

CRITICAL/CREATIVE: Undergraduate and Graduate Student Conference, Lakehead Department of English

Monday, April 10th, 2017

“I criticize by creation” – Cicero

Central to academic criticism in English is a respect for creative texts in all their forms – literature, film, television, new media, and more. We believe that criticism and creativity are inherently tied, and that the ability to read texts closely and to analyze them through theoretical, social, and cultural frameworks is to give respect to the complexity of the creative works with which we engage. We also believe that criticism itself is an act of creativity – the ability to imagine an argument, to engage in conversation with both the texts and with other scholars is about building community, ideas, and culture.

We invite all undergraduate and graduate students of English on both campuses to participate in the building of academic community here at Lakehead by sharing their research. We are interested in 7-8 page papers by students focused on critical analysis of any of the following:

- Literary texts
- Films and television
- Graphic novels and comics
- New media (i.e. webcomics, instagram, blogs, etc.)
- Visual texts
- Cultural texts (i.e. architecture, fandom, constructions of “nature,” etc.)

Papers might also:

- explore intersections between critical and creative writing,
- engage with the creative quality of literary theory or literary criticism
- examine how creative works contribute to critical thought

The “Critical/Creative” conference will be held in the telepresence rooms on both the Orillia and Thunder Bay campuses. Lunch and refreshments will be provided. Papers of 15 minutes will be delivered in panels of three or four, with question periods to follow.

Proposals should be sent to mflegel@lakeheadu.ca by Friday, March 3rd, 2017. Please include:

1. The title of your paper
2. An abstract describing your paper (max. 300 words)

For further inquiries, please contact mflegel@lakeheadu.ca.