

RSVP for Writing Centers and Access Events

This event has been made possible through the MSU CAL Engaged Pedagogy and Programming Grant and generous support by [The Citizen Scholars Program](#).

Please follow the links below to RSVP to individual events within the series. Links to the video feed will be sent to your preferred email address the morning of the event. We ask that you RSVP 24 hours (or more) in advance of the event(s) you wish to attend.

All lectures within the series will feature both ASL interpreters and live CART captioning. You'll have the opportunity, in the RSVP form, to identify any other access needs you may have!

Note that you will need to complete the RSVP form for each event you wish to attend because the emailed video link will be different for each speaker. If you have questions or concerns, please email Dr. Karen Moroski-Rigney at moroskik@msu.edu.

Abstracts for talks are below the RSVP links.

Jay Dolmage Event (Past Event)

Date: February 4, 2021

Time: 1-2 PM EST

Margaret Price Event (Past Event)

Date: February 17, 2021

Time: 1-2 PM EST

[Click here to RSVP](#)

Julie Minich Event

Date: March 4, 2021

Time: 1-2 PM EST

[Click here to RSVP](#)

Stephanie Kerschbaum Event

Date: March 18, 2021

Time: 1-2 PM EST

[Click here to RSVP](#)

Christina Cedillo Event

Date: April 8, 2021

Time: 1-2 PM EST

[Click here to RSVP](#)

Lecture Abstracts

Jay Dolmage Event (Past Event)

Title: Ableism, Access, and Inclusion: Disability in Higher Education Before, During and After Covid-19

Abstract: In this workshop, we will collaborate to address the ableist attitudes, policies, and practices that are built into higher education. We will also interrogate the minimal and temporary means we have been given to address inequities, and the cost such an approach has for disabled students and faculty. We will explore our own ableist biases, apologies and defenses in an effort to build tools for a much more accessible future at Michigan State, while we also examine how disability has been situated in higher education before, during and (someday) after Covid-19.

Margaret Price Event (Past Event)

Title: Everyday Survival and Collective Action: What We Can Learn from Disabled Faculty about Access and Care

Abstract: The onset of the Covid-19 pandemic has forced everyone in academic life to re-think what we once meant by “access.” We’re confronted with questions like these: “How can I do my full-time job while also supervising my children’s full-time remote schooling?” or “How should I negotiate questions of ‘safety’ with my co-workers, my community, even my closest loved ones?” These questions surged into the limelight in 2020, yet few realize that they were already active topics of conversation in small, interdependent communities of disabled, BIPOC, queer, and otherwise marginalized

people. In this talk, Margaret Price draws upon the scholarship and activism of critical access studies and her mixed-methods study of disabled faculty to offer insights about how we might navigate our changed world. Combining practical thoughts about what an “accessible” classroom now looks like with philosophical questions about the nature of academic work, Price argues that we must move beyond accommodation models and begin practicing access as a form of shared accountability and mutual care.

Julie Minich Event

Title: Radical Health: Justice, Care, and Latinx Expressive Culture

Abstract: This talk addresses the overlaps between disability studies, Latinx cultural studies, and the health humanities, positing Latinx expressive culture (literature, film, and visual art) as an archive through which we might reimagine contemporary health politics in the United States. Although the field of disability studies has had a fraught relationship to the concept of health due to its associations with the medical-industrial complex, Latinx writers and artists concerned with questions of health equity provide an opportunity to reexamine how concerns like access and accommodation are mobilized in the field. The first half of the talk outlines how Latinx cultural workers engage with ideologies of health, critiquing individualist framings of health that treat it as the result of personal choices and behavior, and assert an ethic of radical health that reconceptualizes wellbeing as a communal responsibility. The second half of the talk engages with Karla Cornejo Villavicencio’s recent nonfiction book *The Undocumented Americans* (2020) to consider the act of writing as a vehicle for reimaging access, care, and wellbeing."

Stephanie Kerschbaum Event

Title: Signs of Disability in the Writing Center

Abstract: Where and how and when does disability emerge in the writing center? In this talk, Stephanie Kerschbaum will briefly discuss her concept of "signs of disability" and how it can usefully inform the way we approach our work in the writing center. Signs of disability are material-discursive-rhetorical cues that point to the presence of disability in some way, shape or form. One way for writing center staff and tutors to orient to these signs is to think about the stories we tell about our experiences and what those stories might reveal about where we are putting our attention (or not putting it). Attendees will have a chance to do some freewriting and reflection during the talk.

Christina Cedillo Event

Title: Forthcoming

Abstract: Forthcoming