

## **Significant Readings: 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Department of French Studies Graduate Student Conference at Louisiana State University**

The 4<sup>th</sup> 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:

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

Please send your 250-300 word abstract to frenchconference@gmail.com by December 15, 2009. Please write "2010 Abstract" in the subject line.

The conference will take place on the LSU campus in Baton Rouge, LA, March 12-13, 2010.