



29th
annual
British
Commonwealth
and
Postcolonial
Studies
Conference

February 21-22, 2020
The DeSoto Savannah

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

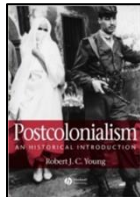
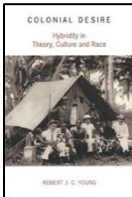
Robert J. C. Young



Dr. Young is the Silver Professor and a Professor of English at New York University, where he works with the Department of Social & Cultural Analysis, the Department of Comparative Literature, the Hagop Kevorkian Center, and NYU Abu Dhabi.

Robert has authored and edited many fundamental texts in postcolonial studies. Of particular note are *White Mythologies: Writing History and the West* (1990), *Colonial Desire: Hybridity in Culture, Theory and Race* (1995), *Postcolonialism: An Historical Introduction* (2001), *The Idea of English Ethnicity* (2008), *Empire, Colony, Postcolony* (2015), and his most recent edition of Fanon's *Alienation and Freedom* (2018).

Perhaps his most consistent contribution is his editorship of one of the primary journals in our field, *Interventions: The International Journal of Postcolonial Studies*.



FEATURED SPEAKERS



Deepika Bahri

Deepika Bahri is Professor of English and Director of the interdisciplinary program in Global and Postcolonial Studies at Emory University. Her most recent book is *Postcolonial Biology: Psyche and Flesh after Empire* (2017), and a notable recent article is "Hybridity Redux," in *PMLA* (2017). *Postcolonial Biology* uses theories of neurobiological plasticity, embodied cognition, and epigenetics to explore the impact of imperial domination on colonized bodies and minds, and their ongoing transformation in today's global order. She examines questions of the power over life and lifeways in the relay from colonialism to a late capitalist, consumption-driven world under new forms of empire in all societies.



Ruby Lal

Ruby Lal is an acclaimed historian of India. Her recently published biography, *Empress: The Astonishing Reign of Nur Jahan* (2018) won the 2019 Georgia Author of the Year Award in Biography, and was also a finalist in History for the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize. Among the top ten picks of *Time Magazine*, *The Telegraph*, and *Prospect Magazine* London, *Empress* has been lauded by *The New Yorker*, *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, the BBC, *The Indian Express*, *Business Standard*, and numerous other media outlets. She is Professor of South Asian History at Emory University and divides her time between Atlanta and Delhi.



Marc Cyr

Marc Cyr is a Professor Emeritus of Literature at Georgia Southern University. His specialties centered on Conrad Studies, war literature, and the development of the novel. His "Journey of the MLA Job Candidates" may be the only poem that *PMLA* has ever published. Marc retired to Bellingham, Washington two months ago, after a lifetime of teaching, scholarship, and service. He was the chair of the BCPS Conference Committee for almost two decades, shepherding it from a small gathering on campus in Statesboro to a significant annual international event that still retains its sense of collegiality and cooperation. His perspective is always astute, trenchant, and leavened with a well-placed skewer or two.

Program at a Glance

Friday, February 21

8:00 am	Registration Desk opens (Chippewa Room, 2 nd floor)
9:00 am	Session A (Lafayette, Monterey, Reynolds & Telfair Rooms, 2 nd floor)
10:15 am	Break
10:30 am	Session B (Lafayette, Monterey, Reynolds, & Telfair Rooms, 2 nd floor)
11:45 pm	Break
12:00 pm	Lunch (Harborview Room, 15 th floor)
1:15 pm	Featured Speaker (Harborview Room, 15 th floor)
1:45 pm	Break
2:00 pm	Session C (Lafayette, Monterey, Reynolds, & Telfair Rooms, 2 nd floor)
3:15 pm	Break
3:30 pm	Session D (Lafayette, Monterey, Reynolds, & Telfair Rooms, 2 nd floor)
4:45 pm	Break
5:00 pm	Keynote Address (Pulaski Room, 1 st floor)
5:45 pm	Reception (Pulaski Room, 1 st floor)

Saturday, February 22

8:30 am	Registration Desk opens (Chippewa Room, 2 nd floor)
9:00 am	Session E (Lafayette, Monterey, Reynolds, & Telfair Rooms, 2 nd floor)
10:30 am	Break
10:45 am	Session F (Lafayette, Monterey, Reynolds, & Telfair Rooms, 2 nd floor)
12:00 pm	Break
12:15 pm	Lunch (Harborview Room, 15 th floor)
1:15 pm	Featured Speaker (Harborview Room, 15 th floor)
2:00 pm	Break
2:15 pm	Session G (Lafayette, Monterey, Reynolds, & Telfair Rooms, 2 nd floor)
3:45 pm	Break
4:00 pm	Featured Speaker (Pulaski Room, 1 st floor)
4:45 pm	Reception (Pulaski Room, 1 st floor)

Friday, February 21

8:00 AM Registration Desk opens (Chippewa Room, 2nd floor)

9:00 AM Session A (Lafayette, Monterey, Reynolds & Telfair Rooms, 2nd floor)

PANEL 1 - (POST) COLONIAL INDIA

Lafayette Room Chair: Stefanie Sevcik, Georgia College

Mawdudi's God vs. the 'Ulama's God: Choosing Theology before Politics for the Muslims of India
Syeda Beena Butool Florida State University

For the Love of Albion:

Anglophilia and Social Justice in *Untouchable* and *Love and Life Behind the Purdah*
Anwasha Kundu Washington University in St. Louis

PANEL 2 - NATIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS AND CULTURAL IDENTITY

Monterey Room Chair: Daniel Pioske, Georgia Southern University

Achebe and Bhabha on the Intersection of Cultures

Andrew Ash University of Alabama

Sindiwe Magona and the Power of Paradox:

Challenging the Polarization of South African Discourse

Renee Schatteman Georgia State University

"True Australian Coin": Indigenizing the Bushranger in Carey's *True History of the Kelly Gang*
Connor Mabry Georgia Southern University

PANEL 3 - POSTCOLONIAL COLLECTIVE TRAUMAS

Reynolds Room Chair: Steve Almquist, Spring Hill College

"To Study History as if it were a Body":

A Feminine Gaze on Claustrophobic Horror, Gothic Secrets, Images, and Symbols in *Anil's Ghost*
Shabana Sayeed Georgia State University

Troubled Waters: Ecotrauma and Recovery in Monique Roffey's *Archipelago*

Délice Williams University of Delaware

Re-constructing History, Re-constructing Life:

Altering, Subverting and Fusing Multiple Hermeneutics of Assessing Trauma in *Anil's Ghost*
Abhik Banerjee Georgia State University

PANEL 4 - SYMBOLISM IN POSTCOLONIAL LITERATURE AND POLITICS

Telfair Room Chair: John Rooks, Morris College

India's "Sacred" Cows: Colonial and Post-Colonial Shifts

Juli Gittinger Georgia College

The Ghost in the Water: A Reading of Nayomi Munaweera's *What Lies Between Us*

Kaustav Mukherjee Gannon University

10:15 AM Break



10:30 AM Session B (Lafayette, Monterey, Reynolds, & Telfair Rooms, 2nd floor)

PANEL 5 - CROSS-CULTURAL AND GROSS-GENRE APPROACHES

Lafayette Room

Chair: Lindsey Chappell, Georgia Southern University

Imagined Indias in Rudyard Kipling's *Kim* and Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children*

Danielle Garner

Georgia State University

Brexit with Postcolonial Characteristics

Hans-Georg Erney

Georgia Southern University

Bankruptcy, Banking, and the Virtues of the New India:

Indian Popular Fiction in English and the Tales of Capitalism

Richard Zumkhawala-Cook

Shippensburg University

PANEL 6 - POSTCOLONIAL ECOCRITICISM

Monterey Room

Chair: Shurli Makmillen, Claflin University

Reading *Reef* in the Anthropocene

Todd Kuchta

Western Michigan University

Amitav Ghosh and the New Climate Fiction

Matthew Spencer

Auburn University

PANEL 7 - QUEERING POSTCOLONIAL STUDIES

Reynolds Room

Chair: Pamela Rooks, Francis Marion University

"Bond of Not Existing": Queering Diasporic Displacement in Jhumpa Lahiri's *The Lowland*

Kyung-Lin Bae

Texas A&M University

From Postcoloniality to Transversality in Saleem Haddad's *Guapa*

Lava Asaad

Auburn University

Hearing Silences: Masculinity and Mimicry in *Cereus Blooms at Night* and *Tide Running*

Hannah Gautsch

University of Kentucky

PANEL 8 - COVERING ISLAM IN VISUAL MEDIA

Telfair Room

Chair: Juli Gittinger, Georgia College

Postcolonial Justice and Ethics of Witnessing in Contemporary Graphic Novels

Esra Santesso

University of Georgia

The Superfluity of Imperial Guilt: Drones and Civilian Casualties in Showtime's *Homeland* Season 4

Lopamudra Basu

University of Wisconsin-Stout

Künstlerroman Interrupted: Malik Sajad's *Munnu*.

Morgan Richardson

University of Georgia

11:45 PM Break

12:00 PM Lunch (Harborview Room, 15th floor)

1:15 PM Featured Speaker (Harborview Room, 15th floor)

The PC Connection: The PostColonial and Political Correctness

Marc Cyr, Emeritus

Georgia Southern University

1:45 PM Break

2:00 PM Session C (Lafayette, Monterey, Reynolds, & Telfair Rooms, 2nd floor)

PANEL 9 - AMITAV GHOSH

Lafayette Room

Chair: Gautam Kundu, Georgia Southern University

What do I know? Crossing Epistemological Borders in Amitav Ghosh's *The Shadow Lines*

Travis Dular

University of Georgia

Can the Subaltern Laugh?

An Exploration of Humor as a Method of Circumventing the Inequalities of World Literature

Aya Labanieh

Columbia University

Puns Upon a Time in *Sea Of Poppies*

Ishanika Sharma

Emory University

PANEL 10 - POSTCOLONIAL IRELAND

Monterey Room

Chair: Connor Mabry, Georgia Southern University

Representations of the Irish Diaspora in Britain from 1980 to the Present Day

Aisling Keavey

Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art Design & Technology

Postcolonial Possibilities: John Dominic Crossan's *The Historical Jesus*

Rebecca Ziegler

Georgia Southern University (Emerita)

The Other "Wild Geese":

Ireland's Seasonal Migrants to England and Scotland in the Twentieth Century

E. Moore Quinn

College of Charleston

PANEL 11 - TRANSNATIONAL EXOTICISMS

Reynolds Room

Chair: Jerod Ra'Del Hollyfield, Carson-Newman University

From Haiti to Quebec:

The Contribution of Writers of Haitian Descent to Quebec's Literary Landscape

Christine Duff

Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada

Analogies of Atrocity:

Coetzee's *Age of Iron*, Postcolonial Exoticism, and the Apartheid Universe

Craig Smith

Grande Prairie Regional College

Pico Iyer and the Japanese Mystique

Vijay Prokash Singh

University of Lucknow, India

PANEL 12 - REPRESENTING FEMALE AGENCY

Telfair Room

Chair: Laverne Nishihara, Indiana University East

Performing Identity: Veiling Practices in British Muslim Women's Anthologies

Kimberly Clough

Texas A&M University

"An Iron Fist in a Leather Glove in a Woolen Mitten": *The Testaments of Gilead*

Pamela Rooks

Francis Marion University

"Between A Rock and a Hard Place?":

Muthoni's Attempt at Conceptual Escape in Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o's *The River Between*

Milt Moise

University of Florida

3:15 PM Break



3:30 PM Session D (Lafayette, Monterey, Reynolds, & Telfair Rooms, 2nd floor)

PANEL 13 - WOMEN CONFRONTING EMPIRE: NATURE, BODIES, FOOD

Lafayette Room

Chair: Anthony Vital, Transylvania University

"sometimes there's not enough time to confirm the disaster at hand":

Toxicity and Environmental Anxiety in Samanta Schweblin's *Fever Dream*

Nicole M. Merola

Rhode Island School of Design

"Bad, bad trouble come when béké meddle with that":

Nature, Gender and Desire in Jean Rhys's *Wide Sargasso Sea*

Anthony Vital

Transylvania University (Emeritus)

PANEL 14 - RESHAPING POPULAR NARRATIVES AND GENRES THROUGH CINEMA

Monterey Room

Chair: Cheryl Duffus, Gardner-Webb University

U-Carmen eKhayelitsha: Africana Womanism and Resistance in South African Cinema.

Lynn Anderson

University of West Georgia

It was a Dark and Dusty Night: *Razorback* and the Development of the Australian EcoGothic

Isaac Rooks

University of Florida

Sgt. Pepper and The Boss Get Back: Migrancy, Globalization, and the Reappropriation of

Classic-Rock in *Yesterday* and *Blinded by the Light*

Jerod Hollyfield

Carson-Newman University

PANEL 15 - GLOBAL DISPLACEMENTS

Reynolds Room

Chair: Rebecca Ziegler, Georgia Southern University

Uptakes of Maori Literature in the Public Sphere:

Patricia Grace's *Baby No-Eyes* and Alan Duff's *Once Were Warriors*

Shurli Makmillen

Claflin University

The Formation of Identities in the Armenian Diasporic Geographies

Meltem Safak

University of Georgia

The View from the Quay: The Afterlives of Slavery in the Indian Ocean

Kritish Rajbhandari

Reed College

PANEL 16 - OTHER, OTHERING, AND OTHERNESS IN POSTCOLONIAL STUDIES

Telfair Room

Chair: Hapsatou Wane, Georgia Southern University

"I, Too, Am Americanah": Digital Transglobalities and Other African Immigrant Identities

Hapsatou Wane

Georgia Southern University

Constructing (un)Situated Women: New Feminist Spaces for Postcolonial Women

Necole DeLoach

Georgia Southern University

Reflecting, Replicating, and Readjusting Reality: A Postcolonial Perspective on Fantasy Novels

Chandler Hanton

Georgia Southern University

4:45 PM Break

5:00 PM Keynote Address (Pulaski Room, 1st floor)

Postcolonialism Forty Years On

Robert J.C. Young, Silver Professor and Professor of English

New York University

5:45 PM Reception (Pulaski Room, 1st floor)

Saturday, February 22

8:30 AM Registration Desk opens (Chippewa Room, 2nd floor)

9:00 AM Session E (Lafayette, Monterey, Reynolds, & Telfair Rooms, 2nd floor)

PANEL 17 - CROSSING THE LINGUISTIC, HISTORICAL, AND URBAN BORDERS OF GLOBALIZATION

Lafayette Room Chair: Matthew Miller, University of South Carolina Aiken

Frontiers of Postcolonial Studies: Globalization and the City

Carol Bailey

Westfield State University

Okinawan Diasporic Experiences and the Un-Settling of Japanese Colonialism:

The Exigency to Preserve Language and Identity

Victoria Batten

Benedict College

Realms of Emigration from South Asia to American: A Postcolonial Study

Amita Singh

Benedict College

Pressures, Stagnation, Flight: Manjhushree Thapa's *Seasons of Flight*

Ubaraj Katawal

Valdosta State University

PANEL 18 - TRANSGRESSIVE WOMEN: REWRITING/WRITING

Monterey Room Chair: Esra Santesso, University of Georgia

Some Like It Hot: Sexual Transgression and the Bodies Politic in Kamila Shamsie's *Home Fire*

Steve Almquist

Spring Hill College

Mohja Kahf's *The Girl in the Tangerine Scarf*: A Bug's Eye View of the World

Asha Sen

University of Wisconsin Eau Claire

Female Prison Art: Creative Insurgency in the Syrian Civil War

Stefanie Sevcik

Georgia College

Black British Women's Writing on the Migratory Subject

Ijeoma Odoh

Howard University

PANEL 19 - THE TRANSNATIONAL CONVERSATION IN NIGERIAN FICTION

Reynolds Room Chair: Jane Rago, Georgia Southern University

Run, Run As Fast As You Can:

Helen Oyeyemi's *Gingerbread* and the Outstripping of "Alternative Facts"

Laura Clapper

Indiana University

Stung by Empire: Decolonizing Higher Education in Nnedi Okorafor's *Binti*

Amanda Lagji

Pitzer College

Amos Tutuola's *Witch Herbalist of the Remote Town*: Back to the Future 1981 to 1880

John Rooks

Morris College

A. Igoni Barrett's *Blackass* as a Response to Frantz Fanon's *Black Skin, White Masks*

Antje Rauwerda

Goucher College

PANEL 20- NARRATIVE, PEDAGOGY, LITERACY

Telfair Room Chair: E. Moore Quinn, College of Charleston

Narrative Humility: Storytelling as Healing and Violation

in Physician-Writer Sayantani DasGupta's Narrative Medicine Pedagogy

Laverne Nishihara

Indiana University East

Digital Humanities, Mapping and Teaching Immigrant Writing

Pushpa Parekh

Spelman College

Post-colonially Inspired Pedagogy:

Foregrounding What it Means to be an Immigrant Teacher of Color in the US

Erol Bailey

Westfield State University

Immigrant Dilemmas and Allusions to British Literary Classics in

Anuvab Pal's *Chaos Theory* and Shishir Kurup's *Merchant on Venice*

Mitali Wong

Claflin University

10:30 AM Break

10:45 AM Session F (Lafayette, Monterey, Reynolds, & Telfair Rooms, 2nd floor)

PANEL 21 - COLONIZING THE FEMALE BODY IN POSTCOLONIAL LITERATURE

Lafayette Room

Chair: Brittany Grooms, Western Carolina University

Colonization of the Female Body in J M Coetzee's *Disgrace*

Brittany Grooms

Western Carolina University

Colonizing the Body in Margaret Atwood's *Surfacing*

Whitney Waters

Western Carolina University

"You Would Betray Your Own Mother for Meat":

A Vegan Feminist Reading of Tsitsi Dangarembga's *Nervous Conditions*

Sarah Rhu

Western Carolina University

PANEL 22 -

THE NEW IMPERIAL NEOLIBERALISM: MEDIA, POLICY, AND NEW AVENUES IN POSTCOLONIAL RESEARCH AN INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATING NEW MEDIA INTO YOUR RESEARCH

Monterey Room

Chair: Chris Cartright, Georgia Southern University

19th-Century Rhetoric & 21st-Century Poverty

Jane Rago

Georgia Southern University

Entertainment Texts & Policy Sources

Chris Cartright

Georgia Southern University

PANEL 23 - TEA GARDENS, INSURGENCIES, AND LABURNUM FLOWERS: CONTEMPORARY NARRATIVES FROM NORTHEAST INDIA

Telfair Room

Chair: Aruni Kashyap, University of Georgia

Charred Paper: The Discourse of Human Rights in Stories about the Assamese Insurgency

Aruni Kashyap

University of Georgia

Writing the Assamese Tea Garden: Chameli Memsab and Postcolonial Indian Identity

Sneha Khaund

Rutgers University

Identity Negotiation in the "New World": Fiction from Nagaland

Subhraleena Deka

University of Georgia

12:00 PM Break

12:15 PM Lunch (Harborview Room, 15th floor)

1:15 PM Featured Speaker (Harborview Room, 15th floor)

Biology, Plasticity, and Empire

Deepika Bahri, Professor of English

Emory University

2:00 PM Break

2:15 PM Session G (Lafayette, Monterey, Reynolds, & Telfair Rooms, 2nd floor)

PANEL 24- CONFRONTING UNCOMFORTABLE TRUTHS

Lafayette Room

Chair: Isaac Rooks, University of Florida

Mark Twain's Entrapment of Perennial Readers' Racist Interpretation of the Vernacular

Zachary Kronforst

University of North Florida

Chang-rae Lee's *On Such a Full Sea*: Combating Post-Racial Ideology

Matthew Miller

University of South Carolina Aiken

Convivial Labor: Negotiating Transnational Adoptee "Unbelonging" in *Geographies of Kinship*

Seul Lee

Texas A&M University

Decolonizing Climate Fiction

Magdalena Maczynska

Marymount Manhattan College

PANEL 25 - THE TRAUMA OF TRANSITION: SOUTH AFRICAN LITERATURE DURING THE EARLY YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

Monterey Room

Chair: Renee Schatteman, Georgia State University

The Oral Tradition and Its Impact on Phaswane Mpe's *Welcome to Our Hillbrow*

Robyn Stockslager

Georgia State University

The Inverse Natures of Life, Death, and Hope in *Welcome to Our Hillbrow* and *Ways of Dying*

Braden Turner

Georgia State University

Shame and Trauma: Reading Trauma-induced Shame in Achmat Dangor's *Bitter Fruit*

Namrata Dey Roy

Georgia State University

PANEL 26 - IMPERIAL IDEOLOGIES IN 20TH-CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE

Reynolds Room

Chair: Martha Hughes, Georgia Southern University

The House Fetish and Postcoloniality: Reinterpreting Liberalism in *Howards End*

Bina Mehta

Arizona State University

The Empire of Psychiatry in Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway*

Chienyn Chi

The University of Texas at Austin

Jean Rhys's "A Solid House": The Second World War and Wartime Ethnography

Carol Dell'Amico

California State University, Bakersfield

Frantz Fanon and the Making of a Postnational Public Sphere

Aisha Karim

Saint Xavier University

PANEL 27 - GLOBAL RESPONSES TO THE COLONIAL PROJECT

Telfair Room

Chair: TBA

The Sword Unsheathed:

19th-Century Bengal and a Postcolonial Reading of Utpal Dutt's *Tiner Tolowar*

Purna Chowdhury

Heritage College, Quebec

From "Terrified Consciousness" to the Self: Unveiling and Re-imagining Whiteness in Jean Rhys's

"The Insect World" and Helen Klonaris's "Flies"

Jutta Schamp

California State University, Dominguez Hills

3:45 PM Break

4:00 PM Featured Speaker (Pulaski Room, 1st floor)

Isn't this Representation? The Question of the Archive
and the Great Woman Mughal, Nur Jahan

Ruby Lal, Professor of South Asian History

Emory University

4:45 PM Reception (Pulaski Room, 1st floor)

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The Journal of Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies

IS BECOMING...



With a new publisher, the University of Florida Press, the *Journal of Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies* will be changing its title to the *Journal of Global Postcolonial Studies*. This name change reflects the journal's broader geographic audience and its expanded scholarly and research scope, which now includes Latin American Studies, Diaspora Studies, Pacific and Indigenous Studies, and Development Studies, among others. The journal seeks to investigate the areas of convergence (and divergence) that exist between these fields and Postcolonial Studies, especially in their mutual awareness of history and relations of power—and thus to reveal, in the words of Arif Dirlik, “societies globally in their complex heterogeneity and contingency.”

FOR SUBMISSION AND SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION, SEE <journals.upress.ufl.edu/jgps>.

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