

The Environment, Place, and Space Working Group of the Cultural Studies Association welcomes submissions for the 20th Annual Meeting of the Cultural Studies Association (U.S). The theme for the 2022 CSA Conference is Reckoning(s).

In this anniversary year of the association, we invite proposals from those taking stock of “place,” “space” and “environment” as critical categories of analysis today. Fifty years ago, Raymond Williams wrote that Marx and Engels’ call for the “abolition of the antagonism between town and country” was at once the most exciting and relevant, yet also the most undeveloped within revolutionary arguments. How do we reckon with this assertion today, or how are we now obligated to rethink the abolition of this antagonism in new ways? How are the dynamics between borders and movements, belongings and exclusions, embodiments and journeys, nationalism and transnationalism challenged and/or reconceptualized in a historic moment increasingly awakened by our catastrophic relations with and across the planet?

We particularly welcome papers that reckon with urban space and the body as these categories emerge as decisive sites and stakes of political struggle. The global pandemic linked these two scales of analysis seamlessly together as it traced the pathways of international capital making tangible how we can no longer understand nor experience nature, culture, or ourselves apart from reckoning with global production and consumption demanded by capital. We find both macro and micro-biological organizations eviscerating the boundaries between the human and non-human world. Black Lives Matter, for example, mobilized thousands of people around the world with the direct aim of removing statutes and monuments from the urban field—each instance marking a collective global desire to make explicit the intolerable political effects of urban space as a systemic instrument of oppression on identity and subject formation. Thus, equal access and distribution of resources will not be enough for systemic change. Following the lead of this social movement, how might we reckon, critique, and produce conceptualizations of the relationship between urbanization and subjectivity as a political stake or collective right to engage landscape as an artistic human form, one which includes the potential to make and remake identity and collectivity itself?

The ESP Working Group highlights and engages scholarly and activist work that illuminates the politics of space in all its forms.

We invite submissions on topics that may also include, but are in no way limited to:

- How Race, Class, Gender, Sexuality, Ability intersect with/in Spatial Formations
- Theorizations of the Role of Capital, the State, and Social Movements in the Production of Space.
- Artistic, Activist, and Academic Counter-Hegemonic forms of Spatial Analysis
- Bio-politics, Orientalism, Representations of the Global North and Global South
- Urban Interventions, Strategies, and Tactics

- Knowledge Production and the Economies, Cultures, and Spaces of the University
- Social Disparities and COVID-19
- Occupations of the State, State Surveillance, and State control of space
- Incarceration, Detention, Immigration
- Representational Practices of Social Movements
- Planetary Urbanization and Settler Colonial Geographies
- Liminal, Permeable, Utopian, and Intersectional Geographies
- Politics of the Transnational and Transexual Body
- Gentrification, Policing, Protest, Urban Development, and Community Building
- Bio- and Critical Regionalism
- Postcolonial Urban Theory, Indigenous Theory, Decolonization, and Urban Revolution
- Social Media, Virtual, Digital, and Subject Formation
- Finance, Crypto, Self-Care and Neoliberal Cultural Practice
- Environmental Action and Environmental Justice
- Trauma, Healing, Reconciliation, Resistance
- Monuments, Museums, Statues, and Markets

250 word abstracts should be submitted by December 19, 2021.

SUBMISSION PROCESS

All proposals should be submitted through Easy Chair using the following link: <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=csa2022>. Please prepare all materials required to propose your session according to the given directions before you begin electronic submission. All program information—names, presentation titles, and institutional affiliations—will be based on initial conference submissions. Please avoid lengthy presentation and session titles, use normal capitalization and standard fonts, and include your name and affiliations as you would like them to appear on the conference program schedule.

Questions should be directed to the Chair of the Environment, Space, and Place Working Group, Rich Simpson at rfs1881 [@gmail.com](mailto:rfs1881@gmail.com)