

WIF 2026
Conference Schedule [DRAFT]

Thursday May 7, 2026

8:00am – 9:00am Check-in & Continental Breakfast **Location:** The Union Ballroom

9:30am – 10:15am **Opening remarks** **Location:** The Union Ballroom

- Organizing Committee
- President, Women in French: Dr. Stephanie A Schechner
- Dean, College of Arts and Letters: Dr. Traci Zimmerman
- Academic Unit Head, World Languages and Cultures: Dr. Cynthia S Chalupa

Session A

10:30am –12:00pm

Panel A1: Transgression and the Politics of Visibility I

Chair: TBD

Location: Taylor 206

Michele Bacholle

“Transgressions, agentivité et changement: Triste tigre et Chair tendre (Paria Korigan)”

Eric Wistrom

“Transcrits publics et cachés dans les "Chroniques" de Facebook”

Katie-Rose Nandhra

“Je n’étais déjà plus un être humain?: Sovereign power and forbidden communion in Laure’s sacred moment”

Francis Mathieu

“Ourika de Claire de Duras: transgresser l’idéologie raciale par le Romantisme”

Panel A2: Transgression in a Global Context: Literature, Technology, and Social Justice I

Chair: TBD

Location: Taylor 302

Luckson (Luc) Bonhomme

“Poétique de la transgression: écrire la honte pour ne pas mourir de la vérité dans la littérature postcoloniale francophone”

Latifa Zoulagh

"Dévoilements du visible et de l'invisible dans La Controverse des Temps de Rajae Benchemsi : la quête de vérité comme cheminement sacré"

Guy Spielmann

“Transgression, libération et soumission: paradoxes de Colette (1900-1954)”

12 :00pm – 1 :00pm Complimentary Lunch Boxes **Location:** Union Ballroom

1 :15pm – 2 :15pm **Plenary 1 – Dr. Benchemsi** **Location:** TBD

2 :15pm – 2 :45pm Coffee Break

Session B
2 :45pm – 4 :15pm

Panel B1 : Migration, gender and queer transgressions I

Chair: TBD

Location: Taylor 309

Vicki Mistacco

“Gender Insurrection in Louise de Keralio’s *Amélia et Caroline*”

Stephanie Diane & Tsakeu Mazan

“53 Cm de Bessora: la transgression discursive au féminin”

Ariane Ngabeu

“*Le Harem du roi* de Djaili Amadou Amal: Pouvoir, tradition et politique de la transgression féminine”

Patience Odeh

“Transgressive Powers Systems in Djaili Amadou Amal’s Novels”

Panel B2 : Transgression in a Global Context: Literature, Technology, and Social Justice II

Chair: TBD

Location: Taylor 400

Amanda Parraguez

“Dialectics of Transgression in Luis Buñuel’s *Belle de Jour* (1967)”

Morgane Haesen

“19th Century Women Writers in the Francophone World: A Database for the Appropriation, Reinvention and Transformation of Knowledge”

Teona Eririogu & Choshi Modjadji

“Cyber-Civic Wellness by Design: Leveraging Machine Learning to Detect Social Engineering Scams and Protect Vulnerable Communities”

Thomas Tooley

“Refusing to Dramatize: Transgressions of the Virtual Reservation”

4:30pm – 5:15

Talk by Dorothee Polanz

Location: TBD

“From Victim to Transgressive Icon: The Transfiguration of Marie Antoinette in Worldwide Pop Culture”

5:30pm – 6:30pm

Exhibition on Marie Antoinette

Location: Duke Hall

6:30pm – 8:00pm

Welcome Reception

Location: Hall of Presidents

Board Members’ Meeting (tentative)

Friday May 8, 2026

8:00am – 9:00am Check-in & Continental Breakfast **Location:** The Union Ballroom

9:15am – 10:15am **Plenary 2 – Dr. Peter Eubanks** **Location:** The Union Ballroom

Session C 10 :30am – 12 :00pm

Panel C1: Migration, gender and queer transgressions I

Chair: TBD

Location: Taylor 302

Jade Cazorla

“Ces récits lesbiens qui contournent la censure... Du manuscrit à l'œuvre: trajectoire d'une écriture transgressive”

Diweng Dafong

“Spoken Wounds: Orality in Burkinabè Women's Poetic and Cinematic Voices”

Li Zhi Biao, Jessica

“La Parole du Paysage chez Édouard Glissant et Ananda Devi”

Adamu Abubakar

“Immigration et Décolonisation du Français chez Beyala, Diome, Yabouza et Sow Fall”

Panel C2: Politics of intersectionality, agency, resistance, and multi-layered forms of transgression I

Chair: TBD

Location: Taylor 304

Theresa Kennedy

“Claiming the Stage: Women, Authorial Presence, and Theatrical Transgression”

Choshi Modjadji

“Visible and Invisible Borders: Transgressions in Global Health Leadership from South Africa to Virginia”

Jingyu Wei

“When Care Becomes a Quiet Transgression: Gender and Power in China's Health System”

Matteo Silvestri

“Androgynous and Gender Transgressions in Rachilde's Monsieur Vénus and Madame Adonis”

12 :15pm – 1 :30pm Complimentary Lunch Boxes **Location :** The Union Ballroom

WIF Business Meeting / General Session for WIF Members

Session D
1 :30pm – 3 :00pm

Panel D1: Women’s agency and political discourses in francophone Africa I

Chair: TBD

Location: Taylor 309

Leon Mwamba Tshimpaka

“Francophone Queens Without Borders: Intercontinental Citizenship Among Europe-based Congolese Women”

Christel Mpongo Nziazi

“Challenges and Prospects for Women's Leadership in the DRC”

Tumba Tuseku Dieudonné

“Navigating Women’s Agency and Inclusive Environmental Justice: The Adverse Effects of the extractive industries in the Democratic Republic of the Congo”

Muyamba Mangu

“Women as Agents of Change: Exploring Women's Strategies for Political Engagement in the Democratic Republic of Congo”

Panel D2: Transgression and the Politics of Visibility II

Chair: TBD

Location: Taylor 400

Haby Ka

“Differential Thematizations: Gender and the Politics of Representation in Senegalese Print Media (1945 – 1975)”

Lyna Ami Ali

“Unruly Calligraphy: Arabic illiteracy and Revolutionary Fragments in Leïla Sebbar’s work”

Elizabeth Langley

“The Wounded Eye as Witness: Memory and Transgression in Evelyne Trouillot's L'Oeil-Totem”

Preea Leelah

“Visibly Invisible: Sanité Bélair, Solitude, and the Gendered Memory of Revolution”

3:00pm – 3:30pm Coffee Break

Session E
3:30pm – 5:00pm

Panel E1: Transgression of religion, taboo, and cultural normativity I

Chair: TBD

Location: Taylor 302

Jennifer Carr

“Necropolitics in the Nitrostate: Lamia Ziadé’s Mon port de Beyrouth »

Zoé Chou

“Silence ou transgression invisible: le « nous » clandestin dans Les Samothraces (2016) de Nicole Caligaris”

Kathleen Antonioli

“Reading Colette after #metoo”

Julie Gaillard

“Transgression Hidden in Plain Sight: on Incest Culture”

Panel E2: Politics of intersectionality, agency, resistance, and multi-layered forms of transgression II

Chair: TBD

Location: Taylor 402

María Gilbert

“Censorship, resistance, and the politics of visibility”

Mary McCullough

“Jeanne Galzy’s intersectional transgressions”

Anne H Quinney

“Les statues meurent aussi: A case of Censorship, Resistance and Visibility in 1950s France”

5:30pm – 8:00pm

**Reception and Dinner
Remarks by WIF President**

Location: Hall of Presidents

WIF Board Members’ Meeting (tentative)

Saturday May 9, 2026

8:00am – 9:00am

Check-in & Continental Breakfast

Location: The Union Ballroom

Session F

9:30am – 11:00am

Panel F1: Women’s agency and political discourses in francophone Africa II (Virtual Panel)

Chair: TBD

Location: Taylor 302

Mathilde Savard

“Methods of Transgression: Autotheory against Heteronormativity in Marie Kock’s Vieille Fille”

Katie-Rose Nandhra

“Je n’étais déjà plus un être humain”: Sovereign power and forbidden communion in Laure’s sacred moment”

Valentina Denzel

“Oh People, unhappy Citizens! Listen to the voice of a fair-minded and sensitive woman—Olympe de Gouges or the fight for visibility”

Panel F2: Transgression of religion, taboo, and cultural normativity II

Chair: TBD

Location: Taylor 304

Marie Kondrat

“Revers de l’excès: autour de "Lascaux 2" de Monique Peytral”

Unglid Paul

“The Right to Remain Illegible: The Ethics of Opacity in Marie Cécile Agnant's *Le livre d'Emma* and Kettly Mars's *Je suis vivant*”

Danica Guerrero

“Visible and Invisible Transgressions in Marie-Cécile Agnant’s *Le Livre d’Emma*”

Sasso Pagnou

“Le jugement des infractions mystiques entre réalisme et transgression juridiques en Afrique de l’Ouest francophone”

Panel F3: Politics of intersectionality, agency, resistance, and multi-layered forms of transgression III

Chair: TBD

Location: Taylor 309

Ashley Scheu

“A Story I'm Not Supposed to Tell: Transgression, Aesthetics, and Recognition in Springora and Sinno”

Eric Disbro,

“Mauritian Sorority vs. the Male Literati: Denouncing Abuse after Nathacha Appanah’s *La Nuit au cœur* (2025)”

CJ Gomolka

“When Feminism Fails: What Transfeminism Can Teach Us about the Future of Transgression”

Luna Larocque

“Wadaha: Danse, résistance et performativité féminine au potentiel queer”

11:15am – 12:30pm Complimentary Lunch Boxes Location: The Union Ballroom

12:30pm Group Photo Location: TBD