



THE UNIVERSITY
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AUSTRALIA

Perspectives on Identity

The third edition of the interdisciplinary 'Perspectives' conference series for postgraduates and early career researchers

Held by the School of Historical and Philosophical Inquiry & the School of Politics, and International Studies

The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia
24-27 November 2015

What do nationalists, hermaphrodites, victims of genocide, and blondes have in common?

All have been defined, typecast, or regarded according to notions of identity. A myriad of formulations, from sociological, historical and political fields, have been proffered in an attempt to describe the convoluted and opaque concept that is identity. Sociologist Harrison White (1992) considers identity to be 'any source of action not explicable from biophysical regularities, and to which observers can attribute meaning'. Meanwhile, cultural theorist Stuart Hall (1989) suggests that 'identity emerges as a kind of unsettled space, or an unresolved question in that space, between a number of intersecting discourses...Identity is a process, identity is split. Identity is not a fixed point but an ambivalent point. Identity is also the relationship of the Other to oneself'.

Through the confluence of emerging scholars, keen to debate and exchange ideas, this latest edition of the 'Perspectives' series looks to promote interdisciplinary dialogues that examine understandings of 'identity'. We encourage contributions from all disciplines of the humanities and social sciences, such as anthropology, classics, history, philosophy, and religion, through to cultural, literary, media, and political studies.

Areas of inquiry may include, but are not limited to:

- Nationalism – public memory, nationhood
- Displaced cultural groups – indigenous identities, colonisation, immigration, migration
- History from below – overlooked/misconstrued participants in history
- Identity politics – questions of gender, sexuality, and constructions of the body
- At the polling booth – voting behaviour, political constituencies, and party identification
- Perception, being, reality – considerations of psychology, phenomenology, and physics
- Art and aesthetic identity – illusion, appearance, and the subject

The conference committee invites proposals in the form of an abstract of between 200-250 words, with an accompanying biography of no more than 50 words. All proposals and enquiries should be submitted to perspectivesonidentity2015@gmail.com by **3 July 2015**. Conference papers should be no longer than 20 minutes to allow for 10 minutes of discussion time following each paper. More information can be found at perspectivesonidentity2015.wordpress.com