

Call for Book Chapters

Literature, Geography, and the Poetics of Space: Tracing Historical Narratives Across Literary Landscapes

Edited by

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Dear Colleagues,

we would like to inform you that the call for chapter contributions to the "Geographies of the Anthropocene" book series for the collective volume titled: *Literature, Geography, and the Poetics of Space: Tracing Historical Narratives Across Literary Landscapes* (Language: English), edited by Sara Ansaloni (Department of Romance Languages, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, United States) and Eleonora Gioia (Department of Life and Environmental Sciences, Polytechnic University of Marche, Italy) is now open.

Scope:

The field of literary geography, an interdisciplinary branch of human geography, has undergone significant evolution over time. Its approaches reflect various intellectual movements, encompassing regionalism, humanism, radicalism, and quantitativism. Since the 1970s, geographers have been more and more interested in exploring literature as a critical response to quantitative orthodoxy, aiming to reorient geographical research around human experiences and perceptions of place. This transition, from conceiving space as external coordinates to recognizing its dynamic and relational nature, has been facilitated by a growing humanistic emphasis on the subjective experiences of place and the cultural significance embedded within specific landscapes.

The emergence of Brosseau's 1994 review essay in *Progress in Human Geography* marked a pivotal moment in the advancement of literary geography, internationalizing the field and emphasizing the space-generating aspects of narrative. Subsequent interdisciplinary efforts, such as the 2004 conference of the *Royal Geographical Society of British Geographers* with a session on "Textual Spaces, Spatial Texts" have further bridged geography and literary theory.



The "spatial turn" in cultural studies and the "cultural turn" in geography of the late 1990s and early 2000s increased the interdisciplinary exchange of ideas and theories. This phenomenon, initially identified by Edward Soja in 1989, has drawn on various philosophical and geographical concepts, highlighting the contributions of Henri Lefebvre (1974), Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari (1980), and Michel Foucault (1984). Seminal works like *Geocriticism: Real and Fictional Spaces* (Westphal, 2007) and *The Ecocriticism Reader* (Glotfelty, Fromm, 1996) have enriched the discourse on literature and geography, inspiring scholars to adopt diverse analytical methods including geocriticism, geopoetry, ecocriticism, literary cartography, and psychogeography.

Themes explored at the intersection of literature and geography encompass a wide array of topics, including representations of space and place in literary texts, analyses of urban and natural landscapes, environmental concerns, and investigations into identity formation and geopolitical narratives. This interdisciplinary approach facilitates cross-fertilization among disciplines such as geography, ecology, psychology, history, and literature, encompassing both their representational and creative dimensions.

Interested colleagues are encouraged to submit abstracts, with a maximum of 500 words. Topics of interest in the call include, but are not limited to:

- Contributions on literary cartography, geographical imagination, and spatial representations in literature and poetry;
- Ecocriticism and Anthropocene: investigating literary representation on environmental issues and their ecological significance;
- Geocritical explorations and the post-modern space;
- Digital humanities and transforming landscapes: the impact of digital technologies on the representation and interpretation of landscapes in literature;
- Geopolitics in literature: analysing how literature reflects and engages with geopolitical issues, power dynamics, or territorial conflicts;
- Relationality and geoaesthetics;
- The cultural and geographical implication of chorographies and travel narratives;
- Psychogeography, urban writing and the interaction between space, place, and the human psyche;
- Imaginary Geographies and the construction of landscapes.

Keywords: Literary geography; Urban writings; Travel narratives; Geographical novels; Cartography; Narration; Human and Cultural geography.



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Important dates:

May 15, 2024: Book Chapter Proposal deadline

May 31, 2024: Acceptance/Rejection Notification

July 31, 2024: Full Chapter Submission

September 30, 2024: Review notification

October 30, 2024: Final version chapter submission

December 2024: Final e-book version available

Submission Procedure:

Interested authors should submit their proposals (max 500 words) by **May 15**, **2024**, explaining the main topic and the objectives of the chapter.

The manuscript proposals (Word or PDF) must be sent to the following address: geographiesofanthropocene@gmail.com

Acceptance/Rejection notification will be sent to the authors by May 31, 2024. After the acceptance notification, authors should submit full chapters by July 31, 2024 formatting their manuscripts following the Editor's guidelines.

The manuscript word count must be between 4500 - 6000 words. This includes tables, illustrations, references, etc. All submissions will be reviewed in a double-blind manner.