

FEMINISMS 16 HERE & NOW

COMMUNICATING ALONGSIDE | ACROSS | AGAINST

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
December 2-3, 2016 | fhnconference.com
CALL FOR PAPERS

Undergraduate students, graduate students, and post-doctoral fellows are invited to submit abstracts to the second annual meeting of **Feminisms Here and Now**, an interdisciplinary conference organized by PhD students in the Department of Communication of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

This year's theme, *Communicating Alongside | Across | Against*, arose out of both the current political climate and points of discussion from last year's conference. Feelings and experiences of insecurity, inequity, violence, and disrespect resonate locally and globally, affecting our personal lives, communities, states, nations, and worlds. In the United States, these are most palpable in the face of a number of troubling occurrences, including the passing of North Carolina's House Bill 2, persistent police violence against black life, the loss of queer of color lives at Pulse Nightclub in Orlando, the spectacle of the US presidential election, anti-immigrant backlash, and xenophobic responses to the global refugee crisis. Globally and transnationally, developments pertaining to war, migration, labor, militarization and security, and other systemic crises of political, economic and environmental organization and violence make the need for thinking through the role of feminist analysis, pedagogy, and praxis clear. With these and other feminist concerns in mind, **Feminisms Here and Now** encourages faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students to join together to process, think about, contest, theorize, and innovate toward desired social and political conditions, processes, ethics, and ends.

Communicating Alongside | Across | Against is meant to highlight the communicative capacities and



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limits of feminisms in all of their complexity, in matters pertaining to time, space, identity, oppressions, privileges, coalitions, and antagonisms. Here and now, we ask: What do feminist scholars want from feminisms? What are the relationships among feminist studies, critical race studies, black feminist studies, gay and lesbian studies, trans* studies, disability studies, and queer theory, and how do debates internal to these fields reconfigure the relations between them? In what ways can and should feminisms continue to critique and intervene in a broad spectrum of cultural, political, and social issues in the first half of the 21st century?

The conference invites abstracts on feminisms here and now with an understanding that writers may consider each of these terms in their broadest contexts. “Feminisms” may refer to a multiplicity of personal, political, and theoretical positions; “here” may designate any place, space, or scale; and “now” can include all relevant pasts, presents, and futures. Work utilizing critical, theoretical, qualitative, social scientific, performative, or other methodologies are welcome, as are all disciplinary, departmental, activist, or programmatic orientations and perspectives. Submissions not directly responding to this year’s theme are also encouraged.

Abstracts (400 words maximum) may be submitted on the **Feminisms Here and Now: *Communicating Alongside | Across | Against*** website at fhnconference.com. The deadline for submissions is **October 1, 2016**. Participants will be notified of acceptance by **October 15, 2016**.

Please visit fhnconference.com for details about the conference, including schedule, speakers, registration (free), travel, and location information. The website will be updated regularly with new information. Please use the “Contact Us” form on the website to send any questions or comments about the conference or this call.

