

CULTURAL STUDIES and COVID-19
Call for Submissions: Short Essays, Creative Writing, and Art

The Centre for Research in Cultural Studies (CRICS) invites original writing from its membership base to contribute to an online series of reflections on the COVID-19 crisis through the lens of Cultural Studies. We invite short essays, creative writing, and images of original art or photo documentation with textual commentary on areas of research including but not limited to:

- Structural violence and systemic inequalities: upsurges of classism, racism, xenophobia, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, ageism and ableism
- Biopolitics and contagion
- Health and safety discourses
- The politics of public speech, language and rhetoric
- Law and criminality
- Policing, security and surveillance
- Migration, refugees and asylum seeking
- Borderlines, thresholds and walls
- Settler colonialism, extractivist capitalism and nation state building
- The impact of COVID-19 in Indigenous communities
- Indigenous communities and sovereignty/self-governance
- Environmental justice
- Cultural geographies, temporalities and social distancing
- Private-public dynamics
- Communication technologies and “going viral/virtual”
- Art and cultural production
- Popular culture and media(ted) representations of the pandemic
- Pandemic affects and/or the psychic life of COVID-19
- Loss, mourning and commemoration
- Religious responses to the pandemic
- Disaster capitalism and neoliberal governance
- Precarious labour
- Universal Basic Income and economic reform
- Political economies and local/global cultures
- Food and consumer cultures
- Schools, universities and pandemic pedagogy
- Community resistance and activism

This series of reflections is intended to highlight the important interdisciplinary and engaged work done by scholars in CRICS, and to contribute to public discourse on the socially urgent issues raised/re-animated by the pandemic.

Authors are asked to consider the following questions as they prepare their submissions:

- How has COVID-19 changed your thinking about your research area? What new questions have emerged for you?
- How has COVID-19 corroborated your analysis, or brought into relief issues that you have previously researched?

Essays should be no longer than 1000 words, should include in text references or hyperlinks, and must be original pieces for the purposes of this online collection.

Creative writing can be submitted from any genre or form but should not exceed 1000 words.

Photographs and digital representations of original art should be submitted with a prose description of approximately 200-1000 words.

Deadline for submissions is June 15, 2020 @ 5 p.m. CST by email to Lauren Bosc, l.bosc@uwinnipeg.ca