



Call for Papers

Nonreligion and Secularity Research Network Conference

16-18 June 2021

The growing number of nonreligious individuals poses new challenges for societies experiencing simultaneous intensification of religious diversity and renewed presence of religion in the public sphere. The impact of this shift is profound, contributing to social anxiety and divisions as societies become both more and less religious. These tensions are likely to deepen as the nonreligious play a more significant political role. Consequently, we need a better understanding of the moral and social dimensions of nonreligion and secularity, the socio-cultural circumstances of their emergence, and how nonreligion, secularity, spirituality and religion are negotiated simultaneously in social institutions such as in health, the law, education, the economy, politics, the environment, culture, recreation and leisure, as well as migration. Given that the nonreligious populations of many countries are growing rapidly, understanding the implications of this shift is key to addressing the pressing issue of how complex diversities can coexist in positive ways.

The Nonreligion and Secularity Research Network (NSRN) invites both paper and session proposals for its 2021 conference titled *Nonreligion in a Complex Future*. The 2021 NSRN conference will be held in partnership with the Nonreligion in a Complex Future (NCF) project, based at the University of Ottawa (Canada) and led by Professor Lori Beaman.

Given the ongoing travel and gathering restrictions related to COVID-19, the 2021 NSRN conference will be delivered using a virtual format. This format has the benefits of potentially allowing for more international attendees, no monetary costs for attendees and participants (the virtual NSRN 2021 conference will be free to attend and participate in!), lower health risks, and a positive impact on the environment as no travel is required. Reasonable daily time slots will be found for conference presenters from all global time zones.

Deadline for session and paper proposals: 1 February 2021

Instructions for submitting session and paper proposals:

Each individual may only present one paper at the 2021 conference, on top of being a co-author on other papers, chair/organize a session, and/or be part of an author-meets-critics session.

Each session will be allocated a 1h30min timeslot during the conference.

To submit a **paper proposal**: e-mail nsrnconference2021@gmail.com with the

- Title of the paper
- Abstract of the paper (max. 150 words)
- First and last name, institutional affiliation, title/position, and contact e-mail address of the primary author
- First and last name(s), institutional affiliation(s), title(s)/position(s), and contact e-mail address(es) of the co-author(s) (if applicable)

To submit a **session proposal** (with 3-4 papers and a chair): e-mail nsrnconference2021@gmail.com with the

- Title of the session
- Abstract of the session (max. 150 words)
- First and last name(s), institutional affiliation(s), title(s)/position(s), and contact e-mail address(es) of the session chair and organizer
- Titles of each of the (3-4) papers
- Abstracts of each of the (3-4) papers (150 words max. each)
- First and last names, institutional affiliations, titles/positions, and contact e-mail addresses for each paper's primary author and co-author(s)

To submit an **author-meets-critics session**: e-mail nsrnconference2021@gmail.com with the

- Book title, publication year, and press
- Book abstract (150 words max.)
- First and last name, institutional affiliation, title/position, and contact e-mail address of the session organizer
- First and last name(s), institutional affiliation(s), title(s)/position(s), and contact e-mail address(es) of the book's author(s)
- First and last names, institutional affiliations, titles/positions, and contact e-mail addresses for each of the (2-4) critics

All paper and session proposals must be e-mailed to nsrnconference2021@gmail.com by the end of the day on Monday the 1st of February 2021. For any questions, please contact the programme chair Dr. Sarah Wilkins-Laflamme by e-mail at sarah.wilkins-laflamme@uwaterloo.ca

Notifications of acceptance will then be e-mailed to conference participants by the end of February 2020.