

POSTWAR AREA LITERATURE GROUP

We invite submissions on the following four Postwar + Contemporary literature topics for the 2026 American Literature Association Conference (Chicago, IL):

Postwar Consumption and Consumerism:

Discussions of material acquisition, ostentation, credit, debt, settings and surfaces (empty spaces/loaded spaces), and economic readings of fiction, drama, nonfiction or poetry, 1945-1980. Analyses of fiction, poetry, or drama related to dining/cooking/eating, gendered representations of cooking/eating, holiday meals or ethnic cuisine, alcohol(ism) or related habits of excess, supermarkets/shopping, overweight and body size, eating disorders are also possible topics. **Abstract and CV to Jacqueline Foertsch, foertsch@unt.edu by 15 January 2026.**

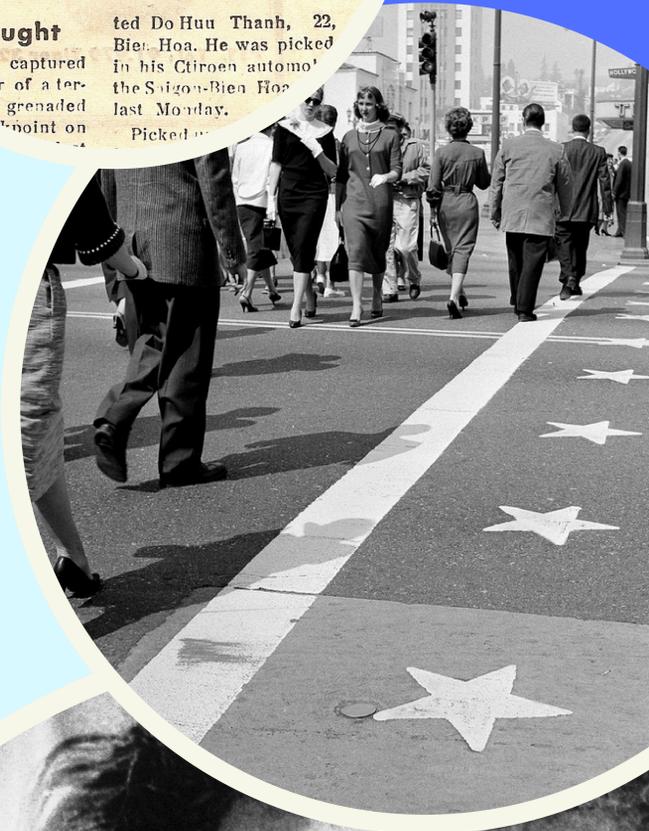
Contemporary Consumption and Consumerism:

Discussions of material acquisition, ostentation, credit, debt, settings and surfaces (empty spaces/loaded spaces), and economic readings of fiction, drama, nonfiction or poetry, 1980-present. Analyses of fiction, poetry, or drama related to dining/cooking/eating, gendered representations of cooking/eating, holiday meals or ethnic cuisine, alcohol(ism) or related habits of excess, supermarkets/shopping, overweight and body size, eating disorders are also possible topics. **Abstract and CV to Jesse Zuba, jzuba@desu.edu by 15 January 2026.**



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We invite submissions on the following four Postwar + Contemporary literature topics for the 2026 American Literature Association Conference (Chicago, IL):



Postwar Celebrity, Fame, and Infamy:

Discussions of famous or infamous persons, celebrity, glamor, and/or fandom in fiction, drama, nonfiction, or poetry, 1945-1980. Hollywood, scandal, crimes of the century, paparazzi and publicity, the nonfiction genres of fan magazines, gossip/society columns, and the tabloid press may also be subjects of analysis.

Abstract and CV to Jacqueline Foertsch at foertsch@unt.edu by 15 January 2026.

Daughter of Bronzeville: Gwendolyn Brooks:

Discussions of the works of Gwendolyn Brooks, especially with a focus on her Chicago poems and letters as well as *Maud Martha*. Brooks' poetry about the city, girlhood in Chicago, postwar style and form in her poetry, Blackness and Black Nationalism in her poetry and teaching, and her literary geography of Chicago, Bronzeville, and the South Side may also be subjects of analysis.

Abstract and CV to Whit Frazier Peterson at whitney.peterson@ilw.uni-stuttgart.de and Nicole Dib at nicoledib@suu.edu by 15 January 2026.