

Lisa Starks-Estes  
Representing Ovid on the Early Modern Stage

Dear SAA Seminar Participants,

Welcome to our SAA seminar, Representing Ovid on the Early Modern Stage!

I'm pleased to report that our seminar is full to the 16-participant limit, so I'm sure that we'll have a rich, lively discussion of our exciting topic in NOLA this March. What could be better—Ovid, early modern theater, and New Orleans?

For this seminar, you'll be sharing a short (2,500-3,000) word paper on any topic related to the subject of our seminar. In addition, you'll be considering important questions about each other's work and also larger issues that are of significance to us all. We'll be engaging in these questions fully at our seminar this spring.

To work towards that goal, here are the expectations and deadlines for our seminar:

1. **Upon receipt of this post:** Please reply to this email to confirm your receipt of it and to make any necessary changes to your contact information. Just send your reply to me ([starks@mail.usf.edu](mailto:starks@mail.usf.edu)) and my research assistant, Layne Farmen ([matthew9@mail.usf.edu](mailto:matthew9@mail.usf.edu)), not to all participants. **Please do not "reply all."**
2. **4 November:** Send a **brief statement** of your topic or research question, along with an informal, **short bio** (no longer than 250 words) that focuses on your current work on the topic of our seminar to **Layne and me only (not all participants)**. I'll compile this information and send it out to the group. That way, we'll all have a sense of each other's interests and recent work.
3. **2 December:** Please send an **abstract** (approx. 250 words) of your paper and also a **list 3–5 books or articles** particularly relevant to your work to **Layne and me only (not all participants)**. I'll collect and combine all the responses into a single document and distribute it to the group.
4. **1 February:** Please send your **seminar paper** of 3,000-6,000 words **to me only**, not to other participants. I'll collect the paper files and distribute them out to all seminar participants. I'll also divide seminar participants into groups of 3-4, according to paper topic areas, and send out a list indicating who's in which group. You will be expected to read your fellow group members' papers by the next deadline.

5. **2 March:** Send **two sets of questions** both **to me and to the fellow members of your small group**. These two sets of questions should be labeled clearly and should deal with the following: **1)** 3-5 questions that fully engage your group's individual papers and important issues that they raise; and **2)** 3-5 larger discussion questions that relate to the overall subject matter of our seminar. I will collect, combine, and distribute everyone's second set (overall) questions to all seminar participants. You will be expected to think through both sets of questions—those from members in your small group and those from participants in the larger group—and be prepared to discuss them, as well as to offer new questions or insights, in our seminar at SAA.
  
6. **At SAA:** I will structure our seminar according to the questions that you send me. We'll take equal time for each small group to discuss their questions and for the whole group to discuss the larger seminar questions, as well as any other relevant matters that surface during our session. We'll also try to save some time for auditors to chime in at the end.

I'm sure that we'll have a wonderful seminar. I'm looking forward to each stage of the process and, of course, to meeting up with you all in NOLA. Thank you all for joining the seminar!

With best wishes,

Lisa

Hi SAA Ovid Seminar Participants:

Thanks so much for all of your papers. I think that we'll have a wonderful seminar! Please see information about our website, group divisions, and next deadline.

**--WEBSITE**

Michael Stapleton has graciously added everything to our website, which you can now view. You can access fellow participants' bios/statements, abstracts, papers, and a page of Ovid texts and translations. (Thank you, Michael!) **Here is the link:** <http://www.saa9.org/> (Just click on the central image, then follow link from navigation.)

**--GROUPS**

**I've divided you up into these 3 small groups:**

**Group 1**~Casey, DeBarros, Winiarski, James

**Group 2**~Gieskes, Scott, Weber, Arrell

**Group 3**~Feather, Fox, Staines, Stapleton

**--NEXT TASK AND DEADLINE**

**By 2 March**, please send two sets of questions both to me and to the fellow members of your small group. These two sets of questions should be labeled clearly and should deal with the following: 1) 3-5 questions that fully engage your group's individual papers and important issues that they raise; and 2) 3-5 larger discussion questions that relate to the overall subject matter of our seminar. I will collect, combine, and distribute everyone's second set (overall) questions to all seminar participants. You will be expected to think through both sets of questions—those from members in your small group and those from participants in the larger group—and be prepared to discuss them, as well as to offer new questions or insights, in our seminar at SAA.

*I'm looking forward to receiving your questions, which I'm sure will lead to a lively discussion in NOLA!*

Best wishes,

Lisa

Dear Ovid Seminar Participants:

Well, we're almost there! Below I've posted an agenda for our seminar along with a reminder about our social gatherings.

### **SEMINAR AGENDA**

I'll try to keep us on track with this agenda as much as possible. I want an open, dynamic discussion, but I also want to make sure that all participants get a chance to engage in the conversation.

- 1. 10 Minutes (3:30-3:40), Introductions:** I'll give a brief intro--description of our seminar and an outline of our agenda--for our auditors. Then, I'll ask all of you to introduce yourselves. Please give your name and institutional affiliation, along with a brief, 1-2 sentence description of your seminar paper topic and area of interest in this field.
- 2. 60 Minutes (3:40-4:40), Small Group Discussions:** Each of our 3 small groups will have 20 minutes, roughly 5 minutes per paper, to bring up your small group questions. We won't have time for all of your questions, so please decide on key issues to raise. We'll move from paper to paper, so that everyone gets a chance to ask and respond to a question.
- 2. 40 Minutes (4:40-5:20), Large Group Discussion:** We'll then open up the discussion for our whole seminar. I'll ask that you offer up one of your large group questions, and we'll go from there. I'm aiming for an open discussion that involves all seminar participants equally. We might not have time for every person to raise a question, but we should have enough for everyone to throw an idea or two into the mix.
- 3. 10 Minutes (5:20-5:30), Open Discussion with Auditors:** At 5:20, we'll open up the discussion to our auditors and then wrap up our session.

### **SOCIAL GATHERING REMINDERS**

1. For those of us who will be there on **Wednesday** evening, please join me at **Sheraton Hotel Pelican Bar** on **Wed at 7:30**. If you don't get in until Thursday, please hunt me down at the reception to say "hello"!

2. Please also join me for the **SAA Luncheon on Friday**. We'll meet at the **SAA registration desk Fri at 12:45**.

Thanks to all of you for such wonderful papers and thought-provoking questions. I know that we'll have a fantastic seminar!

See you in NOLA--

Lisa