

To Be Decided*

Journal of Interdisciplinary Theory

Call for Submissions

Belonging

Contrasting conformities

*To Be Decided** is currently accepting submissions for its fourth issue, *Belonging*. *TBD** is a graduate student-run journal founded by the Social and Political Thought Program at Acadia University. We welcome clear and original engagements with theory, as well as book reviews, interviews, contemporary or topical editorials, and creative work with theoretical import.

In his ethnography *At Home in the World*, Anthropologist Michael D. Jackson writes “Ours is a century of uprootedness. All over the world, fewer and fewer people live out their lives in the place where they were born. Perhaps at no other time in history has the question of belonging seemed so urgent” (2000, 1).

With this in mind, we are interested in practicing theory through encounters with the social, political, ethical, ideological and aesthetic implications of belonging. This issue intends to explore how belonging is understood, theorized and thought about in the 21st century, as well as how its implications relate to a variety of ideas and concepts.

Diverse cultural understandings of belonging can be scripted by the constructs of borders and citizenship; such concepts often define where one belongs. In this way, we might ask: what defines the limitations of belonging? On the other hand, we might ask: what creates the liberating feeling of fitting in?

The idea of belonging assumes a sense of home. Belonging can be used to distinguish the inside from the outside. Are we at home in the world? Can

we belong in a world of aesthetic borders? Is the concept of home a myth within the development of belonging?

Belonging can help define notions of citizenship through the scopes of nationalism or im/migration. Can those that come from the outside belong once they come inside? How do modes of power shape societies and effect who is *allowed* to belong?

*TBD** invites you to explore *Belonging*. We encourage you to experiment with topics including, but certainly not limited to, the following:

- Politics of Identity
- Migration/Immigration
- Home/Away
- Biopolitics
- Securitization Theory
- Inclusion/Exclusion
- Gender and Sexuality
- Feminist and Queer Theory
- Insiders/Outsiders
- Normativity and Conformity
- Colonial/Postcolonial/Decolonial Theory
- (Post)modernity
- Class and Capital
- Race and Ethnicity
- Community
- Borders and Walls
- Sovereignty/Statism
- Psychoanalytical Theory
- Intersectionality

Have questions? Have an idea but not sure where to take it? Send us an email, we'd love to brainstorm with you about our theme of *Belonging*.

Instructions for submissions are appended below. Please direct all submissions to tbdgraduatejournal@gmail.com. Submissions are due by **October 5th, 2018**. Previous issues of *TBD** can be found online at www.tbd-journal.com.

We also invite graduate students to participate in the *TBD as reviewers.** Interested individuals should contact the editors. Please attach a brief cover letter that outlines your research interests and program. Those who submit articles are also welcome to review.

*To Be Decided** Managing Editors,
Laura Townend and Jason Penney

Submission Guidelines

Submissions should not exceed **5,000 words**, excluding citations and references. All essays must be submitted in **Chicago 17th Edition** formatting with full footnote citations (we recommend using Zotero for citation management). Manuscripts should be **double-spaced**. Because submissions are reviewed anonymously, names, e-mails and institutional affiliations should be removed from the submission document. We ask that senior undergraduate students include a brief endorsement note from a faculty member.

Submissions must contain two attachments:

1. **Submission** in one document in **.doc or .docx** format prepared for review.
2. A **cover letter** and **Abstract** with the author's contact information (name, e-mail, and institutional affiliation, program of enrollment), submission word count, and five key words outlining the themes of the paper.

Book Review Guidelines

Book reviews should be for works published within the **last 24 months**. Reviews should concisely recap the book, situate it in existing literature and suggest critique or further research. Reviews should be no more than **1,500 words**. Those interested in reviewing a book should contact the editors about their selection.

Selection Process

We strive to avoid lengthy review processes and work hard to return constructive feedback to every submitter whose work we consider for publication. Our primary aims are to help graduate students and young researchers to obtain valuable feedback on their projects, experience the review process and ultimately publish their work. All considered works are reviewed through a double-blind process by two independent referees before being returned to the author. Accepted submissions can expect publication in Winter 2019.