



**University of North Carolina Wilmington Graduate English Association (GEA)
Call for Papers: "A World of Texts: Cultural Studies & Intertextual Relations"**

Date: April 16, 2011 from 10 AM – 6PM

Location: UNCW, Morton Hall

Submission Deadline: February 28, 2011

Our conference is centered on intertextuality, which we define as a process by which cultural texts interrelate with other texts in an ongoing dialectical engagement. We feel that an emphasis on intertextuality maps some of the importance of the cultural studies project, both textually and politically. An intertextual approach crosses boundaries and mediums, bridging social structures and disciplines. We wish to reaffirm these connections by calling for submissions from a variety of scholastic areas, including Rhetoric & Composition, Literature & Genre Studies, Creative Writing, History, Sociology, Communications, and more.

Scholarship in the Humanities spans an interdisciplinary legacy that questions assumptions—whether linguistic, structural, or psychological—that reinforce social codes and prevalent ideologies. By doing so, theorists seek to locate sites of normative forces within the texts that construct our everyday lives, in order to understand and deconstruct them. Engaging with cultural studies is therefore an inherently political task, because knowledge structures are intimately connected to social practices and identities.

Are all objects of study equally valid? We posit that everything is a connected text, and as such, we accept and encourage scholarly inquiries on texts from any medium. We define the term "text" in post-structural fashion; a text can be a book, but it can also be a film, comic, game, or any other cultural artifact. In theory, all the world is a text, and the players but words within it. Potential topics might include:

- The role of critical theory in intertextual engagement.
- The study of rhetoric within contemporary culture.
- The value of an interdisciplinary approach to literacy.
- The use of technology within composition and pedagogy.
- The overlap of political and professional concerns in academia.
- The development of identity within language and culture.

Submission Guidelines: Proposals should be emailed to mailto: uncwgea@gmail.com by February **28th**, 2011. All submitted proposals will receive email confirmation on receipt. Acceptances will be emailed starting March 20th, 2011. Proposals for individual presentations should include a **300** word abstract (attached as a PDF or Word doc) with no identifying characteristics. Your name, institution, phone number and brief biography should be included within the body of your email. Individual presentations should not exceed 15 minutes. *Please also indicate any need for audiovisual equipment.*

Proposals for panel presentations (no more than three presenters) should include three separate **100** word abstracts and one **250** word panel abstract (attached as a PDF or Word doc) with no identifying characteristics. Please title your panel accordingly. Your names, institutions, phone numbers, and brief biographies should be included within the body of the email. Panel presentations should not exceed 45 minutes. *Please also indicate any need for audiovisual equipment.*

Further questions should be directed to the GEA Co-Chairs, Mariaelena DiBenigno or Elizabeth Heinz, at uncwgea@gmail.com. The University of North Carolina Wilmington enjoys an active community of graduate students, and an important goal of our annual Conference is to take part in the convivial and intellectually rewarding experience of scholarly life. In addition, a visit to our conference provides an enticing opportunity to explore the surrounding coastal area. Besides its scenic beaches, Wilmington boasts a beautiful historic downtown district on the Cape Fear waterfront.