

UCI Comparative Literature Undergraduate Conference in Critical Theory 2026

Reading with Theory

Schedule

9:00–9:30 — Welcome and Breakfast

9:30–9:45 — Opening Remarks

9:45–11:00 — Panel 1: Time

1. Alisha Alam, UCI: "Formalizing Suspended Temporality in Huzaifa Pandit's 'Here is a present'"
2. Isabella LoCascio, UCI: "The Future Imperfect: Ecological Crisis and the Temporality of the Contemporary"
3. Fernanda Maria Castaneda, Florida International University: "Wreckage Upon Wreckage: Exile's Temporal Crisis"
4. Tiffany Pacol, UCSD: "On Translation and Colonialism in R.F. Kuang's *Babel*"

11:00–11:15 — Break

11:15–12:30 — Panel 2: The Body

1. Sarah Rogers, CSU Fullerton: "The Other Body in Pain: The Limits of Scarry through Chronic Pain Narratives"
2. Sabella Habtemariam, UCI: "Reinterpreting *Medea* through Anti-Productivity"
3. Samantha Dubon, UCSD: "Queering the Quill: Mysticism and Gendered Resistance in the Writings of Margery Kempe"
4. Elizabeth Lieb, UCI: "Mothers: How Changes in Parenting Created More Artists"

12:30–1:30 — Lunch

1:30–2:45 — Panel 3: Technology

1. Max Orcutt, UCSB: "Unto the Breach: Examining the Post-Door Logic in Man Ray's 1916 *Self-Portrait*"
2. Joanne Kim, Irvine Valley College: "Colonialism and the Corpus"
3. Angelina Bruso, UCSC: "Extended Mind and Authorship in the Age of AI"
4. Christina Ginger, UCLA: "The Wicked Bible and the Authority of Print"

2:45–3:00 — Break

3:00–4:15 — Panel 4: Ideology

1. Audrey Lin, UCSB: "Complicating the Maybe Happy Ending Controversy: Representation Politics, Techno-Orientalism, and Transnational Asian Theatre"
2. Benjamin Li, UCI: "Symptomatic Readings of Lu Xun from Jameson and Althusser to Lyotard"
3. Jaedyn Mohr, Cal Poly SLO: "Before Leaning and Loafing: Walt Whitman's Depictions of Male Madness and Dangerous Patriarchal Standards in 'Bervance; or Father and Son'"
4. Tyler Simi, UCSD: "Habitus and Class Distance in Annie Ernaux's *A Man's Place*"

4:15–4:30 — Closing Remarks

5:00 — Reception

April 18, 2026

HIB 135