

The James Fenimore Cooper Society will host two panels at the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the American Literature Association, to be held in San Francisco, CA at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco from May 24-27<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

### **Panel 1: The Frontier in American Literary Imagination**

Before Frederick Jackson Turner proposed his (controversial) theory of the frontier in the American Imagination, James Fenimore Cooper helped shape the expressive potential of writing the frontier. The James Fenimore Cooper society invites paper proposals that expand and explore the rich traditions of literary expression of the frontier, western expansion, and/or Manifest Destiny by American writers. This panel will consider the full range of text, authors, and genres to the present day that illuminate the “frontier experience.” Please visit the James Fenimore Cooper Society webpage for supporting resources and visual archives: <http://external.oneonta.edu/cooper/> as well as information about the James Fenimore Cooper Society. 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 10, 2018. 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). Membership in the James Fenimore Cooper Society not required to be accepted, however membership is welcomed.

Panel chair TBA

Please submit abstracts and accompanying materials to Luis A. Iglesias ([luis.iglesias@usm.edu](mailto:luis.iglesias@usm.edu)).

### **Panel 2: James Fenimore Cooper and the Winds of Change**

Throughout his full range of writings, James Fenimore Cooper was a keen observer of national politics and cultural change. This panel will consider the ways James Fenimore Cooper and his writings respond to and reflect the social, cultural, and political changes taking place during the first-half of the nineteenth century and beyond. Please visit the James Fenimore Cooper Society webpage for resources and visual archives: <http://external.oneonta.edu/cooper/> as well as information about the Cooper Society and membership. 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 10, 2018. 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). Membership in the James Fenimore Cooper Society not required to be accepted, however membership is welcomed.

Panel Chair: Luis A. Iglesias

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Papers should be a maximum of 15-20 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  
Department Chair  
Department of English  
University of Southern Mississippi  
118 College Drive, #5037  
Hattiesburg, MS 39406

Luis.Iglesias@usm.edu