

2021 ENGLISH STUDIES CONFERENCE

Kickoff Session: 8:00am



“Making Media Inclusive Across Grade Levels and Disciplines” **Dr. Robin Murray**

Zoom link:

<https://eiu.zoom.us/j/95417160958?pwd=ZkVHR0VQZ2FyQlZEkYtRV0g4bGtgdz09>

Session 1: 9:30-10:45

Panel 1: Classroom Situations **Moderator: Dr. Melissa Ames**

Zoom link:

<https://eiu.zoom.us/j/99960213326?pwd=ZTJ4M1NQemRMQzBtOFIzeHYySzIGQT09>

Kayla Granat, “Utilizing Music in the Classroom”

The pedagogical presentation argues for the use of music in ELA classrooms. Provided with research and analysis, this presentation explores the benefits of utilizing various ways and types of music in the classroom.

Alexa Staley, “Teaching Graphic Novels in ELA classes”

This presentation will be about why teaching graphic novels should be in the high school English classroom. Coming of age is a common theme for many graphic novels. Knowing this it will make connections to some students in the classroom.

Jordan Arnold, “Integrating Real-World Situations in the Classroom”

This is a pedagogy research presentation that will be displayed through an audio-visual presentation. I will be sharing why it is important to integrate real world situations into the classroom and support this claim with research.

Panel 2: "Words, Words, Words" in Shakespeare

Moderator: Dr. Christopher Wixson

Zoom link:

<https://eiu.zoom.us/j/97219245172?pwd=V1k3VFc2NU5WNDJhMk5za0g1aGpyZz09>

This panel, made up of students enrolled in Dr. Christopher Wixson's English 3892 course, endeavors to demonstrate the power of Shakespearean language through papers focused around the journey of a single word. Each presenter will trace how the word's meaning evolves, transforms, and ultimately helps to shape the thematic issues of some of Shakespeare's most popular plays.

Benjamin Esgar, "'cuckold' in *Othello*"

Samantha Mabry, "'choice' in *Taming of the Shrew*"

Emily Manning, "'keeper' in *Taming of the Shrew*"

Session 2: 11:00-12:15

Panel 1: Literary Perspectives

Moderator: Dr. Marjorie Worthington

Zoom link:

<https://eiu.zoom.us/j/94415718734?pwd=bVM4TU94TEhnSzVJVGHJSUt5Z0JQQT09>

Raymond Parott, "The Realism and Victorian Styles of On The Western Circuit"

The era of literature known as the Victorian Era came to be in 1837 and ended in 1901. Named after the Queen of England Victoria, this period of literature was characterized by many themes and concepts such as the sensation novel where there is an emphasis on outward emotions and uncontrollable actions.

Benjamin Ellison, "Realistic Romanticism in Sarah Orne Jewett's 'A White Heron'"

While Sarah Orne Jewett's "A White Heron" is often called a Realistic classic, It is much more nuanced than that. This piece utilizes the structure and techniques of Realism to present a powerful work of Romantic literature while showing key concepts from both literary movements.

Morgan Crum, "Fantomina"

This paper is about the story "Fantomina" by Eliza Haywood. The theme will revolve around the urgency of a woman in a male dominated society.

Panel 2: "Words, Words, Words" in Shakespeare

Moderator: Dr. Christopher Wixson

Zoom link:

<https://eiu.zoom.us/j/92782224009?pwd=U2poaFI5OVp2eENTMlo3ZklsZjFudz09>

This panel, made up of students enrolled in Dr. Christopher Wixson's English 3892 course, endeavors to demonstrate the power of Shakespearean language through papers focused around the journey of a single word. Each presenter will trace how the word's meaning evolves, transforms, and ultimately helps to shape the thematic issues of some of Shakespeare's most popular plays.

Jason Boomgarden, “‘arm’ in *Othello*”

Scott House, “‘jealous’ in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*”

Madeline Steiner, “‘fruitless’ in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*”

Carleigh Tessereau, “‘monstrous’ in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*”

KEYNOTE SESSION: 12:30-1:45



Terri Simon, EIU English MA Alumna

“Can You Even *Do* Anything With An English Degree?: Working as an Alternate Academic”

Zoom link:

<https://eiu.zoom.us/j/95636736257?pwd=ZXhJejg5Rldpd2VmUVpVUXV5Z1VsQT09>

Session 4: 2:00-3:15

Panel 1: Graduate Literary Criticism

Moderator: Dr. Marjorie Worthington

Zoom link:

<https://eiu.zoom.us/j/99270200704?pwd=UIFwTEJ6byt3ZWw4dDNWQ2VXMUxDQT09>

Maria Ruettiger, “The Detrimental Legal System in the 21st Century and Shakespearean Comedy”

This essay focuses on the toxic judicial system in William Shakespeare's plays, *The Merchant of Venice* and *Measure for Measure*. It highlights how the 21st century's legal system as well as both of these plays should focus more on rehabilitation rather than retribution, and I argue that both of these judicial systems weaken the chance for an impartial legal system due to human imperfections.

Brian Gebhart, “Plagues and Parodies: Analysis of Colson Whitehead’s *Zone One* and *Community*’s ‘Epidemiology’”

This presentation will examine the tropes of the zombie apocalypse in fiction, drawing parallels between Colson Whitehead's novel, *Zone One*, and the episode "Epidemiology" from the sitcom *Community*.

Marshall Scheider, “Revolution in a Minor Key: Carceral Space and the Politics of Resistance in Tsitsi Dangarembga's *Nervous Conditions*”

Tsitsi Dangarembga's landmark novel, *Nervous Conditions*, offers a complex interrogation of intracommunity social dynamics in 1960s colonized Rhodesia. Specifically, Dangarembga's text interrogates social relations surrounding food and nutrition in a racist and colonized society, charting the ways gender and class, as well as race, inflect food's social and psychological significations. Many commentators on the novel have analyzed food's role in the text, paying special attention to the spaces in which food is consumed and the gendered spectacle of the family meal. This paper shifts the focus away from consumption and towards production, offering a novel reading that centers spaces of gendered reproductive labor.

Tessa Philpot, “Smoking: Another Habit Women Have Been Ridiculed For”

The novel, *Not So Quiet... The Stepdaughters of War* provides us with a perspective on the ways women were treated during the First World War due to the habits they had with one of the main being smoking cigarettes. Explore with me another way women have been ridiculed.

Panel 2: Creative Writing
Moderator: Dr. Bess Winter

Zoom link:

<https://eiu.zoom.us/j/95707877719?pwd=QktFdnVYT0htOWE3SWplR04zdjByUT09>

Savanna Henderson, “Headlights”

Savanna is reading a creative fiction over traumatic instances and overcoming the repercussions.

Kyara Morales-Rodriguez, "Do You Understand?"

Kyara is reading a story about a child, Sofia, and her mother surviving through a zombie apocalypse. When Sofia’s mom returns home from a hunt bitten by a zombie, Sofia has a tough decision to make.

Heather Gardewine, "After the Bells"

Heather is reading a story that explores dystopian and horror themes, following three friends who are impacted when an airborne, psychologically damaging disease reaches their rural village.

Jurnee Evans, “Metanoia”

Jurnee is reading a story that explores dark themes such as emotional abuse and manipulation in romantic relationships through magical realism, horror, and twisted nature imagery.

Session 5: 3:30-4:45

Panel 1: Oh, the Places You’ll Go: The English Education Career Path Panel
Moderator: Dr. Melissa Ames

Zoom link:

<https://eiu.zoom.us/j/98609362723?pwd=ME9FTUJkNWlyTDEyYlZtZGdWcTFsZD09>

Join us as ELA alumni and local educators gather to discuss the directions that their education degrees have taken them. This engaging panel of participants includes both novice and expert teachers, educators working in diverse districts across the state and across the country, and graduates who have applied their degree to education-related posts as media specialists or as college instructors. Topics of discussion will include student teaching, substitute teaching, the job market, mentoring young educators, and various challenges facing those in the field (e.g. standardized testing, teacher evaluation, etc.). Panelists will also discuss the ways in which their work was impacted during the recent/ongoing global health crisis.

Panel Participants:

Cassie Acker

Kelly Franklin

Autumn Frykholm

Holland (Hempfen) Neally

Mark Palise

Abby Ruehlmann

Jagoda Szostakiwicz

Panel 2: Press Release Presentations about Recent Articles in Rhetoric & Composition

Moderator: Dr. Tim Taylor

Zoom link:

<https://eiu.zoom.us/j/99246954689?pwd=aS9RMnI4TnRWYmVFVVZJYWZvNytHQT09>

Each presenter will provide information about a relevant article published within the past ten years in Rhetoric and Composition.

The first part of presentations will summarize the research articles, and the second part of the presentations will focus on what composition instructors should do with the findings of the research articles. The latter half of the presentation should answer this question: “How should this article influence how I teach writing?”

Bryan Wysopal on Phillips and Ahrenhoerster’s “Class Size and First-Year Writing: Exploring the Effects on Pedagogy and Student Perception of Writing Process”

Kristy Workman on Dirk's "'I Hope It's Just Attendance': What Does Participation Mean to Freshman Composition Students and Instructors?"

Travis Moody on Williams’ “Beyond Pedagogy: Theorizing Without Teachers” by Amy D. Williams.

Ang Palermo on Young’s “Creative Nonfiction in the First-Year Writing Classroom”

Maxie Phillips on Looker's "Writing About Language: Studying Language Diversity with First-Year Writers."

Cole Donaldson on Alexander and Rhodes’s “Queer: An Impossible Subject for Composition”

Panel 3: Graduate Workshop Reading 1

Moderator: Dr. Bess Winter

Zoom link:

<https://eiu.zoom.us/j/93277814610?pwd=a2tldkdxM2laNldxMUJNeIY4YTBtQT09>

Six students from Dr. Winter's Eng-5020-600 Graduate Writing Workshop class will read excerpts from their original, novel-length works of fiction in progress.

Cole Donaldson, “The Ninth Circle”

Cole Donaldson will be reading from *The Ninth Circle*, creative and historical account of the plague's devastation of Venice, Italy.

Jackie Donaldson, “Eighty-Sixed”

Jackie Donaldson will be reading from *Eighty-Sixed*, a story set in a dystopian near-future centered around plastic surgery where the most attractive people have the most privilege.

Orlando Cooper, “Untitled”

Orlando Cooper will be reading from his untitled piece, a narrative chronicling one student's struggles with substance abuse as he traverses high school.

Shayna Gates, “Children of the Moon”

Shayna Gates will be reading from *Children of the Moon*; in one village, children are claimed by an element on their sixteenth birthdays, and when they turn 21, they experience a spiritual ascension.

Jonathan Hannel, “A Test of Meddle”

Jonathan Hannel will be reading from *A Test of Meddle*, a story about one high school student's creepy obsession with his classmate, a girl named Madison, which drives him to perform countless embarrassing and cringe displays of love with hysterical consequences.

Rachel Kizziah, “Snapshots”

Rachel Kizziah will be reading from *Snapshots*, a series of vignettes by a speaker who was born in Western Kentucky and grew up in rural southern Illinois while experiencing coming of age moments.

Panel 4: Graduate Workshop Reading 2

Moderator: Dr. Bobby Martinez

Zoom link:

<https://eiu.zoom.us/j/93288680648?pwd=YUY4YU5UY2pIQIFkNjJlaVBrNEJrQT09>

Five students from Dr. Winter's Eng-5020-600 Graduate Writing Workshop class will read excerpts from their original, novel-length works of fiction in progress.

David Pruitt, “Wood & Stone”

David Pruitt will be reading the opening pages of Wood & Stone, a Neolithic fantasy work of xenofiction narrated by a flock of scavenger birds.

Thomas Parry, “A New View”

Thomas Parry will be reading from A New View, a coming-of-age narrative set in the small town of Mountain View that follows a young man named Jack as he navigates romance and family secrets.

Anne Thibault Geen, “Blue Water Ops”

Anne Thibault Geen will be reading from Blue Water Ops, a story that follows a young woman named Katherine, as she struggles to reconcile her bohemian past in Alaska with her life as a military spouse in Alabama.

Mariah Smith, “The Half and Half's Growth”

Mariah Smith will be reading from The Half and Half's Growth, a contemporary fantasy that explores ideas of polygamous marriage and racism as a young half-vampire/half-elf named Arvi struggles to join the ranks of his people's noble and brave order of knights.

Chigozirim Sodeke, “The Omen War”

Chigozirim Sodeke will be reading from her work entitled The Omen War, a fantasy story inspired by Nigerian and Igbo folklore that follows a man named Ogadia from humble beginnings as the adopted son of a reclusive medicine man to an esteemed position as a general of the King's Guard.