“Horror,” Eugene Thacker contends, “is a non-philosophical attempt to think about the world-without-us philosophically” (8). Beginning with his 2011 work *In The Dust Of This Planet*, Thacker’s work on horror has lead, according to Quinn Lester’s recent article in *The New Inquiry*, to a revival in thinking about this unthinkable possibility.

For our 15th annual conference, titled “How to Talk About Horror,” to be held October 22-24, 2015, the English Graduate Organization (EGO) at the University of Florida aims to continue this scholarly conversation by providing a space to discuss all that is frightening and unsettling. We are now accepting proposals for presentations, panels, and creative work involving horror in any way, shape, or form. Along with the arguments posed by Thacker, we also wish to consider how horror might help us understand our individual and collective past, present, and future. This inquiry comes from recognizing the ways in which horror has been used throughout various points in history as a way to explore the unknown.

Our 15th annual conference seeks to clarify and explore these questions: What specific fears and concerns does horror address? How does horror impact our lives and elicit change? And finally, can horror sometimes be a desirable and productive affective and sensory mode?

This conference is interdisciplinary; we welcome individual and panel proposal submissions from a variety of fields, including, but not limited to: literary studies, rhetoric and composition, cultural studies, women’s and gender studies, postcolonial studies, critical theory, comics and visual rhetoric, and film studies. For this conference, we would also like to provide opportunities where authors, creative writers, and visual artists can present their work alongside scholarly research.

Possible topics, for both academic and creative presentations, include, but are certainly not limited to:

- Popular culture and horror
- The Gothic
- Terror
- Terrorism
- National identity
- Race and ethnicity
- Gender and sexuality
- Loss, trauma, and melancholia
- Urban legends, folktales, and mythology
- Fandom and participatory culture
- Media studies and horror
Please submit an abstract of up to 250 words for a 20-minute presentation to ufl.ego@gmail.com by Saturday, September 12, 2015. Along with your submission, contact information, and affiliation, please include a few keywords for your presentation. For panel proposals, please submit the abstracts of the panelists along with a rationale and description of what the panel seeks to accomplish. In addition, please indicate any a/v requirements. Authors of accepted papers will be notified the week of September 19, 2015. For questions concerning the conference, please contact us at ufl.ego@gmail.com