



The 11th Annual Open Books – Open Minds Student Conference

Thursday, April 21, 2022

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in Alger 110

Call for Papers and Creative Projects

Rhode Island College's Open Books – Open Minds Program is calling for paper, panel, roundtable, or other creative proposals to be presented at our 11th Annual Student Conference. Undergraduate and graduate students are eligible to submit proposals. Instructors are encouraged to submit collaborative proposals for student panels or innovative formats. We invite students to share their writing, research, and creative projects on any topic related to this year's common book, Trevor Noah's *Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood*. We welcome submissions from any academic discipline as well as interdisciplinary approaches.

*Visual art / Musical performances / Skits or dramatic performances
Poetry readings / Creative pieces / Academic writing*

To submit a proposal for a paper, panel, or roundtable discussion,
email an abstract to OBOM@ric.edu with OBOM PROPOSAL in the subject line.

The deadline for submissions is April 8.

STUDENT SUBMISSIONS

- ✓ The name of the presenter(s)
- ✓ The title of your paper or project
- ✓ Type of presentation: paper or other creative format
- ✓ A brief description that concisely identifies your topic and approach (200-250 words)
- ✓ A faculty sponsor (or the name of the professor and the course in which you did the research)

FACULTY SUBMISSIONS

- ✓ The name of the faculty facilitator
- ✓ The title of the panel
- ✓ The names of the student presenters
- ✓ Type of presentation: panel or creative format
- ✓ A brief description of the proposed presentation (200-250 words)
- ✓ The title of the course in which students have researched this topic

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Undergraduate papers will be allotted 10-12 minutes each (time for approximately 1000-1250 words or four-five pages, double-spaced); graduate student papers will be allotted 15 minutes. We will accept proposals for already-formed panels (one hour per session) or for individual papers, which we will group by topic. Inquiries about presentation ideas are welcome!

Possible topics:

- Apartheid
- Nelson Mandela
- South African history—indigenous peoples and colonialism
- The Dutch India Company
- The Boer Wars
- Apartheid pass laws
- Migrant labor in mining and on farms
- Religion in South Africa
- Women in South Africa
- Gender roles/gender performativity
- Domestic violence
- Constructions of masculinity
- Language and culture in South Africa
- South African Anti-Apartheid and U.S. Civil Rights Movements (Apartheid and Jim Crow)
- Social justice in Post-Apartheid South Africa and Black Lives Matter
- Pan-Africanism
- Artistic expression in South Africa (e.g., the “Sophiatown renaissance”)
- South Africa in literature and arts
- Education in South Africa
- Anti-racist pedagogy
- Rhetorical strategies in memoir
- Humor and social/political criticism
- Trevor Noah’s use of different types of humor: e.g., satire, slapstick, irony, understatement, overstatement, self-depreciation, and “punching up”

Questions? Email obom@ric.edu.