Regionalism in India

Lavanya Vemsani Ph.D.
Associate Professor, History; Department of Social Sciences
9 – 9:20 am, Clark Memorial Library Learning Lab

Dr. Vemsani is an award winning scholar and professor specializing in Indian history and religions at Shawnee State University. She holds two doctorates in History and Religious Studies from McMaster University (Hamilton, Canada) and University of Hyderabad (Hyderabad, India), respectively. Her research and teaching interests are varied and multifold. She researches and publishes on subjects of ancient Indian history and religions as well as current history of India. She is the author of Hindu and Jain Mythology of Balarama and a number of articles on history and religions of India. Her second book Krishna in History, Thought, and Culture: An Encyclopedia of the Lord of Many Names is slated for publication in Spring 2015. She is currently working on two book projects, India: A New History, and Ancient Settlement Patterns of South India. She is the editor of International Journal of Dharma and Hindu Studies, and associate editor of Journal of South Asian Religious History.

Presentation Summary:

I will discuss the current historical history of India, through analyzing the regional organizations of India. This paper contains two parts. In the first section, I examine the evolution of political parties representing various religious, ethnic, and social minority groups during the twentieth and twenty-first centuries and analyze how these political parties may have contributed to conflict rather than peace and tolerance. In the second section of this paper I examine the evolution of political parties representing various geographical regions as a recent trend in India. I also examine how these new identities based on geography are seen as inclusive, and contributing to tolerance, although on a regional basis.
Presentation Summary:

The Waller Conservatory houses collections of largely cultivated plants routinely used in both general biology as well as upper level botany courses. This study focuses on identification of plants which have been specifically selected based on their ability to thrive under greenhouse conditions, with emphasis on resistance to insect infestation. Important growth requirements such as light levels, temperature, airflow, and humidity are analyzed. An updated spreadsheet will be discussed, along with a hierarchy of systematic plant groups. Types and prevalence of insects found on plants are also recorded.
Presentation Summary:

How does one publish a literary anthology? What are the steps in the journey? Are there tips to avoid pitfalls? In this session, Dr. Carpathios shares his experiences with the process of a literary anthology’s creation from conception to release, and everything in between. He also will read selections from the anthology, *Every River on Earth*.
Greetings from Scenic Lake Tight: Understanding an Ice Age Lake and Its Influence on the Ohio Valley

Kurt Shoemaker Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Geology; Department of Natural Sciences
11 – 11:20 am, Clark Memorial Library Learning Lab

Dr. Shoemaker received his BS (Geology) from Mount Union College, 1995 and his Ph.D. (Geology) from Miami University, 2004. He has been a member of the SSU faculty since 2005. Prior research efforts include the tectonic and magmatic evolution of the Oregon-Nevada-Idaho tri-state region, and rift evolution of southern Oklahoma. His current research focus is on Pleistocene (Ice Age) lakes of the upper Ohio Valley; his goal is to engage students in every aspect of this research.

Presentation Summary:

Lake Tight — a Great-Lake-sized, ice-margin lake — occupied the upper Ohio Valley for more than 7,000 years during the Pleistocene Ice Ages. The geological evidence surrounds us in Scioto County, but it has not been studied in a systematized, integrative fashion. I will present an overview of the ongoing research I am conducting with SSU students, which includes evidence of wave eroded shorelines, Pleistocene seismicity, and catastrophic lake outflow.
Queering Pedagogies in STEM Education

Ryan Gamm Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Education; Department of Teacher Education
12:00 – 12:20 pm, Clark Memorial Library Learning Lab

Dr. Gamm is a first year professor at SSU. He is also a former middle and high school science teacher. His academic interests include science, gender, and gender in science.

Presentation Summary:

I explore what we can learn by using Queer Theory to excavate the experiences of women who persist in STEM fields where gender disparities endure. Originally, the data set used in this study explored the curricular experiences that contribute to persistence. By reevaluating with the notions and sensitivities of Queer Theory, the pedagogical binaries and their effects inherent to STEM education are made visible.
“Countering What God Thought and the Neighbors Said”: Alternative Gender Possibility and Becoming Animal in Harriette Arnow’s *Hunter’s Horn*

**Janet Holtman** Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Department of English & Humanities
12:30 – 12:50 pm, Clark Memorial Library Learning Lab

Janet Holtman completed her Ph.D. in English at Pennsylvania State University in 2004 with specializations in American literature, Southern literature, and critical theory. Her work has appeared in *American Studies International*, *The Southern Quarterly*, *Postmodern Culture*, and in *American Studies*. She has been teaching at Shawnee State since 2007.

**Presentation Summary:**

This presentation summarizes a recently published article and discuss twenty first century critical approaches to Harriette Arnow’s fiction as well as the role of critical theory in new readings of Appalachian literature.
“I Thought I Enjoyed Reading”: Navigating Literary Worlds through Community Activism

Mich Nyawalo Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, World Literature; Department of English & Humanities
& Students Kasie Lightenheimer, Rikki Cornett, Dane Pala, Heather Stephenson, & Lydia Frost

1 – 1:50 pm, Clark Memorial Library,
Flohr Lecture Hall

Dr. Nyawalo serves as an English professor and also the director of the Honors Program at SSU in Portsmouth, Ohio. He earned his Bachelor and Master of Arts in English degrees (with specializations in literature, sociolinguistics, and cultural studies) at West University and Gothenburg University (respectively) in Sweden. He completed his second master's as well as a Ph.D. in comparative literature with a focus on media and globalization studies at the Pennsylvania State University. He is fluent in French, English, Swedish, Swahili, and Luo. His areas of specialization are globalization studies, post-colonial criticism, African literatures (including audio and visual cultures from the continent), media studies, critical pedagogy, and service learning. The years he has spent living and studying in Kenya, Uganda, France, Sweden, and the United States have highly defined his academic projects, which appropriate a mixture of critical tools and scholarly texts derived from the fields of African, African Diaspora, and African American Studies. As a comparatist, his research is fully grounded in the inter-sections of literary criticism, economic history, mass communications, and cultural studies.

Presentation Summary:

Assisting in this presentation are SSU students, Kasie Lightenheimer, Rikki Cornett, Dane Pala, Heather Stephenson, and Lydia Frost. While the epistemologies of service learning have mostly been appropriated in fields such as education, language acquisition, engineering, as well as rhetoric and writing among others, there has been very little focus on the theoretical possibilities that could emerge from incorporating service learning into the study of comparative literature. Through a collaborative reflection among students and teacher, this presentation examines how the field of comparative literature—which defines itself through its systematic focus on an imperative that continuously encourages various forms of theoretical intersections and experimentations—contains an epistemological praxis that easily accommodates the deontological priorities of service learning.
**Presentation Summary:**

Karst is an underutilized discipline in geology that can be used as a tool to further our understanding of the earth system. Karst processes deal with the dissolution of soluble rocks and the features that are formed by this dissolution (e.g. caves and sinkholes). Topics to be discussed include: What is karst?, The quantification of karst, and, within the context of karst processes: paleo sea and lake levels, sedimentation in the Bahamas, the global carbon budget of today and the last glacial maximum.
Supporting Motivation: An Innovative Approach to Dementia Care

Christine Raber Ph.D., OTR/L
Professor, Master of Occupational Therapy Program; Department of Rehabilitation and Sport Professions
4 – 4:50 pm, Clark Memorial Library Learning Lab

Dr. Raber is completing her twentieth year of teaching at Shawnee State University. Her research focus examines the role of motivation in dementia care, and she has presented her findings at regional, state, national, and international conferences. She is advocate of person-centered care and culture change in long-term care.

Presentation Summary:

The societal and personal costs of dementia are high and expected to continue to grow given the increased prevalence of this devastating condition, which all too often results in lack of meaningful engagement in daily life. This presentation provides an overview of innovative approaches to better understand motivation and support remaining capabilities of people living with dementia.
Introduction to the Flipped Classroom

Krista Maxson Ph.D.
Professor, Chair; Department of Mathematical Sciences
9 – 9:50 am, Clark Memorial Library Learning Lab

Dr. Maxson is the Chair of the Department of Mathematical Sciences at Shawnee State University. At the 2013 Joint Mathematics Meetings (JMM) she led a Project NExT open discussion on the flipped classroom which led to the creation of a Google community of faculty interested in the inverted classroom. She co-organized “Flipping the Classroom” and contributed paper session at the 2014 JMM and co-edited a special issue on the flipped classroom for the journal Problems, Resources and Issues in Mathematics Undergraduate Studies (PRIMUS). She also presented with Dr. Christopher Kacir at the thirty-first annual Academic Chairs conference on the issues facing chairs associated with flipped classes which led to another publication. Dr. Maxson was invited to give a presentation at Western Kentucky University on the flipped classroom and has provided professional development for the Ohio Appalachian Collaborative and the Lawrence County summer academy on the subject.

Presentation Summary:

How does the flipped classroom work? Dr. Maxson examines resources and issues in undergraduate classes that are flipped. She includes particular issues departmental chairs face with flipped classrooms, and she answers common questions about how to flip a class as well as the benefits and drawbacks of flipping a classroom.
Driving Partnerships for Assessment and Engagement

Katy Mathuews M.A., M.L.I.S.
Learning & Outreach Librarian
10 – 10:20 am
Clark Memorial Library Learning Lab

Katy is the Learning & Outreach Librarian for the SSU Clark Memorial Library. She has also taught economics as an adjunct faculty member for over ten years.

Presentation Summary:

Blending institutional data with library data to conduct outcomes-based assessment, the Shawnee State University Clark Memorial Library completed a project to better understand the library user and non-user populations and to inform strategic planning. This presentation focuses on the results of this project.
Boundary Work and the Construction of Scientific Authority in the Vaccines/Autism Controversy

Jennifer Scott Ph.D.
Visiting Assistant Professor, English; Department of English & Humanities
10:30 – 10:50 am
Clark Memorial Library Learning Lab

Dr. Scott is a Visiting Assistant Professor of English at Shawnee State University. She holds a Ph.D. in Rhetoric and Professional Communication, specializing in the rhetoric of science.

Presentation Summary:

What counts as “science?” Rhetors on either side of the vaccines/autism controversy offer very different answers to this question. This presentation explores how scientific authority is constructed in arguments about vaccines and autism, and how the boundaries between science and non-science continue to shape the controversy.
Tunulliarfik Fjord: Landscape and Life in South Greenland

Tony Dzik Ph.D.
Professor, Geography; Department of Natural Sciences
11 – 11:20 am
Clark Memorial Library Learning Lab

Professor Dzik earned his Ph.D. in Geography at Northwestern University and has been teaching at SSU for 26 years. His specialties are regional geography (especially the American Great Plains, Arctic and sub-Arctic regions, and North America in general), physical geography, and medical geography. Among his publications are books on badlands landscapes, the physical geography of the Great Plains, and the historical geography of a Chicago neighborhood. His academic journal publications include articles on Greenland, disease mapping, ischemic heart disease geography, radon geology and cancer, and the economic geography of Billings County, ND.

Presentation Summary:

Dr. Dzik presents his field work of June 2014 with an overview of the geography, history, and economy of human settlement along the fjord. Several cultures (Arctic Small Tool Tradition people, Erik, Red and the Norse, the Inuit, modern Scandinavians, and the U.S. Military) have all left their mark on this region that lies in the shadow of the Inland Ice.
A Case Study of Minnesota French in Attrition: What is Retained and What is Lost

Shureka Nyawalo Ph.D. Candidate
Adjunct Professor, French; Department of English & Humanities
11:30 – 11:50 am
Clark Memorial Library Learning Lab

Shureka Nyawalo is an adjunct instructor of French at Shawnee State. She is concurrently pursuing her doctoral degree in linguistics from Université Bordeaux Montaigne in France. Her areas of research include French phonology and regional varieties of French.

Presentation Summary:

During the end of the nineteenth and the beginning of the twentieth centuries, French-speaking immigrants from Canada settled in northern states of the U.S., including Minnesota. Although their descents today are almost all exclusively English speakers, some French speakers still remain, although their French is being lost, a process known as language attrition. This presentation highlights a case study of one of these French-speaking descendants. He has managed to maintain some elements from French, but he has also forgotten a great deal. This presentation shows that there are inconsistencies in what he has retained and lost in terms of lexicon, morphology, syntax, and phonology. This presentation contributes not only to the body of knowledge concerning how individuals lose a language they once knew, but also sheds light on this minority language population in the US.
Foxc2 is Required for Cardiac Neural Crest Cell Migration, Ventricle Expansion, and Outflow Tract Septation

Kimberly Inman Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Biology; Department of Natural Sciences with SSU
Students Kristin R. Melton, Annita Achilleos, Tsutomu Kume, & Paul A. Trainor
2 – 2:20 pm, Clark Memorial Library Learning Lab

Dr. Inman is a graduate of Marshall University and received her Ph.D. in Cell and Molecular Biology from the University of Wisconsin Madison. She completed postdoctoral studies at the Stowers Institute for Medical Research in Kansas City, Missouri. Kimberly teaches human anatomy and physiology, pathophysiology, and general biology. Her research interests are in the field of developmental biology, primarily the genetic and molecular control of craniofacial development.

Presentation Summary:
Proper development of the great vessels of the heart and septation of the cardiac outflow tract requires cardiac neural crest cells (cNCC). These cells give rise to the parasympathetic cardiac ganglia, the smooth muscle layer of the great vessels, and the conotruncal cushions and the aorticopulmonary septum of the outflow tract. Ablation of the cNCC results in defective patterning of each of these structures. Previous studies have shown that targeted deletions of forkhead transcription factor C2 (Foxc2) result in cardiac phenotypes similar to that expected after cNCC ablation. We report that Foxc2⁻/⁻ embryos on the 129s6/svev inbred genetic background display truncus arteriosus and hypoplastic ventricles prior to embryonic lethality. Marker analyses and fate mapping experiments suggest that the loss of Foxc2 results in aberrant cNCC migration and reduced contribution to the outflow tract. Our data indicate that Foxc2 is required for proper migration of cNCC, the septation of the outflow tract, and differentiation of the ventricles. Assisting with this presentation are SSU students, Kristin Melton, Annita Achilleos, Tsutomu Kume, and Paul Trainor.
Mandatory Writing Center Visits and Developmental Writing Students’ Perceptions of the Writing Process

Marc Scott Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Department of English & Humanities

& Cynthia Hermanson M.S.Ed.
Instructor, University College

3 – 3:20 & 3:30 – 3:50 pm
Clark Memorial Library Learning Lab

Dr. Marc Scott is an assistant professor and the director of Developmental English at Shawnee State University. Cynthia Hermanson is a full-time instructor in the University College.

Presentation Summary:

The presenters discuss results from a survey project that investigated the use of mandatory writing center visits in developmental writing courses and the impact those visits might have had on how students perceive the writing process.
The Cinematic Representation of Peruvian Internal Migration in the Late 20th Century

Pablo Salinas Ph.D.
Visiting Assistant Professor, Spanish; Department of English & Humanities
3:30 – 4:20 pm
Flohr Lecture Hall, Clark Memorial Library

Dr. Salinas was born in Peru, and received his master’s degree from the University of Montreal and Ph.D. from the University of Ottawa.

Presentation Summary:

This presentation addresses the way Peruvian internal migration is portrayed in the late twentieth century. I argue that new productions reveal the crisis of a cultural homogeneity in their films. In opposition to this, it shows a heterogeneous process where the migrant referent, although part of the new urban context, belongs to a different cultural universe than that of its enunciator (the Filmmakers).

I consider that this interest in the internal migrant experience in urban film is a consequence of the crisis of the “creole” (male individuals of mainly Iberian heritage) as a metonymy for the “national subject” and that it also indicates new ways of understanding the city. This interest in subjectivizing the migrant through narrative produces diverse representations shown in two films analyzed here: the creole subject in Maruja en el infierno (1983) and the migrant subject in Gregorio (1985).
Ferlinghetti and the Long Poem: Americus and Time of Useful Consciousness

Alan Gravano Ph.D.
Visiting Professor; Department of English & Humanities
4 – 5:00 pm, Clark Memorial Library Learning Lab

Alan J. Gravano has an M.F.A. in Poetry and an M.A. and Ph.D. in English from the University of Miami, Florida. His poems have appeared in many journals, including *Review Americana: A Literary Journal*, *Gulf Stream: South Florida’s Literary Current*, *Ellipsis*, and *Voices in Italian Americana*. He co-edited *Southern Exposures: Locations and Relocations of Italian Culture*, selected essays from the 42nd Annual Conference of the American Italian Historical Association.

Presentation Summary: