

Call for Papers: General Topic, Humanities and Social Sciences
University of California Riverside's Seventeenth Annual Graduate Humanities Conference

States of Crisis: (dis)junctions 2010
April 9th and 10th

Abstract deadline: 3/5/10

General CFP-
(General Call for Papers)

For (dis)junctions 2010, we are seeking papers that explore the construction, definitions of, and reactions to "crisis" in all its various permutations. The titular concept, drawn from Giorgio Agamben's pivotal work, *State of Exception*, functions as a starting point to facilitate a nuanced understanding of the intricacies of crisis. How does the framework of crisis impact communities across the globe in manifold ways? How have states of crisis functioned across time and space and in relation to questions of citizenship and nation? For example, how can crisis help us think about paradigmatic shifts between the crusades and modern imperialism? Further, how can we talk about interpersonal and psychological states of crisis? Can we view crisis as productive, and if so, how does this view complicate the violences and oppressions that often stem from personal and public states of crisis? How are notions of play and change utilized to further complicate crisis?

Considering the states of crisis across the world—at home and abroad, in the space of the domestic and in the public arena—this year's conference strives to provide an interdisciplinary space to discuss the conditions, consequences, and productivity of the many forms of "crisis." The focus of the conference is to engage with crisis as both an abstract theoretical concept and a material reality that impacts individuals and populations. (dis)junctions anticipates responses to further explore how "crisis" challenges, structures, and affects our understanding of the world and ourselves.

Papers may address topics such as, but not limited to: questions of identity, nation, and culture, representations of crisis in the media, crisis within academia, religion and violence, economic crisis, environmental crisis, race theory, gender and sexuality as categories of crisis, crisis in the Middle East, cosmopolitanism and human rights, terrorism, capitalism, crisis of/in postcolonial theory, international affairs and foreign policies, manufactured crisis, the mechanisms for change, play as "productive crisis," play as a mode of resistance, narrative representations of the "natural" or sociopolitical world, and questions of identity and "self" in relation to the ever-in-crisis global landscape.

As always, (dis)junctions welcomes papers from all areas of the humanities, social sciences, and creative disciplines, and this year we are breaking ground by accepting relevant papers from disciplines outside of the humanities in order to extend the conversation; participants may submit to a specific panel or in response to the general call for papers.

(dis)junctions is a large conference, spanning a number of themes –all topics are welcome, including traditional genre and period-related papers! Creative pieces and artwork are also highly encouraged. Please look for additional panel-specific Call for Papers in the weeks to come. Please email abstracts (250-300 words) to Disjunctions2010@gmail.com. Also, please note any A/V needs you may have—we can obtain VCRs, DVDs, and projectors for laptops. Less standard equipment is possible (although not guaranteed) upon request.

List of Panel CFPs

9/11 and the "War on Terror" as Sites of Crisis

War and Crisis

Plagues and Pestilence

Chicana/Latina Identity in Crisis?

Crisis in Postcolonial Studies

Crisis in Comparative Literature

The Post Apocalyptic in Literature and Film

Anxieties of Influence: The Literary Extended “Family”

Visual Art: Paradigmatic shifts across time and space

Digital Worlds

Food Fights: Current Trends and Historical Movements

Cosmopolitanism

Spoken Word: Destructive Language

Mad Men

Men in Feminism

Bruce Springsteen Music

Pilgrimage

London

Speculative Fiction

Avatar

Medieval Literature

Renaissance Literature

Mythology and Folklore

Changes in Middle-Earth: The Evolution of Tolkien’s Fantasy

Shakespeare and Popular Culture

Victorian Literature and Culture

Detective Fiction

For More information:

www.english.ucr.edu/gsea/disjunctions