

Who We Are

The Fan Studies Student Association was founded to provide students at Ohio State who are interested in studying fan cultures with opportunities to meet and work together. We welcome all who are interested in any aspect of fan studies, and are particularly dedicated to offering support, resources, and community for graduate and undergraduate students who want to incorporate fandom into their research projects, theses, dissertations, and teaching.

FSSA Executive Board

President: Caroline Toy (.36)
Vice Admiral: Jasmine Stork (.8)
Treasurer: Sarah Dunlap (.202)

What We Do

The mission of the Fan Studies Student Association is to support and promote fan studies scholarship at OSU. As an “interdisciplinary discipline,” fan studies has no institutional home here, making it challenging for interested students to connect with others in the field. FSSA provides opportunities for students who want to do work in fan studies to learn more about the field, share ideas, network, and explore each other’s research. We also plan to organize fannish social events such as movie nights, as well as unique programs showcasing different aspects of fan culture.

Who Does Fan Studies?

Aca-fans are academics who study fan culture and are also fans themselves, often (but not always) participating members of the same fan communities they study. Fan Studies is deeply interdisciplinary, and aca-fans work in a range of scholarly fields, including:

Art & Art History
Communications
Cultural Studies
Digital Media Studies
Economics
Education
Ethnomusicology
Fashion
Film & Television Studies
Folklore
Gender & Sexuality Studies
Humanities
Information Science
Journalism
Law
Linguistics
Literature
Marketing
Media & Pop Culture Studies
Philosophy
Psychology
Religious Studies
Science & Technology Studies
Sociology

Many fans also work outside of academia to expand knowledge of fan activities and membership, build databases and archives to preserve fanworks and record fannish histories, and contribute valuable critiques of academic research on fans and fandom.

Upcoming Events

Meetings

Join us at Heirloom Cafe on the third Thursday of every month at 1pm- just look for the FSSA sign.

Open House

We will be holding an open house event for on Thursday January 21st, 6-8pm, in Derby 080. We invite anyone with an interest in fannish activities and cultures to come meet us & find out more about fan studies at OSU. Pizza and drinks will be provided.

Reading Group

FSSA is thrilled to be hosting a three-part reading group/professionalization workshop facilitated by transcultural fandom expert Dr. Lori Morimoto. The first meeting will be Thursday February 4th, 12:45-2:45pm, in Hagerty 455b. Light refreshments will be provided, and two randomly selected attendees will receive day passes to ShumatsuCon. Email us if you would like to receive copies of the readings.

Conference Panel

We are organizing a fan studies panel for the OSU/IU Folklore & Ethnomusicology Student Conference, to be held April 22-23 in the Ohio Union. The conference theme is “Embodied Expression: The Body in Academia, the Field, and In-Between.”

What Is Fan Studies?

"Fan studies is a field of scholarly research focused on media fans and fan cultures. Fans might be broadly defined as individuals who maintain a passionate connection to popular media, assert their identity through their engagement with and mastery over its contents, and experience social affiliation around shared tastes and preferences. Fan cultures are the social and cultural infrastructures that support fan activities and interests." -Henry Jenkins¹

Fan studies scholarship explores fan cultures, identities, and creative works using a variety of disciplinary approaches, asking questions such as:

What makes someone a fan?

How do fans on the internet form communities through creativity?

How are the social norms of fan communities established and transmitted?

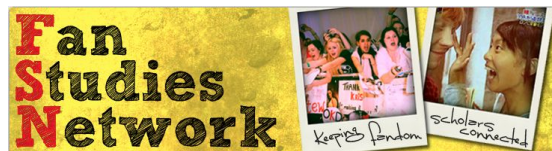
Why do fans gravitate to certain books, movies, TV shows, celebrities, or sports?

How do fanworks contribute to discourses about social and political issues?

What's at stake in inequalities of race, class, gender, and access in fandom?

1. Jenkins, Henry. "Fan Studies". In *Oxford Bibliographies in Cinema and Media Studies*. 9-Jan-2016. <<http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780199791286/obo-9780199791286-0027.xml>>.

Fan Studies Resources



fanstudies.org



Organization for Transformative Works

transformativeworks.org



pcaaca.org



SOCIETY FOR CINEMA & MEDIA STUDIES

cmstudies.org

FSSA Online



fanstudies.osu@gmail.com



fanstudiesosu.tumblr.com



facebook.com/groups/FanStudiesOhioState

fan studies

STUDENT ASSOCIATION