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Call for Manuscripts

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Kaleidoscope is a refereed, annually published print and electronic journal devoted to graduate students who develop philosophical, theoretical, and/or practical applications of qualitative, interpretive, and critical/cultural communication research. We welcome scholarship from current graduate students in Communication Studies and related cognate areas/disciplines. We especially encourage contributions that rigorously expand scholars’ understanding of a diverse range of communication phenomena.

In addition to our ongoing commitment to written scholarship, we are interested in ways scholars are exploring the possibilities of new technologies and media to present their research. Kaleidoscope welcomes scholarship forms such as video/audio/photos of staged performance, experimental performance art, or web-based artistic representations of scholarly research. Web-based scholarship should be accompanied by a word-processed artist’s statement of no more than five pages. We invite web-based content that is supplemental to manuscript-based scholarship (e.g., a manuscript discussing a staged performance could be supplemented by video footage from said performance).

Regardless of form, all submissions should represent a strong commitment to academic rigor and should advance salient scholarly discussions. Each submission deemed by the editor to be appropriate to the style and content of Kaleidoscope will receive, at minimum, anonymous assessments by two outside reviewers: (1) a faculty member and (2) an advanced Ph.D. student. For works presented in video/audio/photo form, we may not be able to guarantee author anonymity. The editor of Kaleidoscope will take reasonable action to ensure all authors receive an unbiased review. Reviewers have the option of remaining anonymous or disclosing their identities to the author via the editor.

Submissions must not be under review elsewhere or have appeared in any other published form. Manuscripts should be no longer than 25 pages (double-spaced) or 7,000 words (including notes and references) and can be prepared following MLA, APA, or Chicago style. All submissions should include an abstract of no more than 150 words and have a detached title page listing the author’s/authors’ name(s), institutional affiliation, and contact information. Authors should remove all identifying references from the manuscript. To be hosted on the Kaleidoscope website, media files should not exceed 220 MB in size. Larger files can be streamed within the Kaleidoscope website but must be hosted externally. Authors must hold rights to any content published in Kaleidoscope, and permission must be granted and documented from all participants in any performance or presentation.
Call For Manuscripts
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Submission period:
November 15, 2019 - February 15, 2020

S P E C I A L C A L L

Feminist Interventions, Innovations, and Imaginaries

In addition to general submissions, the editor invites submissions devoted to scholarly discussions of feminisms and communication studies scholarship. The connections between feminist and communication inquiries have been widely archived by scholars in our field (e.g., Morris & Palczewski), and intersectional feminist approaches (Crenshaw) to communication scholarship now reverberate through a range of our subdisciplines, from rhetoric, to interpersonal, intercultural, and organizational communication, to critical/cultural, media, and performance studies. As Karma Chávez and Cindy Griffin note, this kind of intersectional feminist work “challenges many of our basic assumptions about communication” including the scope, practice, and theorization of communication, while also confronting “who has the power to name, whose discourses can be heard, whose ways of knowing are valid, and whose approach to communication scholarship is rewarded” (19).

In the introduction of Living a Feminist Life, Sara Ahmed recognizes intersectionality as “a starting point, the point from which we must proceed if we are to offer an account of how power works” (5). Ahmed conceptualizes intersectional feminism as “asking ethical questions about how to live better in an unjust and unequal world (in a not-feminist and anti-feminist world); how to create relationships with others that are more equal; how to find ways to support those who are not supported or are less supported by social systems; how to keep coming up against histories that have become concrete, histories that have become as solid as walls” (1). In asking these questions, feminism becomes a world-making project—one which involves interventions in convention; innovations of thought and practice; and imaginaries beyond the limits of oppressive social, political, economic, cultural, and epistemological systems.

This special call invites authors to take up this world-making project, exploring the ways feminisms may intervene, innovate, and/or imagine potentials for communication studies scholarship. How have various threads of feminist thought—Black feminism, Chicana feminism, Indigenous feminism, postcolonial feminism, Marxist feminism, feminist disability studies, ecofeminism, transfeminism, and/or lesbian and queer feminism, for example—shifted the trajectories of communication studies research? How do intersectional feminist approaches to communicative interactions, practices, and phenomena challenge or invigorate our understandings of them? And how might the study of communication aid feminist world-making projects?

The editor encourages submissions from a range of methodological frameworks, including critical/cultural analysis, autoethnography, poetic and arts-based inquiry, performance scripts, web-based and new media research, mix-methodological approaches, and other critical/qualitative methods. Authors should clearly indicate in their cover letter that their submission is for this special call. All submissions for this special call, including web-based/multimedia submissions, should follow regular submission guidelines.

To submit a manuscript, please visit opensiuc.lib.siu.edu/kaleidoscope
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References: