

2025 IASPR Conference Draft Schedule

Mexico City/online

All times given in Central Standard Time (GMT -6)

Tuesday June 24

Session 1: 9:30-11:00am

Panel A – Sensational Bodies: Senses in Romance

1. Kecia Ali, “Sensory Discrimination: Gender, ‘Race,’ Flavor and Feelings in Nalini Singh’s Psy-Changeling Novels.”
2. Alexis Boylan, “Visualizing Romancelandia.”
3. Ellen Carter, “Perfumed prose: scent, space, and characterisation in romance fiction.”

Panel B – Appealing to the Classics

1. Lucy Sheerman, “‘I remembered that the real world was wide, and that a varied field of hopes and fears, of sensations and excitements awaited those who had the courage to go forth into its expanse’: reading the erotic landscape in the writing of the Brontes and their subsequent collaborators.”
2. Kelly Thomson, “‘Companionate Marriage’: How the ‘Queens of Crime’ used Romance in Detective Fiction to Challenge Women’s Inequality in Marriage.”
3. Alda Valdimarsdóttir, “Lost and Lost and Found Women: Jane Austen in popular fiction.”

BREAK – 11:00-11:20am

Session 2: 11:20am-1:10pm

Panel A: Romantic Worlds – Places, Spaces and Homes

1. Meghna Bohidar, “Idealized landscapes, spaces, and places of romance in urban India.”
2. Kate Cuthbert, “Something to Write Home About: Titles, genre, and the word ‘home’.”
3. Sreepurna Datta, “Looking For a Good Home: The Textual Domain of South Asian Diasporic Romance Novels.”
4. Kristen Loutensock, “Love in the Emergency Room: Romance in Hospital Narratives.”

Panel B: Looking Back to the Romantic Future – Romantic Ecosystems

1. Francesca Pierini, “Erin Doom’s The Tearsmith: A Case Study on the Transnational Circulation of Romance.”

2. Amy Matthews, Alex Cothren, and Rachel Hennessy, "Happily Ever After in the Age of Climate Crisis: the argument for 'Cli-Ro'."
3. Jayashree Kamblé, "Revisiting the Border: Chicanx and Hispanic Spaces in the 1980s Wave of American Category Romance."
4. Kellie Magnus, "Trouble in Paradise: The Challenging History and Uncertain Future of Caribbean Romance Publishing."

BREAK – 1:10-1:30pm

Session 3: 1:30-3:00pm

Panel A: Where Are We With This? – Genre Revisited

1. Justina Ashman, "Queerly Beloved: Queering the Happily Ever After in popular historical romance."
2. Maria Ramos-Garcia, "What Ever Happened to Paranormal Romance? The 2010s and 2020s."

Panel B: Romance, Revolution and Redemption

1. Carole V Bell, "Redemption Love Songs: How Romance Takes On Decolonization."
2. Melanie Seward, "Connection to Country in Indigenous Romantic Comedy Novels."
3. Jonathan Allan, "Love in the Time of Dictatorship and Revolution."

LUNCH – 3:00-5:00pm

Session 4: 5:00-6:00pm

Keynote 1: Javaria Farooqui, title TBA.

Wednesday June 25

Session 1: 9:30-11:00am

Panel A: Fidelities and Infidelities – Adaptation and Translation

1. Heather Schell and Derin Ozkan, "Shaking up Stereotypes: The Turkish Translation of a Harlequin Sheikh Romance."
2. Nusaiba Imady, "She Lived for Him: Adapting Intimacy and Love for Arabic Readers."
3. Mehvish Nawreen, "Genre-Bending Love: Adaptation and the Fusion of Romance in Julia Quinn's Bridgerton Series."

Panel B: Connection and Connectivity – Romance and Online Platforms

1. Yansha He, "Hoarding in Survival Fantasy: Chinese Women's Affective Labor in Web Novel Platforms During the COVID-19 Pandemic."
2. Claire Parnell, "Romance in a post-FOSTA-SESTA world: Platform governance, romance fiction and imaginaries of 'adult' material."
3. Lucy Rouse, "It Takes a Village to Write One Direction Fanfiction: Authorship in the Digital Age."

BREAK – 11:00-11:20am

Session 2: 11:20am-1:10pm

Panel A: Romantic Landscapes and the Power of Kilig – Sites of Love across Philippine Media and Culture

1. Thomas Baudinette, "He's My Oppastar! Exploring Korean-Japanese Fantasies in Contemporary Philippine Romantic Culture."
2. Louie Jon A Sánchez, "The Filipino Romantic Imagination and Teleserye 'Love Teams'."
3. Kristine Michelle L Santos, "Imagining Queer Romances in Contemporary Philippine Comics."
4. Andrea Anne I Trinidad, "SUS 6INOO!: Kilig in P-Pop Idol Boy Band ALAMAT's Boyfriend POVs."

Panel B: Romancing History I – The Past for Now

1. Molly Winters, "Queer Romance and Historical Accuracy in the Works of KJ Charles."
2. Kristin Noone, "Comic Medievalism, Christmas Carols, and Happy Endings in KJ Charles' 'Masters in This Hall'."
3. Sarah Ficke, "Reparative History and Reparative Reading in Alyssa Cole's An Unconditional Freedom."
4. Bonnie White, "Invading France, Invading the Body: Sarah Adlakha's Midnight on the Marne."

BREAK – 1:10-1:30pm

Session 3: 1:30-3:00pm

Panel A: Reading the Romance, Reading the Romance Reader

1. Emma K McNamara, "'My Entire House Feels New with Possibilities': The Ordinary Storyworld of the Young Adult Romance."
2. Margaret Bates, "Voting with their Wallets: Romance Reader Values' Potential Impact on Purchasing Behavior."
3. Amy Burge and Jodi McAlister, "'I'm not gonna be a movie star, or a singer, or any of those things, but ... I could pretend': Escapism and the 1980s bonkbuster."

LUNCH – 3:00-5:00pm

Session 4: 5:00-6:00pm

Keynote 2: Ainhua Vasquez, title TBH.

Thursday June 26

Session 1: 9:30-11:00am

Panel A: Confabulating with Alterity – Romance and Other Worlds

1. Hanna Hoorenman, "Feral Femininity: FMC Shapeshifting and Animality."
2. Johanna Kluger, "Soulmates and Scent Matches: Free Will and Gender in Alternate Universe Romance Fiction."

3. Evvie Valiou, "The writer-reader-page-place assemblage of Rebecca Yarros's Fourth Wing series (2023-)."

Panel B: The Logics of Triangular Desire

1. Maria Butler, "Marian Keyes' This Charming Man: An alcoholic love story."
2. Matthew A Hoffman, "Subject of Desire & Desire to be Subject: Beauvoir's Relationship of Ambiguity in Romance Novels."
3. Justina Clayburn, "Why Choose, Must Choose: Juxtaposition of Fantasy and Reality in Doctor Odyssey (2024-2025)."

BREAK – 11:00-11:20am

Session 2: 11:20am-1:10pm

Panel A: Falling in Love with the Darkness – Dark Romance

1. Kim Manganelli, "'In the Gray': Making Space for Race in Dark Romance."
2. Dilpreet Kaur Sandhawalia, "Allure of the Anti-hero in Dark Romance: An Analysis of Emotional Engagement and Reader Preferences."

Panel B: Romancing History II – The Past as a Place

1. Semilore Sobande, "Hells, Belles, and the Moors: Racialization, Romance, and Place in the Regency Romance Novel."
2. Hsu-Ming Teo, "Romantic Historical Fiction and the Foreign Country of the Past: Revising History through Reparative Readings."

BREAK – 1:10-1:30pm

Session 3: 1:30-3:00pm

Panel A: Roundtable Discussion

1. Julie Moody-Freeman and Carole V Bell, "Black Romance Podcast: Studying Romance in Africa and the Black Diaspora."

Panel B: Paper, Screens, Phones – Sites and Images of Romance

1. Ginny Bishton, "Uncredited Artists and Unsmiling Women: Researching Category Romance Cover Art."
2. Suzanne Mpouli, "From Paper to Screen: Romance Writers and Hollywood (1910-1949)."

3. Nicola Welsh-Burke, “I am on my KNEES: TikTok as a New Site of Female Sexual Desire.”

LUNCH AND CONFERENCE CLOSE – 3:00-5:00pm