

Lacan's *Écrits* Conference 2019

11 – 13 October 2019

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh
Organized by the Duquesne Psychology Department

Without doubt the foundational text of Lacanian psychoanalysis, Jacques Lacan's *Écrits*, remains fifty years after its 1966 publication, an invaluable resource for how we might understand and practice psychoanalysis. As labyrinthine as it is enigmatic, *Écrits* is at once Lacan's manifesto for what a Freudian psychoanalysis should be, and the condensed companion-piece to the first fifteen years of his weekly Seminar.

The publication, in 2006, of *Écrits: The First Complete Edition in English* (translated by Bruce Fink), made Lacanian theory more accessible to the English-speaking world. And yet Lacan's *Écrits* remains inexhaustible, an array of elliptical texts that invite multiple interpretations and interventions. The 2019 Lacan's *Écrits* Conference will extend this tradition of exposition and engagement by hosting many of the world's foremost experts on Lacan, and by exploring multiple perspectives on, and applications of, Lacan's *Écrits*.

Call for Papers

At the conference, papers with a maximum length of 2000 words, fifteen to twenty minutes reading time, will be presented and discussed. We invite papers focusing on:

- Specific conceptual topics and texts from the *Écrits*
- The clinical use of ideas from the *Écrits*
- Themes from the *Écrits* in relation to philosophy, history, arts, literature, gender studies, psychology, politics, psychosocial studies, etc.

Paper proposals in MS Word format should be between 450 and 500 words. Your proposal should make clear the basic points you will discuss, as well as provide an overview of your argument. The first page of your submission should include your name, the submission title, institutional affiliation, phone and email. The second page of the submission should include your title and the 450-500 word proposal.

Panel proposals in MS Word format should contain all individual paper proposals in addition to an overall description of aims and thematic concerns of the panel. Proposals should also mention the panel chair (name, institutional affiliation, phone, and email). Panels should be made up of three or four papers and should take no longer than 80 minutes total to present.

Proposals for papers and panels should be submitted by April 1st, 2019, and will be peer reviewed. Acceptance will be announced by May 1st, 2019.

Suggested paper topics:

- The specific text(s) of *Écrits* should be foundational to the presentation.
- *Écrits* should be taken up as “living” text, with the aim of extending its reach. Attempts at authoritative interpretation should be avoided.
- Presentations that speak to “real-world” issues will be given special consideration. Concrete cultural, clinical, social, political, professional, and organizational problems and trends should be illuminated and brought into dialogue with theory. Papers that are more conceptual in nature, however, are still welcome.
- The author should strive to speak in her own style, not Lacan’s, and should prioritize clarity and a spirit of engagement with the audience.

Please send your proposals to: LacanConference2019@hotmail.com. Please place “Paper Proposal Lacan *Écrits* Conference” or “Panel Proposal Lacan *Écrits* Conference” in the subject line.

Book Launches at the Conference

The second installment of the three volume Routledge commentary series Reading Lacan’s *Écrits* will be launched at the conference. This book, *Reading Lacan’s Écrits: From to ‘On a Purpose’ to ‘Comments on Daniel Lagache’* (edited by Derek Hook, Calum Neill and Stijn Vanheule), will be available at a reduced rate to conference participants.

Bruce Fink’s new translation of Lacan’s Seminar 6: *Desire and Its Interpretation*, published by Polity, will also be available at the conference.

Confirmed Keynote Speakers

Patricia Gherovici, Todd McGowan, Calum Neill, Jean-Michel Rabate, Stephanie Swales, and Stijn Vanheule.

Recommended Hotel

The recommended conference hotel is the Cambria Hotel Pittsburgh (412-381-6687). When booking please note that you will be attending a Duquesne University Conference (the “Lacan Conference”) so as to qualify for a discounted rate. Room availability is limited, so please book as soon as possible at their [website](#).

For other hotels, see: <https://www.duq.edu/admissions-and-aid/undergraduate/visit-campus/hotels>

For updates and further information, visit the [conference website](#).

Organizing Committee

Yael Baldwin, Dan Collins, Bruce Fink, Derek Hook, Mike Miller,
Calum Neill, Stephanie Swales, and Stijn Vanheule