



## CALL FOR PAPERS

### 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOUTHEAST AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES FORUM (SEALLF) AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL, CHAPEL HILL NC

The 12<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Southeast African Languages and Literatures Forum (SEALLF) is scheduled for October 28-29, 2022, at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH). SEALLF is a group of scholars whose work focuses on the study of African languages and literatures, language pedagogy, linguistics, and African language policy.

#### **THEME: *African Languages, Literatures, & Mobility***

The conference organizers invite individual papers and panels that examine the roles of African languages and literatures as both mediums but also as footprints of mobility among African people inside and out of the continent. We approach mobility broadly – historically, socially, culturally, and geographically – with a particular attention to its implications for language and language dynamics among African societies. By African mobility, we mean the physical movements of African peoples across local, national, continental, as well as temporal contexts; but also, their virtual mobility as mediated by the internet and internet technology, both of which have increasingly brought African peoples in contact with foreign vocabulary and new cultural worlds. At this conference, we hope to explore how both physical and virtual mobilities have affected African languages and literatures not just as local and global mediums of communicating new meaning, but also as cultural instruments of self-representation in a world in constant need for translation and (re)interpretation. This conference, we hope, will be an opportunity to think seriously about the centrality of movement for understanding the primary role of African languages and literatures as important sites for constructing and imagining African pasts, presents, and futures.

By foregrounding the notion of mobility in African language studies, literatures, and cultural studies, we hope to create avenues for reflecting on the place of language and literature in the production of contemporary African identity in the global age. We welcome theoretical and/or practical approaches to the study of African languages and literatures around mobility. We invite papers and panels addressing any related topics, especially:

1. African languages and education
2. African migration and language transfer/acquisition

3. African language policy and international politics
4. Social media and new linguistic and literary dynamics
5. Language, literature and citizenship
6. African languages, literatures and the Covid-19 pandemic
7. Postcoloniality and African language policy
8. African languages, literature and postcolonial development policy
9. African languages and literatures in world movements
10. African languages and educational internationalization
11. African languages, literatures and transnational identity
12. African languages in K-12 US schools

**Deadline for conference paper/panel submission:** Thursday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Please send proposals of 200 words maximum to [SEALLF@unc.edu](mailto:SEALLF@unc.edu)

Proposals should include presenter's full name, institution, contact email, paper topic and abstract. If submitting a panel proposal, please have the panel chair submit all the individual paper proposals in one email to the organizing committee. Acceptance of abstracts will be sent out by Friday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

**THE SEALLF Conference Is Sponsored by:**

- The African Studies Center, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC
- The Center for African Studies, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- The Department of African, African American and Diaspora Studies, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC
- The College of Arts and Sciences, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC

