

The 2021 Project Narrative Summer Institute: Narrative Theory and Social Justice (On-line) June 21—July 2, 2021

Co-directors, Robyn Warhol and Jim Phelan

PNSI 2021 The Project Narrative Summer Institute is a two-week workshop on the campus of Ohio State University that offers faculty and advanced graduate students in any discipline the opportunity for an intensive study of core concepts and issues in narrative theory.

PNSI 2021 will be devoted to Narrative Theory and Social Justice, and it will be conducted with an awareness of the call for the academy to recognize and address the structural inequalities that have made the Black Lives Matter movement and other forms of political activism both necessary and urgent. The Institute will be rooted in the principle that narrative is a way of knowing and of doing that is always situated in a socio-cultural context. Consequently, we will give substantial time to the work the narratives we'll read and view seek to do. Our method will be to construct dialogues among those narratives, feminist narratology, rhetorical narratology, and critical race theory. We will be especially interested in establishing two-way traffic between the theories and the narratives. Even as these theories provide good entry points into the narratives, especially through their attention to intersectionality, ethics, and situatedness, we want to be open to the ways the narratives can lead us to enrich, extend, or revise current theory.

Format:

We will conduct the Institute in daily synchronous sessions via Zoom. The 2020 Institute was conducted on-line, an experience that highlighted some advantages of the format, especially its opening up the Institute for participants who would not otherwise be able to attend. In addition, that experience taught us a lot about the affordances of Zoom (breakout rooms, chat, screen sharing, recordings, and so on) and we will design the 2021 Institute to maximize the efficacy of those affordances.

To Apply:

Applicants should send a current CV, a short description of a teaching or research project related to the theme (no longer than one single-spaced page), and one letter of recommendation to Project Narrative by April 30, 2021. Please email all documents to projectnarrative@osu.edu.

Applications will be reviewed promptly after the deadline. If, in order to meet funding deadlines, applicants need an earlier decision, the co-directors will consider special requests for early action.

Please email projectnarrative@osu.edu with any questions about applying

Fees and Housing:

Tuition for the 2021 Project Narrative Summer Institute is \$1,800. Project Narrative cannot provide financial aid, but the co-directors will gladly write in support of participants' applications for funding from home institutions.

Accessibility Statement:

Project Narrative is committed to accessibility and ensuring that all programming is welcoming to all participants. We will actively be taking steps, including providing live transcription, to ensure that the virtual format is accessible. Please reach out to Joey Ferraro, the Graduate Assistant for Narrative, at ferraro.48@osu.edu with any specific requests or questions.

Schedule (subject to change)

June 21 to July 2, 2021

Monday, June 21 Convergence among Feminist and Queer Narratologies, Rhetorical Narratology, and Critical Race Theory

Core Concepts: Intersectionality; Power/Politics Ethics

Readings: Susan Lanser, "Toward (a Queerer) More (Feminist) Narratology" from *Narrative Theory Unbound*.

Ethics: James Phelan, "Narrative Ethics" in *Living Handbook of Narratology*

Critical Race Theory:

https://www.ted.com/talks/kimberle_crenshaw_the_urgency_of_intersectionality?language=en

Toni Morrison, "Recitatif"

Robyn Warhol and Amy Shuman, "The Unspeakable, the Unnarratable, and the Repudiation of Epiphany in 'Recitatif': A Collaboration between Linguistic and Literary Feminist Narratologies"

Tuesday, June 22 Delgado and Stefancic *Critical Race Theory*, 3rd edition, Chapters 1-IV

Toni Morrison, excerpt from *Playing in the Dark*

Baldwin, "Going to Meet the Man"; Wideman, "Everybody Knew Bubba Riff"

Wednesday, June 23 Perspective/Focalization

Gérard Genette on Focalization in *Narrative Discourse*; Manfred Jahn, "Focalization" Shaun Morgan, "Race as Interpretive Lens: Focalization and Critique of Globalization in Jhumpa Lahiri's 'Sexy'"

Jhumpa Lahiri, "Sexy"

Thursday, June 24 Perspective/Focalization (Continued)

Reliable and Unreliable Narration

James Phelan, "Reliable, Unreliable, and Deficient Narration: Toward a Rhetorical Poetics"

Sandra Cisneros, "Barbie-Q"

Toni Cade Bambara, "The Lesson"; Jhumpa Lahiri, "The Third and Final Continent"

Friday, June 25 Character and Temporality

Genette on Time; Phelan, Introduction to *Reading People, Reading Plots*

Barry Jenkins (dir.) *Moonlight*

Bordwell, "Neo-Structuralist Narrative and the Functions of Filmic Storytelling"

Lanser, "'Toward' Revisited"

Monday, June 28 Plot and Progression

Peter Brooks, *Reading for the Plot*; Hillary Dannenberg, excerpt from *Coincidence and Counterfactuality*

Colson Whitehead, *Underground Railroad*

Tuesday June 29 Fiction/Nonfiction

Lynda Barry, *One! Hundred! Demons!*

Matt Madden, *99 Ways to Tell a Story*

Wednesday, June 30 Space

Excerpt from Ryan, Foote, and Azaryahu, *Narrating Space/Spatializing Narrative*

W. J. T. Mitchell, "The Violence of Public Art: *Do the Right Thing*"

Spike Lee (dir.), *Do The Right Thing*

Thursday, July 1 Participant Presentations

Friday, July 2 Participant Presentations