

Reading with Theory

UCI Comparative Literature Undergraduate Conference in Critical Theory

April 18, 2026 • HIB 135

9:00–9:30	Welcome and Breakfast
9:30–9:45	Opening Remarks
9:45–11:00	Panel 1: Time
	1. Alisha Alam, UCI <i>“Formalizing Suspended Temporality in Huzaifa Pandit’s ‘Here is a present’”</i>
	2. Isabella LoCascio, UCI <i>“The Future Imperfect: Ecological Crisis and the Temporality of the Contemporary”</i>
	3. Fernanda Maria Castaneda, Florida International University <i>“Wreckage Upon Wreckage: Exile’s Temporal Crisis”</i>
	4. Tiffany Pacol, UCSD <i>“On Translation and Colonialism in R.F. Kuang’s Babel”</i>
11:00–11:15	Break
11:15–12:30	Panel 2: The Body
	1. Sarah Rogers, CSU Fullerton <i>“The Other Body in Pain: The Limits of Scarry through Chronic Pain Narratives”</i>
	2. Sabella Habtemariam, UCI <i>“Reinterpreting Medea through Anti-Productivity”</i>
	3. Samantha Dubon, UCSD <i>“Queering the Quill: Mysticism and Gendered Resistance in the Writings of Margery Kempe”</i>
	4. Elizabeth Lieb, UCI <i>“Mothers: How Changes in Parenting Created More Artists”</i>
12:30–1:30	Lunch
1:30–2:45	Panel 3: Technology
	1. Max Orcutt, UCSB <i>“Unto the Breach: Examining the Post-Door Logic in Man Ray’s 1916 Self-Portrait”</i>
	2. Joanne Kim, Irvine Valley College <i>“Colonialism and the Corpus”</i>
	3. Angelina Bruso, UCSC <i>“Extended Mind and Authorship in the Age of AI”</i>
	4. Christina Ginger, UCLA <i>“The Wicked Bible and the Authority of Print”</i>
2:45–3:00	Break

3:00–4:15	Panel 4: Ideology
	1. Audrey Lin, UCSB <i>“Complicating the Maybe Happy Ending Controversy: Representation Politics, Techno-Orientalism, and Transnational Asian Theatre”</i>
	2. Benjamin Li, UCI <i>“Symptomatic Readings of Lu Xun from Jameson and Althusser to Lyotard”</i>
	3. Jaedyn Mohr, Cal Poly SLO <i>“Before Leaning and Loafing: Walt Whitman’s Depictions of Male Madness and Dangerous Patriarchal Standards in ‘Bervance; or Father and Son’”</i>
	4. Tyler Simi, UCSD <i>“Habitus and Class Distance in Annie Ernaux’s A Man’s Place”</i>
4:15–4:30	Closing Remarks
5:00	Reception