The Early Modern Center at the University of California, Santa Barbara invites proposals for our annual conference, “Queer Crossings, Unruly Locales, 1500-1800,” to be held on February 28 and 29, 2020. We are happy to announce our two keynote speakers: Melissa E. Sanchez (University of Pennsylvania) and Rajani Sudan (Southern Methodist University).

“Queer Crossings, Unruly Locales, 1500-1800” will explore the intersection between queer studies and the study of mobilities, crossings, and networks, both local and global, in early modern England and around the world. We invite conversations that address and interrogate the concept of “queer crossings” and “unruly locales” broadly construed. We seek to answer questions such as: What constitutes a crossing? What does it mean to read locales as unruly? What power dynamics reveal themselves in weighing queer crossings and unruly locales? How do travel narratives reveal and abound with queerness in terms of identity, time, relations, and other perspectives? Who or what has the privilege of crossing, queerness, or unruly-ness?

Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- The global early modern
- Borderlands
- Gender, sexuality, trans, and queer studies in the global early modern
- Queer philology
- Migration and migratory studies
- Crossings of genre
- Critical race studies
- Global mobility and crossings
- Travel narratives/narratives of exploration
- Critical food studies; “fusion” as crossing/queer
- Translation and mediation
- Currency, capital, and trade across early modern periods/borders
- Connected histories
- Queering the archive

We invite abstracts of 150 to 200 words and a one-page CV to be sent to emcfellow@gmail.com by December 5th, 2019 (extended deadline). We envision and invite both twenty-minute panel presentations and ten-minute roundtable presentations; we will also consider complete panel or roundtable proposals. If you have further questions, please feel free to contact the conference organizer, Giorgina Paiella, at emcfellow@gmail.com.