

TRANSFORMING CONTAGION

Friday, October 23, 2015

9:00 AM – 6:15 PM

Program

- 9:00-9:15 AM Welcoming Remarks and Introduction to the Conference
Louis Mendoza, Director, School of Humanities, Arts, and Cultural Studies, Arizona State University
Breanne Fahs, Associate Professor of Women and Gender Studies, Arizona State University
La Sala A
- 9:15-10:10 AM Keynote Presentation 1: "The Outbreak Narrative: Disease Emergence and the Obscured Geography of Poverty"
Priscilla Wald, Ph.D., Professor of English and Women's Studies, Duke University
La Sala A
Introduction by Annika Mann, Assistant Professor of English, Arizona State University
- 10:20-11:40 AM SESSION 1: POLICING NATIONAL IDENTITY, DANGEROUS CROWDS, COUNTERING DISEASE? PART 1, AND MANIFESTOS
- POLICING NATIONAL IDENTITY
Theme: Quarantines
La Sala B
Moderator: Matt Simonton, Ph.D., Arizona State University
Louis Mendoza, Director, School of Humanities, Arts, and Cultural Studies, Arizona State University
"Fear of the Diseased Immigrant: Contagion, Xenophobia, and Anti-Immigrant Discourse"
Mame-Fatau Niang, Assistant Professor of French and Francophone Studies, Carnegie Mellon University
"Infectious Spaces: French National Identity and the Pathological *Banlieue*"
Edward Cohn, Assistant Professor of History, Grinnell College
"Prophylactic Policing and the Medicalization of Dissent in the Soviet-Era Baltic States"
- DANGEROUS CROWDS
Theme: Modes of Spread
La Sala C
Moderator: Michael Stancliff, Ph.D., Arizona State University
Christopher Hanlon, Associate Professor of English, Arizona State University
"Crowdsourcing, the Aggregate, and the Physical Geography of the Sea in 1850s America"
Justin Rogers-Cooper, Associate Professor of English, LaGuardia Community College, City University of New York
"The Political Economies of Contagion: Euphoria, Blues, and Futurity in Late Nineteenth Century Crowd Fiction"
Marie D. Martinez, Ph.D. Candidate, Texas Christian University
"Contagion as Reaction and Resistance: Epidemic Culture and Environment in Elizabeth Gaskell's *Mary Barton*"

COUNTERING DISEASE? INFECTION, INOCULATION, & IMMUNITY, PART 1

Theme: Theorizing Contagion

UCB 261

Moderator: Annika Mann, Ph.D., Arizona State University

Claire Whitenack, Ph.D. Candidate, Cornell University

"Disease Prevention in Anglo-Saxon Medical Recipes: Evidence for a Theory of Contagion?"

C.C. Wharram, Director, Center for Humanities, Eastern Illinois University

"A Foreign Matter: Communicating 'A Proper Contagion' in Eighteenth-Century Inoculation"

Kelly L. Bezio, Assistant Professor of English, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

"Transforming Contagion into Therapeutic Citizenship in the American Pestilent Imaginary"

MANIFESTOS: THE CONTAGION OF DANGEROUS IDEAS

Theme: Modes of Spread

UCB 265

Moderator: Breanne Fahs, Ph.D., Arizona State University

"A Reading of Dangerous Ideas"

Melina Almada Encinas, "All That Women Give (and the Men Who Do Not Pay)"

Madison Carlyle, "Don't Call Me 'One of the Boys'"

Emma DiFrancesco, "Corporate Collusion"

Hoagie Hoag, "Unsanity: A Madness Manifesto"

Laura Martinez, "My So Called Sex Life"

Elizabeth Wallace, "The People Behind the Mop Buckets"

Bailey Wendelberger, "Shit Talk: Efficiency-Thinking and Capitalism Need to Go Down the Drain"

Crystal Zaragoza, "The Cluster Fuck Manifesto"

11:50-1:10 PM

SESSION 2: VIRAL MISOGYNY, POLICING INFORMATION IN THE AGE OF SOCIAL MEDIA, LANGUAGE IS A VIRUS, COUNTERING DISEASE? PART 2

VIRAL MISOGYNY

Theme: Theorizing Contagion

La Sala B

Moderator: Breanne Fahs, Ph.D., Arizona State University

Michelle Ashley Gohr, Library Information Science, Arizona State University

"Cult of the Penis: Male Fragility and Phallic Frenzy"

Breanne Fahs, Associate Professor of Women and Gender Studies, Arizona State University

"Menstruation as Contagion? Women's Subjective Narratives about Menstrual Synchrony"

Michael Karger, Masters Candidate in Social Justice and Human Rights, Arizona State University

"Men's Rights: Hegemonic Response to the Feminist Pathogen"

A.K. Morrissey, Independent Scholar

"Virality, Assemblage, Asexuality"

POLICING INFORMATION IN THE AGE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Theme: Quarantines

La Sala C

Moderator: Corie Cisco, Arizona State University

Majia Nadesan, Professor of Communication, Arizona State University

"Radiophobia' and the Politics of Social Contagion"

Eric Turner, Doctoral Candidate, University of New Mexico

"Not All Publicity is Good Publicity: Understanding the Role of Media Coverage and Threat in the Repression of Occupy Wall Street"

Tuomas Manninen, Lecturer In Philosophy, Arizona State University

"When Epidemiology Meets Epistemology; Or, What's the R-Nought of White Knowledge?"

LANGUAGE IS A VIRUS

Theme: Modes of Spread

UCB 261

Moderator: Annika Mann, Ph.D., Arizona State University

Annika Mann, Assistant Professor of English, Arizona State University

"Isn't Contagion Just a Metaphor?"

Sharon J. Kirsch and Michael Stancliff, Associate Professors of English, Arizona State University

"Kill is Kiss': Affect, Violence, and Transmission of Linguistic Passions In *Pontypool*"

Jennifer Smith, Assistant Professor of English, Franklin College

"Viral Languages in Gertrude Stein, Neil Stephenson, and Jennifer Egan"

COUNTERING DISEASE? INFEECTION, INOCULATION, & IMMUNITY, PART 2

Theme: Theorizing Contagion

UCB 265

Moderator: Sarah Stage, Ph.D., Arizona State University

Rachel Conrad, Doctoral Candidate in English, Rice University

"National (Ir)responsibility: 'Typhoid' Mary Mallon, Vaccine Exemption, and the Ethics of Immunity"

Annu Dahiya, Doctoral Candidate in Literature, Duke University

"Before the Cell, There was a Virus: Rethinking the Concept of Parasite and Contagion through Contemporary Research in Evolutionary Virology"

Nathaniel A. Windon, Doctoral Candidate in English, Pennsylvania State University

"Cowardice, Cholera, and Contamination: Ritual Punishment and Desertion in the American Civil War"

1:10-2:00 PM

LUNCH BREAK

Please join us for a complimentary lunch buffet located in the courtyard outside of La Sala. Even though there is no cost for this lunch, you must obtain a lunch ticket from the registration table in order to receive the lunch buffet. If you did not register in advance, we will issue these on a space available basis.

2:00-3:20 PM

SESSION 3: POLICING SEXUAL IDENTITY, VECTORS OF DISCORD, CATCHING OTHERNESS, BAD REPUTE

POLICING SEXUAL IDENTITY

Theme: Quarantines

La Sala B

Moderator: Eric Swank, Ph.D., Arizona State University

Richard C. Cante, Director of the Program in Sexuality Studies, Associate Professor of Media and Technology Studies, The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
"Current Vexations for an Appropriately Gay, Up-to-Date, and Troubling History of AIDS in the United States"

Angela Perone, Doctoral Candidate in Sociology and Social Work, University of Michigan

"Queer Contagions, Social Quarantines, and Digital Antidotes for LGBT Older Adults"

Kimberly Koerth, B.A. Student in Women and Gender Studies, Arizona State University

"'Catching the Gay': Examining the Potential for Positive Views of Queer Contagion"

VECTORS OF DISCORD: CONTAGION IN CONTEMPORARY MEXICAN CULTURAL PRODUCTION

Theme: Modes of Spread

UCB 265

Moderator: Ilana Luna, Ph.D., Arizona State University

Ilana Luna, Assistant Professor of Latin American Studies, Arizona State University

"Neo-liberalism and Necropolitics: The Contagion of State Violence in Amat Escalante's *Heli*"

Rebecca Janzen, Assistant Professor of Spanish, Bluffton University

"Contagion, Religiosity, and Border-Crossing: Low German Mennonites in Popular Culture"

Sara Potter, Assistant Professor of Spanish, University of Texas, El Paso

"Hacking (Neoliberal) Borders: Contagion as Revolution in Alex Rivera's *Sleep Dealer*"

Cheyla Samuelson, Assistant Professor of World Languages and Literatures, San Jose State University

"A Catching Madness: The Persistence of the Literary Contagion Metaphor in Mexican Literature of the Fantastic: Fuentes, Volpi, Rivera Garza and Luiselli"

CATCHING OTHERNESS: CONTAGION AND NARRATIVE FORM

Theme: Modes of Spread

La Sala C

Moderator: Sharon Kirsch, Ph.D., Arizona State University

S. A. Park, Professor of English, Eastern Illinois University

"Contagious Micro-Corrections, or Why *The Last Man* Is Really about the Last Woman"

Greg Clinton, Doctoral Candidate in Cultural Analysis and Theory, Stony Brook University

"Contagious Disability: Ab-normal as Political Potential In 'Zone One' and 'Blindness'"

Maura Smyth, Assistant Professor of English, Massachusetts College of Art and Design

"Countering the Slow Spread of the Apocalypse in *Parable of the Sower*"

BAD REPUTE: RECEPTION HISTORY AS CONTAGIOUS

Theme: Theorizing Contagion

UCB 261

Moderator: Patrick Bixby, Ph.D., Arizona State University

Patrick Bixby, Associate Professor of English, Arizona State University

"A Modernist Contagion: Nietzsche, Nordau, and Degeneration"

Patrick Maley, Assistant Professor of English, Centenary College of New Jersey

"After August: August Wilson's Historical Influence"

Karla Murphy, Senior Lecturer in English, Arizona State University

"Gertrude Stein: All This and Not Ordinary...The Difference is Spreading"

3:30-4:50 PM

SESSION 4: THEORIZING CONTAGION OF THE BODY, INFECTION IN/ON FILM,
CRIMINALITY AND MORAL ECONOMIES

THEORIZING CONTAGION OF THE BODY ACROSS THE TWENTIETH
CENTURY: GENDER, INSTITUTIONAL POWER, MOBILITY

Theme: Quarantines

La Sala C

Moderator: Laura Martinez, Arizona State University

Kerri Linden Slatius, Doctoral Candidate in English, Arizona State University

"A Lingering Illness: Nineteenth Century Mental Illness Theorization as Contagion in
Women's Writing"

Sarah Grieve, Doctoral Candidate in English, Arizona State University

"Environmental Exclusion in Gwendolyn Brooks' 'In the Mecca'"

Crystine Miller, Doctoral Candidate in English, Arizona State University

"Contagion and The New American Nanny Novel"

INFECTION IN/ON FILM

Theme: Modes of Spread

UCB 265

Moderator: Eric Swank, Ph.D., Arizona State University

Bill Albertini, Associate Professor of English, Bowling Green State University

"Cold, Contagion, Precarity"

Zachary Price, Doctoral Candidate in English, Cornell University

"Intimate Earthlings: Aesthetics of Contagion in *District 9*"

Mikki Kressbach, Doctoral Candidate of Cinema and Media Studies, University of
Chicago

"Immutable Microbes"

CRIMINALITY AND MORAL ECONOMIES

Theme: Theorizing Contagion

La Sala B

Moderator: Breanne Fahs, Ph.D., Arizona State University

Marlene Tromp, Vice Provost, Dean, and Professor of English and Women and Gender
Studies, Arizona State University

"Viral Murder: The Contagion of Violence and Criminal Networks"

David Zimmerman, Professor of English, University of Wisconsin-Madison

"Moral Sociology at the End of Time: Lippard's Apocalypse and the Network Novel"

Sadie Mohler, Independent Scholar

"Am I a Psychopath?"

5:00-6:15 PM

Keynote Presentation 2: "When Pleasure and Danger Became Contagious: Rethinking the
Feminist Sex Wars of the Late 20th Century"

Alice Echols, Barbara Streisand Professor of Contemporary Gender Studies and
Professor of History and Gender Studies, University of Southern California

La Sala A

Introductions by Sarah Stage, Professor of Women and Gender Studies, Arizona State
University

Closing Comments and Conference Wrap-Up by Breanne Fahs, Associate Professor of
Women and Gender Studies, Arizona State University

A Word about the Themes

Quarantines: panels composed of papers that explore how conceptions of disease are used to enforce particular national, gendered, or sexual boundaries—to cordon off, control, or police.

Modes of Spread: panels composed of papers that interrogate "in what" medium certain infections spread, and / or consider the affective, imaginative, or material content of that spread and its results.

Theorizing Contagion: panels composed of papers that examine theories of disease, and / or how those theories might be applied to particular phenomena, or even might be advocated for—used to create more inclusive communities.

Parking Information

The campus is located at 4701 W. Thunderbird Road, Glendale, AZ 85306. Driving from Interstate 17, exit Thunderbird Road (exit #210), drive 2.8 miles west, make a left at N. 47th Avenue, drive one block, make a left at N. University Way (T intersection), drive one block, at the end of N. University Way make a left or right and park in the VISITOR sections of Lots 17 or 18 (\$8.00 for the full day). You pay for the parking by noting your parking spot number and paying in the self-service machines at the end of the parking lot closest to campus.

Once on campus, you should make your way to the UCB building (University Center Building) and look for five main conference rooms (La Sala A, La Sala B, La Sala C, UCB 261, UCB 265).

Thank you to our generous sponsors

The Jenny Norton Research Cluster Award at Institute for Humanities Research, Arizona State University
Center for Critical Inquiry and Cultural Studies, Arizona State University
School for Humanities, Arts, and Cultural Studies, Arizona State University
School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Arizona State University.

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particularly: Lucy Berchini, Karen Thew, Louis Mendoza, Marlene Tromp, Shari Collins, Michael Stancliff, Twain Kenyon, and the Feminist Research on Gender and Sexuality Group (Michael Karger, Kimberly Koerth, Chelsea Pixler, Crystal Zaragoza, Laura Martinez, Corie Cisco, and Elizabeth Wallace).

A word about the edited collection

As the organizers of this event (Breanne Fahs, Annika Mann, Eric Swank, and Sarah Stage), we want to thank you for contributing and participating in this exciting boundary-smashing symposium! We will invite a group of papers for the edited volume in early November and will ask that you prepare the manuscripts by December 31st. If you need to contact us with any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to do so at: transformingcontagion@gmail.com.