The rise of what has been called Iberian Studies is informed by the always-controversial efforts to frame, define, and account for the ethnic, cultural, and national identities within the peninsula. It has emerged at a time when the study of the literatures and cultures of the Iberian Peninsula has been facing important challenges issuing from the exhaustion of the traditional disciplinary models of Hispanism and Spanish and Portuguese Studies.

Is Iberian Studies just a different name for traditional comparatism between different Iberian literatures, languages and cultures, or does it require a more profound epistemological reconfiguration, one that brings us away from nationalist models such as Hispanism or Luso-Brazilianism? How central are questions and critiques of nationalism to Iberian Studies?

Can Iberian Studies go beyond conceptualizing the Iberian Peninsula as a geographically unified arena for cultural exchange through the centuries, and generate questions and directions for research through intersection with postcolonial, transatlantic, transoceanic, and globalization frameworks of analysis? What are the methodological and conceptual overlaps among Iberian Studies and study areas such as Latin American Studies, Migration Studies, Latino Studies or Borderlands Studies?

Towards Iberian Studies will bring together scholars from a variety of fields and academic backgrounds and affiliations in order to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing this new field and strategize the formation of a new professional association that will steward it.

**KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:**

Ana Paula Ferreira, University of Minnesotta, Twin Cities

Joan Ramón Resina, Stanford University

**ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:**

Kata Beilin, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Rebecca Haidt, OSU

Adolfo Campoy-Cubillo, Oakland University
Pedro Pereira, OSU
Mario Santana, University of Chicago

**USEFUL LINKS**

Midwest Iberian Studies Group: https://sites.google.com/site/midwestiberianstudies/
OSU's Humanities Institute: http://huminst.osu.edu/
Department of Spanish and Portuguese: http://sppo.osu.edu/
Portugal’s Instituto Camões: http://www.instituto-camoes.pt/
OSU DISCO: http://disco.osu.edu/
College of Arts and Sciences: http://artsandsciences.osu.edu/
Film Studies at OSU: http://film-studies.osu.edu/
CMRS: http://cmrs.osu.edu/
Comparative Studies: http://comparativestudies.osu.edu/