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University of Central Florida  
Twelfth Annual  
English Symposium

# Resilient Communities

2023 Conference Program



## About the Symposium:

Each year, the annual English Symposium selects a theme that provides a great insight into our current state of being and the meanings we hope to find in our art. This year's theme, "Resilient Communities," is inspired by how communities have reemerged, resumed, revised, and redefined themselves as COVID has become an embedded aspect of daily life. This is an impetus to consider communal transformations, societal shifts, endurance, and survival more broadly. "Communities" emphasizes connectedness but also multiplicities and differences while "resilient" connotes adaptation and durability as well as previous iterations, traditions, former ways, and the past's effect on the present and the future. Our current moment reminds us that the collision of the past and the future is the very material that constitutes the all-important present.

This theme was developed by the MA Literary, Cultural, and Textual Capstone course of fall 2022. We would like to thank the Center for Humanities and Digital Research, the College of Arts and Humanities, the English Department, and the Graduate Center for their support.

Conference Organizers: Emily Fournier, Kieran Leeds, Morgan Muhart, Sarah Pruitt, and Nicole Suarez  
Conference Advisor: Dr. William Fogarty

## Awards

We are going to be awarding a monetary prize for this year's best student paper thanks to the generous support of our sponsors. If you would like to be considered, please email your paper to the symposium email at [englishsymposium@ucf.edu](mailto:englishsymposium@ucf.edu) by March 31st. The paper will be reviewed, and the winner will be notified by email.

# Participants

Sabrina Alvarez  
Michele Austin  
Dr. Christian Beck  
Kitty Geoghan  
Dr. Amrita Ghosh  
Dr. Emily Johnson  
Dr. Anna Maria Jones  
Angela Leeds  
Kieran Leeds  
Demagio Mansell  
Dr. Barry Mauer  
Dr. Kevin Meehan  
Emily Miller  
Morgan Muhart  
Ashlie Nathan  
Nicole Neece  
Angela Orozco  
Rosamaria Rodriguez  
Dr. Mel Stanfill  
Dr. Sonia Stephens  
Vickiana Supriana  
Dr. Pavithra Tantrigoda  
Laurie Uttich  
Alrieca Vernal  
Dr. Beth Young

# Conference Schedule

*Thursday, March 23rd 2023: 12:00 pm to 3:45 pm*

12:00 - 1:00: Registration & Morning Reception  
Presenter Check-in. Volunteers will be available in  
TCH 208 for check-in and will provide nametags

1:00 to 2:15: Session 1

Panel 1: *On Resilience and Decolonalities in the Global South:  
Alegropolitics, Climate Refugees, and the Thinnai* - TCH 208

Panel 2: *Fan Studies* - TCH 325

2:30 to 3:45: Session 2

Panel 1: *Black Queer Cultural Studies* - TCH 325

Panel 2: *Literature and Language Through Technology* - TCH 257

*Friday, March 24th 2023: 9:00 am to 2:00 pm*

9:00 -10:00: Registration & Morning Reception - TCH 208

10:00 - 11:15: Session 1

Panel 1: *Social Resilience* - TCH 208

11:30 - 12:45: Session 2

Panel 1: *American Communities* - TCH 325

Panel 2: *Creative Resistance and Resilience* - TCH 257

1:00 - 2:00: Closing Reception - TCH 325

Day 1 - March 23rd, 2023

Session 1 - 1:00-2:15

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Panel 1: *On Resilience and Decolonialities in the Global South: Alegropolitics, Climate Refugees, and the Thinnai* TCH 208

Panel Chair: Dr. Amrita Ghosh

- "The Narratives of Resilience: Climate Refugees in South Asian Fiction" - Dr. Tantrigoda
- "Collective Fun and *Alegropolitics*: Rethinking Solidarity and Resilience in Kashmir" - Dr. Amrita Ghosh
- "*Lakou, Thinnai*, and the Novel Form: Decolonizing Urban Space in *Le Thinnai* and *Moun Lakou*" - Dr. Kevin Meehan

Panel 2: *Fan Studies* TCH 325

Panel Chair: Dr. Mel Stanfill

- "Fanfic of a Fanfic: Queer Imagination in CP Coulter's Daltonverse" - Kitty Geoghan
- "Writing the Rapefic: How Fan Fiction Authors Approach Rape Narratives" - Nicole Neece
- "The Boyfriend Dungeon Controversy: Fan Labor and Toxic Fan Practices in Progressive-Leaning Spaces" - Angela Orozco

Session 2 - 2:30-3:45

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Panel 1: *Black Queer Culture Studies* TCH 325

Panel Chair: Dr. Mel Stanfill

- "Throw Mi Corn, but Mi Nuh Call No Fowl': Queer Disidentification in Dancehall" - Alrieca Vernal
- "The Barbz on Twitter: Nicki Minaj, Social Media, Celebrity Fandom, and Fan Harrassment" - Demagio Mansell
- "Are the Black Lesbians Really Black?" - Ashlie Nathan

Panel 2: *Literature and Language Through Technology* TCH 257

Panel Chair: Dr. Emily Johnson

- "Gatsby Revived Through Tumblr Memes" - Sabrina Alvarez
- "Using Today's Technology to Identify Writers Quoted by Samuel Johnson" - Dr. Beth Young & Michele Austin
- "Can We Support a Just Community Resilience by Sharing Information About Individual Risks?" - Dr. Sonia Stephens

Day 2 - March 24th, 2023

Session 1 - 10:00-11:15

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Panel 1: *Social Resilience* TCH 208

Panel Chair: Dr. Christian Beck

- "Are we Nuts?" - Dr. Barry Mauer
- "The House that Sugar Built: Slavery and Hidden Labor of the English Country House in Jo Baker's *Longbourn*" - Angela Leeds
- "Neo-Victorian Graphic Novels: Learning to Unmaster the Archive" - Dr. Anna Jones
- "'For masterpieces are not single and solitary births': Virginia Woolf, *Becoming Woman*, and the New Woman" - Morgan Muhart

Session 2 - 11:30-12:45

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Panel 1: *American Communities* TCH 325

Panel Chair: Dr. Anna Jones

- "'He's just giving him a little push': Reframing the American Dream as a Multicultural Community Effort in Pixar's *Cars*" - Kieran Leeds
- "Legality in the Liminal: The Spatial Construction of the Non-Legal Native American Subject and the Rise of Self-Policing in David Weiden's *Winter Counts*" - Dr. Christian Beck
- "Venezuelan Diaspora in Orlando" - Rosamaria Rodriguez

Panel 2: *Creative Resistance and Resilience* TCH 257

Panel Chair: Dr. Barry Mauer

- "I Love You the Most When I Can See All of Your Scars: A Creative Reading" - Laurie Uttich
- "The House I Built: An Open Letter to and From My Ancestors" - Vickiana Supriana
- "The Body as Home: A Collection of Six Poems" - Emily Miller