

17th Annual Midwest Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference
at
The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Theme: *Access*
May 6-8, 2022, virtual

Call for Proposals

Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Brian Dobreski
The University of Tennessee Knoxville

We invite emerging scholars across all disciplines and research interests to present work that broadens and/or hones our current understandings of access on a global scale and supports the sharing of national and international graduate school research for current and postgraduate students. Variations on the theme of access are also welcome. To foster interdisciplinary collaboration, MIGC invites submissions from every discipline. MIGC recognizes the financial strain many graduate students face and aims to be almost cost-free. Traditional proposals, creative submissions, and works in progress are welcomed. The deadline for proposal submission has been extended to **March 15, 2022**.

Please contact migc@gmail.com with any access needs or additional questions regarding submitting a proposal.

Access is the liberty, permission, or ability to have or to make use of an information resource or service. Dimensions of access include legal, material, and epistemological. The ability to access a given resource often relies on access to other resources.

Social media and other online communities that value freedom of information have provided a platform for individuals to make their voices heard regarding various social problems bedeviling our world on a global scale. One important problem is that of inequities of access for members of traditionally marginalized communities. Recent world events have brought global attention to a host of issues relating to the problem of equity of access, such as systematic racism, neurodiversity, and the right to self-identification of individuals. Every discipline has a multitude of traditional and newer resources available to further refine our understanding of the concept of access and enhance our appreciation of diverse forms of resistance and calls for reform. By deploying the power of words and action, we can support or subvert various points of view. Stepping out of our academic silos to share and embrace diverse approaches and frameworks to address current and historical understanding of access in an interdisciplinary setting is essential for advancing the effectiveness of social action. We seek to address these issues of access, reflect on the past, and explore avenues for progress towards equality of access.

To apply, please submit a 300-word submission for individual papers, panels, roundtables, creative submissions, workshops, or other formats to the MIGC website (migc.com) by March 15, 2022. In your submission, please include a title, institutional affiliation, department, 3-5 keywords and whether you are an MA, PhD, or post-graduate student. Strong submissions will make connection between the conference theme and submission topic. Written proposals should include an introductory statement which clearly describes the topic and/or problem and a clear description of the purpose/argument that identifies the significance or stakes of the project. Creative proposals should include a clear description of the creative work to be performed and/or exhibited include a description or demonstration of how the piece is thought-provoking, engaging, or intellectually stimulating.

Session Formats

We encourage participants to submit proposals in a variety of formats.

Submissions for creative proposals should be appropriate to the medium or discipline. Creative submissions may come in the form of film, music, performance, or visual presentation. Participants are invited to think creatively about translating installation pieces to the virtual format.

- Other formats include:
 - Traditional 15-minute conference paper
 - Research poster, full panel, roundtable, or workshop (please provide all participants information in submission)
 - Five-minute lightning talk of a work in progress (will be in a group of 5-10, informal). Include a brief overview, highlights, and key takeaways from an initiative.

Potential Topics

As an interdisciplinary conference, we invite scholars to think deeply about how issues of access affect your discipline or area of research and submit proposals on a broad range of topics. Potential topics include:

- Access to information and services
- Online social movements
- White supremacy and patriarchy in all forms and institutions
- Fan labor and fan activism
- Community organizing practices
- Precarious labor of political movements
- Forms of protest and institutional pressure
- Representations of BIPOC individuals and communities
- Representations of intersectionality
- Media production practices
- News coverage of racism and police violence
- Experiences and cultural productions of queer BIPOC communities
- Academic racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, classism, and ableism
- Academia's place and role in social, political, and economic change
- Students' intellectual and emotional labor and role in academia
- Anti-racist, anti-sexist, anti-homophobic, anti-transphobic, anti-classist, anti-ableist pedagogy
- Historical analyses of social movements and labor
- Law, public and private prisons, and racism, sexism, homophobia
- Science, health care, and racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, classism, ableism
- Social work, counseling, and mental health initiatives in marginalized communities
- Indigeneity in and beyond the US
- The city, architecture, and social movements
- Challenging conceptions of progress and change
- Challenging conceptions of failure and success
- Colonialism and neocolonialism
- International economic and cultural exploitation
- Anarchy and revolution
- Marketing behavior or strategic firm interaction with and between political movements
- Experiences of marginalized individuals in the workplace

Land Acknowledgment

We affirm Indigenous sovereignty and acknowledge in Milwaukee that we are on traditional Potawatomi, Ho-Chunk and Menominee homeland along the southwest shores of Michigami, North America's largest system of freshwater lakes, where the Milwaukee, Menominee and Kinnickinnic rivers meet and the people of Wisconsin's sovereign Anishinaabe, Ho-Chunk, Menominee, Oneida and Mohican nations remain present.

[Listen to this acknowledgement.](#)