

2023 English Studies Conference Program
Event Cancelled (but exceptional student work accepted & acknowledged)

Kick-Off Event, Tuesday, April 11th, 4-5pm, 4440 Booth Library



“Activism, Entertainment, and Education: Diversity in Literature for Young People”
Dr. Niall Nance-Carroll

Join the conversation about diversity in books for children & young adults. Raffle winner/attendees choose a free book to take home with them! Light refreshments served.

English Studies Main Conference Events, Wednesday, April 12th, Coleman Hall:

Registration/Breakfast

9:30am-10:00am, Third Floor Coleman Hall

Check-In to the conference & pick-up your program in the third-floor hallway and join us for an opening conference light continental breakfast spread before our day of celebrating English Studies at EIU begins.

Opening Event: Creative Writing Reading

10:00-10:50am, Coleman Hall Auditorium

Creative Writing Special Projects Reading
Moderator: Dr. Colleen Abel

Five students—three graduate and two undergraduate—will read from special projects they've completed in creative writing.

Readers:

Ethan Miller, reading from Honors thesis work in fiction

Sophia Ballard, reading poetry from her chapbook
Samantha Mabry, reading from her Independent Study poetry project
EJ Hicks, reading from Honors thesis work in poetry
Anakin Weston, reading from graduate thesis work in fiction

Session One (Concurrent Panels)

11:00-11:50am, Coleman Hall Third Floor

PANEL ONE – 3130 Coleman Hall

Moderator: Dr. Melissa Caldwell

Research in Honors English, I

“The Effectiveness and Implications of Trauma-Informed Pedagogy “
Maddy McLaughlin

Trauma-informed pedagogy is often defined by teaching with an awareness of the varying types of trauma present in the lives of students, as well as the traumas in the lives of school staff that may shape the way they interact with students. By studying the ways that trauma-informed approaches can be integrated into school practices both within and outside of the classroom, more can be done to support students and educators alike as they navigate this "new normal" brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Classical Rhetoric Today”

Ian Palacios

In this presentation, I give an overview of classical rhetorical theory from Gorgias to Quintilian, defend rhetoric against common objections, and show rhetoric's relevance to a contemporary issue.

“*It Stays Under Your Skin*: Flipping Coins To Create Dread.”

Ethan Miller

It Stays Under Your Skin is a linked short horror collection that was written by flipping coins to determine the main characters' fates. This collection is a writing experiment that examines concepts of horror and trauma in order to strip away conventions of "plot armor" and predictability, inspiring dread and keeping readers on the edge of their seats.

PANEL TWO – 3140 Coleman Hall

Moderator: Dr. Marjorie Worthington

Mythology, Music, & Metaphor: An Intra-Disciplinary English Studies Panel

“Exploring the Extended Metaphor in Joy Harjo's ‘Road’”

Josh Maurice

In her poem, "Road," Joy Harjo employs an extended metaphor to compare a road to the journey of life. Upon closer inspection, though, "Road" can be seen from a perspective that is more closely associated with the horrible challenges that Indigenous Americans.

“Paideia: Cultural Mythology into the World of Education”
Emma Montgomery

Through this creative reading the presenter will share, Paideia, her personal mythology of her educational journey told through the daughter of the Greek God, Daskalos, God of Education.

“Music in the ELA Classroom”

Katie Walker

Music is an important part of students’ lives and it is a necessary addition into every classroom. This presentation focuses on why music is important in the ELA classroom and explains how to integrate it into the ELA classroom.

PANEL THREE – 3150 Coleman Hall

Moderator: Dr. Tim Taylor

Press Release Presentations about Recent Articles in Rhetoric & Composition

In this panel-presentation session, individuals will provide short presentations, aka academic press releases, about recent articles in Rhetoric and Composition that should give instructors ideas about teaching writing. Following the presentations, there will be time for discussion, connections, and questions.

Dan Hahn on “Responding to Student Writing Online: Tracking Student Interactions with Instructor Feedback in a Learning Management System” by Laflen and Smith

Hannah Hadley on “Teaching Invention: Leveraging the Power of Low-Stakes Writing” by Cunningham

Will Padgett on “Hermit Crabs to the Rescue: Using Creative Nonfiction as a Bridge to Academic Prose” by Young

Tabitha Omanano on CCCC Statement on Second-Language Writing and Multilingual Writers

EJ Hicks on “A Developmental Writing Experiment: Mixing ELL and NES Student Writers” by Comeau-Kirschner and Shahar

Tim Taylor on “Transforming the Feedback Paradigm: A Qualitative Study Examining Student-Centered, Question-Based Pedagogy in College Composition and Literature Courses” by Baker, Formo, Headley, and Mecucci Springer

Discussion and connections among the articles & ideas for implementation

Questions

Lunch & Poster Board Presentations

12:00-12:50pm, Coleman Hall Third Floor & Seminar Room (CH 3159)

Grab your complimentary lunch during this session, make sure to visit the poster presentations, and catch up with peers and faculty to exchange thoughts about your experiences in the morning session. As the

lunch hour draws to a close transition down to the Coleman Auditorium to prepare for our exciting keynote event!

History of EIU Poster Projects [on display in Coleman Hall 3159]

Moderator: Dr. Tim Taylor

In this poster presentation session, students from ENG 3008: Multimodal Composition (F22) will showcase their history of EIU projects.

Poster Presenters:

Streaking Fad at EIU by Abby Jeschke, Claire Roberts, Connie Hemrich, and Maddi Walton

Charles Hall by Chloe Guiliani

Protests at EIU and Charleston by Ian Palacios

Integration of EIU Dorms by Ara Bekkering and Kobe Spencer

History of EIU Dining by Alyssa Marino, Angela Becker, Katja Benz, and Kristen Patterson

History of Pemberton Hall by Kaden Howard, Katie Walker, Maddy McLaughlin, and Raina Mars

Budget Impasse by Brendon Anderson

Enrollment of Women at EIU by Emilie Bowman

Keynote Presentation

1:00-1:50pm, Coleman Hall Auditorium



"The Time for Literary Dystopia is Now"

Jeff Vande Zande

In his keynote address, author and EIU alumnus Jeff Vande Zande will offer a brief history of the dystopian genre. Additionally, he will speak to the significance of the dystopian genre and its potential as an engaging form of literature. Finally, Vande Zande will read from his own recently-released dystopian novel, *Rules of Order*. Discounted copies of his novel will be available for purchase after the event.

Session Two (Concurrent Panels)

2:00-2:50pm, Coleman Hall Third Floor

PANEL ONE – 3130 Coleman Hall

Moderator: Dr. Randy Beebe

"Hey, ChatGPT . . ."

With the emergence of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies, there has been a growing interest in their potential application in various domains, including higher education. AI-based tools and technologies can assist in a range of activities, such as personalized learning, data analytics, and decision-making processes. However, there is limited research on the potential impact of AI on higher education. The recent availability of ChatGPT (and other AI applications) has intensified the debate about the “peril” or “promise” of AI technologies on higher education. Through a class-wide project, we are studying the potential impact on EIU, pursuing several questions such as: What is knowledge/true understanding of material? When does utilizing AI tools result in plagiarism or unethical behavior? Are there ways that ChatGPT can be used to improve student learning in support of a university’s academic mission? This session will be a 15-minute presentation followed by discussion.

Presenters: Ashlyn Hoover
Alexa Peters
Aidan Gonzales

Roundtable Participants: Ashley Carrillo
Allie Percy
Kate Germano
Gabriel McElroy

Meranda Riggs
Maya Gutierrez
Lindsey Zike

PANEL TWO – 3140 Coleman Hall

Moderator: Dr. Marjorie Worthington

Pop & Performance in the Classroom: Expanding the ELA Curriculum through Media & Interactive Pedagogy

“The Importance of Using Popular Culture in the English Classroom”

Abby Jeschke

In this presentation, I talk about why it is important for English teachers to use popular culture in their classrooms. I talk about some of the misconceptions, benefits, using popular culture with canonical texts, and a specific example of how popular culture can be used along with teaching a canonical text.

“Integrating Video Games into the ELA Classroom”

Brendon Anderson

In this presentation, the speaker will make the case that video games have a place in the ELA classroom and go over how they can be implemented into the curriculum successfully.

“Bringing Performances into the Classroom”

Kristen Patterson

This presentation is researched based, centered around the topic of bringing performances into the classroom. While we will focus on English classrooms it is not limited to just that. We will discuss how to incorporate performances, why teachers should, and the benefits of including performances into the classroom.

PANEL THREE – 3150 Coleman Hall

Moderator: Dr. Melissa Caldwell

Research in Honors English, II

"What It Means to do 'Independent Study': Beginning the Honors Project Process"

Claire Roberts

A discussion on my process of picking a thesis topic (queering motherhood) and starting my independent study, with an "update" of what I have learned so far.

"Is Estella Posthuman?"

Rebekka Budrick

My honors thesis re-examines Charles Dickens's *Great Expectations* (1860) through the critical lens of posthumanism—a broad but powerful critical framework that is reinvigorating literary studies. In particular, my study uses posthumanism to read *Great Expectations* to foreground Dickens's critique of traditional Victorian modes of life. In addition, a posthumanist reading offers a new way to read Estella, an enigmatic character whose role in the novel takes on a new light when juxtaposed with ongoing gender and feminist discussions.

Catholic Fiction Revisited

Elena Dean

Throughout my independent study, I have read, analyzed, and practiced writing Catholic Fiction. I have explored what it entails for fiction to be labeled as "Catholic" and analyzed it in the context of its own subgenre of Christian Fiction. Finally, I have pursued my own Catholic Fiction based on this analysis and put together a chapbook with a critical introduction and a compilation of short stories which exhibit characteristics of Catholic Fiction.

Session Three (Concurrent Panels)

3:00-3:50pm, Coleman Hall Third Floor

PANEL ONE – 3130 Coleman Hall

Moderator: Dr. Randy Beebe

Victorian Afterlife: The Cinematic Evolution of Victorian Classics and Their Enduring Impact on Popular Culture

This session showcases the enduring cultural impact of four Victorian novels. The many film adaptations of these novels show that these Victorian works are alive and well in contemporary culture. Some of the guiding questions of the presentations include: What is it about these stories that resonates with filmmakers and audiences? What do the adaptations reveal about changing cultural values? Are the adaptations idealizing the Victorian Age and/or offering a critique of our contemporary culture?

"A Woman in Power: Thomas Hardy's *Far From the Madding Crowd*"

Ray Fauley, Braden Reedy

"The Embodiment of Marriage: Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre*"

Elena Dean, Madison Thompson

“Unfilmable Love: Emily Bronte’s *Wuthering Heights*”
Reaghan Hale, Bridget Bartelt

“Dracula Through the Ages: The Development of Vampiric Fears”
Riley Bauer, Kierstyn Budz, Allison Nichols

PANEL TWO – 3140 Coleman Hall

Moderator: Dr. Julie Campbell

Approaches to (& Issues in) Teaching English Education: Reaching 21st Century Learners

“How to Teach Public Speaking to High School Students”
Angela Becker

This presentation explains practical tips for developing the public speaking skills of high school students in the English Language Arts Classroom.

“Social Justice in Rural America Education”
Maxwell Burress

This discussion covers the need for social justice in American rural school systems and research from a perspective of pedagogy, counseling, and administration on methods and ideas related to engaging with social justice in the classroom.

“Gender Identity and Reading Practices”
Kaden Howard

By exploring the correlation between gender identity and reading practices future teachers will be able to reach, effectively educate, and relate to all students. Gender differences are not a new concept but how do they manifest in our classrooms and how can we be prepared for it?

Closing Event: Educator Panel

4:00-4:50pm, 3130 Coleman Hall

Tips from Teachers in the Trenches: The English Educator Panel

Moderator: Dr. Melissa Ames

Local educators gather to discuss the directions their education degrees have taken them. This panel includes novice and expert teachers, educators working in diverse districts across the state. Topics of discussion include student teaching, substitute teaching, the job market, mentoring young educators, and various challenges facing those in the field (e.g. standardized testing, the politicization of education, teacher shortages, the mental health epidemic, and more).

Panelists:

Ryan Brown
Liz Dietz
Katie Eggleston
Julia Parrish
Malia Smith