

“Rethinking Otherness in the Age of Neoliberalism”
9th Annual ASPECT Graduate Conference
ASPECT, Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA, March 21-23, 2019
Squires Center, Newman Library Multipurpose Room,
and Torgersen Hall

Thursday, March 21

Registration, 4:30 – 5:30 pm Newman Library, entrance to Multipurpose Room

Plenary I — 5:30 – 7:00 pm, Newman Library, Multipurpose Room
Dr. Sara Smith (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Department of Geography)
“‘The Path You Choose Won't Be a Fairy Tale’: Urban Prefiguration and Mountain Nostalgia in India's Northwest Himalaya”

Friday, March 22

Registration and Breakfast 8:00 – 9:00 am, Yorktown Room, Squires Student Center

Block A sessions — 9:00 — 10:45 am

A1. Reconsidering Rural Poverty and Development - Room 234, Squires Student Center

Jenni Gallagher (History, Virginia Tech), “‘Remove Him to the Poorhouse’: Poor-Relief in Montgomery County, VA, 1830-1880”

Garland Mason (Agricultural, Leadership, and Community Education, Virginia Tech), “Epistemic Hegemony and the Legacy of the Black Extension Service: A Decolonial Analysis”

Spenser D. Slough (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “Consumerism, Material Culture, Gender, and Performance as Historical Method in Investigating Commonplace Financial Records of Rural Communities”

Discussant: Bikrum Gill (ASPECT and Political Science, Virginia Tech)

Chair: Sara Smith (Geography, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill)

A2. Policing, Incarceration and Human Rights - Room 236, Squires Student Center

Allie Briggs (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “The Perfect Crime: Race as Technology and Modern Liberal Sovereignty”

Jack R. Leff (Science, Technology, and Society, Virginia Tech), “Enclosable Futures: How Prisons Render Prisoners' Futures for ‘Public’ Consumption”

Sarah Plummer (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “Panoptic Policing: A Theory of Surveillance as Resistance”

Tara Wilson (Political Science, Virginia Tech), “Evaluating the Provable Successes of the United Nations Human Rights Council”

Discussant: Kent Morris (Political Science, Virginia Tech)

Chair: Eric Jardine (Political Science, Virginia Tech)

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Block B sessions – 11:00 am — 12:45 pm

B1. Religion and the State - Room 234, Squires Student Center

Mohammed Pervaiz (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “Valorizing and Other-ing Bodies: Examples in Historical and Contemporary Turkey”

Faith Skiles (ASPECT Virginia Tech), “Decidedly Neo-Confucian: Western Missionaries’ Ordering of Space in Korea”

Anthony Szczurek (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “Sacred Climate Futures: Hindutva Imaginaries of Climate Change (2015-2018)”

Discussant: Nicole Ni (Religion and Culture, Virginia Tech)

Chair: Rachel Scott (ASPECT and Religion and Culture, Virginia Tech)

B2. Rethinking Bodies and Identities - Room 236, Squires Student Center

Linea Cutter (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “Spaces of Empire in Popular Culture: A Critical Analysis of To the Bone”

Joshua Earle (Science, Technology and Society, Virginia Tech), “The Problem of the Sexy Cyborg: Race, Gender, and Otherness in Transhumanism”

Emma Stamm (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “Algorithmic Determinacy and Interpretative Psychedelic Science”

Sara Wenger (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “The

Strange Case of Aura Dolls: Posthuman Anxiety and the Sex Work Debate.”

Garrett Pierman (Politics and Intl. Relations, Florida International University), “Ruminations of a Cyborg: How are We Thinking About What We Are Doing with Technology?”

Discussant: Cara Daggett (Political Science, Virginia Tech)

Chair: Jordan Laney (Religion and Culture, Virginia Tech)

B3. The Making of Racial Subjects - Room 232, Squires Student Center

Jordan Fallon (Political Science, Virginia Tech), “‘Omar Comin’: Black Subversive Marginality and Neoliberal Subjectivity”

Patrick Salmons (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “Althusser’s Reproduction of Race in Society”

Mary K. Ryan (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “The Last Gasp: How Racial Crisis Threatens U.S. Democracy”

Benjamin B. Taylor (Political Science, Johns Hopkins University), “Racemaking as Discursive Resentment: On the Fear of Death and the Making of Race”

Discussant: Alexander D. Barder (Florida International University)

Chair: Mauro Caraccioli (ASPECT and Political Science, Virginia Tech)

Block C sessions — 2:30 — 4:15 pm

C1. Democracy, Freedom, Agency - Room 232, Squires Student Center

Nada Berrada (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “The Neoliberal State and Youth Policy in Morocco”

Pascal Omlin (Political Theory, Goethe Universität Frankfurt am Main, and the Technische Universität Darmstadt), “Delimiting Difference: The Loss of the Public Realm in Personhood.”

Discussant: Laura Zanotti (Political Science, Virginia Tech)

Chair: Michael Moehler (ASPECT and Philosophy, Virginia Tech)

C2. Critiques of Neoliberalism - Room 236, Squires Student Center

Judson Abraham (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “The Question of ‘Corporatism’ in Left-Populist Discourse”

Caroline Alphin (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “Bulletproof Neoliberals: Reframing the Biohacker as an Intensified Accelerationist”

Paul T. Clarke (African and African American Studies, Harvard University), “Dreams of Automation: Masculinity, Labor, and Liberation in the South African Security Industry”

Rudy Leal McCormack (Political Science, Colorado State University), "The Transmogrification of Development: Investigating the Transient Discourse of Development Manifested as a Neoliberal Logic of Otherness"

Discussant: Mario Khreiché (History, Virginia Tech)
Chair: Giselle Datz (SPIA/GIA, Virginia Tech)

C3. Marginalization and Representation - Room 234, Squires Student Center

Ruth Grene (Hispanic Studies, Virginia Tech), "Views of the Subaltern in Mexican Film"

John R. Legg (History, Virginia Tech), "White Lies, Native Revision: Public Memory and the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862"

Marina Shafik (English, James Madison University), "Civilized Slaveholding: Slavery, Race, and Modern Citizenship in the Cherokee Nation"

Discussant: Balbir Singh (ASPECT and Religion and Culture, Virginia Tech)
Chair: Karen Hult (Political Science, Virginia Tech)

Plenary II, 5:00 – 6:30 pm, Torgersen Hall, Room 3100

Dr. Alexander D. Barder (Florida International University, Department of Politics and International Relations)
"Scientific Racism, Race War, and the Emergence of Global Politics"

Conference Reception, 7:00 to 8:30 pm, Black Cultural Center, Squires Student Center

Saturday, March 23

Registration and Breakfast, 9:00 – 9:30 am, Room 238, Squires Student Center

Block D sessions — 9:30 — 11:15 am

D1. Pop Culture, Media, and the Other - Room 234, Squires Student Center

Russell Alexander Korb (International Studies, Old Dominion University), "Electing a Meme as President: Internet Culture, Information, and Trump"

Jacie Litz (English Literature, Old Dominion University), "'Better Eyebrows': An Analysis of Media Representations of Adam Rippon and Gus Kenworthy"

Katy Shepard (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), "Art as the Creative Process, Identity Building, and Liberation"

Zachariah Wheeler (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), "Back to the Future: Symbolic Revolution, Aporia, and the Death of Neoliberalism"

Discussant: Audrey Reeves (ASPECT and Political Science, Virginia Tech)

Chair: Taulby Edmondson (History and Religion and Culture, Virginia Tech)

D2. Challenges to Normativity - Room 236, Squires Student Center

Jay Burkette (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), "Utopia as a Verb; Mutual Aid as its Process"

Shaun Respass (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), "Why/When Suicide Offends the Neoliberal Us"

Heidi Schmidt (Creative Writing, Queen's University of Charlotte), "Fourth Wave: When Equal Rights Lead to Equal Wrongs"

Discussant: Amiel Bernal (Philosophy, Radford University)

Chair: Andy Scerri (Political Science, Virginia Tech)

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D3. International Politics and the Other - Room 300, Squires Student Center

Johannes Grow (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “The Geopolitics of the ECSC”

Robert Hodges (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “Two Differing Intentions towards Altering the International System: A Discussion of al-Qaeda and Islamic States Goals”

Şengül Yıldız-Alanbay (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “Constructing the “Other” through a Discourse of Compassion: The Representation of the Iconic Image of Alan Kurdi in Turkey’s foreign policy towards the EU”

Discussant: Holly Jordan (American Near East Refugee Aid)

Chair: Aaron Brantly (Political Science, Virginia Tech)

Lunch, 11:30 am – 12:45 pm, Black Cultural Center, Squires Student Center

Publishing Workshop:

“Perspectives on Publishing in Academic Journals” 1:00 -- 2:30 pm,

Room 300, Squires Student Center

Featuring the following editors and journals:

Janell Watson (*the minnesota review*)

Tim Luke (*Fast Capitalism*)

Caroline Alphin (*SPECTRA: The ASPECT Journal*)

Rob Flahive (*SPECTRA: The ASPECT Journal*)

Emma Stamm (*SPECTRA: The ASPECT Journal*)

Block E sessions — 2:45—4:30 pm

E1. Consequences of Global Capitalism and Imperialism- Room 236, Squires Student Center

Sanaullah Khan (Anthropology, Johns Hopkins University), “Risk and Speculation: The Fetish of Circulations in Financial Capital”

Leigh McKagen (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “An Imperial Journey: Castaway Narratives in Star Trek: Voyager”

Alexander T. Stubberfield (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “State of the Art: The Habitat Quantification Tool and the Environmental Defense Fund”

Madison Tepper (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “Radical Counterperformance: Invoking Bodily Affect as to Global Capitalism”

Discussant: Besnik Pula (Political Science, Virginia Tech)

Chair: Komal Dhillon (Religion and Culture, Virginia Tech, and Hollins University)

E2. Challenging the (Post)Colonial - Room 234, Squires Student Center

Rob Flahive (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “Aesthetics of the Other: Reinscribing Colonial Urbanism through Preservation”

Elliott Schwebach (Political Theory, Johns Hopkins University), ““Remarkable Therapy”: Redeeming the Psychotherapeutic Dimension in Fanon”

Molly Todd (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “Affective Juxtaposition and the Border Crossing Experience of Pixar’s *Coco*”

Shelby Ward (ASPECT, Virginia Tech), “State In/security and War Tourism: Sri Lankan Identity Politics and Tourism Mapping Practices”

Discussant: Desiree Poets (ASPECT and Political Science, Virginia Tech)

Chair: Vinodh Venkatesh (Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, Virginia Tech)

Sponsored by: ASPECT, the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, The Center for Humanities, The Center for Peace Studies and Violence Prevention, the Women and Minority Artists and Scholars Lecture Series (WMASLS), the Program in Philosophy, Politics and Economics, the Program in Women’s and Gender Studies, and the Departments of History, Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, Philosophy, Political Science, Religion and Culture, Science, Technology and Society, and Sociology