



Call for Presentations

American Studies Association of Texas: 69th Annual Conference

November 5-7, 2026

“New Frontiers”

Abstract proposals for presentations and panels are now being accepted through October 15 for ASAT’s 69th annual conference. Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls is this year’s host institution. While the conference hub will be the beautiful MSU Texas campus, Friday afternoon and evening events will take place in Archer City, a short drive from Wichita Falls. In Archer City, conference attendees will gather at both the Larry McMurry Literary Center (formerly McMurry’s Booked Up bookstore), as well as at the Royal Theater, the world-famous setting for the Academy Award-winning film, *The Last Picture Show*.

This year’s theme will pivot sharply from last year’s “Reconciliation and Restoration.” Most would agree that today is an anxious time for academicians, as well as American Studies programs. Between AI and increased concerns regarding academic freedom, many scholars feel that the academy may be at crossroads. But, as McMurry would point out, Texas has long been a frontier state, long after such a label was geographically accurate. So what do you see as the future of our educational institutions, our academic programs, and/or concerns about American studies?

While ASAT encourages scholars to consider this year’s theme, we also welcome presentations and panels on a variety of topics. Below is a partial list of potential areas of inquiry:

African-American/Black Studies
Health and Wellness
Hispanic Studies
Performing Arts
History
Asian-American Studies
Journalism/Public Relations/New Media
Technology/Artificial Intelligence
Gender Studies

Native American Studies
Environmental Studies
Philosophy
Music
Film/Theater Studies
Sociology/Anthropology
Folk Lore Studies
Literature
Popular Culture

To be submit a proposal, send an abstract of not more than 250 words to asat@msutexas.edu. With your proposal, please include a separate cover letter that includes your full name, working title, and institutional affiliation. Again, the deadline for proposals is October 15.

If your presentation or paper is accepted, you will be expected to pay 2026-27 annual dues, which are nominal, to ASAT. You can do so while registering online for the conference.

If you have questions, feel free to email Greg Giddings, current ASAT president, at greg.giddings@msutexas.edu.