

H O M E

UCI Comparative Literature Graduate Conference 2026

Humanities Instructional Building (HIB) 135 | April 2-3, 2026

Conference Schedule

Thursday 4/2

9:30 - 10:00: Breakfast

10:00 - 10:15: Opening Remarks

10:30 - 12:15: Panel 1–Waterways

Moderated by Prof. Adriana Johnson

Irene Ross (UCB): “When is Home? Tracing the Anachronisms of Diasporic Place”

Rose Padilla (UT Austin): “Barangay Ethos: Archipelagic Kinship Formation and Homemaking in Precolonial Philippines”

Malenia Friday (UCI): “Swamp Sense-Ability”

12:15 - 1:30: Lunch

1:30 - 3:15: Panel 2–Poetics of Homemaking

Moderated by Prof. David Colmenares

Fer de la Cruz (UCI): “The Mayan House in Literature and Practice”

Angel Carrasco (USC): “Tío Yim: Reimagining Indigenous Representations in Documentary Film”

euridice morris (UCB) & Stephani Rodríguez Perez (Ulowa): “The house undone; and other intermittent rooms”

3:30 - 5:15: Panel 3–Astray and Estranged

Moderated by Prof. Gabriele Schwab

Borui Liu (UCD): “Unhoming the Family: From the Meiji System to Postwar Domestic Space in Sōseki and Ozu”

Hardik Yadav (Fordham): “Lonely Hearts and the Work of Queer Home”

Himika Chakraborty (UCD): “‘A strange feeling’: Indian Street Dogs and the Negotiation of a Stray Sense of Home”

5:30 - 7:30: Reception Dinner

Friday 4/3

9:00 - 9:30: Breakfast

9:30 - 11:15: Panel 4–Envisioning Exile

Moderated by Prof. Margaux Fitoussi

Uroosa Khan (USD): “Half the Word That Was My Village: Unhoming, Aftermath, and Lyric Survival in Agha Shahid Ali”

Nicole Prucha (UCLA): “Closer to Home: Safia Elhillo’s (Re)creation of a Lost Sudan”

Bilal Hisam (UCB): “Building Life after a Defeated Revolution: Istiqrar, Mobility, and Making of Home among Egyptian Exiles in Istanbul”

11:30 - 1:15: Panel 5–Objects of Memory

moderator Prof. Coleman Collins

Arón Montenegro (UCI): “Entre Flor y Fusil: Caribbean and Central American Cultural Memory amidst Perpetual States of War”

Jun Rendich (USC): “‘The Spirit in Things’: Fantasy, Analogy, and the Black Body as Object in Theaster Gates’ Afro Mingei (2024)”

Edil Hassan (UCB): “The Shed as Black Rehearsal”

Lunch: 1:15 - 2:00

2:00 - 3:20: Keynote by Prof. Samiha Khalil

Introduction by Prof. Catherine Malabou

3:30 - 4:50: Keynote by Prof. Rizvana Bradley

Introduction by Prof. Sandra Harvey

5:00 - 5:45: Co-Discussion

6:00: Closing Remarks

7:00: Dinner Social



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Co-sponsored by the Humanities Center; Jordan Center for Persian Studies; Center for Early Cultures; Postmodern Culture; Critical Theory Emphasis; Associated Graduate Students; UCI Endowed Chair in Rhetoric; and the Department of Comparative Literature, History, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Asian American Studies, East Asian Studies, English, and Criminology, Law, and Society.