

RESEARCH SEMINAR

“Writing the (Relational) Self: An Intersectional Approach to the Embodied Legacies of the Blueswomen through Jackie Kay’s *Bessie Smith*”

Dr. Carla Rodríguez González
University of Oviedo

This seminar will explore the reconstruction of black women's genealogies in contemporary life writing, paying special attention to intersectionality and embodiment in the transculturally situated self-referential narrative *Bessie Smith* by contemporary Scottish author Jackie Kay. It will first revise the development of the autobiographical genre and how contemporary redefinitions by feminist writers have challenged male Western forms of self-representation. Then, through a close reading of the text, students will be asked to reflect on issues such as the politics of location, embodied memory and the articulation of alternative cultural genealogies.

BIONOTE: Dr. Carla Rodríguez González is Senior Lecturer in English at the Dept. of English, French and German Philology of the University of Oviedo. She specialises in Scottish literature and culture and in contemporary English writing by women. She has published extensively in these fields and is a member of the research group *Intersecciones: Literaturas, Culturas y Teorías Contemporáneas* (University of Oviedo). She has been Main Researcher in several funded research projects, one of them titled *Cosmopolitan Scotlands*. For more info, see https://www.intersecciones.net/dt_team/carla-rodriguez-gonzalez/.

DATE: 28 April 2022, from 10.00 to 12.00.

CLASSROOM: RL 22, 2nd floor, Ramon Llull.

IMPORTANT: The guest speaker will participate online, via Zoom. Those interested in attending (online or in the classroom) must contact the organiser in advance, Dr. Patricia Bastida Rodríguez (pbastida@uib.es).

ORGANISED BY:

Facultat de Filosofia i Lletres. Universitat de les Illes Balears.

Dr. Patricia Bastida Rodríguez. Research Group *BRICCS (British and Comparative Cultural Studies: Identities and Representation)*.