MELUS 2018 Conference Program Draft
"TransCulture," Las Vegas, Nevada, May 3-6, 2018

THURSDAY, MAY 3: 12:00 – 1:15 PM

Immigrant Experience, Identity, and Citizenship

Chair: TBD

1. "Super Immigrants: Narratives of Asian Exceptionalism under Global Capitalism," Yuan Ding, University of Minnesota
2. "Transformative (Trans)Nationalism and the Irish American Citizen: Roosevelt, Dooley, and the Fight for True Americanism," James Byrne, Wheaton College
3. "Liminal Assimilation: Toward a Literary Understanding of Indian American Ethnic Identity," Talib Jabbar, University of California, Santa Cruz

Africa, Diaspora, and Mobility

Chair: TBD

1. "West African Ports and Transcultural Kinship in Langston Hughes's *The Big Sea*," Savannah Hall, Indiana University
2. "Assembling Transatlantic Diasporic Identities in Yaa Gyasi's *Homegoing*," Luis Paganelli Marín, University of Arkansas
3. "Transit and Transience in McKay's *Home to Harlem* and *Banjo*," Blake Wilder, University of Maryland

Journeys and Migrations

Chair: TBD

1. "'Re-Molding, Re-Designing': Alienating the Statue of Liberty in Tato Laviera and Ester Hernández," Scott Pett, Rice University
2. "*En ruta hacia el otro lado*: Buses as Transformative Spaces," Debbie Cifuentes Ramírez, University of Texas at Austin
3. "Children of the Sea: Jason de Caires Taylor and Migrations of Public Memory," Lauren J. Gantz, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

Transcultural Connections in Multi-Ethnic Literature

Chair: TBD

1. "When Bodies and Cultures Collide: Transcultural and Gendered Contact Zones in Chitra Divakaruni's 'Silver Pavements, Golden Roofs,'" Marilyn Edelstein, Santa Clara University
2. "The Transcultural Journey of African American Literature in China: Past and Present," Yukuo Wang, University of Posts and Telecommunications, China

3. "The *Tirukkural* in V. V. Ganeshananthan's novel *Love Marriage*: A Philosophical Bridge between Sri Lanka and the United States," Gisele Cardoso de Lemos, Texas A&M University
4. "'Not American--not black--just me': Movement as Identity Resistance and Development in Toni Morrison's *Tar Baby*," Kelsey Flint-Martin, University of Southern California

Ruth Ozeki, Ecocriticism, and Capitalism
Chair: TBD

1. "'Seeds of Resistance': Environmental Politics and the Queer Ecology of Inheritance in Ruth Ozeki's *All Over Creation*," Kai Hang Cheang, University of California, Riverside
2. "Transcorporeality and the Violent Workings of Capitalism in Ozeki's *All Creation Over*," Lee Olsen, University of Nevada, Reno
3. "Ocean of Memories: Historical Trauma and Environmental Justice in Ruth Ozeki's *A Tale for the Time Being*," Heejoo Park, University of California, Riverside

Multi-Ethnic Sci-Fi/Speculative Fiction
Chair: TBD

1. "Colonized Bodies, Decolonized Landscapes, and Border Control: Transient Conceptions of Citizenship and the Decolonial Cyborg in Sabrina Vourvoulias's *Ink*," Jonathan Martínez, University of Texas at San Antonio
2. "Quantum Entanglement and Temporal Non-Linearity in Ruth Ozeki's *A Tale For the Time Being*," Leslie Fernandez, University of California, Riverside
3. "Traversing Culture and (Sub)Genre: The Pregnant Body of Color, Premature Deaths, and Reproductive Injustice in Feminist (Ally) of Color SF-Like Literature and Performance," Megan Elizabeth Nieto, University of Texas at San Antonio

THURSDAY, May 3: 1:30 – 2:45 PM

Citizenship and Mobility in South Asian Narratives
Chair: TBD

1. "Transforming the Meaning of Citizen: 'Acts of Citizenship' in Thrity Umrigar's *If Today Be Sweet*," Debora Stefani, Georgia College and State University
2. "New South Asian Diasporic TransNarratives: *The Namesake* and *The Big Sick*," Alka Kurian, University of Washington, Bothell
3. "Social Mobility through Intimacy: Miscegenation in the South Asian Diaspora," Madhura Nadarajah, University of Central Florida

Translation and Multilingualism in Multi-Ethnic Literature
Chair: TBD; AV Requested

1. "'Negro, Por Favor': Translating Racialized Language in the Dominican Diaspora," Nancy Kang, University of Baltimore, and Silvio Torres-Saillant, Syracuse University
2. "Translanguaging and Multilingualism in Junot Díaz's *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*," Gabriela Almendarez, University of California, Riverside
3. "Translating Language and Self in Miguel Syjuco's *Ilustrado* (2010)," Cecilia Nina Myers, University of Memphis
4. "The New 'New Mestiza' in Arab American Women's Writing," Niven Herro, University of Cincinnati

Genre, Gender, and Identity
Chair: TBD

1. "Uncovering the Pasts: Genres and Genders in *The Woman Warrior: Memories of a Girlhood Among Ghosts* by Maxine Hong Kingston and *Bone Black: memories of girlhood* by bell Hooks," Sharon Lynette Jones, Wright State University
2. "Spy-vilization: Double-consciousness and Assemblage Formation in Asian American Literature," Dong Yang, University of Georgia
3. "Secret History as Subterraneity: Excavating Chris Abani's Las Vegas," Daniel Burns, Elon University

Passing in Antebellum and Modern America
Chair: TBD

1. "Ellen Craft's Extravagant Passing & Transnational Masquerades," Rosa Martinez, California State University, Sacramento
2. "Narratives of Iranian Acculturation: Exploring Whiteness in Firoozeh Dumas' Memoirs," Leila Pazargadi, Nevada State College
3. "The Passing Con: Resistance and Reification in Iceberg Slim's *Trick Baby* and Arthur Hiller's *Popi*," Amanda M. Page, Juniata College

Transcultural Blues
Chair: TBD

1. "Embodying Black Blues: Transracial Narrative in Alice Walker's 'Nineteen Fifty-Five,'" Eddie A. Moore, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
2. "Transnational Blues: A Shift in Blues Literature," Josh-Wade Ferguson, University of Mississippi
3. "Reading Whiteness and the Blues: Transatlantic American-ness in Adichie's *Americanah*," Janelle Jennings-Alexander, Florida State University

Arab American Identity
Chair: TBD

1. "'TransCulture': Negotiating Identities in Contemporary American Muslim Women's Writing," Hasnul Djohar, University of Exeter
2. "'Accidental Transients': The Transnational Poetics of Randa Jarrar," Sylvia Terzian, University of Waterloo
3. "The Transcultural Journeys of Disaster in Arab-American Memoir: Abinader's *Children of Roojme* and Said's *Out of Place*," Youssef Yacoubi, Seton Hall University

THURSDAY, MAY 3: 3:00 – 4:15 PM

Identity and the Ethnic Other in Film
Chair: TBD

1. "'You're a Traitor to your Country and Your Class': Rollin Ridge's Legend of Joaquin Murieta as it Survives Print Culture, Zorro, and Batman in the 20th Century," Lauren E. Perry, University of New Mexico
2. "Transgressing History in Robert De Niro's *A Bronx Tale* and Martin Scorsese's *Gangs of New York*," Alan J. Gravano, Rocky Mountain University
3. "The Migrant Child," Guadalupe Escobar, New York University

Border-Crossing and the West in Ethnic Literature
Chair: TBD

1. "Lucha Corpi and Rudolfo Anaya: Chicana/o Detective Fiction Weirds the (South) West," Jana Koehler, University of New Mexico
2. "Sesshu Foster, Ai, and the Rhizomatic West," Christopher Muniz, University of Southern California
3. "Surviving the Alamo: Transformation and Transgression in Emma Pérez's *Blood Memory*," Adrianna M. Santos, Texas A&M University-San Antonio
4. "Transforming the Landscape and the Self: The Multi-Ethnic West in James P. Beckwourth's Autobiography," Kamina Gates, University of Georgia

The Vietnam War in Literature
Chair: TBD

1. "Redemptive Hospitality? Examining Revisionist Histories of the U.S. War in Vietnam in Viet Thanh Nguyen's *The Sympathizer*," Alaina Kaus, University of Connecticut
2. "'My life is in your hands': Mis/representations of Self and Relational Economies of Reciprocation in Le Ly Hayslip and Jay Wurts' *When Heaven and Earth Changed Places*," Quynh H. Vo and Janet J. Graham, University of Hawaii

3. "*Supongamos*: Racial Representation and Transhistoric/Transpacific Trauma in Alfredo Vea's *Gods Go Begging*," Nancy Huayan Carranza, University of California, Riverside

African American Rhetorical Strategies
Chair: TBD; AV Requested

1. "Cultural Jim Crow and the Black Academy of Arts and Letters," Matthew Calihman, Missouri State University
2. "Theatres of Rhetoric and Literature: William Alexander Brown and Approaches to 19th-Century Literary and Rhetorical Studies," Brianne Dayley, University of Texas, San Antonio
3. "Ida B. Wells's Radical Rhetoric of Image: Witnessing Through Multiple Identities," Nanette Rasband Hilton, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Racial Stereotypes and Privilege
Chair: TBD

1. "The Sharp White Background: Paradoxical Respectability Politics and Police Brutality in Claudia Rankine's *Citizen* and Audre Lorde's 'Power,'" Jamiee Cook, University of California, Santa Barbara
2. "Staring Down the Panopticon: Surveillance and Resistance to the Controls of Whiteness, Chester Himes and *If He Hollers, Let Him Go*," Robert R. Lucci, University of Maryland
3. "Promiscuous Contexts; or the 'Erotic Confusion' around the Black Rapist Stereotype in James Baldwin's *Another Country*," Jason Morse, University of Washington

African American Speculative Fiction
Chair: TBD

1. "From Pecola to Mnemosyne: Transmutations of Literary Black Girlhood in Darryl A. Smith's 'The Pretended,'" Samira Abdur-Rahman, University of San Francisco
2. "Transcultural Labor in N. K. Jemisin's *The Fifth Season*," Leah Milne, University of Indianapolis
3. "Afro-Pessimism and Self-Making in *The Fifth Season*," Joseph Earl Thomas, Notre Dame University

THURSDAY, MAY 3: 4:30 – 5:45 PM

Octavia Butler's *Parable* Series
Chair: TBD

1. "Alternative Communities of Resistance in Octavia Butler's *Parable* Series," Anne Schmalstig, University of Miami

2. "Mapping Liberation in Octavia Butler's *Parable of the Sower*," Fiona Maurissette, Tufts University
3. "Dystopian Transformations and the Near Workless World Imaginary in Octavia Butler's *The Parable of the Sower*," Katrina Newsom, Wayne State University

Diasporic Identities
Chair: TBD

1. "The Dichotomy of Longing and Belonging: Armenian Diasporic Identity," Meltem Şafak, University of Georgia
2. "Amanda Berry Smith and the Politics of Home, Mobility, and Diasporic Identity," Martha Pitts, Howard University
3. "The Rest is Deluge: Meditations on Achy Obejas' *The Tower of the Antilles*," Lacie Rae Cunningham, Cornell University
4. "Domino Effect within Menendez's *In Cuba I Was a German Shepherd*," Jamie Crosswhite, University of Texas, San Antonio

Photography, Identity, and Multi-Ethnic Literature
Chair: TBD; AV Requested

1. "Under the Sign of Disaster Triumphant: Contemporary Ruin in the US and Latin America," Jesús Costantino, University of New Mexico
2. "The Afterimage of Trauma: Memory, Language and the Photographic Image in W.G. Sebald's *Austerlitz* and Audre Lorde's 'Afterimages,'" Autumn Widdoes, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
3. "Flotsam and the Flâneur: Teju Cole's *Every Day is for the Thief*," Oscar Oswald, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

lluminating Words: International Readers of American Literature (NEED ESSAY TITLES)
Chair: Robert Sabbath, PhD, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

1. Moniru Ravanipour, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
2. Olufunke Ogundimu, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
3. Noha Al-Badry, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Ethnography, Transcultural Relationships, and Transgression in Zora Neale Hurston
Chair: TBD

1. "Transcription and Transmedial Ethnography of Zora Neale Hurston and Alan Lomax," Jessica Teague, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
2. "Respond and Resist: The Impact and Influence of Fannie Hurst's *Imitation of Life* on Zora Neale Hurston," Allison Parker, Massachusetts Maritime Academy

3. "Transgressive Motherhood and Neighbor-Love in Zora Neale Hurston's *Seraph on the Suwanee*," Hannah Nahm, University of California, Los Angeles

Native American Texts and Contexts
Chair: TBD

1. "Transversing Identity: Performance, the Past, and the Possible in Louise Erdrich's *The Last Report of the Miracles at Little No Horse*," Shari Evans, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth
2. "Narrative Critical Framing: Tribal Critical Race Theory Transforming Scholarship," Melissa Michal Slocum, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
3. "'Where Is What I Started For?': Collecting Ancestral Bones and Narrating Indigenous Migration in Louis Owens's *I Hear the Train*," Patricia M. Perea, University of New Mexico

THURSDAY, MAY 3: 6:00 – 9:00 PM – KEYNOTE ADDRESS & RECEPTION

FRIDAY, MAY 4: 8:00 – 9:15 AM

Transnational Trauma
Chair: TBD

1. "Transnational Loss in *The Gangster We Are All Looking For*," Laura Anh Williams and M. Catherine Jonet, New Mexico State University
2. "Rape, the American Dream, and the Mother-Daughter Relationship in Edwidge Danticat's *Breath, Eyes, Memory* and Nora Okja Keller's *Comfort Woman*," Set-Byul Moon, University of Miami
3. "Silence as a Coping Strategy for Long-Ranging Trauma in Lan Cao's *Monkey Bridge*," Alison M. Johnson, University of Nevada, Reno

Post-9/11 Arab American Literature
Chair: TBD

1. "'I was all Arabs, look how dark': Transforming Arab American racialization in Rabih Alammedine's *The Angel of History*," Dima Alzayat, Lancaster University
2. "Specters of Islam: 9/11 Across the Americas," Aliyah Khan, University of Michigan
3. "Theorizing the World-Systems Sublime: Futurity and Representational Resistance in Mohsin Hamid's *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* and Nuruddin Farah's *Crossbones*," Bryant Scott, University of Miami

Understanding and Constructing Jewish Identity
Chair: TBD

1. "Looking the Other Way: Iranian Jewish Identity and Class Conflict in Dalia Sofer's *The Septembers of Shiraz*," Andrea Modarres, University of Washington, Tacoma
2. "Escaping the Subjunctive," Izabela Zieba, Raritan Valley Community College
3. "Genizah in *The History of Love*: Transgenerational Loss, Unburying, and Creation," Abigail Manzella, Tufts University
4. "Ludic as Messianic: Golem and Israel in Michael Chabon's 2000 novel, *Kavalier and Clay*, and Nicole Krauss' 2017 novel, *Forest Dark*," Roberta Sabbath, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

The Afterlives of Empire
Chair: TBD

1. "Bodies in Translation: Women as Nation in Korean Texts on Comfort Women," Min Ji Kang, University of Florida
2. "A Suitable Orphan and a Passing Parent: The Politics of Kinship in the Afterlife of Empire," Soh Yeun Kim, University of Washington
3. "Hawaiian Dreams: The Utopian Imagination in Select Short Stories by Michael Puleloa and Gary Pak," Deepthi Siriwardena, University of Florida

Identity, Trauma, and Gender in Octavia Butler
Chair: TBD

1. "Visualizing Transcultural Subjectivities in Octavia E. Butler's *Kindred*," Christine Montgomery, California State University-Sacramento, and Ellen C. Caldwell, Mt. San Antonio College
2. "'Lost an arm on my last trip home': Linking Epigenetics with Race, Memory, and Trauma in Octavia Butler's *Kindred*," Suchismita Dutta, University of Miami
3. "Future Shock!" Transcultural Hierarchies of Masculinities and Species in Octavia Butler's *Lilith's Brood*," Michael Pitts, University of Arkansas

Alien-nation: On the Racial Transverse of Science Fiction
Chair: TBD

1. "Quantum Entanglement as Technological Repatriation of Orientatlized Spatiotemporality in Ruth Ozeki's *A Tale for the TIme Being*," Haerin Shin, Vanderbilt University
2. "Racing Time: Empire and Time Travel in Charles Yu's Fiction," David S. Roh, University of Utah
3. "'John Henry was born with a hammer in hand': Anoriginary Technicity between Automation and Autonomy", Michael Litwack, University of Alberta

4. "'A Hundred Tiny Hands': Slavery, Scale and Nanotechnology in Nalo Hopkin's Midnight Robber," Diana Leong, University of Utah

FRIDAY, MAY 4: 9:30 – 10:45 AM

The Straight and Narrow: The Intersection of Prison and Freedom
Chair: TBD

1. "Black Death in Wideman's *Writing to Save a Life,*" JuYuon Jang, University of Mississippi
2. "Policing Blackness: Race and Law Enforcement in Wideman's Writing," Tracie Guzzio, SUNY, Plattsburgh
3. "The Heroic Prisoner: Wideman on Mumia Abu-Jamal," Keith Byerman, Indiana State University

Interpreting Transnational Asian American and Asian Diasporic Literature in the Twentieth & Twenty-First Centuries
Chair: Lingyan Yang, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

1. "The Crisis of Reproduction in Ruth Ozeki's Novels," Wenying Xu, Jacksonville University
2. "Going Beyond Translation: The Texts of Eileen Chang's *The Golden Cangue,*" Wenxin Li, Suffolk Community College, SUNY
3. "Asian American Magical Realism in the Americas in Karen Tei Yamashita's *Through the Arc of the Rain Forest,*" Lingyan Yang, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Transgressive Bodies and Legibility: Variously Reading Race, Ethnicity, and Culture in Popular Media
Chair: Olga Herrera, University of St. Thomas

1. " When Hollywood Crosses the Ocean: *Apocalypse Now* and Representations of Film Production in Writings by Three Transpacific Writers," Rei Magosaki, Chapman University
2. "'The Pregnant Lady Playing Tennis': Women's Bodies, the Myth of Frailty, and Serena Williams," Liz Wilkinson, University of St. Thomas
3. "Amigo Bronco: *Fear the Walking Dead's* Transborder Textuality," Olga Herrera, University of St. Thomas

Frameworks of Reading in African American Literature
Chair: TBD

1. "Racialization and Ontologies of Change in Amiri' Baraka's Performance Poetry," Dean Anthony Brink, National Chiao Tung University Hsinchu City, Taiwan

2. "Lost Reading: Black Thoughts on a Kind of Undisciplined Method and Poetics," Javon Johnson, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
3. "Malcolm and Hartman in Ghana: Afterlives of Slavery in the African Diaspora," Benjamin Moats, University of Miami

Representations of Slavery and the Slave Narrative in Contemporary Film
Chair: TBD

1. "Transplanting and Transforming Slavery: Spectacle, Visuality, and Power in Cinematic Neo-Slave Narratives," Martha J. Cutter, University of Connecticut
2. "Black Death in Spike Lee's *When the Levees Broke: A Requiem in Four Acts*," JuYoun Jang, University of Mississippi
3. "Intransigent Historiographies in Film Translations of U.S. Slave Narratives," Ashley Byock, Edgewood College

Representations of Childhood in Ethnic American and Hemispheric Literature
Chair: TBD

1. "Hunting Like a Girl: Social Constructions of Black Girlhood in Michelle Cliff's *Abeng*," Maxine Montgomery, Florida State University
2. "Girl-Children Writing Revolution: Dispatches from the Partido Liberal Mexiano, 1916-1922," Nicole M. Guidotti-Hernández, University of Texas at Austin
3. "Dakko-chan and the 'Cute' Afterlife of *Little Black Sambo* in Postwar Japan," Erica Kanesaka Kalnay, University of Wisconsin-Madison
4. "Quaring Childhood: Transgression and Transformation in Randall Kenan's *A Visitation of Spirits*," Katherine Henninger, Louisiana State University

FRIDAY, MAY 4: 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM

Poetry and Arab Identity
Chair: TBD

1. "Performing the Transgender, Transnational Body in *Wanting in Arabic*," Gretchen Busl, Texas Woman's University
2. "Experimental Spaces, Ghostlines, and Violence in Arab-American Literature," Sirene Harb, American University of Beirut
3. "Arab-American Identity and Naomi Shihab Nye's Poetry," Shaheena Ayub Bhatti and Maham Michelle Gill, Fatima Jinnah Women University, Pakistan

Defending the Ethnic Studies Border with Transcolonial Pedagogy: Authority and Agency in U.S. Historical Narrative (NEED ESSAY TITLES)
Chair: TBD

1. Kolette Draegan, Central Arizona College
2. Heather Moulton, Central Arizona College
3. Joe Faykosh, Central Arizona College

Women of Color Caucus Roundtable: Making Your Voice Heard: Strategies for Navigating Academic Meetings
Chair: Sherry Johnson, Chair, Women of Color Caucus Committee
Guest Speaker: TBD

Labor and Commodification in Multi-Ethnic Literature
Chair: TBD

1. "Transient Histories and Emotional Suspension in Japanese American Literature," Susan Muchshima Moynihan, Tennessee Tech University
2. "Where is My Home, Where is My Heart?: The Flipino-American Identity Flux in Carlos Bulosan's *America is In the Heart*," Julianna Crame, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
3. "Transformation and the Traffic in Women from Faulkner's Addie to Keller's Soon Hyo," Nozomi Saito, University of Pittsburgh

The Transformative Classroom: A Case Study for Teaching Multi-Ethnic Literatures in the Twenty-First Century
Chair: Julia Lee, Loyola Marymount University; AV Requested
Participants: Mauricio Hernandez, Sydney Delaney, Andre Enriquez, Nina Keen, Julia Lee, Melanie Hubbard, Loyola Marymount University
Respondent: David S. Roh, University of Utah

Poetics of Disapora
Chair: TBD

1. A DREAMER Divided: The Transnational Poetics of Javier Zamora," Mauricio Espinoza, University of Cincinnati
2. "Documentary Poetics and Latin@ Literature," Dennis López, California State University, Long Beach
3. "Transmedia Adaptation and the 'Social Biotext' of Fred Wah's *Sentenced to Light*," Nathan A. Jung, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

FRIDAY, MAY 4: LUNCHEON & KEYNOTE SPEAKER, 12:30 – 2:00 PM

FRIDAY, MAY 4: 2:15 – 3:30 PM

Immigration, Violence, and Borders
Chair: TBD

1. "'Public Enemy Number One': Drug Discourse in Daniel Cano's *Shifting Loyalties*," Kevin Pickard, Southern Methodist University
2. "Transnational Violence: Borders, Capitalism, and People as Collateral Damage in Linda Hogan's *Mean Spirit* and Alicia Gaspar de Alba's *Desert Blood*," Isabel Quintana Wulf, Colby College
3. "Les Lieux de Duvalier: Memories of the Duvalier dictatorship in New York," Norrell Edwards, University of Maryland

MELUS Presidential Roundtable: Past MELUS Presidents Discuss the Society's Past, Present, and Future
Moderator: Joseph Kraus, University of Scranton, Current MELUS President
Panelists: Marco Portales, Texas A&M University (MELUS President 1992-94), John Wharton Lowe, University of Georgia (MELUS President 1997-2000), Wenying Xu, Jacksonville University (MELUS President 2009-12), Yemisi Jimoh, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (MELUS President 2012-15)

Trans-subjects, Liminal Spaces, and Identity
Chair: TBD

1. "'I wish I had been born a man': The Trans-subjects of Loreta Janeta Velazquez's Civil War Narrative," Jesse Alemán, University of New Mexico
2. "Between Africa and the Stars: The Liminal Spaces of Nnedi Okorafor," Ande Davis, University of Missouri, Kansas City
3. "Out of Bounds: A Cartography of Transgression in Ruth Ozeki's *My Year of Meats*," Tanya Y. Kam, University of Wisconsin, Whitewater

Labor Issues in Multi-Ethnic Literature
Chair: TBD

1. "Social Transformation and the Makers of History in Rigoberto González's *Crossing Vines* and Gary Soto's *Jesse*," Marcial González, University of California, Berkeley
2. "Reconsidering Intimacy in Contemporary Filipina/o Cultural Production," Trisha Federis Remetir, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
3. "Dystopian Futures, Decolonial Hope: Revolution and the Colonial Differences in *Lunar Braceros* and *Ink*," Brittany Henry, Rice University

Protest, Freedom, and Incarceration
Chair: Josephine Metcalf, University of Hull

1. "An Odyssey of Transformation: Self-Expression and Political Protest in the 'Conversion' Narratives of Luis J. Rodriguez," Josephine Metcalf, University of Hull
2. "Transgression in Translation: The Memoirs of Piri Thomas and Luis J. Rodriguez," Laura Wright, University of Connecticut
3. "'Envisioning the future, remembering the past': Suzan-Lori Parks's *Fucking A* in the Era of Mass Incarceration," Allison Serraes, University of Mississippi

Rewriting History, Rewriting War: Transcultural Refugee Discourse
Chair: Priya Jha, University of Redlands

1. "'My Orphaned Voice': Confessions of a Refugee of War and Memory," Pamela J. Rader, Georgian Court University
2. "Refugee Designs: Authors of a Transnational 'Asian American,'" Timothy K. August, Stony Brook University
3. "Can the Oriental Speak? Saying the Unsayable in *The Sympathizer,"* Reshmi Dutt-Ballerstadt, Linfield College

FRIDAY, MAY 4: 3:45 – 5:00 PM

Forms of Indigenous Resistance
Chair: TBD

1. "'The Other' and 'the Self' in *Coyote Traces*: A Chinese Yi Poet's Empathy for Native American Cultural Legacy," Wen Peihong, Southwest Uninversity for Nationalities, China
2. "Transnational Waterways and Transformative Power: Lessons from Linda Hogan's *Solar Storms* and #NoDAPL Water Protectors," Helen Makhdoumian, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign
3. "Embracing the Feminine, An Act of Survivance: How Two-Spirit Literatures Reclaim and Create Gender Balance," Lorinda Toledo, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Multi-Ethnic Memoir and Autobiography
Chair: TBD

1. "A Cross-Cultural Autobiography: Selma Ekrem's *Unveiled*," Neriman Kuyucu, University of Missouri-Columbia
2. "Honest Transgression: Art and the Subversion of Dominant Narratives in *Men We Reaped* by Jesmyn Ward," Joel Wendland, Grand Valley State University

3. "Transience and Transformation: Immigrant Negotiations in American Autobiography," Mimi Pipino, Ursuline College
4. "The Role of Photographs in Barack Obama's *Dreams of My Father*," Matthew S. Dentice, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Roundtable: Pedagogy in Anxious Times: Teaching Multi-Ethnic Literatures of the United States

Chairs: Cristina Stanciu, Virginia Commonwealth University, and Anastasia Lin, University of North Georgia; AV Requested

1. "Teaching Satirical Literacy and Social Responsibility through Race Comedy," Jessie LaFrance Dunbar, University of Alabama
2. "Insurgent Hughes: Negotiating Multiple Narratives Digitally," Letitia Guran, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
3. "Pedagogy and Its Anxieties in the Post-Race Era: Teaching George Schuyler's *Black No More*," Sterling L. Bland, Jr., Rutgers University-Newark
4. "Who Needs Race Talk Anyway?: Teaching African American Literature to Students of Color in Anxious Times," Agnieszka Tuxzynska, Queensborough Community College, CUNY

African American Identity and the City

Chair: TBD

1. "Murder, Mobility, and the Urban Aesthetic in Richard Wright's *Native Son*," Marc Dziak, San Juan College
2. "Ethiopian Cityscapes: Gentrification and the Immigrant Voices of Black Washington D.C.," Marta Gierczyk, University of Miami
3. "The Cosmopolitan Refugee: Powerlessness, Violence, and the Neocolonial Subject in Teju Cole's *Open City*," Maimuna Dali Islam, The College of Idaho

Identity and Mobility in Multi-Ethnic Literature

Chair: TBD

1. "'Chera Harfe Gooz Mizane'? Maz Jobrani and Iranian American Identity Making," Kaitlyn Wauthier, Bowling Green State University
2. "Mohsin Hamid and His Magic Doors," Richard C. Taylor, East Carolina University
3. "'Cities Teetering at the Edge of the Abyss": Speculative Global Commons and 'the (In)human' in Mohsin Hamid's *Exit West*," Preston Waltrip, University of California, Riverside

Memory, Erasure, and Colonial Genealogies in Native American Literature
Chair: TBD

1. "'Backward in Time and Forward in Dream of Unknown Memory': Deborah Miranda's Unsettling Colonial Genealogies," Lisa J. Udel, Illinois College
2. "'When my hands are empty / I will be full': Rhetorical Erasure and Chyrstos's *Not Vanishing*," Crystal Veronie, University of Southern Mississippi
3. "Genetic Memory and Transformative Storytelling in Deborah Miranda's *Bad Indians*," Ariel Santos, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

SATURDAY, MAY 5: 8:00 – 9:15 AM

Activist Texts, Organizations, and Strategies
Chair: TBD

1. "Secondary Readings: Maryemma Graham and the Reframing of Black Literary Scholarship," Seretha D. Williams, Augusta University
2. "Solidarity is the Weapon of the People: The Young Lords Organization and Their Politics of Unity," Jacqueline Lazú, DePaul University
3. "Transience, Discontinuity, and Political Consciousness in Fae Myenne Ng's *Bone*," John Charles Goshert, Utah Valley University

Cultural, Racial, and Gender Identities in Multi-Ethnic Literature
Chair: TBD

1. "Zoot Suit Riot: The Clash Between Cultural Identities in Luis Valdez's *Zoot Suit*," Sergio Robles, Jr., California State University, Long Beach
2. "Sensing the Way Toward a Politics of Afro-Asian Solidarity," Stephanie Kung, Indiana University
3. "Transposing *Jane Eyre*: Race, Inheritance, and Identity in Toni Morrison's *Tar Baby*," Susan Crutchfield, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
4. "Revisiting 'Blind Tom' Wiggins and the Postbellum Era in Tyehimba Jess's *Olio* and Jeffery Renard Allen's *Song of the Shank*," Emily R. Rutter, Ball State University

Slavery and Black Poetics
Chair: TBD

1. "Frank Webb's Speakable Silence in *The Garies and Their Friends*," SallyAnn H. Ferguson, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
2. "A 'New World' Black Epic: On Phillis Wheatley's 'On Being Brought from Africa to America,'" Karla V. Zelaya, University of North Alabama
3. "The Dream of Emancipation in the Poems of George Moses Horton," Shaibal Devroy, North Dakota State University

4. "'I Saw What Perilous Circumstances I was in . . . and Became Almost an Englishman': Olaudah Equiano's Ecological Transformation," Kyle Keeler, Kent State University

Negotiating Space in Contemporary Arab American Writing: Community, Storytelling, and the Body
Chair: TBD

1. "Survivance Strategies in Contemporary Arab American Women's Novels," Nancy El Gendy, University of Nevada, Reno
2. "The Community to Come in Alameddine's *Koolaids*," Ghada Mourad, Soka University of America
3. "Developing Community: Storytelling in Laila Halaby's *West of the Jordan*," Lena Zaghmouri, Fresno City College

Issues of Genre in Multi-Ethnic Texts
Chair: TBD

1. "Imagine Piece: Yoko Ono's Whimsy," Rachel Jane Carroll, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2. "Challenging the Boundaries: Transpacific Entanglements in Shawna Ryan's *Green Island*," Pei-fang, Tsai, National Taiwan Normal University
3. "The Paranoid Style in *Savage Holiday*: Transgressive Desire and the Limits of Self-Knowledge," Chris Bollini, University of Georgia

The Ethnic Archive
Chair: TBD

1. "Recovering Hispanic Immigrant Narratives: Print Culture in Early Los Angeles," Vincent Pérez, University of Nevada Las Vegas
2. "Black, White, and Native: The Multiracial, Multicultural, Multinational Print Space of Hampton Institute's *Southern Workman*," Sidonia Serafini, University of Georgia
3. "Gwendolyn Bennett's Transformative Archive," Belinda Wheeler, Claflin University

SATURDAY, MAY 5: 9:30 – 10:45 AM

Exoticism, Cultural Appropriation, and Stereotypes in Contemporary American Films
Chair: TBD; AV Requested

1. "Transcultural Collaborations in Filmic Storytelling: Negotiating Narrative Permissibility in Disney/Pixar's *Coco*," Christopher Gonzalez, Utah State University
2. "Mapping the Other: Resurgence of Neo-Orientalism in American Films and Popular Culture," Parama Sarkar, University of Toledo

3. "Mixed Messages: Posthumanism and Racial Identity Performances Across Media," Rachel Schlotfeldt, University of Washington

Religion in Literature I: Reclaiming Religion in the Postsecular Era: Muslim and Native American Writers

Chair: J. Stephen Pearson, University of North Georgia

1. "The Presecular Novel, the Postsecular Graphic Novel: Sensibilities of Fact and Faith in Classical and Contemporary Muslim Fiction," Noor Hashem, Cornell University
2. "Transcending Modern Justice in Louise Erdrich's *The Round House* and *LaRose*," Makayla C. Steiner, University of Iowa
3. "Reconciliation in the Absence of Apology: The Power of Creek Spiritual Values in Joy Harjo's Poetry," Rachel Luckenbill, Southeastern University

Native American Sovereignty and Justice

Chair: TBD

1. "'Were you cured?': Latency, Nationalism, and Sovereignty in Louise Erdrich's *The Plague of Doves*," Sara L. Pfaff, Brown University
2. "Disrupted Bildung and Dissonant Counterpoint: Dealing with 'Rough Justice' in Louise Erdrich's *The Plague of Doves*," Jihye Kang, Binghamton University
3. "Native Writers Performing Transformative Recovery: Reclaiming Civic Space and Educational Sovereignty through Counter-Narratives," Sarah Ruffing Robbins, Texas Christian University
4. "Why Should We Care About Standing Rock?: Relational Thinking and Transcultural Coalition-Building," Yi-Ting Change, Pennsylvania State University

Chicana Perspectives on Translation and Spanish-Language Texts

Chair: Lorena Gauthereau, University of Houston

1. "Healing the Sweet Avarice of the Rich: Translating the Meaning of Diabetes," Amanda Ellis, University of Houston
2. "Material Culture and Transnationalism in Jorge Ainslie's *Los Pochos*," Sonia M. Del Hierro, Rice University
3. "Amalia Millan's New Mexico: A Continuation of Mexico's Northern States," Elena V. Valdez, Rice University
4. "Me Civilizo'/'My Civilizing': Gender and Geography in Jovita Gonzalez's Work," Melina Vizcaino-Aleman, University of New Mexico

Best Practices for Writing, Revising, and Publishing

Chair: Amy Gore, University of New Mexico

1. Nancy El-Gendy, University of Nevada, Reno
2. Leah Milne, University of Indianapolis

3. Tracy Floreani, Oklahoma City University
4. Gary Totten, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Landscaping Citizenship in Multi-Ethnic American Literature
Chair: Danelle Dyckhoff Stelzriede, Kennesaw State University

1. "'How do you change this tragedy of vision?': Postnational Feminist Resistance at the Border," Danelle Dyckhoff Stelzriede, Kennesaw State University
2. "'In the End I will Carry a Hoe': *China Men's* Transformations of Land and Identity," Anastasia Lin, University of North Georgia
3. "Lost Places and Transformative Spaces: *Lieux de Memoire* in Post-Holocaust Fiction," Stella Setka, West Los Angeles College

SATURDAY, MAY 5: 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM

Black Escape and Transgressiveness in Satire and Black Humor Studies
Chair: TBD

1. "'In Spite of My Being a Victim': Sexual Violence, Black Boys and Subverting Rape Narratives," Brandon Manning, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
2. "'I am the stone that the builder refused': An Analysis of Dismissiveness of Black Rage in America through Aaron McGruder's *The Boondocks*," Tajanae Barnes, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
3. "Black Form in a White Anthropocene: Paul Beatty's Trans-scalar Politics," Henry Ivry, University of Toronto

Affect, Nostalgia, and Abjection in Multi-Ethnic Texts
Chair: TBD

1. "The Racial Transhuman: Cyborg Phenomenology in Tan Lin's *Insomnia and the Aunt*," Takeo Rivera, Boston University
2. "The Failed Staging of The Tempest and Problems of Afro-American Fatherhood in John Edgar Wideman's *Philadelphia Fire*," Ryo Yamauchi, Tohoku University
3. "Looking Back on Colonial Korea: Nostalgia as Retrospective Possibility in Park Chang-Wook's *The Handmaiden* and Min Jin Lee's *Pachinko*," Andrew Kim, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
4. "Black Motherhood, the Abject Body, and Ancient Properties: Toni Morrison's *Sula* and *Tar Baby*," Kayla Miller, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Articulating Identity in Asian American Texts
Chair: TBD

1. " Dissonant Tastes: Translating Food, Translating Identity in Jhumpa Lahiri's Fiction," Shakuntala Ray, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
2. "Locked Inside the Crowd and Carried in Its Moment: Translingualism in Theresa Hak Kung Cha's *DICTEE*," Hanna Andrews, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
3. "Rewriting the Bildungsroman: Diasporic Mobility in *Re Jane*," Sukie Kim, Tufts University
4. "Listening for Stories and Silence: History and Memory in the Lived Experiences of Vietnamese Refugees," Michelle Dinh, University of Washington

Awkward, Magic, and Professional: Transcending Traditional Definitions of Black Womanhood
Chair: TBD

1. "The Magic of Sassafrass: Interpreting Queen Sugar through the lens of 'Black Girl Magic,'" Tiffany Austin, University of Bahamas
2. "To be Millenial, Black, and Awkward: New Dimensions of Black Women in Pop Culture," Uzzie Cannon, Virginia Union University
3. "'We Are Ugly, But We Are Here': Challenging the Cultural Aestheic of Black Womanhood," Darlene Anita Scott, Virginia Union University

Transfigurations: Why Theory Matters When Reading "Minority" Literatures in the Americas
Chair: Richard Perez, John Jay College, CUNY

1. "Secret Sharers in Theory," Victoria A. Chevalier, Medgar Evers College, CUNY
2. "Blackness and The Butchered Ethics of Manuel Ocampo's Abstraction in *Cooks in the Kitchen*," Chad Infante, Northwestern University
3. "'Writing at the Edge of Being': De-subjectivity and the Negation of Identity in *Face* by Cecile Pineda," Richard Perez, John Jay College, CUNY

Transnational, Transcultural, and Transgressive Family Formations in Multi-Ethnic U.S. Literatures
Chair: TBD; AV Requested

1. "Genocide, Adoption, and Uncertain Futurity in Louise Erdich's *The Round House, LaRose,* and *The Future Home of the Living God*," Lori Askeland, Wittenburg University
2. "Transgressive Bonds: Family and Incarcertaion in Helen Elaine Les's Fiction," Agnieszka Tuszynska, Queensborough Community College, CUNY
3. "Through the U.S. Looking Glass: Transpacific and Transcultural Family Formations in Yong Soo Park's *Boy Genius* and Min Jin Lee's *Pachinko*," Kyung-Sook Boo, Sogang University, Korea

SATURDAY, MAY 5: 1:00 – 2:15 PM

Cultural Migrations: Transnational and Transhistorical Latinidades
Chair: Constancio R. Arnaldo, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

1. "'Who Lives, Who Dies, Who Tells Your Story': Puerto Rican Erasure in Popular Readings of Lin-Manuel Miranda's *Hamilton*," Mirelsie Velazquez, University of Oklahoma
2. "'Straight into some Chicano chick's eyes': The Shinning Sinners of Queer Post-Punk," Richard T. Rodriguez, University of California, Riverside
3. "Musical Migrations: Mapping Cross Cultural Exchange in Chicana Punk Narratives," Ariana Ruiz, University of Iowa

Roundtable: Publishing Your Article in *MELUS*
Panelists will offer short presentations about what constitutes a strong submission to *MELUS* and then take questions from the audience.
Panelists: Martha J. Cutter, University of Connecticut (Immediate Past Editor-in Chief and Editorial Board Member, *MELUS*), Yemisi Jimoh, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (Editorial Board Member, *MELUS*, and past president of MELUS), Cathy Schlund-Vials, University of Connecticut (Editorial Board Member, *MELUS*), Gary Totten, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (Editor-in-Chief, *MELUS*), Wenying Xu, Jacksonville University (Editorial Board Member, *MELUS*, and past president of MELUS)

Black/Be/Longing: Transitions Toward Humanly Workable Geographies
Chair: Hannah Skjellum; AV Requested

1. "What About Puerto Rico" Reexamining Space in the American Neo-Slave Narrative," Marcy Pedzwater, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
2. "*A Seat at the Table*: Solange Knowles' Poetics of Black Belonging," Emilio Taiveaho, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
3. "'You just drove here?...Like you just was on one and got on the highway?': A Queer Ecocritical Consideration of Spaces in *Moonlight*," Hannah Skjellum, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
4. "The Limits of Empathy: Resisting the Virtual Colonization of Subaltern Space," Doug Stark, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Religion in Literature II: Varieties of Religious Experience: Karen Tei, Yamashita, Mat Johnson and Pearl Buck
Chair: Rachel Luckenbill, Southeastern University

1. "Absent Saviors in Karen Tei Yamashita's *Tropic of Orange,"* Susan Causey, NB Christian Academy

2. "Miscegenation and Spiritual Transformation in the Haunted Mansion of Mat Johnson's *Loving Day*," Jennifer McFarlane Harris, Xavier University
3. "Deconstructing Power and Privilege in Pearl Bucks' Works: An Analysis of Religion in *The Good Earth* and *Pavilion of Women*," Xiuping Li, [INSTITUTION]

Music, Sound Studies, and African American Literature
Chair: TBD

1. "Living with Music: Ralph Ellison and the 21st-Century Musical Apprenticeship," Kimberly Mack, University of Toledo
2. "Sounding Exchange: Cosmopolitan Sonic-Poetics in Langston Hughes's *Ask Your Mama*," Adam Schuster, University of Wisconsin-Madison
3. "From Cakewalk to Second Line: Contextualizing Helene and Shadrack through Dance in *Sula*," Chelsea Adams, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

You Can't Trust Your Eyes: The Challenge of Observable Race
Chair: TBD

1. "Arching Whiteness: On the Work of African Speculative Fiction," Raquel Baker, California State University, Channel Islands
2. "(Sc)optical Illusions in George Schuyler's *Black No More* and Jordan Peele's *Get Out*," Wanda Raiford, Florida International University
3. "Not Black, but Negro: Renegotiating the Politics of Identity Through Activism," Marta Mack Washington, University of Kentucky

SATURDAY, MAY 5: 2:30 – 3:45 PM

Emerging Indigenous Writers Panel
Chair: TBD

1. Melissa Michal Slocum
2. Karli Rouse
3. Zach Wilson

SATURDAY, MAY 5: 4:00 – 5:15 PM

MELUS General Membership Meeting

SATURDAY, MAY 5: 6:00 – 9:00 PM: KEYNOTE & RECEPTION

SUNDAY, MAY 6: 8:00 – 9:15 AM

Place, Memory, and Identity Formation
Chair: TBD

1. "'Alza la Bandera': Transnational Imaginary Formation and Performance in Lin-Manuel Miranda's *In the Heights*," María J. Durán, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
2. "Reading the Landscape in Nineteenth-Century American Literatures American Souths: Reading Social Markers through the Landscape," Lara Galas, University of California, Santa Cruz
3. "Butterfly Boy, Delaying Desire," David Siglos, Jr., University of California, Riverside

Violence, Spectatorship, and Race in Charles Chestnutt
Chair: TBD

1. "American Brutalities: Lynching and Spectatorship in Nineteenth Century American Literature," Vincent M. Basso, University of New Mexico
2. "Chestnutt's Conjuring Mark," Christine Walsh, University of Arizona
3. "The Duality of the Mulatto Character: An Examination of Race and Morality in Charles W. Chestnutt's *Paul Marchand* and Mark Twain's *Pudd'n'Head Wilson*," Michelle-Taylor Sherwin, University of Georgia

Issues of Representation and Influence in Neo-Slave Narratives
Chair: TBD

1. "The Past is History: Tensions of Recovery in Edward P. Jones's *The Known World* and Dolen Perkins-Valdez's *Blam*," Justin Williams, University of Memphis
2. "Unconscious Consciousness: Neo-Slave Narratives and the Anxiety of Influence in Chicago's Drill Music," Daniel Scherwatzky, University of Miami
3. "On the Road: Complicating Slavery through Liminal Spaces in Edward P. Jones's *The Known World*," Aleisha C. Smith, University of Minnesota

Transcending Mestizaje: Articulating New Identities and Decentering Political Narratives in Latinx Literature
Chair: TBD

1. "Playing Indian: The Problem with Transracial Identities in *Chamisa Dreams* and *Jemez Spring*," Myrriah Gomez, The University of New Mexico
2. "Transnational Identity in the Sanctuary Movement: Maya Chinchilla's *The Cha Cha Files,*" Leigh C. Johnson, Marymount University
3. "Elusive Border and Hemispheric Identity in Ana Castillo's *Sapogonia,*" Karen R. Roybal, Colorado College

Disability and the Ethnic Body
Chair: TBD

1. "Rural Geographies of Race and Disability in Neo-Slave Narratives," Matthew J. C. Cella, Shippensburg University
2. "Writing the Body: Able-Bodies, Difference, and Transgressive Citizenship in the West: James Welch's *The Heartsong of Charging Elk* in a Global Context," Andrea Dominguez, Independent Scholar
3. "Race, Gender, and the Exclusions of Psychiatric Reform and Anti-Psychiatry," Jessica Waggoner, University of Houston

Representing War
Chair: TBD

1. "*New World A-Coming's* Wartime Transformation From Writer's Project to Radio Play," J. J. Butts, Simpson College
2. "Historicity and Rupture in John A. Williams's *Captain Blackness*," Marc Farrior, University of Arizona
3. "Dead Man Walking: Gender, Race, and the Militarized Body in Mario Acevedo's *Felix Gomez* Series," Chrysta Wilson, University of New Mexico

SUNDAY, MAY 6: 9:30 – 10:45 AM

The Spatial and Temporal Implications of the Neo-Slave Narrative
Chair: TBD

1. " Transchronological Possibilities in Colson Whitehead's *The Underground Railroad*," Lisa Marvel Johnson, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2. "'Who Builds Anything in this Country?' Colson Whitehead's *The Underground Railroad*, Afro-Pessimism, and Radical Temporalities," Kaylee Jangula Mootz, University of Connecticut
3. "Peripheral Transgressions and Liberation in Ana Castillo's *Watercolor Women / Opaque Men: A Novel in Verse* and Colson Whitehead's *Underground Railroad*," Dominique Vargas, University of Notre Dame

Resistance, Disidentification, and Queer and Trans Identities in Film and Literature
Chair: TBD

1. "Transgender and Transgeneric Representations in *Drunktown's Finest*," John Gamber, Utah State University
2. "*Entre Mariocones y Locos*: Disidentifications, Counterpublics, and Dino Dinco's *Homeboy*," Frank García, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign
3. "Silence as Resistance in *The Book of Salt*," Alison Hsiao, Tufts University

Multi-Ethnic Transformations: Transgressive Bodies, Beings, Time and Space
Chair: Amanda Ellis, University of Houston

1. "Transgressive Transformations: Transverse Diasporic Weather Formations in Michelle Cliff's *Free Enterprise*," Meina Yates-Richard, Syracuse University
2. "I Don't Live in Harlem: Blackness, Border Areas, and Geographies of Transfiguration in Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man,"* Emerson Zora Hamson, Rice University
3. "*Blood Sugar Canto*: ire'ne lara sila's Chicana Diabetic Poetics of Transformation," Amanda Ellis, University of Houston
4. "Puerile Becoming: Domestic Violence as Playful Masculine Transition in Justin Torres' *We the Animals,"* Luz Minerva Jimenez Ruvalcaba, Stanford University

Transnational Identity and Civil Rights
Chair: TBD

1. "Transnationalism and the Case of Frederick Douglass," Julie Husband, University of Northern Iowa
2. "Richard Rodriguez's Pluralistic Cultural Identity in *Days of Obligation* and *Brown*," Jose Fernandez, Western Illinois University
3. "Shifting Geographies: Caribbean Imaginaries of the Mediterranean," Maria Anne Zazzarino, Louisiana State University

Decolonizing the Digital: US Latina/o and Southwestern Digital Humanities Scholarship
Chair: Lorena Gauthereau; AV Requested

1. "The Creating of the FIrst Digitak Humanities Research Center on US Latina/o Studies: Reverting Wrongs," Gabriela Baeza Ventura, University of Houston
2. "(Digital) Methodology of the Oppressed: Decolonizing the Digital Humanities," Lorena Gauthereau, University of Houston
3. "Let's Build 'Bridges' Instead of 'Walls': A Rhizomatic Analysis of the Development and Post-establishment of Gloria Anzaldua's Frontier Theory and its Digital Representation," Rosita Scerbo, Arizona State University
4. "Digital Transgressions in Photography: Documentary Photograph in Social Movements in Mexico," Mariana Ruiz Gonzalez Renteria, Arizona State University

SUNDAY, MAY 6: 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM

Borderlands and Border Crossings
Chair: TBD

1. "'Dear Mrs. Trump, Please Read *This* Picture Book': The Ethics of Counting and Border Crossing in Jairo Buitrago's *Two White Rabbits*," Maya Socolovsky, University of North Carolina, Charlotte
2. "Narrative Translocality as Decolonizing Spatial Practice: Mapping an Afro-Muslim Spatiality along the U.S./Mexico Borderlands in Laila Lalami's *The Moor's Account*," Crystal Bustamante, Texas A&M University
3. "Transnational Hispaniola: Rethinking the Caribbean as Fractal Borderlands," John Ribó, Florida State University
4. "Dancing on the Edge of America: Ballrooms as Borderlands in the Fiction of John Fante," Michael Docherty, University of Kent

Transnational Subjectivities
Chair: TBD

1. "A Case for the Black Maternal: Flesh, Spirit, and Transnational Haunting in *Of One Blood*," Sarah Buckner, University of California, Riverside
1. "Korean American or Neither: Alilen-ness in *Native Speaker* and Beyond," Julie Yeeun Kim, California State University, Long Beach
2. "Near and Unforgotten: Transnational Subjectivities in Tarfia Faizullah's *Seam*," Aria Pahari, Mount Holyoke College

Landscape, Space, and Place in Indigenous Texts
Chair: TBD

1. "The Transformative Landscapes of Color, Place, and Memory in Silko's *Gardens in the Dunes*," Celina Osuna, Arizona State University
2. "(Un)marked Space: Whiteness, the Blank Page, and Marginalized Bodies in Indigenous Women's Writing," Amy Gore, University of New Mexico
3. "Visionary Totems and Ocean's Scrotums: Transmotion as Transgression in Vizenor and Silko's Stories of Native Resistance," Jake Barrett-Mills, University of East Anglia

Queer and Trans Identities in Multi-Ethnic Texts
Chair: TBD

1. "Trans Experiences of Mei Ling and Moonie in *Revenge of the Mooncake Vixen* by Marilyn Chin," Ammanda Moore, Norco College
2. "'Clumsy, Complex, Groping, Blind Thing': Gloria Anzaldúa, Edith Ellis, and the Transformative Politics of Reproductive Futurity," Christopher Keller, Western Kentucky University

3. “Third Chinese Daughter: Narrating Immigration, Labor, and Trans Identity in Kim Fu’s *For Today I am a Boy*,” Danielle Seid, Baruch College CUNY
4. “Transidentification and Transgression in *The Pagoda* by Patricia Powell,” Suzanne Uzzilia, CUNY Graduate Center

History, Temporality, and Transgressive Sexuality in Colson Whitehead’s *Underground Railroad*

Chair: TBD

1. “‘The secret beneath us’: Trans-temporal History in Colson Whitehead’s *The Underground Railroad*," Grace Heneks, Texas A&M University
2. “‘If two women were a flaw, what was a community?’: Transgenerational Oppression in Whitehead’s *The Underground Railroad*,” Ashley Hemm, University of Miami
3. “Tied Up, Tied Down: Sadomasochism in Harriet Jacobs’s *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* and Colson Whitehead’s *Underground Railroad*,” Anthony Barthelemy, University of Miami