Call for Proposals

International Gender and Language Association (IGALA) conference 2027

'Researching Language, Gender and Sexuality in Times of Political Challenge'
21, 22 and 23 July 2027
York St John University, York, United Kingdom

1st Call for Proposals

Email: conference@igala14.com
Website: https://igala14.com/
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/igala_14/
Bluesky: https://bsky.app/profile/igala14.bsky.social

Founded in 1999, IGALA is the primary international scholarly organization committed to the promotion and support of research on language, gender, and sexuality. The 2027 IGALA conference (IGALA14) will be held at York St John University in the city of York, UK on 21-23 July 2027. The theme of the conference is 'Researching Language, Gender and Sexuality in Times of Political Challenge'.

We are currently living in times of great political challenge and uncertainty. Whilst many areas of the world have witnessed increasingly progressive social attitudes towards gender and sexuality diversity and justice, as well as greater equality legislation, there has simultaneously been escalating resistance to these changes with many global contexts now characterised by deepening ideological divides around gender and sexuality. We have, for example, seen a conflation of anti-gender, anti-LGBTQ+ and nationalist rhetoric and ideologies, with and movements who espouse such position gaining increasing power and momentum in many global contexts. These kinds of political and ideological conflicts and tensions may demand a re-thinking of how the field of language, gender and sexuality research can navigate these complex and often contradictory political contexts. The conference therefore aims to explore questions such as:

- What are the challenges in undertaking language, gender and sexuality research in hostile academic and political contexts?
- As a global community of language, gender and sexuality scholars, how can we respond to and resist such challenges?
- How does language, gender and sexuality research respond to political divisiveness around the concept of 'gender' itself?
- What role does language play in political contestations over gender- and sexuality-based rights, authenticity and legitimacy?

We also encourage contributions which consider how language, gender and sexuality research may address intersecting global political challenges such as the climate emergency, forced migration and widespread reconfigurations of global power.

The aim of the IGALA conference is to showcase language, gender and sexuality research from diverse geographical, cultural, linguistic and social contexts. We encourage contributions that address empirical, methodological, theoretical issues related to the conference theme. The conference attracts diverse presenters both nationally and internationally to exchange comprehensive and stimulating discussions in the forms of individual papers, discussion

panels and poster presentations. It also offers thought-provoking keynote presentations, excellent book exhibits and plentiful opportunities for networking.

Confirmed Keynote Presenters
Dr J Calder (University of Colorado Boulder, USA)
Dr Sylvia Shaw (University of Westminster, UK)
Dr Jaspal Singh (Open University, UK)

Call for Abstracts
We invite abstracts for the following types of presentations:

Individual Paper Presentations
A paper presented by a sole author or by several co-authors (20 minutes + Q&A). Proposals should include:

- The paper title
- An abstract of the paper (max. 350 words)
- Name(s), affiliation(s) and email(s) for the author(s) (on a separate section)

Discussion Panels (2 hours)
A panel includes 3 to 4 papers (15-20 minutes per paper + Q&A). Panel organizers need to submit their proposal. Proposals should include:

- A title and description (max. 400 words) of the panel
- Name, affiliation and contact email for the panel chair/s
- Full name and affiliation for each participant of the panel
- Title and an abstract for each paper (max. 200 words)

Poster Presentations
Posters are presented visually and provide an opportunity for the presenter to engage in extended discussion with other researchers. The poster session at the conference lasts for one hour and offers an open, walk-through environment where presenters stand by their posters to engage directly with delegates. Poster proposals should include:

- The poster title
- An abstract of the poster (max. 350 words)
- Name(s), affiliation(s) and email(s) for the author(s) (on a separate section)

Abstracts for all proposal types will be anonymously reviewed by two reviewers. Authors may present a maximum of two presentations, only one of which may be sole-/first authored. This limit applies to all presentation types.

Abstract review criteria are included on the conference website.

The final submission date for all proposals is 31 August 2026.

Important Dates
Proposal submissions - from 18 May to 31 August 2026. Please submit your abstract here.
Notification of acceptance – 30 October 2026
Registration open – 2 November 2026
Conference dates – 21, 22 and 23 July 2027

Conference Co-chairs
Daniel Edmondson (York St John University, UK)
Helen Sauntson (York St John University, UK)

Organizing Committee
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Chris Hall (York St John University, UK)
Jamie Stephenson (York St John University, UK)
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Hannah Dahlberg-Dodd (Tohoku University Sendai, Japan)
Katherine Arnold-Murray (University of Colorado Boulder, USA)
Julie Abbou (University of Turin, Italy)
Paul Baker (Lancaster University, UK)
Ksenija Bogetić (Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Slovenia)
J Calder (University of Colorado Boulder, USA)
Costas Canakis (University of the Aegean, Greece)
Cecilia Chiacchio (Universidad Nacional de le Plata, Argentina)
Ana Deumert (University of Cape Town, South Africa)
Susan Ehrlich (York University, Canada)
Sibonile Edith Ellece (University of Botswana, Botswana)
Branca Falabella Fabrício (Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)
Susan Gal (University of Chicago, USA)
Miyako Inoue (Stanford University, USA)
Rodney H. Jones (University of Reading, UK)
Veronika Koller (Lancaster University, UK)
Erez Levon (University of Bern, Switzerland)
Ignacio Lozano-Verduzco (Universidad Pedagógica Nacional, Mexico)
Norma Mendoza-Denton (University of California Los Angeles, USA)
Miriam Meyerhoff (Oxford University, UK)
Heiko Motschenbacher (Western Norway University of Applied Sciences, Norway)

Momoko Nakamura (Kanto Gakuin University, Japan)
Lukasz Piotr Pakula (Adam Mickiewicz University Poznan, Poland)
Amiena Peck (University of the Western Cape, South Africa)
Fatima Sadiqi (University of Fez, Morocco)
Jaspal Naveel Singh (Open University, UK)
Sylvia Shaw (University of Westminster, UK)
Rebecca Lurie Starr (National University of Singapore, Singapore)
Cindi SturtzSreetharan (Arizona State University, USA)
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