Call for Papers: Panel on John Steinbeck Scholarship at ALA 2027

The International Steinbeck Society is pleased to announce a call for papers for a series of panels dedicated to scholarship on Steinbeck at the 2027 American Literature Association Conference, which will take place from May 26-29 in Boston, MA. We invite scholars and enthusiasts of Steinbeck's works to submit proposals for papers investigating *East of Eden*. We particularly welcome submissions involving the new adaptation from Netflix that premiered on October 1, 2026.

Papers may explore, but are not limited to, the following themes:

Character Analysis in Netflix's Adaptation: Cathy, Lee, the Trasks, etc.

Comparative Studies of novel vs. adaptation

Critical Race Theory approaches to the novel or adaptation

Ecocritical Approaches to the novel or adaptation

Film Explication of the adaptation.

Gender Studies approaches to the novel or adaptation

Historical Approaches to the novel or adaptation.

Philosophical or Theological Themes in the Netflix Adaptation or the novel

Submission Guidelines:

- Abstracts should list a working title and be roughly 300 words in length.
- Submit your proposal as a Word or PDF document to Dr. Jeff Yeager, at jyeager@bluefieldstate.edu, by Friday, January 15. Submissions will be reviewed early the following week.

Conference Information:

The 2026 ALA Conference will take place in Boston, MA from May 26-29, 2027. For more information about the conference, including registration details and venue accommodations, please visit:

https://americanliteratureassociation.org/ala-conferences/ala-annual-conference/

Please note that this is an entirely in-person conference where a virtual option is not available. You must also register as a member of the American Literature Association before registering for the conference.

Contact Information:

For inquiries regarding the John Steinbeck panel or the submission process, please contact Dr. Jeff Yeager, Vice President of the International Steinbeck Society, at jyeager@bluefieldstate.edu.