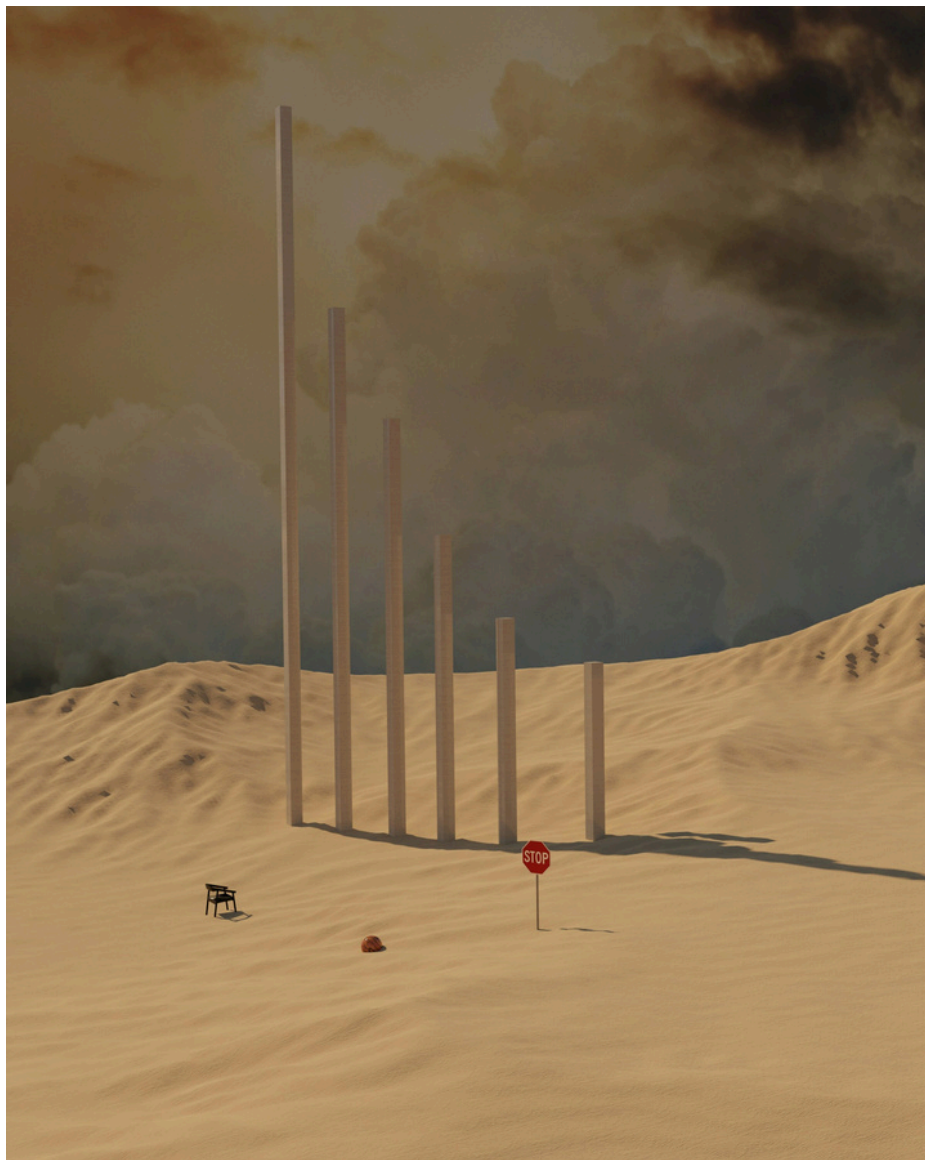


# SCHEDULE

## GETTING READY FOR THE PRESENT

Engaging with the World and the Planet  
in Contemporary Dystopian and Speculative Narratives



# DAY 1

## Registration

13:00–14:00

---

## Welcome Remarks

14:00

---

**Paola Scrolavezza** (P.I. PRIN 2022 Project: “Getting ready for the present: new global dystopian imaginaries and public engagement. Transcultural and transmedial dialogues between Japanese, Latin American, British and Angloamerican cultures”)

**Elena Lamberti** (Vice Director of the Department of Modern Languages, Literature and Cultures at the University of Bologna)

## Keynote Lecture

14:30–16:00

---

**Claire Mercier:** Metamorphosis and Symbiosis in the Latin American Prospective Narrative of the Last Decade

Chair: Edoardo Balletta

## Coffee Break

16:00–16:30

---

## SESSION 1

16:30–18:30

---

### Alternative Epistemologies

Aula Prodi

Chair: Valeria Stabile

Alan N. Shapiro: **A New Alternative to Capitalism**

Luca Salvi: **Predetermination and Ineffectiveness. Notes on the Paralysis of Agency**

Federica Moscatelli: **Rethinking Eco-Catastrophe: Local and Global Perspectives from Latin America**

Alessandra Vannucci: **Observing some Amerindian Propositions About the End of the World**

### Collective Resistance and Apocalypses

Aula Capitani

Chair: Gino Scatasta

Beatrice Masi: **Apocalypses We Live Through: A Reading of Paul Lynch's *Grace* (2020)**

Miłosz Wojtyna: **The Rhetoric of Resilience and Resistance in Contemporary Dystopian TV Series**

Kanya Viljoen: **When 'I' Becomes 'We': Collective Resistance as Collective Reimagination online**

Alessia Polatti: **From Utopia to Dystopia: The “Island” as a Space of Sociopolitical Estrangement and Liquid Modernity in the Recent Immigration Novel**

## SESSION 1

9:00–11:00

### Time, Memory and Trauma

Aula Prodi

Chair: Veronica De Pieri

Giulia Baselica: [From the “Noon Universe” to James Cameron's Avatar: The Story of a Revelatory Dystopia](#)

Maja Vodopivec: [How Do the Past, Present, and Future Interact in Post-3.11 Japan? Examining Urban Utopia in the SF Manga \*Coppelion\*](#)

Maria Varsam: [Liminal Existence and the Fantastic in Yōko Ogawa's Existential Dystopia, \*The Memory Police\*](#)

Marilena Parlati: [Suspended Apocalypse, Traumas of Anticipation, and a Lost Paradise: On the Beach by Nevil Shute \(1957\)](#)

### New Environmental Perspectives

Aula Capitani

Chair: Federica Moscatelli

Natalija Pop Zarieva; Krste Iliev: [Transnational Deep Ecologies: Comparative Eco-Consciousness in Le Guin's "Always Coming Home" and Crvenkovska's "The House Above the Waves"](#)

Klara Machata: [Glimpses of Solidarity: Dystopian Urban Environments in South Asian Speculative Short Fiction and Beyond](#)

Santiago Alarcón-Tobón: [Post-Apocalyptic Submerged Territories: An Ecocritical Reading of \*El tiempo de en medio\* \(2021\) by Enrique Lozano](#)

Nafisa Oliveira: [From Greenwashing to Machinewashing: Pseudo-ethics in Sustainability and Artificial Intelligence as Depicted in Dystopian Fiction](#)

## Coffee Break

11:00–11:30

## Keynote Lecture

11:30–13:00

[Ali Millar](#)

Chair: Rita Monticelli

## Buffet Lunch

13:00–14:00

## SESSION 2

14:00– 15:30

### Reproductive Politics and Utopian/Dystopian Imaginaries in Feminist Speculative Fiction

Chair: Francesco Cattani

Aula Prodi

Raffaella Baccolini: **Feminist Science Fiction of the 1970s and 1980s: Shaping Contemporary Reproductive Politics**

Arianna Preite: **Reproductive Justice as Freedom to Not Procreate**

Chiara Xausa: **Reproductive Justice as Climate Justice**

### Perspectives from Latin America

Chair: Valeria Stabile

Aula Capitani

Alis May Iseppi: **Memory, Trauma and Resilience: Dystopian Narratives in Andean Oral Tradition**

Sofia Ciavarella: **Forward to the Past: Gauchoides and Gaucho-Zombis in Argentinian Speculative Fiction**

Brîndușa Nicolaescu: **Cyborg Voices as Hybrid Fictional Palimpsests: Narratives of (Dis)Remembering in *Cielos de la tierra* by Carmen Boullosa, *Mantra* by Rodrigo Fresán and *Speak* by Louisa Hall**

## SESSION 3

15:45–17:15

### Anthropogenic Turn in Japanese Literature

Chair: Anna Specchio

Aula Prodi

Laura Clark: **A Cozy Café in an Ecological Disaster: Anticipating Isolation in *Yokohama Kaidashi Kikou* (1994–2006)**

María Salvador: **Medieval Futures: Augmented Pilgrimage and Virtual Ecologies in *Kasuga Mandara***

Jordi Serrano-Muñoz: **Japan Sunk Again: The Anthropogenic Turn in *Nihon Chinbotsu: Kibō no Hito***

### Posthuman Speculative Fiction

Chair: Federica Moscatelli

Aula Capitani

Sayantina Dutta: **Beyond Human and Machine: The Intersection of Gender, Nature, and AI in *Klara and the Sun***

Bratati Barik: **Multiplicity of Apocalypse: A Perspective on Posthuman Studies**

Tuğba Aygan: **All Animals Are Equal but Human Animals Are ‘More Equal’ in the Anthropo-Scene: Precarious Lives in Stef Smith’s *Human Animals***

**Keynote Lecture**

17:30–19:00

---

**Ayase Maru**

Chair: Paola Scrolavezza, Nakayama Mayuko; translation by: Haruka Arakawa

## SESSION 1

9:00–11:00

---

### Transpecies and Ecological Alliances

Aula Prodi

Chair: Francesco Cattani

Imad Adjabi: **Beyond the Self: Weird Essentialism and Ecological Entanglement in Speculative Narratives**

Aparajita Nanda: **From Symbiosis to Symbiogenesis: Trans-Species Alliances in Octavia Butler's *Lilith's Brood***

Ángela Rivera-Izquierdo: **Entangled Becomings: Weirdness and the Reconfiguration of Masculinities in Contemporary Fiction in English**

### Feminist and Corporeal Representations in Dystopia

Aula Capitani

Chair: Juan Scassa

Asuka Ozumi: **Girls in Dystopia: Suzuki Izumi and Torikai Akane**

Daniela Raspollini: **Tear Apart Our Future: The Commodification of Human Bodies in Contemporary Speculative Literature**

Evangeline Scarpulla: **Ecofeminist Imaginings in Novels by Yoko Tawada and Luiza Sauma: Climate Crisis, Migration, and Resistance on Earth and Beyond**

Natalie Israyy: **Parasite as a Technique: Beyond the Metaphoric and Representative Literature**

## Coffee Break

11:00–11:30

---

## Keynote Lecture

11:30–13:00

---

**Mirko Lino**, Anarchy in the UK. Post-Apocalypse and Eco-Horror in Contemporary British Cinema

Chair: Gino Scatasta

## Buffet Lunch

13:00–14:00

---

## Keynote Lecture

14:00–15:30

---

**Harada Kazue**: Feminist Failed (Re)productive Futures in Japanese Speculative Fiction

Chair: Anna Specchio

## SESSION 2

---

15:30–17:00

### Shape, Design and Architecture in Dystopian Narrative

Aula Prodi

Chair: Luca Paolo Bruno

Madelena Mañetto Quick: **Speculative Design for More-Than-Human Worlds**

María del Pilar Melgarejo: **Shapeshifting in Frida Kahlo's Art**

Tomasz Dymowski: **Qudan Rie's Dystopian Narrative and Architecture of the Present in *Tokyo Sympathy Tower* (Tōkyō-to dōjōtō)**

### AI & Distopian imageries

Aula Capitani

Chair: Veronica De Pieri

Aba-Carina Parlog: **The Unhinged Reality: 'Lifted' Children, Artificial Friends, and Digital Surrogates**

Despoina Tantsiopoulou: **Educated Clones: Dystopic Education as Trauma in Kazuo Ishiguro's *Never Let Me Go***

Maria-Ana Tupan: **Suppressing the Past, Undoing the Self**

## Database Presentation

---

17:00–17:30

Paola Scrolavezza, Luca Paolo Bruno, Juan Scassa, Ludovica Pannitto e Valeria Stabile

## Final Remarks

---

17:30