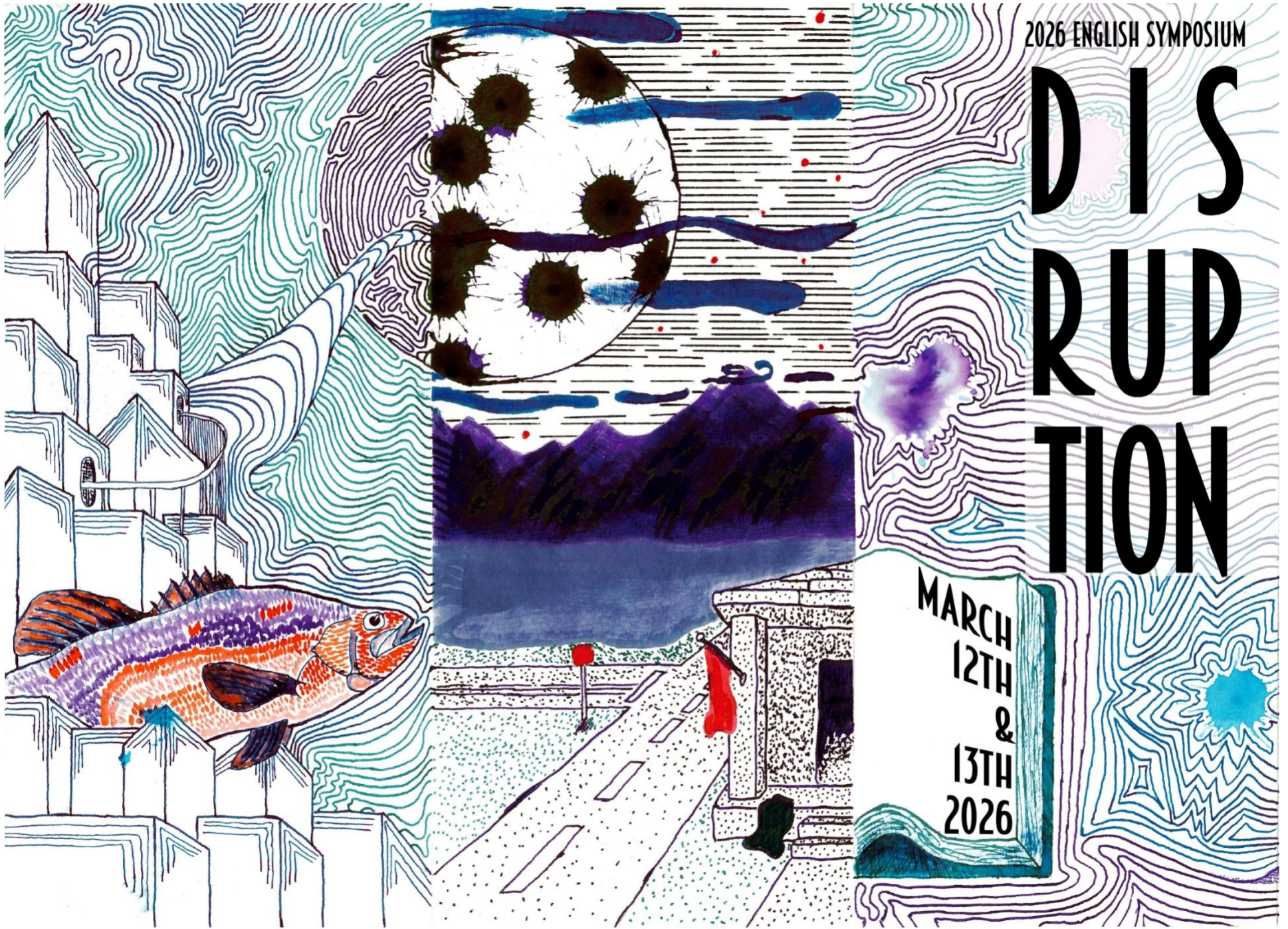


2026 ENGLISH SYMPOSIUM

DISRUPTION

MARCH
12TH
&
13TH
2026



DISRUPTION

2026 UCF English Symposium

Disruption is multidirectional; it can signify a disturbance, an interruption, or a change with a dynamic range of minor to radical ramifications. It can lead to chaos or destruction, but it can also yield innovation, growth, and development.

Disruption can be an outlet for collective communities, a force that propels society towards the future. It simultaneously resists stagnation and embraces and contextualizes tradition. We can disrupt tradition by experimentation, reassessment, revision, and reinvestigation.

Disruption can even be found in the reanalysis of tradition, for tradition itself can be restored in order to disrupt or prevent its loss. We might say the history of its creative media is a history of disruption: texts, films, songs, and games are constantly appealing to and disrupting those that came before them. **This symposium has diverse panels that bring together faculty and students from the undergraduate, master's, and PhD programs to allow for a dynamic exchange of ideas.**

A special thank you goes to the College of Arts and Humanities, The India Center, and The Center for Humanities and Digital Research for their continued support of the English Graduate Program and the 2026 English Symposium.

Conference Advisor-

Dr. Bill Fogarty

Conference Contributors-

Julia Annunziato

Sarah Gilley

Jonathan Hawks

Lexie Herman

Minah Patel

Ben Smith

Sara Grace Westmoreland

NOTES

9-10- Registration and Coffee & Bagels **TCH 208**

10-11:15-

Session 5 - **Queer Bodies and Gender Revolt** **TCH 325**

Chair - Sara Grace Westmoreland

- Amina Kotenko, "The Forbidden Fruit of Hedonism: Gender Fluidity and Moral Disruption in 'The Picture of Dorian Gray'"
- Sara Grace Westmoreland, "Monster Fucker: Monster Romance as a Depiction of Accepted Feminine Rage"
- Isabelle Parm, "The Disneyfication of Snow White: Reimagining the Female Fairytale Protagonist"

Session 6 - **War, Time, and Ideological Fracture** **TCH 358B**

Chair - Dr. Bill Fogarty

- Fotima Akbarova, "War and Temporal Dislocation in Jane Austen's 'Persuasion'"
- Dr. Joseph Shack, "Temporal and Narrative Disruption in the Gnostic Digressions of 'Beowulf'"

11:30-12:15-

Session 7 - **Disrupted Perception** **TCH 208**

Chair - Dr. Sonia Stephens

- Kassandra Faylun, "Disrupting the Fear of the Other in Le Guin's 'The Left Hand of Darkness'"
- Favour Boluwade, "Poetry as Data: Exploring the Impact of Migration on International Students' Identity"
- Dr. Sonia Stephens, "Disrupting the Experience of Nature: How AI-driven Species Identification Apps Affect Nature Observing Practices."

Session 8 - **Bounded Bodies and Worlds** **TCH 325**

Chair - Dr. Anna Jones

- Karrington Tabor, "Laced Bodies, Oriented Desires: Corset and Romantic Legibility"
- Seven Garcia, "Fantasy Fiction and Utopia: A Close Reading of Kamome Shirahama's 'Witch Hat Atelier' and Its Usage of Fantastic Elements as a Vehicle for Social Criticism"
- Sarah Gilley, "Reclaiming the Orchard: Sustainable Ecofeminist Practices in 'Prodigal Summer'"

1-2:15- Session 9 - **Colonialism and Structural Violence** **TCH 358B**

Chair - Minah Patel

Friday, March 13th

- Minah Patel, "Disruption of the Dalit Mind: The Double Colonized Subject in Mulk Raj Anand's 'Untouchable'"
- Rhys Plantilla-Petit, "A Postcolonial Examination of the Unreliable Narrator in Tagore's 'Kabuliwala'"
- Grace Amui, "Eden"

NOTES

9-10- Registration and Coffee & Bagels **TCH 208**

10-11:15- Special Session **TCH 325**

- Introduction by Dr. Francois-Xavier P. Gleyzon
- Professor Zahi Zalloua, "Violence, Resistance, and Disruption in Fanon and Žižek"

11:30-12:15-

Session 1 - **Cycles of Harm and Healing** **TCH 358B**

Chair - Dr. James Campbell

- Lisa Faith Jordan, "Chasing Dragons: Drugs and Grief in 'Demon Copperhead'"
- Olivia Peters-Rivera, "Breaking the Chain: Creative Writing as a Tool for Disrupting Patterns of Inheritance"
- Dylan Cohen, "Resounding Birthright"

Session 2 - **Technology, AI, and Disruption of the Human** **TCH 325**

Chair - Jonathan Hawks

- Julia Annunziato, "The Overrated Flesh and Blood: SOMA's Redefining of What it Means to be Human"
- Alyssa Marquez, "What Gives Fanwork Value? Fan Perceptions of AI, Labor, and Authenticity"
- Jonathan Hawks, "Reflection in Still Waters: A Production of Language"

1-2:15- Session 3 - **Entangled Worlds** **TCH 358B**

Chair - Dr. Amrita Ghosh

- Monyka Manoyrine, "Medium as Ecosystem: Portraying the Anthropocene Through Novel and Film in 'Annihilation'"
- Dr. Amrita Ghosh, "Multispecies Cohabitation and Ethics of Care in 'All that Breathes'"
- Ana Valdes, "Interspecies Entanglement and Anthropocentrism in 'The Squire's Tale' by Chaucer"

2:40-3:45- Session 4 - **Rage and Resistance** **TCH 208**

Chair - Dr. Christian Beck

- Dr. David Schwartz, "The Binding Thing"
- Dr. Christian Beck, "Views of Violence: Images that Disrupt and Pacify"
- John Alloway, "Ten Pounds of Rage: David Wojnarowicz's 'Life of Disruption'"

Thursday, March 12th