

Call for Proposals

*26th Annual Interdisciplinary Conference
Bodies, Sexualities, Masculinities*



March 22-25, 2018

University of Minnesota

Minneapolis, MN, USA

I Sing the Body Electric

-Walt Whitman

The American Men's Studies Association will be hosting its annual conference concerning the critical study of men and masculinities March 22-25, 2018 at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. This year's theme will be "Bodies, Sexualities, Masculinities." Men's Studies has long had an interest in sexuality, bodies, and masculinities, especially when considering topics such as sexualized violence, rape culture, pornography, and sex work. This conference aims to continue thinking through these topics, and to further complicate our understandings of bodies and sexualities and their relations with men and masculinity. We wish to ask what would it mean to move beyond the anti-sex rhetoric that is often common to the field? How might men understand and negotiate sexual experiences and pleasures? How does one's masculinity impact in how they engage in sex? We encourage participants to draw on work related to the interdisciplinary and critical study of bodies and sexualities. We also encourage participants to think about the relationship between, for example, sex-positive feminist theory, queer theory, or psychoanalytic theory. To be certain, this conference recognizes and welcomes papers on the "dangers" of sex, but also recognizes the complexity of sexuality, bodies, and masculinities, and the "pleasures" that sex and desire can offer in a range of scholarship.

Seeking to encourage interdisciplinarity, the conference will particularly bridge the gaps between studies into sexuality and men and masculinity studies. This crossover will contribute richly to knowledge on the topic, and provide for unique and interesting dialogue amongst participants. This conference, then, hopes to build productively on a variety of theoretical paradigms and to push the field forward in thinking around bodies, sexualities, and masculinities. The conference is open to a number of different types of sessions. We welcome submissions of individual papers, panels, and posters.

Keynote Speaker

Dr Jane Ward

Jane Ward is an associate professor of Gender and Sexuality Studies at the University of California Riverside. Ward's published work focuses on a broad range of topics including feminist pornography, queer parenting, transgender relationships, the corporatization of gay pride festivals, the race politics of same-sex marriage, and the social construction of heterosexuality and whiteness. She is the author of *Not Gay: Sex Between Straight White Men* (New York University Press, 2015) Currently, Ward is working on a monograph titled *The Tragedy of Heterosexuality: How Sexism Doomed the World's Most Cherished Union (and Hid the Wreckage)*.



PROPOSALS

Deadline: October 15th 2017

While we welcome papers, panels and posters on various aspects of masculinities, bodies, and sexualities, we are especially interested in papers, panels and posters that address the following themes:

- Queering masculinities, sexualities, bodies
- Transgender studies and men's studies
- Men and/or masculinities in BDSM and leather cultures
- Masculinities and sexualities (i.e. heterosexual, gay, bisexual, pansexual, etc.)
- Effeminophobia in/and theories of masculinity
- Fantasies and desires in/through bodies and masculinities
- The material, phenomenological, and real body
- Pharmaceutical and medical interventions on the body
- Masculinities without men, men without masculinities
- Men, bodies, and digital technologies
- Aging, youth, and sexualities across the life-span

While we strongly encourage submissions on the theme of the conference, there will also be sessions dedicated to broader topics related to the critical study of men and masculinities. Please feel free to submit abstracts that fit the broader remit of AMSA. We welcome contributions from all disciplines and traditions across the globe. Individual paper and poster abstracts should be 250-300 words, please also include 4-6 keywords. Panel proposals will need to include a 250 word abstract of the panel, and 150 word abstracts of all papers proposed. Abstracts must be submitted by **October 15 2017**.

WORKSHOPS

Deadline: October 15th 2017

As in previous years, we welcome productive and engaging preconference and conference workshops that complement this year's theme or the broader themes of AMSA. In particular, we are looking to include workshops that center on professionalization that will assist students and scholars with their future careers in and outside of Academia. Those proposing workshops can either apply for three-hour pre-conference workshops or one and half hour conference workshops.

Workshops might include:

- Publishing in Academia
- Writing in Academia and for other audiences
- Interdisciplinary writing and research
- Academic career development
- Alternative Academic Careers (Alt-Ac)
- Teaching and postgraduate supervision
- Grant writing and project development
- Working with communities, and community and industry partners
- Networking and collaboration
- Working with the media

Workshop abstract summaries will need to be 500 words, with an additional breakdown that outlines what the workshop will cover, and three bullet points that illustrate what participants will learn and takeaway from attending this workshop.

Additionally, we welcome workshops that deal with the themes listed in the call for papers and posters. We ask that workshops be developed to keep in mind the interdisciplinary audience of the field of men and masculinities studies. Workshop abstract summaries and outlines must be submitted by October 15th 2017. Those who submit workshop proposals will be notified of the status of their submission by November 15th 2017.

SUBMISSION

Deadline: October 15th 2017 | Notify Date: November 15th 2017

Submit your Proposals [here](#). Please see deadlines below. There will be a call for applications for the [Loren Frankl Scholarship](#) to follow. Please consult the AMSA website for further details.

All individuals invited to present must register for the conference no later than January 19, 2018. Failure to do so will result in removal from the conference program. AMSA strives to provide a welcoming interdisciplinary forum in which to contribute and receive support for work related to men and masculinities. For more information, please see the AMSA website: <http://mensstudies.org>.