

**Victorian Epidemics**  
**Friday April 29**  
**8:30-10**

**Questions of Contagion (Black Bear)**

Moderator: Lisa Surridge

Vanessa Warne, *Dirty Books: Blindness, Finger Reading and Contagious Disease*

Daniel Martin, *C-c-c-contagious Stuttering: Imitation and the Family Drama of Victorian Speech Rehabilitation*

Megan McGrath, *Crime and Disease in Early Victorian London: Contagion Anxiety in *Oliver Twist**

**Disease and the Other (Pine)**

Moderator: Peter Sinnema

Charn Jagpal, *The Nautch Girl Infects the British Woman in Fanny Emily Penny's *The Romance of a Nautch Girl* (1898) and Flora Annie Steel's *Voices in the Night* (1900)*

Leigh Dyrda, *The Invasion of Britain by the "Plague" of Ancient Egypt*

Robert O'Kell, "An Epidemic of Fear and Loathing: Christian Politics, 'The Lustful Turk' and Anti-Semitism During 'The Eastern Question'."

**10-10:30 Break**

**10:30-12**

**The Optics of Epidemic (Black Bear)**

Moderator: Vanessa Warne

Monika Piertzak-Franger, *Visualizing Syphilis: Iconographic Transmutations*

Elizabeth Ludlow, *Catching Images: The affective gaze in Christina Rossetti's poetics*

Carla Manfredi, *Over Damien's Dead Body: Photograph of a Dying Leper*

**Animals and Epidemics (Pine)**

Moderator: Claire McKechnie

Don Lapan, "Your sufferings, sinless things": Changing Attitudes Towards Non-Human Animals, and the Cattle Plague of 1865

Kristine Moruzi, "I shall die of hydrophobia, I know I shall!": Fear, Bravery, and Disease in the Periodical Press

**Lunch 12-1 (Chinook)**

**1-2:30**

**Writing and/as Epidemic (Black Bear)**

Moderator: Laurie Lyda

Jillian Richardson, *The Disease Narrative as Investigative Strategy in James Greenwood's "A Night in a Workhouse"*

Lisa SurrIDGE/Mary Elizabeth Leighton, *Amputated Diaries, Mutilated Letters: The Sensation Novel and the Detritus of Print Culture*

Emma Francis, *Swooning, Swaying, Flushing and Blushing: Pathological circulations of early Victorian poetry*

### **Metaphors of Epidemic (Pine)**

Moderator: Daniel Martin

Chris Kent, *Pathologizing Victorian Society: Matt Morgan's Cartoons in Tomahawk*

Karen Stock, *Breeding Ambiguity: Tissot's Images of the Conservatory*

Julia Skelly, *Framing Addiction: Drunkenness, Disease and Pathological Desire*

### **2:30-3 Break**

### **3-4:30**

#### **Epidemic, Profession and Medical Narrative (Black Bear)**

Moderator: Joy Dixon

Arlene Young, *The Fruits of Failure: Epidemics and Victorian Medical Professionalization*

Meegan Kennedy "An alarming epidemic": *The microscope, medical publishing, and the Milk-Panic of 1873*

Christy Rieger, "The Business of the Powders": *Apothecaries and Retail Relief in Late-Victorian Fiction*

#### **Women, Writing and Epidemic (Pine)**

Moderator: Kristine Moruzi

Gail Turley Houston "Mother-want," *the Symbolic Goddess, and the Victorian Woman Writer's Search for Literary Foremothers*

Nadine Legier, "I Was Not Suffered to Write": *The Discourse of Illness and Disability in the Familiar Letters of Elizabeth Barrett Browning*

Kala Hirtle, *Grief, Gender and Authorship in Elizabeth Barrett Browning's Sonnets from the Portuguese* and Alfred Lord Tennyson's *In Memoriam*

### **4:45-6 Plenary Address**

**Pamela Gilbert, Albert Brick Professor of English, University of Florida**

**"Epidemic Subjects"**

### **Saturday April 30**

### **8:30-10**

#### **Spatial Boundaries of the Epidemic (Black Bear)**

Moderator: Charn Jagpal

Jeffrey Bibbee, *British Russophobia and the Russian flu of 1889-1894*

Ian Cawood/Chris Upton, "Divine Providence": *Birmingham and the Cholera Pandemic of 1832*

Timothy Carens, *African Pestilence and the Condition of England*

**Disease and Identity (Pine)**

Moderator: Gail Turley Houston

Robin Fetherston, Killing Secrets in Dickens and the Early Pre-Raphaelites

Kylee-Anne Hingston, Disease, Disability and the Fractured Self: Esther's Narrative in Charles Dickens's *Bleak House*

Aaron Percich, "Invisible Scribes": the Irish/Jewish Vampire as Imperial Anti-Self in Bram Stoker's *Dracula*

**10:00-10:30 Break**

**10:30-12**

**Airbourne Epidemics: Consumption and Miasma (Black Bear)**

Moderator: Peter Sinnema

Carolyn Day, The Emulation of Consumption: The Fashioning of the Respectable Female Body in Early Victorian England

Erin Gore-Wilson, The Exchange of Air: Tuberculosis and Bonds Between Women in Victorian Fiction

Alexandra Lewis, An 'atmosphere unpropitious to life': Trauma, Miasma and the Brontëan Body

**Disease and the Language of Degeneracy (Pine)**

Moderator: Whitney Wood

Sherrin Berezowsky, Cause or Cure?: Love and Degeneration at the Fin de Siècle

Noa Reich, "Feeding Upon the Lives of Others": Metissage, Disease, and Degeneracy in

Florence Marryat's *The Blood of the Vampire*

Claire McKechnie, Rabies, the Gothic and Darwin's Evolution in Victorian Britain

**12-1 Lunch (Chinook)**

**1-2:30**

**National Identity and National Health (Black Bear)**

Moderator: Adrienne Fitzpatrick

Stephenson, Ryan "The Greatest Plague of Life": National Health and the Victorian Domestic Service Epidemic in Gissing and The Mayhews

Lynn Shakinovsky, The Epidemiology of Hospitality: Charlotte Yonge's *The Heir of Redclyffe*

Elizabeth Scott, "Rejected, on Account of His Eyes:" Canadian Medical Inspection and Emigrant Selection amongst London's Labouring Poor, 1890 – 1908."

**Writing Pain and Trauma (Pine)**

Moderator: Robin Fetherston

Anne Koval, Disease and Denial: the Art and Life of J.M. Whistler

Kate Lawson, The English Sickroom and the Foreign Patient in Charlotte Brontë's *Shirley*

Anne-Marie Beller, "Queerish in his head": Brain Fever, Sensation, and Contagion in the novels of Mary Elizabeth Braddon

**2:30-3 Break**

**3-4:30**

**Women's Health and Illness (Black Bear)**

Moderator: Kristen Guest

Whitney Wood, "Delicate Women" and the Ordeal of Childbirth: The Construction of Women's Pain in Late-Victorian North America

Ana Kerbabian "The 'Unwomanly' Womanhood as Disease:" Social Responsibility and Gender in Charles Dickens's *Bleak House*

Laurie Lyda, A Prescription for Health and Morality: Victorian Medical Rhetoric's Construction of the Contagious Prostitute

**Banquet: 6-9**