

# CALL FOR PAPERS



## ***Thinking Change Together***

**2-4 November 2022**

*Deadline for submissions extended to 7 October!*

A student-run, hybrid conference organized by  
The Graduate Program in Social and Political Thought  
Acadia University, Nova Scotia

**Keynote speaker: Dr. Beyhan Farhadi, York University**

***We acknowledge that Acadia University is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq, and we respect the treaties of peace and friendship.***

How can we *think change*, or think *about* change, when the dystopian and the “unthinkable” invade our newsfeeds, preferred social media, and physical space almost on a daily basis? As author China Miéville remarked in a 2017 interview: “dystopia is bleeding vividly into the quotidian.” Yet there is all the more need to think critically about change: to imagine an “*inhabitable future*” (Miéville, quoting Ursula K. LeGuin), even though thinking critically about the change we might want is complicated when change is already happening at an accelerated rate.

As graduate students enrolled in the interdisciplinary Social and Political Thought program at Acadia University, we invite you to take this opportunity to step back, share concerns, pool ideas, and explore possible *inhabitable futures* with us, “thinking change together.” The conference theme alludes to the critical/theoretical orientation of our program, but at the same time invites contributions from the wide variety of approaches and disciplines that belong to this field of research, with the emphasis on productive exchanges between different theoretical approaches and methodologies.



Dr. Beyhan Farhadi (keynote speaker)

The conference will take place in hybrid format. Those who want to travel to the beautiful Annapolis Valley and attend the conference in person will be welcome to do so (subject to any pandemic-related measures that may apply). Those who prefer to participate through videoconferencing will have the option of doing so.

We invite presentations (max. length: 20 minutes) of graduate student papers from any of the relevant traditional disciplines (philosophy, political science, sociology, women's and gender studies, history, anthropology, literature, drama studies, geography, cultural studies, media studies, journalism) as well as from interdisciplinary programs. Please either submit a single abstract (200 to 300 words) or, if you wish to propose a panel (maximum number of presentations: *four*), submit all abstracts, with contact information for all presenters, together. All abstracts will be considered on an equal basis.

Possible areas of research could include (but are not limited to) the following:

Anti-racism	"Capitalist realism" and its alternatives
Transformative justice	Care as the antidote to violence
Feminism(s), Womanism(s)	Migration, displacement, and borders
Political Ecology	Biopolitics and Psychopolitics
Imagining liberation	The "precariat"; the future of work;
Social Reproduction Theory: building a movement?	antiwork politics
Indigenizing the academy and the professions	Feminist ethics of care
Dystopias; Utopias; Narratives of change	International relations
	Posthumanism
	Colonialism, Postcolonialism, Decolonialism

Please direct all submissions to [acadiasptconf2022@gmail.com](mailto:acadiasptconf2022@gmail.com) AND [tacitus@eastlink.ca](mailto:tacitus@eastlink.ca), and put "SPT 2022 Conference" in the subject line. The deadline for abstracts is **30 September 2022**.

• If you would like your paper to be considered for publication in the upcoming issue of *To Be Decided*, Acadia SPT's peer-reviewed graduate student journal, please indicate this in your submission. Revised versions of conference papers should be submitted to the journal editors no later than 15 December 2022. All such papers will be blind-reviewed.

### Submission Guidelines

- At the top of the email please state your name; email address; and (if applicable) university affiliation.
- Please indicate whether you will need to share your screen to display a video, image, chart, or PowerPoint presentation.
- All submissions should be in .doc, .docx, or .pdf format. The abstract should not exceed 300 words in the case of single abstracts; or 1,200 words, if you are proposing a panel of three or four presenters.

For further information please visit the conference website:  
<https://acadiasptconf2022.wixsite.com/acadia-spt-conference> .