

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria



Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research

Mostepha Benboulaïd- Batna 2 University

Faculty of Letters and Foreign Languages

Department of English Language and Literature



PRFU: Culture, Hegemony, Identity , and the Post-colonial Discourse (H02L01UN050220230003)

*Call For Papers*

*2023*

Online National Conference On :

# *Transcultural Identities in Modern Literature*

*7, February 2023, Batna, Algeria*

*Honorary Chairman*

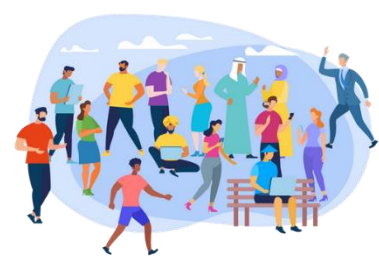
*Prof. Amor GHOUAR*

*(Dean of the Faculty of Letters and Foreign Languages)*

*Conference Chair*

*Dr. Mallek BENLAHCENE*





## Call for Papers

Taking into consideration the 9/11 hegemonic discourse, literature's concern with identity becomes of great significance due to the irrelevance of the traditionally self-enclosed and exclusionary identification in the face of transnational and transcultural realities. In the same vein, Stuart Hall explains that identity cannot be defined by essence or purity but rather by "heterogeneity and diversity" in the way they "produc[e] and reproduc[e] themselves anew" (222). It is in this context that transculturality emerges as an alternative to multiculturalism or interculturality- two concepts that emphasise the coexistence of different cultural forms in a specific society but fail to address the problems that arise in such contexts. According to Welsh, transculturality, however, allows individuals to determine common grounds and identify personal differences (201). The existence of these latter aspects or the "fusion of horizons", using Hans Georg Gadamer's concept, forges a certain inner and outer balance and harmony between the individual and his surrounding.

As one aspect of the various components of identity, language use in literary texts is also affected by transculturality. The majority of modern writers often roam different countries and cultural contexts- a point that results in being influenced not only by their cultures but also by their languages. The latter refers to what Steven G. Kellman calls 'literary translanguaging'- a phenomenon that refers to writers who write in a different language other than their own or write in more than one language (ix). It is often the result of various reasons like colonialism, mobility and travel, as well as migration.

Whether related to language use or identity in general, transculturality generates a sort of tension between the different and often contradictory dimensions of an individual's/writer's worldliness. Due to the discrepancy between the two cultural spheres, individuals/writers occupy, to use Homi Bhabha's words, "a third space...where the negotiation of incommensurable differences creates tension peculiar to borderline existence" (312). The aim of this conference, thus, is to analyse the way traditional concepts of language and identity are reconceptualized from a transcultural perspective in modern literature. It also seeks to examine literary narratives written by immigrant or translanguaging writers and the way hegemonic cultures and/or borderland experiences affect their writing and identity. Another aim is to accentuate a more nuanced and complex view of the concept of transculturality and identity.

Researchers are invited to submit their contributions to participate in the national conference on "Transcultural Identities in Literature" which will take place virtually at



Mostepha Ben Boulaid University, Batna on February 07, 2023. The conference offers teachers and researchers an opportunity to gather and engage in a discussion on a variety of topics that revolve around culture, language, hegemony, and identity in literature. Possible areas for contributions include but are certainly not limited to:

- Identity construction in literature
- Transcultural identities
- Transnational identities
- Translingual identities
- Space, mobility, and hybridity in literature
- Reterritorialization /deterritorialization narratives
- Gender and language in literature

### **Works cited**

Bhabha, Homi. *The Location of Culture*, Routledge, 1994.

Hall, Stuart. "Cultural Identity and Diaspora." *Identity: Community, Culture, Difference*, edited by Jonathan Rutherford, Lawrence and Wishart Limited, 1990, pp. 222-37.

Kellman, G. Steven. *The Translingual Imagination*, U of Nebraska Press, 2000.

Taylor, Charles. "The Politics of Recognition," in *Multiculturalism: Examining the Politics of Recognition*, ed by Amy Gutmann, Princeton U P, 1994, pp. 25-73.

Welsch, Wolfgang. "Transculturality: the puzzling form of cultures today," In *Spaces of Culture*, edited by Mike Featherstone and Scott Lash, Sage, 1999, pp. 194–213.

### **Scientific committee**

President of the Scientific Committee: Dr. Mallek BENLAHCENE

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### **Important Dates**

- Abstract submission deadline: December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

- Notification of Acceptance: January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- Conference Day: February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Conference Languages:** English , Arabic, and French

### **Submission Guidelines**

Please send your abstracts to the following electronic address: **[transculture0@gmail.com](mailto:transculture0@gmail.com)**

Abstracts should not exceed 300 words.

All abstracts should be sent in form of a Word file to the conference email respecting the application form.



# Application Form

## Personal and Professional Information

Participant's Full Name:.....

Degree: .....

Affiliation: .....

Email:.....

Tel:.....

## Short Biography

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**Selected Track** .....

**Title of the Paper** .....

**Abstract** (No more than 300 words)

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**Keywords (no more than five):**.....