



# BRITISH COMMONWEALTH & POSTCOLONIAL STUDIES CONFERENCE

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER • 1 PM TO 2 PM, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15 IN THE AUDITORIUM**

*Patrick Colm Hogan, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Department of English, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT*

### On the Future of Postcolonial Pedagogy

Dr. Patrick Colm Hogan is a Professor in the Department of English, Program in Comparative Literature & Cultural Studies and the Program in Cognitive Science at the University of Connecticut, Storrs. Dr. Hogan's research interests are cognitive neuroscience of narrative and emotion; literacy universals, identity formation; nationalism; ideology; postcolonial literature and film; and Indian philosophical and aesthetic traditions. His published works include *Colonialism and Cultural Identity: Crises of Tradition in Anglophone Literatures of India, Africa, and the Caribbean*; *Cognitive Science, Literature, and the Arts: A Guide for Humanists*; *Culture of Conformism: Understanding Social Consent*; *Empire and Poetic Voice: Cognitive and Culture Studies of Literary Tradition and Colonialism*; and *The Mind and Its Stories: Narrative Universals and Human Emotion*.

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**8:30 AM TO 10 AM • FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15**

### Room 111 : Pluralism: In and Out of South Asia

*Session Chair: Anupama Jain, Union College*

*Postcolonial Dilemmas of Solidarity in South African Indian Texts*  
*Anupama Jain, Union College*

*Cosmopolitans In Crisis: Sabiha Sumar's **Khamosh Pani***  
*Shazia Rahman, Western Illinois University*

*When East Meets East: Calcutta Through Chinese Eyes*  
*Pallavi Rastogi, Louisiana State University*

### Room 217: "Cracking India": Narratives of Partition – Pre- and After

*Session Chair: Hans-Georg Erney, Armstrong Atlantic State University*

*Rereading E.M. Forster's **A Passage to India**: Aziz, The Congress Party, and The Muslim League*  
*Chandra Cerutti, East Carolina University*

*Gendered Victims: Women of Partition in Bapsi Sidhwa's **Cracking India***  
*Saba Yousaf, Georgia State University*

*Descendant of the Storm: Teaching Narratives of the Partition as a Child of Refugees*  
*Umeeta Sadarangani, Parkland College*

### Room 218: J. M. Coetzee

*Session Chair: Laura Wright, Western Carolina University*

*The Objectification of the Garden: An Eco-critical Reading of J.M. Coetzee's **Life and Times of Michael K***  
*Shelby Sleight, Wake Forest University*

*Journeying to Find Solace: J. M. Coetzee's **Life and Times of Michael K***  
*Matthew Miller, University of South Carolina Aiken*

10:15 AM TO 11:45 AM • FRIDAY

**Room 111: Postcolonial Cinema and the Novel***Session Chair: Dean Hall, Kansas State University*

Bapsi Digs Deepa: Bapsi Sidhwa's Novelization of Deepa Mehta's Movie *Water*  
Dean Hall, Kansas State University

Faceless in the Crowd: The Dangers of Lost Individuality through Group Designation in John Sayles' *Hombres Armados* and Khushwant Singh's *Train to Pakistan*  
Daniel Hutt, Kansas State University

Seeking Power: Stereotypes In *I – Proud to Be an Indian*  
Jennifer McCollum Roberts, Kansas State University

The Violent Rejection of Shooting *Water*, a Film by Deepa Mehta  
Lopamudra De, Kansas State University

**Room 217: Nature and African Politics of Place***Session Chair: Anthony Vital, Transylvania University*

Postcolonial Ecocriticism and Nadine Gordimer's *Environmental Unconscious*  
Byron Caminero-Santangelo, University of Kansas

Black Tyger, Elvis Presley, and Yam Pepper Soup: Food and Stories and the Global Capitalist System in Nigeria  
Jonathan Highfield, Rhode Island School of Design

"More Sorry Than I Can Say": Justice, Ecology, and Postcolonial Place in J.M. Coetzee's *Age of Iron*  
Anthony Vital, Transylvania University

**Room 218: African Women: Resistance and Revolution***Session Chair: Chandra Cerutti, East Carolina University*

Revolutionary Women in the Plays of Femi Osofisan  
Tiffany Noell, Arizona State University

The "Transcendental Etude" of *Changes: A Love Story* by Ama Ata Aidoo: Language and Song of African Feminist Resistance  
Susan Winders Moses, East Carolina University

Travel Agency: Divorcing Urban Colonialism in Ama Ata Aidoo's *Changes: A Love Story*  
E. Kim Stone, University of Mary Washington

12 NOON TO 12:45 PM • FRIDAY

**CONFERENCE LUNCHEON**

*INTRODUCTION: Curtis Ricker, Associate Dean*  
College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences

*WELCOME: Bruce Grube, President*  
Georgia Southern University

1 PM TO 2 PM • FRIDAY • AUDITORIUM

*Introduction: David Dudley, Chair*  
Department of Literature and Philosophy  
College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences

*Keynote Speaker: Patrick Colm Hogan*  
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Department of English,  
University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

**TOPIC: On the Future of Postcolonial Pedagogy**

2:15 PM TO 3:45 PM • FRIDAY

**Room 111: Midnight's Children and its Grandchildren:****Rushdie, Roy, and Ghosh***Session Chair: Sabryna Sarver, Georgia Southern University*

Post-Colonialism Pickled and Preserved: Magical Realism in Arundhati Roy's *The God Of Small Things*  
Amanda Sperry, Wake Forest University

"The Politics of Midnight": Political Satire through Fragmented Time in Rushdie's *Midnight's Children*  
Courtney Strickland, East Carolina University

*The Shadow Lines: Constructing a Collage of Individual and Cultural Spaces*  
Arnapurna Rath, Indian Institute of Technology

**Auditorium: Capital and Construction***Session Chair: Jonathan Highfield, Rhode Island School of Design*

Commemorating Abolition in the Heart of the Old South  
Simon Lewis, College of Charleston

Medication as New Imperialism: Rhys and the Eucharist of Modern Medicine  
Raquel Gonzalez-Rivas, University of North Florida

**Room 217: Hybridity and Identity***Session Chair: Pallavi Rastogi, Louisiana State University*

Hybridity of Space/Place in Zoë Wicomb's *Playing in the Light* and Achmat Dangor's *Bitter Fruit*  
Jennifer Apga, Georgia State University

Sexuality, Migrancy and Hybridity in Monica Ali's *Brick Lane*  
Arun Kumar Pokhrel, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Repressed Racism in Doris Lessing's *Victoria and the Staveney's*  
Christine Sizemore, Spelman College

**Room 218: Literary Value and Globalization: Narrative,****Genre, and Form in Postcolonial Criticism***Session Chair: Helen Scott, University of Vermont*

Old Dog, New Tricks: Narrative Theory And Postcolonial Literature  
Pranav Jani, Ohio State University

Postcolonial Studies and the Politics of Genre: The Essays of Arundhati Roy  
Nagesh Rao, The College of New Jersey

"[T]he great globe itself, / Yea, all which it inherit, shall dissolve":  
Shakespeare's *Tempest* and Globalization  
Helen Scott, University of Vermont

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4 PM TO 5:30 PM • FRIDAY

**Room 111: Creating Identities**

*Session Chair: Beatriz Rivera-Barnes, Penn State Worthington-Scranton*

**This All Happened** and Michael Winter's Creation of a Universal Newfoundland Identity  
*J. Coplen Rose, Lakehead University*

**Guilt and Conscience in Canadian and South African Settler Literature**  
*Rebecca Weaver-Hightower, University of North Dakota*

**The Return of the Anusim: A Cultural Phenomenon of the Post-postmodern Age**  
*Melissa Standley, Clemson University*

**Auditorium: Language and Education**

*Session Chair: Tom Lynn, Penn State Berks*

**French-language Neo-Colonialism in Haiti and the Signs of a Haitian Creole Post-Colonial Era**  
*Benjamin Hebblethwaite, University of Florida*

**Revisiting the Status of Colonial Languages: The Case of Jamaican Teacher Educators**  
*Erol Bailey, University of Massachusetts Amherst*

**Room 217: Challenging Global Forms of Imperialism:**

**Responses to *The Nawal El Saadawi Reader***

*Session Chair: Pushpa Parekh, Spelman College*

**A Call to Action: Saadawi's Plea to Humanity**  
*Timile Denise Brown, Spelman College*

**The New World Order and Feminization of Poverty**  
*Khalish Gabriel, Spelman College*

**Triggers for Transnational Migration and Globalism**  
*Jessica Mayberry, Spelman College*

**Women's Health and Religion**  
*Milikat Rufai, Spelman College*

**Room 218: Appropriating Gender**

*Session Chair: Gloria J. Morrissey, Middle Tennessee State University*

**Ahmed, Al-Hibri and Wadud: Contemporary Voices on Islam, Gender and Modernity**  
*Ghazala Hashmi, J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College*

**Investigating Gender – Appropriating the Woman's Domain or Dissolving the Boundaries that Separate: Use of Female Voice in Islamic Poetic Tradition(s)**  
*Waqas Khwaja, Agnes Scott College*

**Mollies Down Under: Sexuality and Nationalism in Peter Carey's *True History of the Kelly Gang***  
*Heather Smyth, University of Waterloo*

8:30 AM TO 10 AM • SATURDAY

**Room 111: A Reconsideration of the Indigenous**

*Session Chair: Gloria J. Morrissey, Middle Tennessee State University*

**Literature, Language and the New Economy**  
*Pavitra Narayanan, Washington State University Vancouver*

**The Caribbean Female Voice: Land, Flora and Fauna as Postcolonial Metaphor**  
*Gloria J. Morrissey, Middle Tennessee State University*

**Post-colonialism and the Rise of Contemporary Nigerian Poetry**  
*Terhema Shija, Nasarawa State University*

**Room 212: Religion and African Reformation**

*Session Chair: John Rooks, Morris College*

**Ecumenicalism in Amos Tutuola's *The Witch Herbalist of the Remote Town***  
*John Rooks, Morris College*

**"Where they know all salvation comes from": Turning Biblical Narrative on its Head in Ama Ata Aidoo's *Our Sister Killjoy***  
*Lisa DeVries, East Carolina University*

**Playing Under Pressure: Tradition and Trickster in *The Interpreters***  
*Thomas J. Lynn, Penn State Berks*

**Room 217: Self-Determination**

*Session Chair: Emily Davis, University of Delaware*

**Women and the Cultural War in the Novel *White Teeth*: A Postcolonial Feminist Critique**  
*Sheila Sandapen, Indiana University of Pennsylvania*

**Mary Seacole: Genre, Gender and Globalization**  
*Jocelyn Fenton Stitt, Minnesota State University Mankato*

**Domestic Work and Black Masculinity in Austin Clarke's Toronto Trilogy, 1967-1975**  
*Alison Van Nyhuis, Shippensburg University*

**Room 218: New Perspectives on Coetzee's *Disgrace***

*Session Chair: David Hoegberg, Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis*

**J. M. Coetzee and the Critics: The Case of *Disgrace***  
*David Hoegberg, Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis*

**"You Keep Misreading Me": Re-reading Lucy's Decisions in J.M. Coetzee's *Disgrace***  
*Belinda Wheeler, Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis*

**Shortcomings and Shortsightedness: A Psychoanalytical Look at David Lurie**  
*Benjamin Carroll, Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis*

**It's a Dog's Life: Dogs as a Window on Race and Transformation in J.M. Coetzee's *Disgrace***  
*Christine Sego Caldwell, Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis*

10:15 AM TO 11:45 AM • SATURDAY

**Room 111: Making and Remaking Space and Place***Session Chair: Joe Pellegrino, Georgia Southern University*

The Space for Identity: Depictions of African Identity in Salih's *Season of Migration to the North*  
Sabryna Sarver, Georgia Southern University

Representative Space: Up and Down in Friel's *Translations*  
Kelly Twilley, Georgia Southern University

Danticat's *Krik? Krak!*: Creating Space for the Indigene  
Ashley Johnson, Georgia Southern University

Native American Literature: Space Enough In Postcolonial Studies  
Alicia Howe, Georgia Southern University

**Room 212: Convergent Evolution: The Continuing Development Of Postcolonial****Ecocriticism***Session Chair: Hans-Georg Erney, Armstrong Atlantic State University*

Inventing Tradition and Colonizing Trees: Ngugi wa Thiong'o's *Petals of Blood* and Zakes Mda's *Heart of Redness*  
Laura Wright, Western Carolina University

Gertrudis Gomez de Avellaneda and the Experience of the Unhomely  
Beatriz Rivera-Barnes, Penn State Worthington-Scranton

"All its beautiful productions": Naturalization and Civilization in Darwin's *Voyage of the Beagle*  
Andrew Mahlstedt, University of Wisconsin - Madison

In the Last Resort: Postcolonial Ecotourism in South Asian Literature  
Hans-Georg Erney, Armstrong Atlantic State University

**Room 218: Square Pegs and Round Holes***Session Chair: Howard Keeley, Georgia Southern University*

Queer Affinities: Reading *Little Women* In Shyam Selvadurai's *Funny Boy*  
Emily Davis, University of Delaware

Reconstructing Multiculturalism: Beyond the Essentialist/Relativist Dichotomy and into Personal Story  
Robert Lake, Georgia Southern University

11:45 PM TO 1:30 PM • SATURDAY  
LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:30 PM TO 3 PM • SATURDAY

**Room 111: The Discourse on Africa in the Current Conjuncture, or, How is Brad Pitt Shaping My Knowledge about Africa?: An Examination of the *Vanity Fair* Africa Issue (July 2007)***Session Chair: Laura Wright and Elizabeth Heffelfinger, Western Carolina University*

A discussion led by graduate students from Western Carolina University: Laurie Calvert, Paul Denkenberger, LaShay Maltry, and Jennifer Vellieux

**Room 217: Contemporary Issues in South Asian Poetry***Session Chair: Mitali Wong, Claflin University*

Challenges and Comforts of Contemporary South Asia in the Love Poems of Vikram Seth, Agha Shahid Ali, and Sahir Ludhianvi  
Syed Hassan, Claflin University

Self-reflexivity in Rienzi Cruz's *Insurgent Rain* and *The Sardiell Poems*  
Mitali Wong, Claflin University

**Room 218: Arts-and-Craftsism: Imperial and Postcolonial Identities***Session Chair: David Bailey, Georgia Southern University*

"This Bloody Land is Full of Welshmen": Dylan Thomas and the Neutral Arts and Crafts Identity  
David Bailey, Georgia Southern University

Cloths of Heaven: The Yeats Siblings' Anti-Colonial Arts and Craftism  
Howard Keeley, Georgia Southern University

Orientalism in the British Arts and Crafts Movement  
Rebecca Ziegler, Georgia Southern University

3:15 PM TO 4:45 PM • SATURDAY

**Room 111: The Discourse on Africa in the Current Conjuncture, or, How is Brad Pitt Shaping My Knowledge about Africa?: An Examination of *The Last King Of Scotland* and *Blood Diamond* (both 2006)***Session Chair: Laura Wright and Elizabeth Heffelfinger, Western Carolina University*

A discussion led by graduate students from Western Carolina University: Laurie Calvert, Paul Denkenberger, LaShay Maltry, and Jennifer Vellieux

**Room 217: Ethos, Agency, and "The Other" in Literature and Film***Session Chair: Patrick Hogan, The University of Connecticut*

Where Have All the Tamils Gone? The Ethnic Body in the Films of Prasanna Vithanage  
Nalin Jayasena, Miami University of Ohio

Ethos and Agency in Belizean Literature  
Tabitha R. Slusher, East Carolina University

**Room 218: Colonial Insecurities***Session Chair: Sabryna Sarver, Georgia Southern University*

Fetishizing the Foreigner: The Creaturely Uncanny in Forster's *A Passage to India* and Rushdie's *The Satanic Verses*  
Marieke Kalkhove, Queen's University

*District and Circle*, Tube and Tollund: Seamus Heaney's New Colonial Considerations  
Joe Pellegrino, Georgia Southern University