

**Call for Papers**  
**American Culture Studies 2006 Graduate Conference**

## **Battleground States: Scholarship in Times of Crisis**

**March 31<sup>st</sup> - April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006, Bowling Green, Ohio**

**Deadlines: Deadline extended to Feb 15th for all proposals  
(Paper and Panel Proposals)**

Featuring keynote speaker Dr. Ann Larabee (Michigan State University) and a keynote panel with Dr. Sherry Linkon (Youngstown State University) and Dr. John B. Russo (Youngstown State University)

As subjects and scholars, we negotiate contested spaces daily. We live in a time of global military and political battles, deterritorialized "wars" against drugs and "terror," and a heightened contestation over discourses that define patriotism, "values" and national identity. These broad battles over political, economic, cultural, and (inter)national borders are localized in struggles over battleground states and responses to crisis and tragedy.

Recently in northwest Ohio, we have been at the center of the battle for the White House, academic freedom, definitions of marriage, and have struggled to understand the devastation brought by a cataclysmic tsunami and Hurricane Katrina. Therefore, the graduate students of the American Culture Studies Program at Bowling Green State University are convening an interdisciplinary conference of active scholars engaged in developing critical approaches and interrogations of discriminatory discourses, (re)imagining and (re)constructing an inclusive culture of democratic values.

Grounded in the rich tradition of multi- and transdisciplinary dialogues that are the hallmark of both American and Cultural Studies, this conference will draw from and include a range of academic and activist concerns, methodologies and voices. The Battleground States Conference will critically engage current battlegrounds and crises. In particular, we are interested in presentations that map the terrains of battlegrounds such as:

- Bodies and Subjectivity
- Refugees, Asylees, and Detainees
- Health Care
- Public Media
- Education, Standardization, and Academic Freedom
- Memory and National Identity
- Religion/Religious Identities in Secular/Public Spaces

We are also interested in bringing together scholars and activists whose work reflects on and critically engages with moments of and responses to crisis. Topics might include:

- Media and Race in Hurricane Katrina
- Technology, Journalism, and New Media
- Institutional Responses to Crisis

We are interested in drawing together scholars from all fields of inquiry and are committed to fostering a space in which academic voices can actively engage and foster social and political activism.

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## **Battleground States: Scholarship in Times of Crisis**

This conference invites proposals for conference presentations by scholars, policymakers, practitioners, artists, filmmakers, activists, and other professionals whose work engages the borders and battles facing the world today. We invite proposals from traditional academic disciplines—such as history, English, sociology—and their related interdisciplines—such as American studies, cultural studies, comparative ethnic studies, women's studies.

To be considered as a presenter, please send a presentation proposal, not to exceed 500 words. To propose a panel, please submit a session proposal describing the panel topic, not to exceed 500 words. We will accept proposals by regular mail and email (include abstract in both message body as well as an attachment) to the following:

American Studies Program  
101 East Hall  
Bowling Green State University  
Bowling Green, OH 43403  
Attn: Adam Franklin

Email: [acsconf@bgsu.edu](mailto:acsconf@bgsu.edu)  
Web: [www.bgsu.edu/acsconf](http://www.bgsu.edu/acsconf)

Please direct any and all questions to Adam Franklin via email at [acsconf@bgsu.edu](mailto:acsconf@bgsu.edu) or by phone at (419) 372-0509.

Paper Proposals—due by December 15th—should include the following information:

- Name
- Institutional Affiliation (if applicable)
- Mailing Address (including zip code)
- Phone Number
- Email address
- Title for the proposed presentation
- Abstract
- A-V equipment needs, if any
- Special needs, if any

Panel Proposals –due Jan 1st - should include the above information for all proposed participants.

Important Information:

- To preserve time for discussion, ACS limits all presentations to 15 minutes
- Notification of proposal status will be sent around January 25th
- You may read more than one paper at the conference; however, each paper must be submitted separately
- To promote discussion, all papers must be read by their authors; persons not in attendance may not have papers read by colleagues.
- ACS does not sponsor or fund travel or underwrite participant costs.