



CAL POLY

# Crip Writing: Communication through a Disability and Decolonial Lens

**Thursday, May 18, 3:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Advanced Technologies Laboratory, Bldg. 07, Rm. 02**

## *In Celebration of Global Accessibility Awareness Day*

This event is sponsored by the Office of Writing and Learning, the College of Liberal Arts, the Department of Political Science, the Disability Faculty Staff Association, and the English Department's First-Year Composition Program.



**SURESH CANAGARAJAH**

Pedagogies for teaching language and writing often impose the language and rhetorical norms of privileged social groups onto minoritized and multilingual students and treat deviations from those norms as linguistic or cognitive deficiency.

This talk will propose an alternate way of thinking about language and ability by drawing on how the speaker's cancer diagnosis and resulting impairments transformed his writing practice, as well as on his research on the writing and communication practices of international STEM scholars. The talk will argue that diverse languages and proficiencies motivate people to cultivate the dispositions needed to practice relational ethics and vulnerability when interacting with each other, and that these practices are crucial for successful communication.

Dr. Suresh Canagarajah is the Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of Applied Linguistics, English, and Asian Studies at Penn State University and author of multiple award-winning publications on World Englishes, multilingual writing, decolonization, and disability studies. He formerly served as president of the American Association for Applied Linguistics and editor of TESOL Quarterly.

This event is accessibly designed, featuring an ASL interpreter and CART real-time captioning. Attendees may contact John Lee ([jlee245@calpoly.edu](mailto:jlee245@calpoly.edu)) with questions about event accessibility or requests for disability-related accommodations.

For more information, visit [writingandlearning.calpoly.edu/specialevents](https://writingandlearning.calpoly.edu/specialevents)