

“Confronting and Combating Othering in English Studies”

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To our readers,

At times, it can feel as though the voices of the marginalized fall on deaf ears. In today’s political climate, it has become especially important to listen to those marginalized voices. Otherness exists and its ill effects fester when society fails to acknowledge those who have faced tribulations because of difference, or when individuals in power choose to perpetuate divisiveness and treat difference as a rationale for injustice. In this summer Summer 2018 issue of *JOSTES*, our published contributors through their articles have taken a look at Arab-American identity post-9/11, the representation of African-Americans in William Faulkner’s *The Sound and the Fury*, and gender politics in the play *Desire Under the Elms*. In the featured Book Notes, a postmodern analysis of Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley’s *Frankenstein* points out social limitations of otherness, seen through the Creature, while the Notes from the Field discusses the concept of othering in different areas of English Studies. Each work in this issue is loaded with thought-provoking ideas and may present readers with new understandings of otherness.

We hope that this issue of *JOSTES* shines a light on multiple aspects of otherness, gives a voice to marginalized groups, and leaves our readers with a lasting impression on the value of interrogating and combating otherness.

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