CULTURE AND IDENTITY CONFIGURATIONS:

REFLECTIONS ON THE 21ST CENTURY
We invite the submission of papers to be presented at the *Culture and Identity Configurations: Reflections on the 21st Century* symposium to be held at Hofstra University, Hempstead, New York, on October 26 and 27, 2017.

The symposium is an exceptional opportunity to bring together diverse perspectives and methodologies that are concerned with revealing and describing the intricacies and contradictions of contemporary identity discourses. An underlying methodological diversity is considered a prime requirement for addressing these complexities and contradictions, as ours is a time of increasing misapprehension among identity groups.

Researchers from a broad spectrum of disciplines will examine how identity is shaped, articulated and described in the peer-reviewed assessment of all submissions. However, panel organizers must be present at the symposium in order to read their papers. No papers will be read in absentia.

**SYMPOSIUM THEMES INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:**

**LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE**
- Literature and the creation of identity patterns
- Portrayal of ethnic, racial and religious groups in literary works
- Immigrants, foreigners and outsiders’ identity patterns in literary works: conventions and formulas
- Language as badge of identity
- Language and identity crises
- Identity in fictional multicultural environments

**FILM**
- Film and the creation of identity patterns
- Portrayal of ethnic, racial and religious groups in filmic works
- Immigrants, foreigners and outsiders’ in film: conventions and formulas
- Filmic portrayal of identity crises
- Documentaries and their treatment of identity
- The ethnic/racial environment of good-guy, bad-guy dichotomies in early film such as the “greaser” movies

**HISTORY**
- Identity and history: contemporary conflicts and their historical backdrop
- The nation as a source of identity
- Regions of historically overlapping identities (e.g., Catalonia, Spain)
- Regions of historically conflicting identities (e.g., Christian, Turk, Arab, Israel) or
- Cultural identity in ancient peoples
- The new European identity model
- China and India as identity kaleidoscopes
- Latin America as identity crucible

**RELIGION**
- Religiosity as a mark of identity
- Religious minorities and competing identities
- Religion and gender identity
- Religion as instrument for the creation of identity
- The sacralization of identity

**SOCIOLGY**
- Sociology and its treatment of identity issues
- Immigration, diasporas and identity
- Globalization and identity
- Gender identity
- The defense of “original, native” identities as apologia for the rejection of the immigrant
- Identities and their hypothetical “innate” characteristics

**THE ARTS**
- Identity and painting
- Identity as expressed in music: sounds and instruments
- Identity expressed in physical space: urban environments, buildings, green spaces, monuments
- Dance as an expression of ethnic identity
- Clothing as badge of identity

**SYMPOSIUM THEMES INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:**

**PRESENTATION FORMATS AND ABSTRACTS**

**ALL PROPOSALS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED THROUGH THE SYMPOSIUM WEBSITE:** hofstra.edu/identitysym

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** APRIL 15, 2017

**NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE:** MAY 15, 2017

Proposals for participation can be submitted as follows:

- **Oral Communication**
  - Oral communication consists of a 20-minute presentation followed by a 10-minute period for questions/discussion.
  - Oral communication proposals should include a title, name(s) of author(s), affiliations, locations (city, state, and country), a detached abstract (up to 400 words) with the author name(s) omitted to enable double-blind review, and five keywords. All abstracts are subject to peer review.

- **Themed Panels**
  - Proposals for panels must be submitted online as a single document, single-spaced, in 12-point type.
  - Panel proposals should include a brief overview of the theme, title of the panel, and three (3) to five (5) abstracts of papers, each to be delivered within 30 minutes (a 20-minute presentation followed by a 10-minute period for questions/discussion). The names of the panel presenters should be omitted from the document and the abstracts to enable double-blind review. However, panel organizers should include their name.
  - Acceptance notifications will be sent to panel organizers.

**Abstracts**

In submitting your abstract, please provide the following on a separate cover page: name, title, email, and affiliation of each contributor. Text for abstracts: Maximum 400 words and list five keywords. Abstracts must be submitted in English with author name(s) omitted to ensure consistency in the peer-reviewed assessment of all submissions.

Although participants are strongly advised to submit their completed papers in English, papers can be presented in English, French or Spanish.

**Other Policies**

- One presentation rule: Interested scholars are entitled to submit only one abstract. Speakers agreeing to present papers in panels also follow the one presentation rule.
- Scholars must be present at the symposium in order to read their papers. No papers will be read in absentia.

**CALL FOR PAPERS**