



The 66th American Studies Association of Texas (ASAT) Conference will be held November 9-11, 2023 at Wharton County Junior College in Wharton, Texas. Our conference theme is “Death & Rebirth.” The complex, cyclical propulsion of death and rebirth has been shown throughout history across different cultures and belief systems. It’s a common theme within folklore, religion, art, music, and history. In many cultures, death is not seen as an end but as a state of transition. As a response, it triggers a sense of renewal and regeneration and provides a chance for rebirth and growth. Overall, the themes of death and rebirth continue to hold deep meaning and significance for many people, both individually and collectively. Scholars and researchers across all disciplines continue to explore these themes due to powerful and universal aspects hidden within human experiences. With the current phenomena faced across the world, perhaps we have experienced a new “death” cycle and are headed into rebirth. As William Shakespeare wrote in *The Phoenix and the Turtle*, “Death is now the Phoenix’ nest...”

We kindly ask prospective presenters to write abstracts that examine the complex relationship between death and rebirth, but we will also consider presentations that deal with issues relating to American culture in any form or fashion, especially ones that focus on Texas. The following is a list of suggested areas of scholarship you may consider when exploring our conference theme:

African American/Black Studies	Native American Studies
Health & Wellness	Environmental Studies
Agricultural & Rural Studies	Philosophy
Hispanic Studies	Fashion Design
Art (visual/performing) and Music	Popular Culture
Historical and/or Political Perspectives	Film/Theatre Studies
Asian American Studies	Sociology
Journalism	Folk Lore Studies
Communication Studies	Technology
Language & Literature	Gender Studies
Creative Writing	War

ASAT encourages the submission of academic and creative proposals for panels, papers, and visual presentations that reflect a contemplative inquiry of the conference theme from an interdisciplinary perspective. Presenters should be professionals in their field, though graduate and undergraduate students are also encouraged to submit proposals endorsed by a faculty mentor. Blind abstracts should be limited to 250 words and include a separate cover sheet with a working title, your full name, school affiliation (if applicable), and contact info. Your name and/or affiliation should not appear on your abstract. Submissions open May 12, 2023, and close September 29.

Please email proposals with ASAT 2023 Submission in the subject line, to: [weirh@wcjc.edu](mailto:weirh@wcjc.edu)