



## The American Name Society

is issuing its  
**First Call for Papers**  
for the ANS panel at the  
Modern Language Association (MLA) Convention

**7-10 January 2021, Toronto, Canada**

### **TOPONYMS AND LITERARYSCAPES**

Although toponyms are often taken for granted in our daily lives, they bear considerable potential for acquiring personal and social meanings depending on their contexts and co-texts of use. These multi-layered meanings are often utilized by authors as a literary resource to evoke associations or invoke evaluative positioning. Papers accepted for this panel will explore how the meaning potential of place-names—be they real or fictional—is effectively harnessed to shape literary settings within specific works or by specific authors. Examples of themes that can be addressed include toponyms choice/invention and their connotations; toponyms in translation; toponyms in literary theory; and toponyms and intertextuality.

#### Proposal Submission Process:

1. Abstracts proposals (350 words) should be sent as an email attachment (PDF format) to Dr. Luisa Caiazzo ([luisa.caiazzo@unibas.it](mailto:luisa.caiazzo@unibas.it));
2. Proposals should include “MLA 2021 proposal” in the subject line of the email;
3. All submissions must include an abstract title, the full name(s) of the author(s), the author(s) affiliation(s), and email address(s) in the body of the email and NOT with the abstract;
4. **DEADLINE:** Proposals must be received by 8pm GMT on 30 April 2020. Authors will be notified about the results of the blind review on or by 8 May 2020;
5. Contributors selected for the thematic panel must be members of both MLA and ANS in order to present their papers;
6. For further information, please contact Dr. Luisa Caiazzo ([luisa.caiazzo@unibas.it](mailto:luisa.caiazzo@unibas.it)).