



# MOBILITY/MUTABILITY

**Boston University Romance Studies  
Graduate Student Conference  
April 17th, Spring 2021 - Virtual format**

## **Mobility/Mutability**

Human experience is marked by movement and change. In cultural production we see mobility and mutability in light of progress, class mobility, and a shifting episteme. In literature and the arts these terms transform into migrations, monsters and character growth—in genres ranging from the epic to science fiction, or from the picaresque to cowboy poetry. Considering mobility and mutability, the following questions arise: How do mobility and mutability mark the evolution of life and the arts? How do we understand intermediality and dystopian futures in these terms? Why do founding myths of peoples around the world reflect exodus or displacement? How do terms mutate in the formation or new fields of study? We invite papers that explore mobility and mutation both in and of texts.

Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- Adaptations
- Translations
- Intermediality
- Animality
- Ecocriticism
- Duality and Döppelgangers
- Communication and mobility
- Forms of change
- Time and space in literature
- Crip theory and Disability studies
- Immigration and migration
- Turbulence

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:** Dr. Leonard Cassuto

Currently an English professor at Fordham University. Dr. Cassuto has written several works on graduate education, including his most recent book, *The New PhD: How to Build a Better Graduate Education*. His several articles on the topic written for The Chronicle of Higher Education can be found [here](#). Dr. Cassuto will be speaking on the changing world of graduate education and the academic job market, particularly in a (post-)COVID context.

Please submit abstracts of 200-250 words for individual presentation or panel proposals to [rsgsab@gmail.com](mailto:rsgsab@gmail.com). We welcome papers in English, French, or Spanish. The language of the proposal should match the language of the presentation. The deadline for submission is January 20th. Submission decisions will be sent out no later than February 12. For more information on the conference, please visit our website [here](#).