

14th Annual Miami English Graduate and Adjunct Association (MEGAA) Symposium
Borders, Boundaries, Beliefs
Friday, March 10, 2017 – Oxford, Ohio

Keynote Speakers:

Daisy Hernández, Assistant Professor of English, Miami University

Emily Legg, Assistant Professor of Composition and Rhetoric, Miami University

“Living on borders and in margins, keeping intact one's shifting and multiple identity and integrity, is like trying to swim in a new element, an 'alien' element.”

-- Gloria Anzaldua,

Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza

In a lecture earlier this year, historian Frances Stonor Saunders encouraged listeners to think not only about *who* they are, but *where* they are, saying: “We construct borders to fortify our sense of who we are; and we cross them in search of who we might become. They are philosophies of space, credibility contests, latitudes of neurosis, signatures to the social contract, soothing containments, scars.” Our borders and boundaries may be physical barriers, but they also move beyond that. Our physical spaces dictate who and what we become; and our beliefs influence the physical spaces that we occupy.

In our scholarship, our teaching, and our writing, we consider these borders, boundaries, and beliefs continuously: How does our work reinforce, challenge, or transgress these ideas? How are our beliefs related to the borders and boundaries we identify for ourselves? What is the role of our work in the public conversations surrounding these topics?

The 14th Annual MEGAA Symposium invites proposals for papers and panels by graduate students from all disciplines that investigate *borders, boundaries, and beliefs*. Submissions might include traditional academic presentations, fiction, nonfiction, poetry, hybrid forms, and panels. We are open to pushing the boundaries of the traditional academic conference.

Possible lines of inquiry include, but are not limited to

- Transnational studies/narratives/scholarship
- Border crossing studies/narratives/scholarship
- Migration studies/narratives/scholarship
- Refugee studies/narratives/scholarship
- Political borders and boundaries, real and imagined
- Inclusion/exclusion of borders, both physical/social
- Transcending borders/boundaries through writing and communicating
- Technology's influence on boundaries/borders
- Beliefs across borders
- Identity (re)construction across boundaries

- Border control
- Biopolitics and borders
- Globalization
- Boundary-crossing collaborations
- Boundaries of gender & sexuality

Submitting Proposals:

Please submit your proposal using the following form:

<https://goo.gl/forms/OVodp3r1GWgWv8ez2>

The deadline is **February 5, 2017: 11:59 p.m. EST**. Please limit both individual and panel proposals to 500 words. Official acceptances will be emailed to participants by February 12, 2017. All inquiries can be directed to the MEGAA Symposium Committee at MEGAAblog@gmail.com.

*If submitting visual artwork or a poster, you must be present with your work and be prepared to give a short introduction and answer questions at the end of the session.