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## Wednesday, 29 May

**9:00 Registration**

**9:30–10:00 Opening Ceremony [Salón de Actos]**

**10:00-11:30 Plenary Lecture**

**Stefan Herbrechter** (Coventry University, UK and Heidelberg University, Germany).

**“Before Humanity”**

**11:30-12:00 Coffee Break**

**12:00-13:30 Parallel Session**

**[Aula 1.3]**

THE POSTHUMAN IN CONTEMPORARY U.S. FICTION  
Chair: TBA

**Lisa Mullen** (Worcester College, Oxford, UK)

“On edge: Decentering human materiality in William Gibson’s *The Peripheral*”

**Ines E. Veauthier** (Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz, Germany)

“The Other Human: Exploring Identities”

**Francisco Collado-Rodríguez** (Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain)

“Patterns of Transhuman Numbness in ‘The Belonging Kind’ and *The Circle*”

**12:00-13:30 Parallel Session**

**[Aula 1.4]**

HUMAN PROGRESS: ETHICAL CHALLENGES  
Chair: TBA

**Loredana Filip** (Friedrich-Alexander University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany)

“Stories of Human Enhancement in Contemporary North American Science Fiction”

**Ante Jerić** (University of Rijeka, Croatia)

“Human, post-human and non-human: decoupling consciousness and intelligence in Peter Watts’ novels”

**Maite Escudero-Alías** (Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain)

“From Utilitarianism to Transhumanism: A Critical Approach”

**13:30-15:30 Lunch Break**

**15:30-17:00 Parallel Session [Aula 1.3]**

TRANSHUMAN CANADIAN FICION: ATWOOD AND BEYOND  
Chair: TBA

**Lidia María Cuadrado Payeras** (Universidad de Salamanca, Spain)  
"Representation in the Time of the Posthuman: Transhumanism in Canadian Literature"

**Sławomir Koziol** (University of Rzeszów, Poland)  
"From Yuppies to Hippies (and Back Again) – Libertarian Genetic Modification of People in *MaddAddam* Trilogy by Margaret Atwood"

**Esther Muñoz González** (Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain)  
"*MaddAddam*, Whose Voice? Human and Posthuman Voices"

**15:30-17:00 Parallel Session [Aula 1.4]**

DIGITAL STORYTELLING  
Chair: TBA

**Gretchen Busl** (Texas Woman's University)  
"Digital Storytelling in the Global Social Context"

**Callum Copley** (Independent scholar, Amsterdam)  
"Asynchronous Exchanges and the Poetics of Distraction"

**David M Rieder** (North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, USA)  
"Everting the Real as an Approach to Interactive Storytelling and Rhetorical Engagement"

**17:00-17:30 Coffee Break**

**17:30-19:00 Parallel Session [Aula 1.3]**

SCIENCE FICTION: JEFF VANDERMEER  
Chair: TBA

**Justus Poetzsch** (Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany)  
"The Call of Anthropocene: Resituating the Human Through Trans- & Posthumanism. Notes of Otherness in Works of Jeff Vandermeer and Cixin Liu"

**Monica Sousa** (York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada)  
"'Am I a person?': Biotechnology and Posthumanist Empathy in Jeff Vandermeer's *Borne*"

**Roger Davis** (Red Deer College, Canada)  
"'This writing around the edges of things': Transhumanism, Annihilation, and Interdisciplinarity"

**17:30-19:00 Parallel Session [Aula 1.4]**

THE POSTHUMAN ON TV SERIES  
Chair: TBA

**Anhiti Patnaik** (Birla University of Technology and Science-Pilani, India)  
"'Who's doing this to me?': The Posthuman Spectator in *Black Mirror*"

**Jerika Sanderson** (Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada)

"'One Last Role to Play': Nonlinear Narratives and Posthuman Perspectives in HBO's *Westworld*"

**Amaya Fernández Menicucci** (University of the Basque Country, Spain)

"The Cyborg in the Brothel: Posthumanity and Gender De(con)struction in *Westworld*"

**20:30. Wine Reception.**

**[TBA]**

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## Thursday, 30 May

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**9:30-11:00 Parallel Session**

**[Aula 1.3]**

THE POSTHUMAN IN TOM McCARTHY AND ALASTAIR REYNOLDS  
Chair: TBA

**Margalida Massanet Andreu** (University of the Balearic Islands, Spain)

"Subjects of the Modern World: Writing 'U.' in Tom McCarthy's *Satin Island*"

**Thomas Kewin** (University of Liverpool, UK)

"'The first six million years had been all fun and games': Posthuman Curators and the Question Concerning Storage in Alastair Reynolds' *House of Suns* and *Slow Bullets*"

**Susana Onega Jaén** (Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain)

"The Paradoxical Anti-Humanism of Tom McCarthy's *C*: Traumatic Secrets and the Waning of Affects in the Technological Society"

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**9:30-11:00 Parallel Session**

**[Aula 1.4]**

TRANSHUMANISM AND SPECULATIVE FICTION  
Chair: TBA

**Boyarkina Iren** (Tuscia University, Viterbo, Italy)

"The Improvement of Human Species in the Narratives by Mary Shelley, Olaf Stapledon and Richard Morgan"

**Barbara Puschmann-Nalenz** (Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany)

"The Transition of the Figural Posthuman from Speculative Fiction into the 21st-Century Mainstream"

**Sara Martín Alegre** (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain)

"Hard Man, Hard Wired: Patriarchal Transhumanism and Disempowered Masculinity in Richard Morgan's *Thin Air* (2018)"

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**11:00-11:30 Coffee Break**

**11:30-13:00 Plenary Lecture [Salón de Actos]**

**Alexandra Glavanakova** (St. Kliment Ohridski University of Sofia, Bulgaria)

**“New Modes of Reading Literature Online”**

**13:00-15:00 Lunch Break**

**15:00-16:30 Parallel Session [Aula 1.3]**

CRITICAL POSTHUMANISM AND THE HUMAN BRAIN

Moderator: TBA

**Alexander Hope** (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain)  
“Brainships, Posthumanities and Neuronal Plasticity: Reading Cyborgs with Catherine Malabou”

**Thalia Ostendorf** (University of St Andrews, UK)  
“Transhumanism and cyborgification”

**Carmen Laguarda Bueno** (Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain)  
“Don DeLillo’s *Zero K* (2016): A Critical Posthumanist Approach on the Ethics of Cryonics”

**15:00-16:30 Parallel Session [Aula 1.4]**

FANTASIES OF ARTIFICIAL LIFE AND LOVE

Chair: TBA

**Joanna Łapińska** (Independent Researcher)  
“Representations of (Post?)Human Subjects in Love in ‘Creative Control’ (2015) and ‘Operator’ (2016)”

**William F. Smith II** (University of Wollongong Dubai, U.A.E.)  
“Transhuman Productions”

**Beatriz Oria Gómez** (Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain)  
“When Harry Met Siri: Transhuman Romance in *Her* (2013)”

**16:30-17:00 Coffee Break**

**17:00-19:00 Parallel Session [Aula 1.3]**

FRANKENSTEIN’S LEGACY

Chair: TBA

**Cláudia Martins** (Polytechnic Institute of Bragança, Portugal)  
“On the humanity limbo: between cyborgs and robots”

**Paul Mitchell** (Universidad Católica de Valencia San Vicente Mártir, Spain)  
“Creating a Monster: Frankenstein’s Creature on Film and Television in the Twenty-First Century”

**Ellen Peel** (San Francisco State University, CA, USA)  
“Frankengene 1.5: Taking Constructed Bodies for Granted (Almost)”

**Aitor Ibarrola-Armendáriz** (Universidad de Deusto, Bilbao, Spain)  
“Frankenstein Redivivus: New Shades of (Post)Human Monstrosity in Victor LaValle’s *Destroyer* (2017)”

**17:00-19:00 Parallel Session**

**[Aula 1.4]**

VIDEOGAMES AND YOUNG ADULT FICTION

Chair: TBA

**Sascha Joseph** (University of Cologne, Germany)

"Augs Lives Matter: The Cyborg as a Mediator in the Deus Ex Prequel Series"

**Laurent Milesi** (Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China)

"*Ecce Deus Ex*: Posthumanity between Theology and Technology"

**Aline Ferreira** (University of Aveiro, Portugal)

"Posthuman Clones in Young Adult Fiction: Bypassing Death"

**Dörte Hofmann** (Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain)

"The Murder Gene and the Transhuman: The Consequences of Genetic Engineering in Veronica Roth's *Allegiant*"

**21.00h Conference Dinner**

**Restaurant "Novodabo"**

Provisional Program

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## Friday, 31 May

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**9:00-10:30**      **Parallel Session**      **[Aula 1.3]**

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TRANSHUMANISM AND TRAUMA

Chair: TBA

**Irina Novikova** (University of Latvia, Latvia)

"Memory, Technofuture and Posthuman Agency in the Novels of Richard Powers and Paolo Bacigalupi"

**Sebastian Fitz-Klausner** (University of Koblenz-Landau, Germany)

"Visualising Traumatized Cyber-men – Or: How Futuristic Technology Constructs Trauma and Gendered Bodies in Contemporary US-science-fiction-cinema"

**María Ferrández San Miguel** (Centro Universitario de la Defensa, Zaragoza, Spain)

"'The Brain Feels No Pain': Trauma and the Posthuman in Pat Cadigan's *Synners*"

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**9:00-10:30**      **Parallel Session**      **[Aula 1.4]**

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CAPITALISM AND THE TRANSHUMAN

Chair: TBA

**Marlene Ferreira Simoes** (University of Aberdeen, UK)

"Spacetimemattering in Alexis Wright's *The Swan Book*"

**Pablo Gómez Muñoz** (Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain)

"The Use of the Posthuman as a Tool for the Advancement of Neoliberalism in *Sorry to Bother You* (Boots Riley, 2018)"

**Miriam Fernández Santiago** (Universidad de Granada, Spain)

"*Split*. A Dystopian Vision of Transhuman Enhancement"

**10:30-11:00 Coffee Break**

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**11:00-12:30**      **Plenary Lecture**      **[Salón de Actos]**

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**Sherryl Vint** (University of California, Riverside, USA)

**"Capital Reproduction: Maternity and Productivity"**

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**12:30-14:00**      **Parallel Session**      **[Aula 1.3]**

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ANIMAL-HUMAN-VAMPIRE: BLURRING BOUNDARIES

Chair: TBA

**José Manuel Correoso-Rodenas** (Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha, Spain)

"The Gothic Post-Human in *Manifest Destiny*"

**Justyna Włodarczyk** (University of Warsaw, Poland)

"Posthuman/Postanimal? Producing the More-than-animal Dog in David Wroblewski's *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*"

**Marita Nadal Blasco** (Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain)  
“*I Am Legend* as Posthuman Gothic: from Richard Matheson’s novel to Francis Lawrence’s film adaptation”

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**12:30-14:00**    **Parallel Session**    **[Aula 1.4]**

THE DARK SIDE OF THE POSTHUMAN  
Chair: TBA

**Thalia Prokopiou** (Friedrich-Alexander University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany)  
“AI Gone Wrong? The Relationship between Humans and Tools in Daniel H. Wilson’s *Robocalypse* (2011)”

**Meike Robaard** (University of Groningen, The Netherlands)  
“Don’t Shoot the Messenger!': Horrific Embodiment, Technological Mediation, and Sexual Violence in David Cronenberg’s *Videodrome* (1983)”

**Rocío Carrasco Carrasco** (Universidad de Huelva, Spain)  
“Accountability and the Cyber-Enhanced Body in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cinema: Sanders’ *Ghost In The Shell* (2017)”

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**14:00**    **Closing Ceremony**    **[Salón de Actos]**

Provisional Program