

Significant Readings: 4th Annual Graduate Student Conference at Louisiana State University

The 4th Annual Graduate Student Conference, hosted by the Department of French Studies at Louisiana State University, aims to explore the continued importance of signs and symbols in French literature and linguistics. In what ways are signs and symbols used in language to represent/distort or maintain/subvert the status quo? How have certain symbols evolved throughout French literary history? How do symbols reflect cultural ideals?

We welcome abstracts of 250-300 words discussing any aspect of the conference topic including, but not limited to, the following:

- Semiotics
- Signposts
- Literary metaphors
- Representations
- Archetypal characters
- Language (standard or non-standard)
- Physical signs
- L'Écriture féminine
- (False) Signatures
- L'Argot
- Tropes
- Symbolism/Symbolist Movement
- Bilingualism
- Cognitive/linguistic metaphors
- Baudrillard
- Barthes
- Saussure
- Visual Culture
- Authorship/Imitation
- Cultural Technologies
- Masquerade
- Bourdieu
- Reproduction
- Icons/Iconography
- Fetishism

Please send your abstract by **January 5, 2010** to frenchconference@gmail.com. Please write "2010 Abstract" in the subject line. The conference will take place on the LSU campus in Baton Rouge, LA, March 5-6/12-13/19-20, 2010.