



Signum University

20A Northwest Blvd, #214, Nashua, NH 03063 · 520 428 5208 · signumuniversity.org

Mythmoot VI: Dragons, Call for Proposals

"But it is one thing to read about dragons and another to meet them."

- Ursula K. Le Guin, *A Wizard of Earthsea*

When: June 27-30, 2019

Where: The National Conference Center
Leesburg, VA
USA

What is Mythmoot VI?

Mythmoot VI, with the theme of Dragons, combines an academic conference, creative writing meet-up, and fan convention all in one for a unique experience. Here at Mythmoot, we have room for serious scholarship in fields such as science fiction, high fantasy, horror, gothic, mythology, children's literature, folklore...the list goes on. We also appreciate less academic, but no less enthusiastic, pursuits of all the above--such as demonstrations on how to knit the best Smaug hat, presentations theorizing on a dragon diet, or papers dissecting the cultural background of the differing types of fantasy dragons!

"A dragon stranded in shallow water provides amusement to the shrimps."

- A Chinese Proverb

Call for Proposals:

All over the world, dragons captivate the imagination: the ancient wyrms of long-forgotten lore, wise nature-deities, fire-breathing terrors in the night, and very real companions on long dangerous roads. Science, religion, and of course literature attempt to analyze the awe and fascination of dragons--with varying degrees of success. Both the muscled beasts of legend and the metaphorical dragons that humans confront daily still hold the world spellbound. Modern and classic fiction alike describe and deploy these beasts in many ways (through novels, stories, poetry, comics, movies, television shows, etc.). Join us at Mythmoot VI to discuss the ever-present and ever-changing Archetypal Dragon!

"Fairy tales are more than true: not because they tell us that dragons exist, but because they tell us that dragons can be beaten."

- Neil Gaiman, *Coraline*, paraphrasing G.K. Chesterton



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We are accepting proposals for Papers, Panels, Workshops, and Creative Presentations about imagined and metaphorical dragons in the following areas of study:

- Imaginative Literature (ex: *Harry Potter*, *Dune*, *The Call of Cthulhu*, *Star Wars*, *Lord of the Rings*, *The Dresden Files*, etc.)
- Tolkien and Inklings Studies
- Classic Literature from ancient times to the present
- Philology

If you are unsure whether your topic fits, send your proposal or a description of your idea to the listed submissions email and we will let you know.

"Speak politely to an enraged dragon."

- J.R.R. Tolkien

Individual presentations, whether creative or critical, will have 30 minutes, with 20 minutes for presentation and 10 for Q&A. (N.B. Creative is not limited to original works and can present or perform art, music, or even a presentation on how you went about knitting the One Ring into a tea cozy. If you have any questions about what you can present, please contact the submissions email.)

Panels must contain at least 3 papers and/or presenters and will be allocated 1 hour and 30 minutes total for presentations and Q&A.

Workshops must identify their own length (either 30 min, 60 min, or 1 hour 30 minutes) and include justification for the requested time. Workshops may be run individually, but it is recommended that a workshop have at least two people. (workshop examples: the knitting of Smaug hats, an interactive discussion on dragon species)

Papers will be presented in an 1.5 hr session with up to two other presenters. Each presenter will have 30 minutes (20 for presentation and 10 for questions) to present their paper.

Questions? See the ["How to Present at Conferences"](#) from our very own Dr. Higgins!

Proposal Submittal:

Your submission to events@mythgard.org must contain the following in the body of the email: the type of submission, a title, a 300-word abstract or description, the name(s) of the presenter(s), a two-sentence biography for each presenter, and a description of any A/V needs



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for your presentation. Title your email "Mythmoot VI Proposal". All submissions must be received by 11:59 pm EST on March 31st, 2019.

No presentations will be given in absentia, and your submission to Mythmoot VI is considered an agreement to attend and present should your proposal be accepted.
