September 28-30, 2023

Reception Study Society Conference
New Mexico State University
Site Contacts

Need help in your presentation room? Visit or call Conference Services.

Conference Services
New Mexico State University
RM 317 (Corbett Center)
(575) 646-4805

Site Locations

The Conference Hotel is the Courtyard by Marriott Las Cruces at NMSU, located at 456 E University Ave, Las Cruces, NM 88005. Parking is free for guests of the Courtyard Marriott. Shuttles are available to/from the conference site and are available to all conference attendees. All conference presentations, meals and plenary talks will be held at the conference site on the 3rd floor of Corbett Center Student Union, New Mexico State University. See map on next page. Corbett Center is accessible by car via Jordan Road. Get your NMSU Visitor Parking Pass before you come! One-day passes are free, and only needed on weekdays. Conference activities will be located in Corbett Center Student Union.

Site Locations

Reception Study Society Conference Committee
   Allison Layfield, New Mexico State University
   Ildi Olasz, Northwest Missouri State University
   Seth Soulstein, Ithaca College
   Kelsey Squire, Ohio Dominican University

New Mexico State University
   Alisha Giron, Associate Vice President, Research Administration
   Sarah Mata, Research Development Intern
6:00 – 8:00 PM Welcome Reception

Opening Reception
Courtyard Marriott at NMSU Las Cruces (Patio)
Early Registration, light refreshments, cash bar

Shuttle Schedule from Marriott Courtyard

Friday, September 29

Morning (To Corbett Center): The shuttle departs every 20 minutes from the hotel beginning at 7:40 AM with the last shuttle leaving the hotel at 9:20 AM.

Afternoon (From Corbett Center): The shuttle departs every 20 minutes beginning at 3:30 PM with the last shuttle leaving the Corbett Center at 5:50 PM.

Saturday, September 30

Morning (To Corbett Center): The shuttle departs every 20 minutes from the hotel beginning at 7:40 AM with the last shuttle leaving the hotel at 9:20 AM.

Afternoon (From Corbett Center): The shuttle departs every 20 minutes beginning at 3:30 PM with the last shuttle leaving the Corbett Center at 9:50 PM. Note: this shuttle will provide transportation continuously for those attending the banquet.

Map

Walking Directions to Corbett Center Student Union from the conference hotel (1.3 mi, 26 minutes)
8:00 – 9:00 AM Breakfast

Breakfast and Registration
Senate Chambers Hallway, 3rd Floor, Corbett Center Student Union
Coffee, tea and light breakfast provided

9:15 – 10:30 AM Session 1

Censorship and Reception
Senate Chambers (RM 302)
Chair: Amy Blair
Amy Hezel, “Obscene and Pornographic...Likely Illegal: The Unprecedented Rise of Book Banning in the US”
Julia L. Smith, “Female Deviance and the Limits of Masculine Authority in Pauline Réage’s The Story of O”
Feroza Jussawalla, “(Re) Interpreting Salman Rushdie: Interpretive Communities and Situational Contexts”

Online Audience Communities
Senate Gallery (RM 304)
Chair: Joseph Worthen
Steven Cousler, “Receptive Machinery: Understanding Audience, Fandom, and Parasocial Dynamics through Cyber-textual Machinery and Cyber-textual Communities”
Diana Garcia, “#Scandoval: Changing Perspectives of a Woman Scorned”
Brian Donovan, “Gaylors and Hetlors: Reading Sexual Identity in the Taylor Swift Fandom”

10:30 – 10:45 AM Break

Senate Chambers Hallway

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM Session 2

The Busine$$ of Reception
Senate Gallery (RM 304)
Chair: Gillian Silverman
Allison Layfield, “Lit Crit for Profit: The Reluctant Readers Book Club for Young Readers”
Ildi Olasz, “Adjusting to the Times or Shaping the Genres? Amazon’s Influence on the Reception of Graphic Novels”

Theory and Visual Media
Senate Chambers (RM 302)
Chair: Julia Smith
Jesús Costantino, “The Antechamber of Speech: Teju Cole’s Photo-Texts and the Interpretive Work of Unfolding”
Joseph Worthen, “Playthroughs: Externalizing Textual Performance”
Mehvish Rather, “Issue of Perceived Audience and Embracing Liminality in Kashmiri and Solidarity Documentary”

All events take place at Corbett Center Student Union
12:00 – 1:00 PM Lunch

Ballroom West (RM 316)

RSS Announcements

Allison Layfield, Reception Study Society, Conference Site Coordinator

Welcome

Alisha Giron, Associate Vice President of Research Administration at NMSU

1:00 – 2:00 PM Plenary Speaker

Ballroom West (RM 316)

Janet Staiger, “Diverse Conditions and the Pleasures of Audiences Receptions”

2:15 – 3:30 PM Session 3

Diverse Feminist Audiences: Historical

Senate Chambers (RM 302)

Chair: Kelsey Squire

Amy Blair, “A Poor Reception for Edith Wharton’s The Gods Arrive (1932)”
Erin Smith, “Raymond Chandler and the Ladies: Women Rereading and Rewriting American Cold-War Crime Fiction”
Yung-Hsing Wu, “Counter Reading and Review Culture, Women’s Liberation Style”

New Histories in Film and Television

Senate Gallery (RM 304)

Chair: Sarah Hagelin

Emily Lopez, “Franchising Culture: Monetization of Culture and Harmful Retelling in The Curse of La Llorona”
Emma B. Mincks, “The Symbolic Value of Teeth in Queen Charlotte: A Bridgerton Story”

3:30 – 3:45 PM Break

Senate Chamber Hallway

3:45 – 5:00 PM Session 4

Nineteenth-Century American Women Writers and the Lay Reader

Senate Chambers (RM 302)

Chair: Ildi Olasz

Laura Thiemann Scales, “American Literary Gaslighting”
Faye Halpern, “Constance Fenimore Woolson, The Lay Reader, and Critical Humility”
Anlie James Williams, “Rethinking the Book, Reimagining the Classic: Materiality, Reading Practices, and Reception of Louisa May Alcott’s Little Women”

Who’s Watching with Me?

Senate Chambers (RM 304)

Chair: Allison Layfield

Sarah Hagelin, “Screening Emma in Times of Income Equality”

All events take place at Corbett Center Student Union
8:00 – 9:00 AM

**Breakfast and Registration**

**Senate Chambers Hallway, Corbett Center Student Union**

*Coffee, tea and light breakfast provided*

**Reception Study Society Executive Meeting**

**Doña Ana Room (RM 312)**

*Executive Board meets to discuss annual business. All are welcome.*

9:15 – 10:30 AM Session 5

**Bibliotherapy; or Reading as Grief Work**

**Senate Chambers (RM 302)**

*Chair: Cecilia Konchar-Farr*

- **Sarah Allison**, “It is not ours/To heal such a wound: Lydia Sigourney’s Nineteenth-Century Child Elegies in the Mass Shooting Era”
- **Elizabeth Barnes**, “Grief and Other Adventures in Audio Books”
- **Gillian Silverman**, “How to Read Freud like a Neurotic”
- **Arielle Zibrak**, “The Ghost in the Mirror”

**Alternate Interpretations**

**Senate Chambers (RM 302)**

*Chair: Kristin Matthews*

- **Tracey Miller-Tomlinson**, “King John and Audience Reception in the Early Modern Theater”
- **Anita Obermeier**, “Queer Dinadan: The Post-Medieval Reception”
- **Doaa Omran and Feroza Jussawalla**, “Reader Response Theory and Muslim Women’s Writing”

10:30 – 10:45 AM Break

**Senate Chambers Hallway**

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM Session 6

**Education and Reception**

**Senate Chambers (RM 302)**

*Chair: Seth Soulstein*

- **Mary Fahrenbruck and Lauren Cifuentes**, “Using Critical Media Literacy to Examine Audiences’ Perceptions of Abbott Elementary”
- **Kori Plank**, Millennial Woman Perspectives of Gender and Power Dynamics in the Academy: A Media Reception Comparison of Netflix’s The Chair and AMC’s Lucky Hank”
- **Barbara Hochman**, “Nella Larsen’s Passing on Film OR: What Shall We Tell Our Children?”

**Readers Across History**

**Senate Gallery (RM 304)**

*Chair: Allison Layfield*

- **Kelsey Squire**, “Reading for Escape and Shirley Jackson’s We Have Always Lived in the Castle”
- **Julianne Newmark**, “Representations of Transborder Indigeneity in D. H. Lawrence: Learning from in situ Reception”
- **James Machor**, “Cold War Mark Twain: Part II”

All events take place at Corbett Center Student Union
12:00 – 1:00 PM Lunch
Ballroom West (RM 316)

1:00 – 2:00 PM Plenary Speaker
Ballroom West (RM 316)
Cedric Burrows, "The Reception of Blackness in Mainstream Culture"

2:15 – 3:30 PM Session 8
Diverse Feminist Audiences: Contemporary
Senate Chambers (RM 302)
Chair: Barbara Hochman
Kristin Matthews, "I Believe the Children Are Our Future': Black Feminism and YA Lit"
Cecilia Konchar-Farr, “Grand Ol' Oprah: 27 Years, 101 Books, and an Ambitious Literacy Project"
Jamie Harker, “The humble quest to read everything lesbian': The Lesbrary and Sapphic Readers on Social Media"

Film as Reception
Senate Gallery (RM 304)
Chair: Seth Soulstein
Katie Brown, “Doomed or Damned – An Overview of the Changing Perspectives on Judas Iscariot in 20th Century Cinema"
Stephen Paul Miller, “What Was Wrong with The Wizard of Oz in 1939?"

3:30 – 3:45 PM Break
Senate Chamber Hallway

3:45 – 5:00 PM Session 9
Reading Race with Oprah
Senate Chambers (RM 302)
Chair: Yung-Hsing Wu
Panel Discussion with Kaylin Ambrose, Ladi Opaluwa and Cheylon Woods

7:00-9:00 Banquet
Ballroom West (RM 316)

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