

Call for Articles: 'Disgust'

Following the recent success of a two day interdisciplinary conference on 'Disgust', held at the University of Kent in May 2015, we are calling for contributions to a future issue of *Skepsi*, the online interdisciplinary research journal, run by postgraduate students of the University of Kent's School of European Culture and Languages and now in its seventh year.

Disgust has received growing critical attention among researchers and university scholars in fields as varied as literature, philosophy of art, biology, psychology or gender studies. With the neurosciences increasingly gaining attention from the humanities for their project of explaining cognitive states and processes with reference to the material brain, it is opportune to reflect upon those experiences which strike the pit of the stomach before the head. In an effort to capture and expand the broad and interdisciplinary interest in Disgust, we are seeking to gather ideas, explorations, critiques and theories that examine this topic.

Suggested topics include, but are not limited to, the following and their interrelations:

Psychological and psychoanalytical approaches: Disgust as an emotion: functions, structures – Self-disgust: how can we feel disgusted by our own body, ourselves? – Disgust vs. anger: what is the relation between these two emotions? Why are these two emotions often associated or confused?

Sociological, anthropological perspectives: Evolutionary and social role of disgust: why are we disgusted? – Relativity of disgust: what is disgusting? – Disgust and gender: is gender regulating our perception of/sensitivity to disgust? – Disgust and the other: Is there a suspension of disgust in parenting/love?

Disgust in the Arts: Representation of disgust, disgusting text vs. disgusting images: how is disgust represented in literary or cinematic fiction/the arts? – Disgust and beauty/aesthetics, horror, the sublime: why is disgust so appealing? What kind of pleasure do we experience from a disgusting representation?

Disgust and the body: Disgust and food - taste and bad taste – Disgust and the senses: why are some senses more reactive to disgust? Nausea and physical reactions to disgust: from surfeit to visceral disgust? – Disgust and contamination, disease: Is disgust grounded in fear of contamination? Disgust and sexuality: Is sexual desire haunted by bodily disgust?

Philosophical and political perspectives: Existential or moral disgust vs. core disgust – Disgust and morality, law: Can or should laws be motivated by disgust? Disgust and fear of social contamination – Racism – Far right regimes/ far right popularity in contemporary societies: can disgust create a social boundary?

Submissions are invited from academic staff, postgraduate students and independent scholars. Articles will be selected by the Editorial Board after peer review and published in a forthcoming issue of the journal, to be published in Summer 2016.

Articles, which should not exceed 5,000 words, should be sent together with an abstract of about 250 words and brief biographical details about the author to:

skepsi@kent.ac.uk

The deadline for submission is 20 September 2015.

Skepsi uses a version of the MHRA referencing style (in-text author/date system). A style guide can be downloaded from our blog: <https://blogs.kent.ac.uk/skepsi/peer-reviewers/> (but there is no obligation to follow it at this stage).

Skepsi is a peer reviewed postgraduate journal based in the School of European Culture and Languages at the University of Kent and funded by the University of Kent (<http://blogs.kent.ac.uk/skepsi/>).