.edu

Emotion and Ethics in "Frankenstein" and "Klara and the Sun"

Jae-uk Choo Chung-Ang University

Television 3: Roundtable: Women on the Witches' Road: Representations of Queerness, Aging, and Motherhood in Marvel's Agatha All Along

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Las Cruces

Moderator: Linda Hess, University of Augsburg

Linda Hess University of Augsburg

Katherine Lehman Albright College

Donna Knaff Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

Melanie Cattrell Blinn College

This roundtable provides a critical analysis of Marvel's hit series Agatha All Along, which builds on the success of its predecessor WandaVision. We will discuss how Agatha Harkness' storyline complicates binaries between good and bad mothers, and how nonlinear storytelling challenges conventional portrayals of female aging. However, while Agatha All Along was marketed as a breakthrough for LGBTQ+ representation in the Marvel franchise, the series unwittingly participates in the "bury your gays" media trope, as few witches survive the perilous journey and desire that leads to Agatha's destruction.

Women, Gender, & Sexuality 6: Secret Agency: Women in Movies and in the Stacks

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Carlsbad

Moderator: Serena Richards, Collin College

Where's the Red Flag Guy? Agency in Sarah J. Maas' ACOTAR

Serena Richards Collin College

Final Girls Gone Wild: The Transformation of a Trope in My Heart Is A Chainsaw by Stephen Graham Jones

Kealey Meyer kealeymeyerdg@gmail.com

Her Body, Their Choice: Analyzing Black Widow post-Roe

Abigail Grim Marshall University

Smart Women Reading Trashy Digital Romances about Men Bonking

Syd Mcginley Old Dominion University

Opening Reception: Peter C. Rollins Book and Student Awards Ceremony

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm, Grand Ballroom

Moderator: SWPACA Executive Team

Come join our Executive Staff as we celebrate the official opening of the 46th annual meeting of the Southwest Popular/American Culture Association. Hosted by the Executive Team to honor our conference attendees, light refreshments and beverages will be available. Immediately following the Opening Reception, the winners of the 2025 Peter C. Rollins Book Award and our 2025 Student Paper and Travel Awards will be announced. We welcome all presenters to attend, congratulate these scholars, and recognize their achievement and scholarly contributions to the study of popular and American culture.

8th Annual Game Night!

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 8:15 pm - 10:00 pm, Carlsbad

Moderator: Kurt Depner, New Mexico State University

For the eighth year in a row, we will get our “geek on” in style for our annual Southwest Popular/American Culture Association GAME NIGHT!

Disability Studies 3: Screening: Code of the Freaks

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 8:15 pm - 10:00 pm, Acoma

Moderator: Amelia-Marie Altstadt, University of Illinois at Chicago

Bri Noonan University of Illinois at Chicago

Amelia-Marie Altstadt University of Illinois at Chicago

Sam Weiss University of Illinois, Chicago

Code of the Freaks (2020) is essential viewing for pop culture enthusiasts and scholars alike, introducing outdated disability clichés, hollow inspirational narratives, intersectional conundrums with race, gender, and more in American films depicting disability. By disabled people for disabled people, the documentary captures conversations disabled artists, writers, scholars and activists are having about representations of disability within American film. Code of the Freaks (2020), a 60-minute film, will be followed by a 30-minute discussion facilitated by PhD students in Disability Studies studying media and more under Disability Studies scholars who wrote, produced, and were interviewed in the film.

Nationalism, Anti-Immigrant, Anti-Science, Anti-Union, and Challenges to Higher Education and Diverse Communities in the Current Moment and in Popular Culture

Thu, 02/20/2025 - 8:15 pm - 10:00 pm, Cimarron

Moderator: Margaret Vaughan, Metropolitan State University

Margaret Vaughan Metropolitan State University
Serena Richards Collin College
Kathleen Lacey SWPACA Executive Team
Christopher Carmona Our Lady of the Lake University
Cori Knight University of California Riverside

This open and supportive discussion will focus on the current discourses of the moment and strategies for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) and the impacts on the fields of Ethnic Studies, Indigenous Studies, Gender Studies, and related fields. Bring your real-life issues and pop culture examples that show the impacts on diverse communities, such as immigrant communities. Segments of popular discourses also are veering toward White Nationalism, anti-science, and anti-unionism overall. What is happening on your campus and in your communities? Listen to our panelists' experiences. Bring your thoughts, insights, and expertise to this discussion.

Student Breakfast

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 8:00 am - 9:30 am, Salon F

Moderator: SWPACA Executive Team

Join us for the Annual Student Breakfast, hosted by the SWPACA Executive Team. All graduate and undergraduate students are welcome to attend; bring a friend, enjoy a light breakfast, and network with other emerging scholars.

Apocalypse, Dystopia & Disaster in Culture 1: Humanity Post Event

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Acoma

Moderator: Shane Trayers, Middle Georgia State University

Projection Mapping Godzilla: Postwar Japanese Narratives of Destruction and Reconstruction

Ryan Williams UCSB

Janine Sun University of Southern California

The Anthropocentric Influence on a Post-Apocalyptic Landscape in "The 100"

Kira Nunez ke.nunez99@gmail.com

Profit and Ruin: Capitalism's Role in Shaping Apocalyptic Futures

Rachael Mulvihill Carnegie Mellon University

"It's not the taste; it's the consistency": Supermarkets, Ultra-Processed Food and the End of the World

Shane Trayers Middle Georgia State University

Creative Writing 4: Poetry 2

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Cimarron

Moderator: Paul Juhasz, Seminole State College

The Fires of Heraclitus

Paul Juhasz Seminole State College

Light Bending

William Nevins bill_nevins@yahoo.com

Beyond Language

Terri Cummings Independent Scholar

Esotericism, Occultism, and Magic 7: Roundtable: Magical Games and the Gamefication of Magic

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon C & D

Moderator: Jake Fee, Gnostic Technology

Jacob McElroy University of North Florida

Karin Valis Gnostic Technology

Andrew Chen Minnesota State University Moorhead

Scott Maybell University of Oxford, St John's College

Phil Stevens the University at Buffalo, SUNY

This roundtable will explore the intersection of magic and games from at least two directions. One is the use of, or engagement with, games as or for magical purposes. The other is engagement with magic itself as a game, a game-like activity, or from a perspective influenced or conditioned by the metaphor of games, or perhaps the experience of playing or designing games. These directions meet in a variety of interesting ways worthy of examination. These might include, but are likely not limited to: the use of game structure, symbolism, imagery, aesthetics, and content in magical operations; playing a game as a magical operation; deriving magical models and paradigms from games or game-experiences; the representation of any of these processes within fictional media, as well as the representation of magic and its practice within games and game environments; the projection of magical significance or intention onto games; attempts to magically influence games; the performance of magic competitively or according to voluntary constraints treated in a gamelike manner.

Film & History 2: War and Politics

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon A & B

Moderator: Brad Duren, Tulsa Community College

Audio-Visual World Building in *All Quiet on the Western Front* (1930)

Maritza Medrano University of Arizona

Movie Night in a Border Town: Gallup, NM during WWII

Jennifer Jenkins jenkinsj@arizona.edu

The geopolitical implication of war-time broadcasting system in M*A*S*H during Korean War

Aryong Choi-hantke Institute of Body and Mind

Political Campaigns in early-1990s American Cinema

James Burton Salisbury University

Game Studies, Culture, Play & Practice 9

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Santa Fe

Moderator: Michael Deanda, DePaul University

"Great Idea, Mayor!": Nintendo's Digital Escape through Employment

Autumn Koors-foltz Colorado State University

King's Scab: Economic Chivalry and Immaterial Labor in King's Quest: A Knight to Remember

Kevin Moberly kmoberly@odu.edu

When is the Game not the Game? Dissecting the Commodity Fetishism of Gacha Games and how Late-Capitalist Systems of Exploitation Guide Player Behavior

Devin Hickey Old Dominion University / Incheon National University

Between Loxen and Loddles: Waste, Assets, and Environments in Digital Games

Delores Phillips James Madison University

Horror 5: Theorizing Horror

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon E

Moderator: Matthew Stoddard, University of Toronto

"Of unearthly, of astounding beauty": Horror and Wonder in Lovecraft and Machen

Bryan Counter Western New England University

Negativity and Historicity in *The Omen* (1976)

Matthew Stoddard m.stoddard@utoronto.ca

"Sensing experimental horror: Martin, the moving image and dissensus"

Kacie Allen West Virginia University

Gore, Camp, and Art: Terrifier and the Rise of Splatter

Jonathan Falcon San Francisco State University

Myth and Fairy Tales 3: The Continuing Evolution of Myth and Fairy Tales

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon J

Moderator: Sheila Dooley, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Spoken Vows in Indonesian Myths

Samantha Lim Loyola Marymount University

Medieval Renditions of Little Red Riding Hood

Doaa Omran Domran@unm.edu

The Dream World--Overlap from Myth to Fairy Tale

Juliana Amir Case Western Reserve University

Native American/Indigenous Studies 1: Ecology and Cosmopolitics

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon H

Moderator: Keaton Gregg, Cleveland State University

“¡Todos somos indios!”: Indigenous cosmopolitics in selected American oil boom narratives

Sonia Farid Department of English Language and Literature, Faculty of Arts, Cairo University

Rarámuri correlations with the cultural area of the American Southwest

Marek Halbich marekhalbich@gmail.com

Cultural Watersheds: Indigenous Symbolology and World Views

Jeremy Grundvig Eastern New Mexico University

Science Fiction & Fantasy 3: Queering SFF

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon I

Moderator: Elizabeth LeDoux, Bentley University

Queering the Family in Zoraida Córdova's Labyrinth Lost

Rebekah Rendonn University of New Mexico - Valencia

“You Want Straight Answers, Ask a Straight Lady”: Queer Worldmaking in Wandavision and Agatha All Along

Joey Call jocall304@gmail.com

The Queering and Coupling of Domestic Spaces in "The Last of Us"

Elizabeth LeDoux Bentley University

Shakespeare in Popular Culture 1: Meditations on Macbeth

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon G

Moderator: Ami Comeford, Utah Tech University

Out, Out Damned Spot! and Other Shakespearean Trauma Behaviors

Paula Neeley Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, MN

The Sauce to Meat Is Ceremony

Shay Williams shay.williams@unh.edu

Maiden, Mother? Crone: Witchy Mothers and Mother Witches in 'Macbeth' and 'Agatha All Along.'

Allison Wilson University of Colorado Boulder

Television 4: Televising Symbol and Meaning

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Las Cruces

Moderator: Melanie Cattrell, Blinn College

“The work is mysterious and important”: Apple TV+’s *Severance* as Contemporary Workplace Gothic

Haley Garrelts Texas Tech University

Two Sides of the Same Drachma: Percy Jackson and Luke Castellan’s Character Contrast in Percy Jackson and the Olympians.

Lilly Busatti lilly_busatti@student.friends.edu

Flying Under the Radar: Kite Man and the Depth of Harley Quinn’s Social Commentary

Scott Haugsjaa Florida Gulf Coast University

The Labyrinthine Library in *Star Trek: Discovery*

John Doherty Northern Arizona University

Women, Gender, & Sexuality 7: Screening: Crafting Feminism

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Carlsbad

Moderator: Serena Richards, Collin College

Laura Anh Williams New Mexico State University

Melody Catherine Jonet New Mexico State University

This presentation highlights Feminist Border Arts, a research-creation initiative at New Mexico State University. Through our decade-long festival, the Feminist Border Arts Film Festival, and our Feminist Border Arts Zine Fest (now in its second year), we showcase boundary-pushing films, zines, and featured speakers like feminist killjoy and maximalist artist Allyson Mitchell in 2024 and renowned graphic novelist, podcaster, and zine-maker Nicole J. Georges in 2025. Reflecting on the 2024 festival and previewing the upcoming 2025 event in June, which aligns with Pride month, this session explores how FBA crafts new futures through socially transformative film, media, and collaboration.

Apocalypse, Dystopia & Disaster in Culture 2: Dystopia

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Acoma

Moderator: Shane Trayers, Middle Georgia State University

Crises of Fertility in Dystopic Futures

Bea Joubert Carleton University

They Didn’t Know We Were Seeds: How Sanctuary Represents the Modern Young Adult Dystopia

Emma Bacak ebacak@uark.edu

The Deafening Silence of Rebellion in *The Hunger Games*

Christina Lunsford Tarleton State University

“The Devil”: *Cyberpunk 2077*, Techno-Orientalism, and Ideas of Eastern Dystopia

Isaac Riddle Virginia Tech

Creative Writing 5: Narrative 3

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Cimarron

Moderator: Amy Gottfried, Hood College

A reading from THE BREED

Philip Baruth University of Vermont

House of the Blue Crabs: 2 short ghost stories

Amy Gottfried gottfried@hood.edu

Juliet: A reading of braided essay

Danielle Dubrasky Southern Utah University

Nightmare Aesthetics: Hybridizing the figure of the vulture in Promethean Myth and Ozark Folklore to illustrate trauma.

Constantine Blintzios University of Bristol

Film Studies 6: Roundtable: Cutting Up the Movie Ticket to the Naked Lunch Machine: Cronenberg, Burroughs, Gysin, and Adapting the Third Mind

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon A & B

Moderator: Kachine Moore, University of Glasgow

Payton Mccarty-simas N/A

Noah Mertz University of New Mexico

Kristen Gragg University of Pittsburgh

Candy Minx Esoterica

Leah Slocum Binghamton University

This roundtable examines esoteric, occult, and magical content, interpretations, and applications of David Cronenberg's work, in particular (though not exclusively) his Naked Lunch adaptation, leading to broader examination of Burroughs's and Gysin's cut-up techniques, and related techniques, in the context of film and adaptation. For instance, Assassin's Creed popularized the Burroughsian interpretation of Hassan Sabbah and resulted in a film adaptation, but to what extent did that adaptation also capture anything of the methods and techniques that Burroughs and Gysin associated with their interpretation of the mythology of the hashishin? Most broadly, how are such techniques, and other approaches that they have influenced in the context of esoteric, occult, and/or magical media, reflected in the work of other filmmakers?

Game Studies, Culture, Play & Practice 10

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Santa Fe

Moderator: Bill Carroll, Abilene Christian University

Crippling Play Time

Dylan Miller Bowling Green State University

The Thick Present of Play: Adventures in Teletype and Time-Sharing

Christopher Hanson cphanson@syr.edu

Death of the Sun, Death of Time, Death of the Self: How Shadow of the Tomb Raider Abuses Time

Zachary Roybal N/A

"The Neighbor of the Beast:" Spatiotemporality and Identity Slippage in Remedy's Control

David Pihoda Old Dominion University

Horror 6: Cycles and Conventions

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon E

Moderator: Steffen Hantke, Sogang University

Opportunities, collaborations and success: how French women horror directors found their way across the Atlantic

Emmanuelle Ben Hadj Purdue University

Cli-Fi Disaster and Survival in Weird Western Fiction

Sean Woodard swoodard7326@gmail.com

"It's Not Horror!": Slow Horror, Jeff Nichols' Take Shelter, and Navigating Fan Backlash to Art-Horror Hybrids

Joshua Coonrod Missouri University of Science and Technology

An Apocalypse without Zombies: Alex Garland's Civil War (2024) as Late-Cycle Horror

Steffen Hantke Sogang University

Literature 3: Individual Identities

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon J

Moderator: Samantha Lay, Meridian Community College

A Victim of the American Dream: Anne Sexton's Narcissism, Poetry, and Domestic Life

Samantha Nodine Schreiner University

Hope, Inc.: Welborn Hope as BA Botkin's "Promising" Oklahoma Poet

Cullen Whisenhunt ccwhisenhunt57@gmail.com

The Futility of Zero Sums in "Omelas" and "Harrison Bergeron"

Jon Schreiber Vernon College

Alienists, Occultists, and a "Train Fiend": Occult Detectives in and from "Dracula"

Ben Pascoe West Texas A&M University

Native American/Indigenous Studies 2: Children's Literature and Humor

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon H

Moderator: Margaret Vaughan, Metropolitan State University

PRESERVING THE NATURAL WORLD: HOW MODERN PICTUREBOOKS FOSTER
ECOLOGICAL LITERACY AND PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION IN YOUNG READERS

Elisha Gauthier University of Toronto

Subverting Binaries in Intersections of Cultural Authenticity and Multiracial Identity in Indigenous
Children's Literature

William Boleman WBoleman@sagchip.edu

NDN Humor and Modernism: A Study of Native American Aesthetics in contemporary Native literature
and film

Wendi Lee University of New Mexico

Science Fiction & Fantasy 4: Genre, Place, and Time

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon I

Moderator: Adrienne Domasin, Gamer Scholar

Reading Video Games: An Autoethnographical Approach to The Last of Us' Blend of Gameplay and
Story

April Rogers University of Victoria

Urban Carrots and Rolly Bangs: Strategizing Spaces for Community and Survival in JD Robb and Casey
McQuiston

Kathleen Therrien kathleen.therrien@mtsu.edu

Embodied - Characters' Body Experiences As a Way To Communicate Science Accurately

Breeann = Kyte Kirby PLNU/BSU

I Got So Old: Temporal Islands and Lives Unlived in Science Fiction Television

Jennifer Love University of Michigan

Shakespeare in Popular Culture 2: Identities

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon G

Moderator: Ami Comeford, Utah Tech University

Titus Today: Masculinity, Violence, and American Anxieties in the 1990s

Sophia Johnson The University of Texas at Arlington

SHAKESPEARE'S THREE FACES, LATINO AND LATINX ADAPTATIONS OF HIS PLAYS

Richard Vela vela@uncp.edu

The Othello Figure: Racial Othering in Claudia Rankine's Citizen

Yasmine Nahdi Loyola Marymount University

Colonialism, Race, and Environmental Exploitation: Early Modern Depictions of the Plantationocene in
Shakespeare's The Tempest

Cassidy Wells Florida State University

Taylor Swift and Swiftie Studies 4: Feminism and Female Rage

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon F

Moderator: Kirsten Smart, Friends University student

You Wouldn't Last an Hour in the Asylum Where They Raised Her: Taylor Swift's Relationship to Women's Fame and Longevity in the Entertainment Industry

Kristen Rotherham Old Dominion University

Dissecting Vulnerability and the Concept of "Smallness" in The Smallest Man who ever Lived

Kirsten Smart kirsten_smart@student.friends.edu

Female Rage: An Analysis of The Tortured Poets Department

Chyanne Hodges Friends University

"Is That a Bad Thing to Say in a Song?" Taylor Swift, Florence Welch, and Feminine Monstrosity

Heather Salus Chicago Math and Science Academy

Television 5: Gendered Television

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Las Cruces

Moderator: Melanie Cattrell, Blinn College

THE GIRLS BRING THE LAUGHS: MISOGYNISTIC STEREOTYPES IN YOUNG SHELDON

Judith White University of New Mexico

Guidos and Grenades: Body Shaming Discourses on MTV's Jersey Shore

Aubree Herman aubree.herman@ttu.edu

Mackenzie Mickavicz Texas Tech University

Queering Masculinity in Professional Wrestling

Alyssa Grimley Texas Woman's University

Containment, Contagion, and Chaos: Female Empowerment in Netflix's The Witcher (2021)

Eden Miller Arizona State University

Women, Gender, & Sexuality 9: Things That Go Bump in the Night

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Carlsbad

Moderator: Nancy Rosenberg England, Tarrant County College

Specter-poetics in Manuel Muñoz's, "Zigzagger,"

Trinity Catlin Loyola Marymount University

Challenging Patriarchy: The Early Female Gothic Novel and Charlotte Dacre's Zofloya

Nancy Rosenberg England nancy.England1@tccd.edu

Feminist Translation and Self Narration in Doireann Ní Ghríofa's A Ghost in the Throat (2020)

Smriti Verma Wolfson College, University of Oxford

Adaptation: Literature, Film, & Culture 4: Real World Representation and Impacts

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon A & B

Moderator: Amy Fatzinger, University of Arizona

A Perfect Storm: How Lockdown, Ali Hazelwood and the Destigmatization of Fan Works Led to a Spike in Contemporary Adaptations of Fan Works to Published Romance Novels

Anika Ausness-ayres California Polytechnic University, Pomona

Twinklestar

Jillian St Jacques jillian.stjacques@oregonstate.edu

Contextualizing terrorism, insurgency and geopolitics through the appropriation of William Shakespeare's Hamlet

Malay Mandal Research Scholar, University of Hyderabad

Apocalypse, Dystopia, & Disaster in Culture 3: Hope, Faith, Religion, and the Sublime at the End of the World

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Acoma

Moderator: Shane Trayers, Middle Georgia State University

Rehearsing for the Apocalypse: The Sublime Grotesque in Frank Darabont's The Walking Dead

Eva Hudecova University of Minnesota

The Possibility of Hope in The Road and Parable of the Sower

Winona Doubrava winona.doubrava@ttu.edu

The Eclipse of Humanity: Analyzing Griffith's Role as the Antichrist in Berserk's Apocalyptic World

Zainab Aldaoseri University of Arkansas

The Apocalypse in The Walking Dead: A New Eden-Destruction as a Canvas for Liberation

Rachita Arora Graduate

Biography, Autobiography, Memoir, & Personal Narrative 1: Trauma & Memory

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Carlsbad

Moderator: Sarah Snyder, University of Minnesota

Fairy Tales, Trauma, and Feminist Theory in Jeannette Winterson's Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit and Why Be Happy When You Can Be Normal?

Jay Griffin University of Texas at Dallas

Autobiography or autofiction? Exile, memory, and loss in in María Luisa Elío's "Tiempo de llorar"

Erin Consla econsla@unm.edu

The Prison as Crime Scene and the Force of Narrating Another's Trauma in Prison Literature

Sarah Snyder University of Minnesota

Eco-Criticism & the Environment 1: Our Relations, Distant and Otherwise: Stories of Entanglement

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon I

Moderator: Keri Stevenson, University of New Mexico-Gallup

Diary of the Paraguayan Hammock: An Ecocritical Approach

Marta Del Pozo Ortea University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth

The Friendship of Our Distant Relations: an Ecofeminist Reading of Creatureliness in Marlen Haushofer's *The Wall*

Cynthia Belmont cbelmont@northland.edu

Moving the Dead House of Usher: A (re)situation of mycological subjectivity in T. Kingfisher's *What Moves the Dead*.

Cody Reed Colorado State University

Interrogating the Human "I": The Intersection of Nature and Pop Culture in Ozeki's "A Tale for the Time Being"

Ashelyn Wagner Loyola Marymount University

Esotericism, Occultism, and Magic 11: Africa and Beyond

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon C & D

Moderator: Mara Mbele, Witwatersrand university

Heka: African Magic

Christina Hudson Temple University

Infinite Island: Religion and Caribbean/Afro-Caribbean Artists

Elizabeth Frasco emf348@nyu.edu

"I Don't Feel Nothin', I'm a Human Voodoo Doll": Queenie, Tituba and the Racial and Spatial Politics of the Occult in FX's *American Horror Story: Coven* (2013)

Leah Slocum Binghamton University

Conceptualizing Undeath in African Cosmology through Representations in Popular Culture

Kingsley Ezema University of Ibadan, Institute of African Studies

Horror 7: Otherness

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon E

Moderator: Elizabeth Haas, University of Bridgeport

The Politics of Recycled Aesthetics: Black Voices in Tubi's Horror Cinema

Brock Bizzell University of Texas at Dallas

"Do they have to be black?:" Lupita Nyong'o and *The Quiet Place: Day One*

Elizabeth Haas ehaas@bridgeport.edu

Werewolves and Lycanthropy: The Self-Other

Bradley Duggan Loyola Marymount University

The Haunting of Memory

Taylor Brown University of Arkansas

Linguistics 1: Pedagogy

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon J

Moderator: Lisa Wagner, University of Louisville

Ambiguity in the English Language: Barriers to Comprehension for Non-Native Speakers

Carson Tittle Schreiner University

Multilingual Identities and Pedagogical Practices: Oral History Insights

Kamila Kinyon kkinyon@du.edu

Code-switching in Children's Literature by Juana Medina

Lisa Wagner University of Louisville

Mystery / Detective Fiction 1: Meta-Conversations on Genre and Form

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon F

Moderator: Lexey Bartlett, Fort Hays State University

Tell, Not Show: Dorothy L. Sayers's Use of Dialogue in *Gaudy Night* to Nuance the Feminist Debate

Lauren Bridgeman Abilene Christian University

Lucy Foley and the Contemporary Closed Room Mystery

Candace Nadon canadon@fortlewis.edu

A Doubly Fictional Detective: The Case of Agatha Christie's *Hjerson*

Madeleine Mcquilling Independent

"You've read these kinds of books before": Entering the Depthiness of Metamodernism through

Benjamin Stevenson's *Everyone in My Family Has Killed Someone*

Heather Joyce Northwestern Polytechnic

Native American/Indigenous Studies 3: Matriarchal Justice, the Idea of Natural Rights, and Indigenous Monism

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon H

Moderator: Margaret Vaughan, Metropolitan State University

Thomas Hobbs and American Indians

Stephen Sachs Indiana University-Indianapolis

The Illusion of Death: Southwestern American and Mesoamerican Monism in *Avatar: The Last Airbender* (2008)

Makenzie Morrison mpm18a@acu.edu

Indigenous Matriarchal Justice as Counterpoint to Carceral Feminist Adventure in Issa López's *True Detective: Night Country*

Jessica Maucione Gonzaga University

Pedagogy & Popular Culture 6: Design & Curriculum #1

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Las Cruces

Moderator: Tasha Seegmiller, Southern Utah University

Popular Culture in the Core Curriculum of an Integrated Studies B.A. Program

Eric Otto Florida Gulf Coast University

The Making of a Reader: Curriculum Design to Fill the Gaps

Tasha Seegmiller tashaseegmiller@suu.edu

Popular Cartographies: Mapping Student Learning through Student Created Popular Culture Maps

G Bret Strauch University of Colorado Boulder

Data Visualization: From W. E. B. Dubois to Joe Sacco

Bruce Day Central Connecticut State University

Sports and Popular Culture 1: Kickoff

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon G

Moderator: Stacy Fowler, St. Mary's University

Flying High on Broken Wings: Using Alternative Medicine to Treat Injuries of Performance Artists

Kelly Cresci-fulmer Eastern New Mexico University

Losing the Crown: The Schleck Brothers, Doping, and the Reputation of Failure

Christie Sledge csledge@rangercollege.edu

Seamhead-Style Public Relations: Sabermetric Pedagogy and the Houston Astros Sign-Stealing Scheme

Blake Cameron Carleton University

Goals for Girls: An Exploration of how Girls in Sports are Portrayed in Film

Grace Hepner Friends University

Alfred Hitchcock 2: Math, Madness, and Mimesis

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon A & B

Moderator: Michael Howarth, Missouri Southern State University

Mathematical Mayhem: Spiraling Suspense and Symbolism in Vertigo

Heather Miller Missouri Southern State University

Vertigo as Adaptation: Uncanny Desires and Narratives of the Past

Robert Preslar robert.preslar@gmail.com

Traditional Gender Roles, Psychopathy, and the Uncanny in Alfred Hitchcock's Rebecca and The Lodger

Tessa Eckels Midland College

Apocalypse, Dystopia & Disaster in Culture 4: Thinking about the Unthinkable

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Acoma

Moderator: Alexandra Nakelski, Zeitgeist Film Festival

Thinking about the Unthinkable: The Dichotomy of Terror and the Banal in Fallout

Lugene Rosen Fullerton College

Counter-Narratives and Computation: Developing a QuantCrit Topic Model

Jay Rutter jjrutter@nmsu.edu

Tutorial for the End of the World: Post-Apocalyptic Video Game Protagonists as Disabled Models for Adaptability

Jennifer Jussel Texas Tech University

Embracing the Apocalypse: The Forgotten Generation's Cure for Historical Hangover.

Alexandra Nakelski Zeitgeist Film Festival

Biography, Autobiography, Memoir, & Personal Narrative 2: Lived Experiences

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Carlsbad

Moderator: David Corwin, George Mason University

Narrative Competence and Cognitive Mapping as a Culturally Sustaining Pedagogy in the Education of Emergent Bilinguals

Sepideh Yasrebi University of New Mexico

My Body Myself

Emily Heebner emilyheebneryoung@gmail.com

Reimagining National Identities: The Politics of Belonging in the Autobiographies of Second-Generation Immigrant Women

Thais Autin University of New Mexico

Classical Representations in Popular Culture 1: Mythology on Stage

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon G

Moderator: Oliver Richards, University of Kentucky

"Outside the house of our father I am nothing": Blanche, Stella, and the Daughters of Pandion

Julia Griffin Georgia Southern University

"I'm no pet, I'm a married man": Sexual Violence, Divine Power, and the Hero in EPIC: The Musical

Oliver Richards oliverrsylvania@gmail.com

The Curse on the House of Atreus and its Continued Curse on Women in Literature

Madison Gist Tarleton State University

Creative Writing 6: Poetry 3

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Cimarron

Moderator: Pat Tyrer, West Texas A&M University

Emerging from Ashes: Voices of Resilience

Pat Tyrer West Texas A&M University

Meditations: Thoughts of the World by a Zen Buddhist Priest

Wade Thompson wthompson@usao.edu

How to Write an Original Poem with a Deck of Tarot Cards

Caroline De La Garza University of Texas at the Rio Grande Valley

Eco-Criticism & the Environment 2: Surviving Amid the Ruins: Ecocriticism in the Slow Motion Apocalypse

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon I

Moderator: Keri Stevenson, University of New Mexico-Gallup

Eco-Cinema: Unpacking Barbie's Plastic World

Peter Astras Syracuse University

The Psychological Effects of Climate-Induced Migration on Young People: An Exploration of Mental Health Challenges and Support Needs

Sarah Amas sayrahamas@gmail.com

There Is No Final Evolution: Against Ecological Apocalyptic Thinking

Keri Stevenson University of New Mexico-Gallup

Slow Violence and the Post-Apocalyptic Wasteland

Wynn Davis University of Arizona

Esotericism, Occultism, and Magic 17: Omniversal Occult: Metafiction, Hyper-reality, and the Multiverse

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon C & D

Moderator: George Sieg, Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

INTO THE HYPERMODERN MULTIVERSE'S IMPACT ON METAMODERN MEDIA

Saarthak Johri University of Michigan

Warlocks at the End of the World

Jacob McElroy jacobmcelroy88@gmail.com

'What If?': Psychological Implications of Alternative Realities, Variants, and Doppelgängers present within cinematic comic universes.

Robert McLaughlin Arden University

WWE as Occult Cinematic Performance

Kachine Moore University of Glasgow

Game Studies, Culture, Play & Practice 11

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Santa Fe

Moderator: Rafael Fajardo, University of Denver

How video games influence local communities

Brandon Richards student

Space Invasion: Public Places, Play Machines, and the Birth of the Japanese Arcade

Keita Moore moore.5323@osu.edu

What makes anime game "amime?"

Yasheng She University of Idaho, The Habib Institute for Asian Studies

The Exploitation Ecosystem and Roblox. A case study.

Chris McCutcheon Torrens University Australia

Horror 9: Tweaking the Formula

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon E

Moderator: Antoinette Winstead, Our Lady of the Lake University

Horror, Tragedy, and Hope

Samantha Crump Oklahoma University

The Politics of Fear: The Rise and Fall of Folk Horror in the Age of Trump and Biden

Danielle Herget dherget@fisher.edu

Suffer the Little Children: Child Abuse as Entertainment in Stephen King's Horror Literature and Film

Antoinette Winstead Our Lady of the Lake University

Laughter After the Kills: Bloopers, Gag Reels, and the Latent (Mistake-Filled) Humor of Horror Films

David Scott Diffrient Colorado State University

Linguistics 2: Sociolinguistics

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon J

Moderator: Lisa Wagner, University of Louisville

Engaging Digital Mediated Encounters in Computer Mediated Communication: Language Attitudes and Identity Formation in Digital Borderlands Online Discourses

Devon Bradley University of Texas at San Antonio

A Comparative Analysis of Accent and Intelligibility Among L2 English Speakers from Nigeria and Ghana

Omolola Ayegboyin oayegboyin@live.nmhu.edu

New-Wave Americanism in Cosmopolitan Nigerian Speech Communities: Lekki-Lagos as Case Study

Omolade Bamigboye EKITI STATE UNIVERSITY

Pedagogy & Popular Culture 7: Social Issues

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Las Cruces

Moderator: Sibylle Gruber, Northern Arizona University

Cultivating Climate Change Literacy: Engaging Educators in Online Learning

Sibylle Gruber Northern Arizona University

From Theory to Praxis: Making Liberatory and Socially Just Pedagogies Actionable

Tyler Sehnal tsehnal@nmsu.edu

REorienting Social Adaptation & Social Reconstructionism: Analyzing the Education Act (1990) for Citizenship and Maintenance of the “Status-Quo”

Olivia Digiammarino University of Toronto, OISE

Embedding Pop Culture in Classrooms Can Foster a Desire to Learn

Jennifer Benatar California State University, Sacramento

Professional Development: Editors Panel

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon F

Moderator: Lynnea Chapman King, SWPACA

Join book and journal editors, as well as representatives from presses, as we discuss academic publishing. There will be a Q&A period after the talk.

Theater & Performance Studies 1: New Visions of Memory, Performance, and Theatrical Training

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon H

Moderator: Kathleen Potts, The City College of New York, CUNY

(Re)imaging Southern Gothic: New Visions of the South in Theatre, Film and Memory

Lydia Fort Emory University

The Tortured Artist: A Self-Fulfilling Prophecy

Laurel Buxton laurel.e.buxton@gmail.com

Mr. Burns & Consent-Forward Academic Theatre

Troy Coleman University at Buffalo - SUNY

Acting Via the Imagination: Techniques of Michael Chekhov

Wil Kilroy New Mexico State University

Classical Representations in Popular Culture 2: Picturae Moventes: Classical Literature on the Screen

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon G

Moderator: Benjamin Haller, Virginia Wesleyan University

"Goddesses, Whores, Wives, and Slaves" - The Tragic Women of FX's Sons of Anarchy

Valentina De Nardis Villanova University

Humanizing Helen: Subverting Archetypes in Troy, Fall of a City

Ashton Wilson akwilson2@buffs.wtamu.edu

Aeneas in Two Early 1960s Italian Sword and Sandal Films

James Clauss University of Washington

"Then came the Amazon, the daughter of great-souled Ares, the slayer of men": Patty Jenkins's "Wonder Woman" and the Classical Greek Amazon

Benjamin Haller Virginia Wesleyan University

Creative Writing 7: Poetry & Performance

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Cimarron

Moderator: Christopher Carmona, Our Lady of the Lake University

Vintage Denim

Pw Covington Independent Scholar

El Rinche: Ghost of The Rio Grande: Vol 1

Jiovanna Perez jiowritesstories@gmail.com

Juan Flores Jr N/A

Lechuza Guide to the Lone Star State

Marisela Barrera Northwest Vista College

Unsettling American History: Poems

Christopher Carmona Our Lady of the Lake University

**Esotericism, Occultism, and Magic 18: Roundtable: Aeonics on Speed:
Accelerationism and Instantiating the Post-Human Eschaton**

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon C & D

Moderator: Eric Millikin, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Danielle Herget Fisher College
Kachine Moore University of Glasgow
Matthew Cangiano Gnostic Technology
Shane Trayers Middle Georgia State University
George Sieg Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

As befits a roundtable named for an ancient esoteric concept progressed through the modern into the contemporary (and beyond), the accelerationist movement and its occultural interactions offer a launching pad for comparisons and contrasts with other worldviews, philosophies, and ideologies that have attempted to leap the gap between traditional esoteric worldviews and the various ideological and socioeconomic trajectories of progress. Futurism, humanism, transhumanism, and post-humanism all partake to some degree of this duality; the extent to which this applies to ancient dualisms in general, and Gnosticism in particular, remains debated -- particularly given its misreception as millenarian by Erich Voegelin, whose rather esoteric phrase criticizing attempts to "immanentize the eschaton" inspired its own reappropriation by the chaos magic that was contemporary to the earliest accelerationists, and subsequently by Discordian parody conspiracism.

Film Studies 5: Recent Trends in Film and Streaming Series

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon A & B

Moderator: Erin Heath, Wayland Baptist Universtiy

No One Joins a Cult: How Cult Documentaries Show Compassion

Erin Heath Wayland Baptist Universtiy

“Whatever You Resist, Persists”: A Jungian Criticism of Saint Maud with Special Reference to the Shadow Archetype

Kerem Topcu kerem.topcu@usm.edu

How the MCU Refused to “Die the Hero” and Lived Long Enough to See Itself “Become the Villain”: A Critique on Series and Sequels

Chase Adair Abilene Christian University

“The Repression of War Experience”: Terence Davies’s Benediction (2021)

Thomas Prasch Washburn University

Game Studies, Culture, Play & Practice 12

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Santa Fe

Moderator: Carly Kocurek, Illinois Institute of Technology

Artistic Response as Collaborative Design Methodology: Creating Video Game Artifacts from Personal Stories

Catherine Pearce Simon Fraser University

Learning Design By Making Games from Trash, Found Objects, and Random Shit in Backpacks

Michael Deanda madeanda@gmail.com

Building and Scaling an In-house Educational Game Studio at a University

Jes Klass DePaul University

Code-X: Chicano games as contemporary codices

Rafael Fajardo University of Denver

Horror 8: Serial Killers

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon E

Moderator: Abraham DeLeon, University of Texas at San Antonio

Terror in the Shadow of the Shape: Halloween 4, Carl Jung, and the Archetype of the Shadow

Abraham DeLeon University of Texas at San Antonio

Homicide, Fate, and Playing God: A Comparison of Male Serial Killers in the Horror-thriller Films Curve (2015) and Don't Move (2024)

O Smirl osmirl@wtamu.edu

The Demon's in the Details: Anti-Feminist Manipulation in Strange Darling

Delores Amorelli Kaiser Permanente School of Medicine

Disgusting/Disgusted Disability in John Carpenter's Halloween

Estefania Velez Fordham University

Linguistics 3: Media and Music

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon J

Moderator: Lisa Wagner, University of Louisville

Elderly Streamers in Neoliberal China: Reclaiming Socialist Language and Values in the Digital Age

Huixian Liu University of Arizona

Storytelling and Narrative Style in Ghanaian Music: A study of Kofi Kinaata's "Confession"

Emmanuella Quansah ellaberthquansah@gmail.com

"Oh, Mylanta!" A Corpus Linguistic Analysis of D.J., Stephanie, and Kimmy's Language Use in Full House (1987) versus Fuller House (2016)

Katie Weiss Texas Tech University

Music 1: Intersections of Music, Literature, and History

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Acoma

Moderator: Katie Rios, Mercer University

Music as Prophecy in Ruth Ozeki's *Tale for the Time Being*

Jadan Vines Loyola Marymount University

The Intersection of Artistry In Kurt Cobain's Collaborative Song With William Burroughs

Sam Keeton samkee2000@gmail.com

Laurie Anderson and Liminality in *Amelia*

Katie Rios Mercer University

"Outpace and Outlive": Survival in All Hail West Texas and the American Southwest

Joseph Williams Schreiner University

Mystery / Detective Fiction 2: Expanding the Genre Map

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon F

Moderator: Lexey Bartlett, Fort Hays State University

A Forgotten Author and a Forgotten Detective in an Overlooked City: Bart Spicer's *Carney Wilde* in Philadelphia

Nathaniel Racine Texas A&M International University

Myopia and Missing Utopia: Rebecca's *Spectre*, the Hauntings of Reality, and du Maurier's Deconstruction of 1930s Britain

Travis Tsz Kei Chow 111551023@nccu.edu.tw

Cutting to the Truth: The Mystery of Horror in Stephen Graham Jones's *Indian Lake Trilogy*

Lexey Bartlett Fort Hays State University

Philosophy & Popular Culture 1: Horror & Gender

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon H

Moderator: Michael Cerliano, Texas Woman's University

Lovecraft, Foucault, and the Weird Archive

Michael Cerliano Texas Woman's University

The Literary Vampire: Biopower and the Discipline of the Undead

Hayley Cisney hayleycisney@gmail.com

Stitching Together a New Woman: Exploring Gender Performativity in *Poor Things*

Marika Guthrie CSU-Pueblo

Rap & Hip-Hop Culture 1: Politics and Gender

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Las Cruces

Moderator: Robert Tinajero, University of North Texas at Dallas

Hip-Hop and The Future of Multicultural Education

Robert Tinajero University of North Texas at Dallas

Jamilah Williams University of North Texas at Dallas

Hip Hop's Rhetoric Toward Presidential Candidates

Robert Tinajero robert.tinajero@untDallas.edu

Michelle Mcwhorter University of North Texas at Dallas

Reproductive Rights in Hip-Hop

Hailey Colpitts Indiana University / Indiana University - South Bend

The Power of the Sisterhood: Female Collaboration and Empowerment in Hip Hop

Lacretia Johnson Southern Utah University

Religion 1: Religion and/in Popular Fiction

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Salon I

Moderator: Cori Knight, University of California Riverside

Dark Lords & White Witches: The Cultural Impact of Concrete Evils on the Christian Psyche

Wesley Moncrief Iliff School of Theology

"From a Certain Point of View": Star Wars, Scripture, and the Battle over Canonization

Isaac May Isaac.may@yale.edu

Spencer Wells Southern Utah University

The Way of X: The Mutant Spirituality of The Spark

Greg Jones Duquesne University

The union of Catholic and Feminist Ideologies Within Ouida's Moths

Jay Cruz Texas State University

3rd Annual Student Dine Out!

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm, Foyer

Moderator: David Corwin, George Mason University

3rd Annual Student Dine Out!

David Corwin George Mason University

Keaton Gregg Cleveland State University

Join us for our second annual Student Dine Out! Hosted by Michael K. Schoeneck Institute Fellows, you'll get to network and chat with other student presenters at the conference. Undergraduate and graduate student presenters are welcome to meet in the foyer by the Registration Desk and from there, folks will split up into groups and walk to local eateries for dinner.

Esotericism, Occultism, and Magic 10: The Last of Them: Conversation at the Crossroads of Carnal Necromancy: Esoteric Undeath, Occult Reanimation, and Magical Zombification

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 8:15 pm - 10:00 pm, Salon C & D

Moderator: Brandon Kempner, New Mexico Highlands University

Linyan Zheng Rice University

Phil Stevens the University at Buffalo, SUNY

Connie Nugent Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

Kenneth Nugent Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

Madeline Duntley Bowling Green State University

Join us to observe the "Sunset of the Dead" as the outgoing Chair of Zombies leads this transdisciplinary conversation concerning the role of undeath and the undead in general (and zombies in particular) in diverse media and genre. Informed by folkloric, medical, anthropological, sociological, literary, esoteric, occult, and magical perspectives, this special event commemorates the unlife of the Zombie Area and examines their significance, along with comparable and contrasting unliving and undead entities, within interdisciplinary territories including horror and (post)-apocalypse as well as within esoteric, occult, and magical worldviews, along with their horde of media representations and misrepresentations .

MST3K & The Culture of Riffing 1: Screening: "Space Mutiny" (Season 8, Episode 20) and a Pair of Shorts

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 8:15 pm - 10:00 pm, Acoma

Moderator: Brad Duren, Tulsa Community College

Join us for a screening of a fan-favorite MST3K episode, the riffing of the grade-Z space epic Space Mutiny (1988). Mike and the bots have a field day with this slab of intergalactic cheese starring John Philip Law and Cameron Mitchell, and you will, too! The screening will be preceded by a discussion of the film and the MST3K treatment by longtime MSTie Dr. Brad Duren, oh, and a couple of prime short educational films for your pleasure. An evening of hilarity and good-natured ribbing is guaranteed.

Pub Quiz!

Fri, 02/21/2025 - 8:15 pm - 10:00 pm, Carlsbad

Moderator: Kurt Depner, New Mexico State University

Think you're a master of all things pop culture? Come to our Pop Culture Pub Quiz to find out! Each team (up to a maximum of 6) will compete to see who has the most knowledge about popular culture of the last 30 years! Prizes will be awarded for the 1st and 2nd place teams as well as best wrong answer and best team name. Join us for some after hours revelry to prove you have what it takes to be a Pop Culture Trivia Master!

African American / Black Studies 1: Explorations of Racism (Anti-Blackness) and Identity

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon J

Moderator: Carmen Saleh, San Jose State University

RACE AND POPULAR CULTURE IN TESS ONWUEME’S RIOT IN HEAVEN

Onyekachukwu Iwuchukwu National Open University of Nigeria Abuja

Critical Whiteness and Black Praxis

Carmen Saleh carmen.kennedy-saleh@sjsu.edu

Who Burned Frederick Douglass's House?

Margie Burns University of Maryland Baltimore County

Take it Back: The Hip Hop Logic of Double-Consciousness

Diana Marino Fordham University

Animation Studies 1: Realism, Adulthood, Affect, and Anime

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon A & B

Moderator: Kendra Sheehan, University of Louisville

American Pop: Ralph Bakshi’s Iconoclastic “Animated Realism”

Anthony Macias University of California, Riverside

Healing Anime: An Affective Study of My Neighbor Totoro and Princess Mononoke

Rifat Siddiqui rrs210003@utdallas.edu

Masaaki Yuasa's Playful Explorations of Young Adulthood

Aidan Oswald-harris Friends University

Fionna & Cake’s Transcultural Frames: The Role of Anime in American Animation

Kendra Sheehan University of Louisville

Breaking Bad/Better Call Saul 1

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Las Cruces

Moderator: Nicholas Gerlich, West Texas A&M University

The Meaning of Morality in Better Call Saul

Hannah Davenport University of North Carolina Wilmington

“I’m Awake”: Thus Spoke Zarathustra and Walter White

Melissa Etzler metzler@butler.edu

Alienation and Performativity in Breaking Bad

Lisa Weckerle Kutztown University

The Hopi Inspiration in “Better Call Saul”

Marc Valdez Independent Scholar

Classical Representations in Popular Culture 3: Res Magicae: Gods and Magic

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon G

Moderator: Sophie Mills, UNC Asheville

The Magic of Classics

Sophie Mills UNC Asheville

Father is the First Other: Ecto-Gestation in the Myth of Dionysus and Neon Genesis Evangelion

Amanda Ulloa-sellers amandaulloasellers@gmail.com

The Forest Gods: Germanic Pre-Christian Religious Descriptions in Classical Antiquity

Evelyn Mccune Texas Tech Univeristy

Cormac McCarthy 1

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Cimarron

Moderator: Vernon Cisney, Gettysburg College

All the Pretty Horses: Cormac McCarthy Wrote A Bildungsroman?

Jazmine Keeton Texas State University

After the End of Days: Two Dreams of America

Vernon Cisney vcisney@gmail.com

The Nonhuman in Cormac McCarthy's Blood Meridian

Joshua Ward University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Esotericism, Occultism, and Magic 14: Roundtable: Dia-politics : Political Diabology, Antagonist Projection, and Conspiracism

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon C & D

Moderator: Phil Stevens, the University at Buffalo, SUNY

Elizabeth Sanderson Oakton College

Scott Maybell University of Oxford, St John's College

Mark Cogan Kansai Gaidai University

Eric Millikin University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Tom Banger Self-affiliated

This roundtable will examine and analyze processes of political diabology, including various specific examples as well as discussions of the general cultural impact and significance of such representations. These will include not only actual instances of political diabology, but also depictions of political diabology occurring throughout fictional and nonfictional media. The possible scope of this inquiry is vast, so discussion of patterns and general trends within these examples will aid in identifying and highlighting their significance and impact.

Folklore Studies 1

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Carlsbad

Moderator: Patricia Gaitely, Middle Tennessee State University

Witchcraft and herbs; Is herbalism a good substitute for pain management

Alysha Guss Eastern New Mexico University, senior

Legend Tripping, Simulacrum, and The Blair Witch Project

Evan Decarlo decarlo@erau.edu

King Arthur: The Once and Future Folk Hero

John Edwards Abilene Christian University

From Campo to Campus: Curanderismo in the Twentyfirst Century

Patricia Gaitely Middle Tennessee State University

Game Studies, Culture, Play & Practice 13

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Santa Fe

Moderator: Kevin Moberly, Old Dominion University

Carly Kocurek Illinois Institute of Technology

Gillian Smith Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Karen Stewart Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Bo Rodda Illinois Institute of Technology

Hana Hanifah Illinois Institute of Technology

Jennifer Dewinter Illinois Institute of Technology

This roundtable is an overview of an edited collection that brings together in conversation scholars who are coming from the different original disciplinary perspectives that make up game studies. By focusing on a specific object of study (Super Mario World games), we bring together contributing authors/presenters not only to write about their own perspectives on the game, but also be in productive conversation with people coming from distant disciplines. e.g. feminist media scholars, computer scientists, social scientists, educational games scholars, etc. In doing so, we ask: is games a discipline, or a multidisciplinary field?

Horror 10: Roundtable: Empires of Fear: Globalism, Orientalism, and the Geopolitics of Horror

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon E

Moderator: Tony Perrello, Stanislaus State University

Aaunterria Bollinger-deters Colorado State University

Abraham DeLeon University of Texas at San Antonio

Danielle Herget Fisher College

Sean Woodard University of Texas at Arlington

Hans Staats Austin Waldorf School

That the horrific Other often comes from a geographic space “out there” has long been a commonplace of horror; so is the story of encountering demonic forces “out there” once we leave home and venture out. Eastern European folklore in Dracula and Cat People, demonic Middle Eastern forces in The Mummy and The Exorcist, or native magic and religion in I Walked with a Zombie and The Serpent and the Rainbow are tied to horror’s situated mapping of global space. This roundtable will examine horror’s geopolitical backdrop, revisiting the trope of reverse colonialism, and assess inherited and emerging themes of the genre in light of shifting global relations.

Music 2: Musical Explorations of American Culture and Identity

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Acoma

Moderator: Brad Klypchak, Texas A&M University-Commerce

Die Rockstarvilla: an intersection of metal and reality programming

Brad Klypchak Texas A&M University-Commerce

The Hottest Band in the World; A Cultural Anthropology of Rock Legend KISS

Olivia Barnes oliviabarnes6080@gmail.com

Negotiating Hillbilly/Redneck Identity: Ethos Management and Argumentation Strategies in Parton's (2008) Backwoods Barbie and Wilson's (2004) Redneck Woman

Nurhayat Bilge Fashion Institute of Technology, SUNY

Matthew Petrunia Fashion Institute of Technology, SUNY

Nebraska Forty Years Later: The Continued Failure of the American Dream

Josh Hammingh George Fox University

Mystery / Detective Fiction 3: Roundtable: Revisiting Forgotten Detective Series

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon F

Moderator: Lexey Bartlett, Fort Hays State University

Nathaniel Racine Texas A&M International University
Lexey Bartlett Fort Hays State University
Darrell Hamlin Fort Hays State University
Matthew Kelley Shelton State Community College
Mark O'hara Stephen T. Badin High School/Miami University

Despite—or maybe because of—detective fiction’s evergreen popularity, some bestselling series fade from memory while their contemporaries remain popular, like those by Agatha Christie’s fellow Golden Age writers Mary Roberts Rinehart (the “American Agatha Christie”) and Patricia Wentworth. Some series unfairly remained lesser known, like Bart Spicer’s forgotten Philadelphia Detective Carney Wilde and MWA co-founder Clayton Rawson’s Great Merlini, who brings magic to the police procedural. Others have been overshadowed by their creators’ hit series, like the Zoë Boehm Oxford series by Mick Herron (of Slow Horses fame). Join us to rediscover these forgotten series and share your own overlooked favorites.

Philosophy & Popular Culture 2: Heritage

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon H

Moderator: Sammuel (Rob) Byer, Fort Hays State University

Transcendental Emotion and Confucian Order in Zhang Jian's Mengzhong yuan
Anran Han University of Oxford
Zozobra and The Uncertainty of Situation
Michael-angelo Brooks dbrooks24@unm.edu
Vikings and Cowboys: The Havamal, Assassin's Creed: Valhalla, and Red Dead Redemption II
Sammuel (Rob) Byer Fort Hays State University

Stardom and Fandom 1: Cultural Impacts: How Both Stardom and Fandom Shape Lives Across Cultures and Ages

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 9:45 am - 11:15 am, Salon I

Moderator: Vicki Ronn, Friends University

“Dope Old People”: The Phenomenon of Over 40 BTS Fandom
Vicki Ronn Friends University
Entrance, Emotion, Disengagement, and Attachment: A Life Course Perspective on Fan Studies
Wenjun Zhao 1229325124@qq.com
Bollywood Stars in Hollywood Films
Zachariah Qureshi University of Texas at Dallas
Fan Identity, Safety, and the Dark Renfaire: Cultural Clash and Perceptions at the Texas Renaissance Festival
David Sweeten Eastern New Mexico University

American Studies & American History 1: Literature and Politics

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon A & B

Moderator: John Williams, Collin College

Negotiating Americanization: The Conflicted Immigrant Voices of Dreiser and Antin

Haley Steffens University of New Mexico

Post-Mourning - Plath as Monument

Mary Womack maw16f@acu.edu

The American Laissez-Faire Left

Horace Fairlamb University of Houston-Victoria

To Puck or Not to Puck: The Evolution of Satirical Cartoon Advertising in American Electoral Politics and National Elections.

John Williams Collin College

Esotericism, Occultism, and Magic 15: Sign Here For Satan

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon C & D

Moderator: George Sieg, Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

The Eternal Appeal of the Satanic

Phil Stevens the University at Buffalo, SUNY

“Wouldst Thou Like to Live Deliciously?”: Pop Culture Faustus

Ed Simon esimon@andrew.cmu.edu

The Branded, Possessed Subject

J Tyler Odle Rice University

Late Night with Old Devils

Elizabeth Sanderson Oakton College

Fashion 1: Fashion, Style, Appearance, and Identity in a Digital World

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon J

Moderator: Lauren Sperandio Phelps, Columbia University

Draped in Myth: Black Icons, Digital Spaces, and the Art of High Fashion

Alisha Harris University of Denver

From 18th-Century Novels to TikTok: The Evolution of the Coquette Archetype

Emily Thomas emilythomas@arizona.edu

A study on modern Black braids: Unique styles from resistance

Maya Seyoum San Francisco State University

Nancy Martin San Francisco State University

Game Studies, Culture, Play & Practice 14

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Santa Fe

Moderator: Christopher Hanson, Syracuse University

Examining the ‘Anti-Woke Culture War’ in Toxic Gaming Circles: How White Heteropatriarchal Communities Exploit Harmful Pedagogy Online

Dayana Calle University of New Mexico

Protect me from what I want: The LARP of “Kayfabe” as a Hermeneutic for Right-wing (Social) Media Games.

Marc Ouellette ouellema@gmail.com

The Sin of Play: The Criticisms Against the Act of Play in China

Yanchen Zhang Ph.D. student

Good Game! Gestures towards Virtue in Sports and Games

Bill Carroll Abilene Christian University

Horror 11: Roundtable: Fearful Performances: Stardom, Craft, and Style of Acting in Horror Film

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon E

Moderator: Steffen Hantke, Sogang University

Ryan Glover University of Arkansas

Lauren Phillips University of Arkansas

Joshua Coonrod Missouri University of Science and Technology

Delores Amorelli Kaiser Permanente School of Medicine

David Scott Diffrient Colorado State University

The performances of actors in horror films vacillate between the stylization of silent film antics, the raw realism of character actors, and the campy or self-conscious staging of star personae. Meanwhile, critical evaluation of acting in a horror film often lacks clear evaluative standard: what constitutes a “good” acting performance in a horror film? How does the focus of embodied performances differ in certain types of horror film? How do acting styles align themselves with prosthetics, special effects, and genre-specific camera work? How did notable performances—from Karloff and Lugosi to Linda Blair and Jamie Lee Curtis—attain their canonical status? This roundtable will wrestle with the good, the bad, and the oh-so-hideously-ugly of horror film acting.

Medievalisms 1: Making Pasts Present

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Las Cruces

Moderator: Amber Dunai, Texas A&M University - Central Texas

Considering the Peasantry in Fabliau Reception

Taylor Thompson Northern Arizona University

The Villainess Through the Looking Glass: Medieval Europe, Popular Imagination, and the Korean Manhwa Scene

Shambhavi [Na] prasad.shambhavi25@gmail.com

“Eat Your Young:” Anticapitalist Fantasies and Dante in Hozier’s “Unreal Unearth”

Robert Lee Duke University

Alien: Romulus, the Alien Franchise, and Medieval(ed) Film

Amber Dunai Texas A&M University - Central Texas

Philosophy & Popular Culture 3: Ethics

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon H

Moderator: Joy Sterrantino, Southern Utah University

Being Under the Bat-Signal

Alan Baily Stephen F. Austin State University

Kindness as a Weapon For Good - Everything Everywhere All at Once

James Rice rice_james17@live.com

Karmic Balance in Storytelling: The Chicken and the Fool as Modus Operandi in the Development of Character

Joy Sterrantino Southern Utah University

Rap & Hip-Hop Culture 2: Ideas and Identity

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Acoma

Moderator: Robert Tinajero, University of North Texas at Dallas

Militaristic Rhetoric in Rap Music: The Soldier Ethos

Robert Tinajero University of North Texas at Dallas

Hustle Music: How Hip Hop Turned Economic and Social Struggles into Culture

Patrick Anderson Jr panders2@mdc.edu

How Joey Bada\$\$ and Childish Gambino Create Afrofuturity in Amerikkka

Jered Mabaquiao UT Arlington

Religion 2: Religion in the Modern World

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Carlsbad

Moderator: Cori Knight, University of California Riverside

Clean Energy as Indulgences

Melissa Bendt University of New Mexico

Old Wounds, New Identities: Effects of Swedish Sami Displacement

Bridgett Sider siderbl@gmail.com

Death in Tibet and the USA

Michael Stephens Johnson & Wales University

American Buddha

Jacob Taylor Southern Utah University

Rhetoric & Technical Communication 1: Games, Comics, and Social Media

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon F

Moderator: Allison Bannister, Fort Hays State University

Violence in Social Media: Scalar Violence on Twitter Rhetoric

Samantha DeLeon University of Texas San Antonio

A Tech Comm Let's Play: Employing Videogames to Teach Instructional Design

Connor Wilson cw1515@txstate.edu

Tabletop and Tech Comm: Teaching Tabletop Game Documentation Design for Multimodal Transfer

Rob Watkins Idaho State University

Instructional Cartooning: Theory and Practice

Thomas O'Brien Independent Scholar

Allison Bannister Fort Hays State University

Science, Technology, & Culture 1

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon G

Moderator: Aaron Adair, MIT

Generative AI and Academia

Hayley Mccullough New Mexico Tech

Examining the factors affecting the acceptance and implementation of virtual reality in archives:

Archivists' perspective

Farzaneh Talebhighi ftalebhighi@arizona.edu

“A Profound Duplicity of Life”: The Devil Caged in Decency in The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

Yuhsuan Hung National Chengchi University

"The Radio Is Truly a God Send": Governor Alfred E. Smith and Political Broadcasting in New York, 1919-1925

Sebastian Garcia University of Central Florida

Sports and Popular Culture 2: Building Community

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Cimarron

Moderator: Stacy Fowler, St. Mary's University

Pickleball: The Social Sport

Tama Weisman Dominican University

The Impact of Ted Lasso on Sports Pop Culture: A Cultural Phenomenon

Casi Lewis clewis16@stmarytx.edu

"You Will Be Nearer to Heaven Through Football Than Through the Study of the Gita.": Vivekananda, Masculinity, and Sports Culture in Colonial Bengal, India

Sourav Das Student

The 'Sporting Supercrip': Sports and Literature through the lens of Disability Studies

Sinchan Chatterjee University of California, Berkeley

Stardom and Fandom 2: Reaction and Resistance: How Both Fans and Content Creators Shape Cultural Narratives

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Salon I

Moderator: Jill Davis, Tarleton State University

Rebel Edits: Fan Resistance in the Age of Disney

Jill Davis Tarleton State University

Performing Masculinity on YouTube Podcasts

Anna Mcannally alm949@umsystem.edu

Some Like 'em Dark and Twisted: Fan Psychology and the Sexualization of Convicted Murderers from the Mind of Ryan Murphy

Abby Marshall Abilene Christian University

Dramione Fanfiction's Literary Reconstruction in Harry Potter Fandom

Maya Linsley University of Victoria

Esotericism, Occultism, and Magic 16: The Paranoid Realities of David Cronenberg: The Occult Body Techno-politic as Magical Medium

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon C & D

Moderator: George Sieg, Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

Sticking it to Videodrome: beyond the limits of media theory, somatic allegory

Noah Mertz University of New Mexico

Cronenberg's Magic Rebirth Stellifications

Candy Minx candyminx@hotmail.com

The Films of David Cronenberg & Conspiracy Theory

Payton Mccarty-simas N/A

Game Studies, Culture, Play & Practice 15

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Santa Fe

Moderator: Victoria Braegger, Missouri University of Science and Technology

Pinball Poetics: Interpreting a World Under Glass

Matthew Payne University of Notre Dame

Toward an Escape Room Archive

Mirek Stolee mirekjames@gmail.com

Cards against game studies

Ryan Moeller utah state university

Horror 12: Roundtable: The Year in Horror: 2024

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Salon E

Moderator: Hans Staats, Austin Waldorf School

Aaunterria Bollinger-deters Colorado State University

Kyle William Bishop Southern Utah University

Abraham DeLeon University of Texas at San Antonio

Arlo Gross Concordia University

Sean Woodard University of Texas at Arlington

This roundtable has become a staple of the Horror Area, allowing for an open conversation about the publications and releases, the highs and lows, the trends and topics of horror production of the past year across a wide variety of media.

Apocalypse, Dystopia, and Disaster in Culture 5: Roundtable: Esotericism in the Post-Apocalypse

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Acoma

Moderator: Tom Banger, Self-affiliated

Payton Mccarty-simas N/A

Jacob McElroy University of North Florida

Shane Trayers Middle Georgia State University

George Sieg Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

Eric Millikin University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Among the numerous preternatural and supernatural worldviews frequently present in post-apocalyptic representations, explicitly esoteric worldviews seem to be the rarest. This roundtable will explore these unusual examples and discuss their significance, considering why esotericism appears so infrequently in post-apocalyptic settings, in comparison to the wide variety of more generally magical beliefs and practices, or diverse occult sciences, that often appear in those storyworlds. Contributors may also consider circumstances of apocalyptic event more likely than others to be associated with post-apocalyptic esoteric representations.

Game Studies, Culture, Play & Practice 16

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Santa Fe

Moderator: Christopher Morrow, University of Texas Permian Basin

Press Rewind: The influence of VHS and DVD board games on hybrid board game practices

Lajana Braun Braunschweig University of Art

The expulsion of the subject from decision making. A (short, completely incomplete) discourse history of game-based decision support systems

Rolf F. Nohr r.nohr@hbk-bs.de

"Relic-ing" Video Games: Imaginary Media Archeology and the Construction of Game Reception

David Ogrady UCLA

War and Culture 3: Roundtable: Culture War: Military Rhetoric in Current U.S. Politics

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Salon E

Moderator: Steffen Hantke, Sogang University

Stacy Fowler St. Mary's University

Deborah Deacon Arizona State University

Myra Tatum Salcedo Independent Scholar

Julia Lange Hamburg University

Austyn Kobs North Carolina State University

The current political polarization in U.S. politics has been accompanied by the increased use of military metaphors, with talk about the possibility of tensions rising to the point of civil war. Consequently, the term “Culture War” has made an apt and alarming comeback. While literal U.S. warfare plays little to no role in this arena—with the U.S. abstaining from military engagement since the withdrawal from Afghanistan as a matter of political capital during the 2024 Presidential elections—the military imaginary as a tool of political mobilization, legitimization, and strategizing has attained central importance. Assuming that its use is not merely a passive reflection of existing ideological formations, but is essential in creating and shaping them for rhetorical and discursive deployment, this roundtable will delve into the question what politicians, pundits, and artists mean when they talk about “Culture War.”

Game Studies, Culture, Play & Practice 17

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Santa Fe

Moderator: Judd Ruggill, University of Arizona

Ken McAllister University of Arizona

Judd Ruggill University of Arizona

This is the business meeting for the Game Studies, Culture, Play, and Practice Area.

DRAFT SCHEDULE – SWPACA 2025 CONFERENCE AS OF 12-18-23

Post Conference Wrap-Up

Sat, 02/22/2025 - 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm, Acoma

Moderator: SWPACA Executive Team

Please join the SWPACA Executive Team for an informal get-together to wrap up the conference. We'll cover the highlights of the 46th annual meeting. Come with stories and suggestions and relax for a bit!

DRAFT