

The James Fenimore Cooper Society will host two panels at the 28th annual American Literature Association conference, which will take place from May 25-28, 2017, in Boston, MA.

Panel 1: James Fenimore Cooper and American Women Writers

Contributing to a literary marketplace largely shaped by Cooper's success as a professional writer, American women writers from the 19th century to the present have been strongly influenced by or have consciously responded to Cooper's novels, themes, and generic innovations. This panel will consider the ways women writers – from Cooper's contemporaries, such as Catharine Maria Sedgwick (*Hope Leslie*) to current writers, such as Lauren Groff (*The Ghosts of Templeton*) – have been shaped by Cooper, his novels, and/or his literary contributions. Papers may consider the ways Cooper was influenced by female contemporaries as well. Please submit to a 250-word abstract, a brief cv (2-3 pages), and an indication of whether or not the paper may be published in the *James Fenimore Cooper Society Journal* by January 15, 2017. Please also indicate any audio-visual requirements. All proposals should be both pasted into the text of the email and included as attachments (word files or pdfs preferred).

Panel 2: Style and Genre in James Fenimore Cooper's novels

Over his prolific career, James Fenimore Cooper's expansive output covered an array of genres, introducing many innovations while contributing to an emergent national literature. Along the way, his works employ a variety of styles while remaining true to his own literary aesthetic. Papers may consider any aspect of style and the use of/innovations to genre in Cooper's novels and other works. Papers may also consider his reception as a stylist or the ways his novels contributed to the novel as a form. Please submit a 250-word abstract, a brief cv (2-3 pages), and an indication of whether or not the paper may be published in *the James Fenimore Cooper Society Journal* by January 15, 2017. Please also indicate any audio-visual requirements. All proposals should be both pasted into the text of the email and included as attachments (word files or pdfs preferred).

Please submit abstracts and accompanying materials to Luis A. Iglesias (luis.iglesias@usm.edu) by January 15, 2017.

Papers should be a maximum of 20 minutes (6-8 pages) in length. Brief discussion will follow the presentations. Presenters need not be members of the James Fenimore Cooper Society, though we certainly hope they will choose to join. Please note that as per ALA guidelines, no one may present more than one paper at the conference.

Papers presented at the conference will, with their authors' permission, be published in the *James Fenimore Cooper Society Journal* and made available online at the Cooper Society website. Papers may be mildly revised for publication.

Luis A. Iglesias
Associate Professor
Department of English
University of Southern Mississippi
118 College Drive, #5037
Hattiesburg, MS 39406
Luis.Iglesias@usm.edu