

CALL FOR PAPERS 4(2): ‘Questioning Value’

Junctions, the open access academic journal for junior scholars in the humanities, now welcomes submissions on the topic of ‘Questioning Value.’ Over the past decade, all the different disciplines within the humanities have experienced the same pressure at some point: the pressure to justify the existence of their disciplines. With the ongoing budget cuts and the explicit attacks to their epistemological function from political and societal actors, the humanities were repeatedly asked to state their own value. Academic scholars are not always taken seriously as experts: environmental scientists are faced with climate change sceptics, misinformation about vaccination is running rampant on social media, and historians have to confront those who deny historical events. With the ever-decreasing worth of expert knowledge in public opinion, the question of how academics can effectively transmit knowledge to a cynical public is more important than ever. Additionally, academia as a capitalist institute risks defining value in terms of financial worth and often keeps important findings behind a paywall. With the value of expert knowledge as well as knowledge for its own sake at stake, what can the Humanities contribute? How does the new generation of scholars deal with the current pressures of relevance, impact, and the increasing precariousness of academic careers? How should we define value? And is definable impact always necessary?

This issue of *Junctions* is a collaboration with [Utrecht University’s Humanities Graduate Conference, entitled “What’s the Point? Impact and the Future of the Humanities.”](#) We welcome papers and book reviews, inviting authors to engage with the question of ‘value.’ This includes, but is not limited to, exploring different ways in which the humanities can contribute to science and society, and engaging with meta questions on the necessity of value and valorisation, asking if evaluating knowledge production is possible and if so, what standards should be used to assess it. We also welcome submissions engaging with current societal crises in which authors reflect thoughtfully and explicitly on the impact of their own research.

Possible **topics** possibly could include:

- Questions of ‘value’ and impact in the humanities
- Capitalism and economy
- Intersections of politics, academia and capitalism
- The relationship between humanities and other disciplines
- Employability

- Access of knowledge and ‘open science’
- Future directions for the humanities

We also encourage **book reviews** on recent publications related to these issues.

Submit your manuscript according to the author guidelines on <https://junctionsjournal.org> to editor@junctionsjournal.org by **May 5, 2019**. After double-blind reviewing, accepted articles will undergo a revision process which will conclude with the publication of the journal issue.

Important Dates

May 5 2019: Deadline manuscript

Midst of June: Notification of acceptance

End of June: Deadline first revision

September 6: Deadline final revision

October 2019: Publication of issue on junctionsjournal.org

Submission length is 3500-5000 words for original articles, and 750-1500 words for book reviews. Submissions should engage with the scholarly literature of the appropriate discipline and clearly identify its contribution to the field. Please omit references to the author in manuscripts to ensure anonymous reviews. The journal does not accept manuscripts previously published by or simultaneously submitted to other publications. Please contact editor@junctionsjournal.org with any questions.