



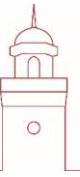
Beyond Life Itself – Social and Political Thought Graduate Conference

Acadia University (Wolfville, Nova Scotia) May 3-5, 2019

What are the limitations of focusing our scholarly attention on questions of life? Is life a centering concept that we can always return to, or is it limiting in its definition in giving primacy to organic bodies? This conference will explore what exists beyond the concept of life in the social and political imaginary. There are several emerging theoretical movements asking a different order of questions. These are theories that do not simply theorize what the world means to us, but also the totality of what can be possible outside of life. What constitutes life itself or life as a concept? Is nature alive/can nature die? How can we engage with questions beyond life when we are alive ourselves? Is life inherently humanistic or is there a way to comprehend life outside of problematic terms? Can we move beyond life or can we simply animate and give agency to non-life? These questions and many more can be considered as long as they focus on the theme beyond life itself. Submissions from every and all disciplines are welcome as we seek a diverse and intellectually stimulating body of approaches to these questions.

We acknowledge that Acadia University sits on the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq Nation. This territory is covered by the “Treaties of Peace and Friendship” which Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) people first signed with the British Crown in 1725. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please contact conference chair Justin MacLeod at acadiasptc@gmail.com. For information pertaining to Acadia University, places to visit while in Nova Scotia and scheduling and logistical information once available please visit <https://acadiasptconference.wordpress.com/>.



Submission Requirements

- Your Name, email address and university affiliation if applicable.
- A 200-300 word abstract detailing your proposed paper. If you and two of your colleagues or friends wish to do your own panel, please submit with all members included in the email chain.
- Technical requirements, for example PowerPoint setup.
- Special requests including accessibility and dietary considerations.
- We are offering presenters a special opportunity to not only present their work but to also have their work published as conference proceedings in Acadia SPT's graduate journal *To Be Decided**. If you wish to publish your work, we ask that you indicate as such in your submission. We ask if you are doing so that you have submit a rough draft to us one week before the conference to facilitate the publishing process.

Dates and Deadlines

- Deadline for abstracts will be Friday March 1, 2019.
- The conference will take place May 3-5, 2019.
- The deadline for completed manuscripts with a maximum of 4000 words is Friday April 26, 2019; one week before the conference.

Topics and Writing Prompts

- Posthumanism/Antihumanism
- Post/Decolonial Thought
- The Anthropocene, The Capitalocene, The Chthulucene
- Resistance and revolution
- Digital humanities
- Catastrophe
- The politics of space
- Indigenous thought
- LGBTQ2S+
- Deep Ecology
- Marx and Marxism
- (R)evolution
- Global technologies
- Animality, animism, becoming-animal, animal being, and non-human worlds
- Hauntology and lost futures



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- Transhumansim
 - New Materialisms, Object-oriented ontology, Speculative Realism
 - Social Reproduction Theory
 - Biopower and Geontopower
 - Biopolitics, Necropolitics, Natality
 - Accelerationism
 - Marginalization and marginal worlds
 - Hyperobjects
 - Psychoanalysis
 - Intermiediality, form, experiential narratives
 - Landscapes of the past
 - And more...