

CALL FOR PAPERS

THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-COLUMBIA
ROMANCE LANGUAGES GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION
INTRODUCES THE FIRST ANNUAL

ROMANCE LANGUAGES AND CULTURES GRADUATE STUDENT COLLOQUIUM (May 2, 2015)

Theme: FROM THE MARGINS

Twas from the margins that I found my soul, and in the margins that I lost it. -- Naipaul

Graduate students are invited to submit papers that address any aspect relating to marginalized writers, texts, or peoples (in theoretical or applied terms) of the Spanish, French, Portuguese and Italian speaking worlds. The colloquium will be held on MU's campus, **May 2, 2015**. Papers will be allotted 15 minutes each. The notion of "margins" will be considered in its widest sense, with topics including, but not limited to, the following areas:

- Writings of the diaspora
- Post-colonialism and Postmodernism
- Theories or works of (and beyond) the absurd
- Gender and sexuality
- Race
- Victimization
- Criminality and Incarceration
- Deviation
- Madness
- Foreignness or Xenophobia
- Exile (literal or metaphorical)
- Languages and/of alienation
- The relation between "the center" and "the margin(s)" (spacial and metaphorical)
- Historiography and the margins
- Art from the margins (hip-hop, graffiti, parkour, etc.)
- Translation as a bridge or wall between center and margins

Interdisciplinary papers are welcome and encouraged. Please submit a **300 word abstract** in English, French, or Spanish **by January 28, 2015** to vabfgc@mail.missouri.edu. We hope to accommodate concurrent sessions for French and Spanish literatures / cultures, but we might have to ask panelists to present in English if the number of papers is too limited.

Please address any questions to Virginie Ems-Bléneau: vabfgc@mail.missouri.edu