

MADLIT

FEELING THE BODY POLITIC: AFFECT & AESTHETICS

CONFERENCE PROGRAM



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The 15th Annual Graduate Conference on Language and Literature at the University of Wisconsin–Madison (MadLit)

February 22-23, 2019

The Graduate Student Association of the English Department is delighted to welcome you to the 15th iteration of MadLit. This year's theme – *Feeling the Body Politic: Affect and Aesthetics* – encourages us to interrogate the often vexed tensions between affect, aesthetics, politics, and embodiment, and to ask what is historically novel about the constellation of these terms that we now experience, and what is in it that we have inherited from our long and global histories.

The panels in this conference will take a unique form: each will be led by an advanced dissertator at UW–Madison, who will give a 15-20 minute presentation on their work. This will be followed by 10-minute presentations by other graduate students within the same research cluster, with 20-30 minutes at the end reserved for Q&A with all panelists. We hope that this format allows us to highlight the most exciting and novel research conducted by emerging scholars in the humanities today.

The GSA would like to thank Professor Robert McRuer, the administrative staff of the English Department at UW–Madison, the staff at Memorial Union, the volunteers running the registration table, and all of our panelists, moderators, and attendees. This conference was made possible by generous funding from the Associated Students of Madison, the Wisconsin Experience Grant, and the English Department at UW–Madison.

GSA Members

Elaine Cannell, Robert Collins, Sarah Friedman, Iseult Gillespie, Elinor Hayden, Liam Kruger, Sarah Olson, Amanda Ong

GSA Emeritus

Aaron Vieth

GSA Co-Chairs

Elinor Hayden & Liam Kruger

Friday, 22 February

Registration will be located outside of the keynote room (TBD), and will be open from 3:30p-5:00p.

4:00p

Keynote Address

"Queer Affect in Crip Landscapes: Disability, Desire, Devastation"

Professor Robert McRuer, George Washington University

Memorial Union—Room TBD

Robert McRuer is a professor of English at George Washington University. His work focuses on queer and crip cultural studies and critical theory. His most recent book, *Crip Times: Disability, Globalization, and Resistance*, was released in January 2018. *Crip Times* considers locations of disability within contemporary political economies and the roles that disabled movements and representations play in countering hegemonic forms of globalization. His first book, *The Queer Renaissance: Contemporary American Literature and the Reinvention of Lesbian and Gay Identities*, centered on contemporary lgbt writers, particularly lgbt writers of color, and his second book, *Crip Theory: Cultural Signs of Queerness and Disability*, attended to cultural sites where critical queerness and disability contest heteronormativity and compulsory able-bodiedness.

5:30

Keynote Reception

Memorial Union—Room TBD

Saturday, 23 February

Registration will be located outside of the conference rooms and will be open from 8:00a-5:00p. Rooms A and B will be determined the day of the event: please consult the Today in the Union displays across the first floor of Memorial Union.

8:00a-8:30a

Breakfast & Coffee

Room TBD

8:30a-9:50a

Panel 1: Media Studies & Literature

Room A

Moderator: Professor Mark Vareschi, UW-Madison

- **Aaron Vieth** UW-Madison
"Anti-Inflammatory Reading: Fever, Suspicion, *Bleak House*"
- **Christopher Geary** University of California, Berkeley
"Trolling the Universe: Laughter and the Politics of Irony in Thomas Carlyle's *Sartor Resartus*"
- **Ethan Jackson** Wilfrid Laurier University
"Transitioning with Before and After Memories: 3 Second Collapses in Transition(al) YouTube Videos Creating a Trans Aesthetic(s) Archive"
- **Christopher Cañete Rodriguez Kelly** UW-Madison
"Excepting from the Hip: The Hyperstitious Conundrum of Twitch-Sovereignty"

Panel 2: Sound, Sex, and the Diaspora

Room B

Moderator: Professor Yanie Fecu, UW-Madison

- **Oladipupo Oyeleye** UW-Madison
"The Poetics of Afropolitics: Modern African Fiction, Music, and Self-Making in the Postcolonial Present"
- **George N. Ramirez** George Washington University
"'We are allowed to be joyful. We are allowed to be brown.': Listening to Latinidad in Latinx Podcasts"
- **Tori Yonker** UW-Madison
"Paper Dolls & Dildos: Intra-Active Entanglement, Enfleshment, and Vibration in *Starstruck*"

Panel 3: The Marginalized Body in History

Room A

Moderator: Professor Martin Foys, UW-Madison

- **Leah Parker** UW-Madison
"Embodied Afterlives and Scribal Disability in Worcester, c. 1250"
- **Kyle Smith** UW-Madison
"Voice, Space, and the Sound of Precarity in the Old English Rhyming Poem"
- **Alex Ukropen** UW-Madison
"The Bigger They Are...: Conflicting Perceptions of Gigantic Bodies in the *Hypnerotomachia Poliphili* and *The Travels of Sir John Mandeville*"
- **Sabrina Manero** UW-Madison
"Of Yellow Books and Monstrosity"

Panel 4: Early Modern Embodiment

Room B

Moderator: Professor Elizabeth Bearden, UW-Madison

- **Emily Loney** UW-Madison
"Catchwords, Revisions, and Delaying Closure in Lady Mary Wroth's Sonnets"
- **Sarah Olson** UW-Madison
"Unbordering the Body: Clothing, Skin, and Selfhood in *The Sea Voyage*"
- **Miranda Alksnis** UW-Madison
"'For fear she turn wild, like the place, and barren': Geohumoralism and Gender in *The Sea Voyage*"
- **Annemarie Lisko** UW-Madison
"'tho' half unintelligible to me': Percy Shelley and Italian Communication, 1818-1822"

11:25a-12:25p

Break for Lunch

Roundtable: Disability, Inc.: The Aesthetics of Health and Globalization

Room A

Moderator: Professor Robert McRuer, George Washington University

- **Amy Gaeta** UW-Madison
"Drone Life: A Feminist Crip Analysis of Perpetual War"
- **Chelsea Thompto** UW-Madison
"Productive Bodies"
- **Michael Toole** UW-Madison
"Cultivating Life in Early Modern Japan"
- **Neil Simpkins** UW-Madison
"Unpacking 'Healthy' Relationships to Writing"

2:00p-3:20p

Panel 5: Temporality and the Modern Novel

Room A

Moderator: Professor Ainehi Edoro, UW-Madison

- **Lisa Marvel Johnson** UW-Madison
"Rethinking the Time of Imprisonment: Concurrent Sentences in Jesmyn Ward's *Sing, Unburied, Sing*"
- **Elaine Cannell** UW-Madison
"'Wait a Minute!': Revising Prognosis Time in Lucia Berlins' *A Manual for Cleaning Women*"
- **Tyler Carson** Rutgers University
"Engendering the Anti-Social Thesis: The Queerness of Pregnancy in Maggie Nelson's *The Argonauts*"

Panel 6: Keywords & World Literature

Room B

Moderator: Professor Laila Amine, UW-Madison

- **Jacquelyn Teoh** UW-Madison
"Words, Words, Words: Reflecting on the Rise of Keyword Studies"
- **Caroline Hensley** UW-Madison
"Corporal Creativity: Migritude as Challenge to Genre and Nation"
- **Andrew Thomas** UW-Madison
"Perpetual War and the Discourse of National Confession"
- **Eric Cheuk** George Washington University
"Afro-Pessimism and Secular Stagnation"

3:35p-4:55p

Panel 7: Toxicity and Hope in the Anthropocene

Room A

Moderator: Professor Kristina Huang, UW-Madison

- **Julia Dauer** UW-Madison
"Toxic Air and State Security, 1787/2019"
- **Christian Keeve & Xerxes Minocher** UW-Madison
"Apocalypsis: Prefigurative Possibilities of Unease"
- **Erin Prior** Brown University
"A Novel Mode of Thought: Meaning-Making and Hope in the Anthropocene"

Panel 8: Radical Politics & Literary Form

Room B

Moderator: Professor Mario Ortiz-Robles, UW-Madison

- **Katy Prottengeier** UW-Madison
"Marxist Individualism: Species-Being, Ethics, and the Novel"
- **Doron Darnov** UW-Madison
"Bored to Death: Late Capitalism in the Age of Digital Reproduction"
- **Jacqueline Krass** UW-Madison
"Cosmopolitanism and (Im)Mobility in *The Narrative and Travels of Mrs. Nancy Prince*"
- **Sara Gabler Thomas** UW-Madison
"Humid Novels of the American Archipelago"

5:30p-6:30p

Reception

Room TBD

