



# Humanities and Beyond

Exploring the Frontiers of Interdisciplinarity  
27th May 2016  
The University of York

Call for Papers

## Humanities and Beyond: Exploring the Frontiers of Interdisciplinarity

**Date:** Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2016

**Location:** The University of York, Berrick Saul Building

**Deadline for submissions:** 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016

**Keynote speaker:** Robin Mackay, Philosopher and Director of *Urbanomic*.

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The humanities departments of the universities of Leeds, Sheffield and York excel in their commitment to interdisciplinary study. A large proportion of their researchers, doctoral and Masters students work across a range of disciplinary boundaries, within the humanities and beyond. We are running a symposium day in which students from these universities can share their experiences of interdisciplinary research with each other, with established academics and practitioners, giving the opportunity to:

- Reflect upon the processes and methods of interdisciplinary study
- Gain knowledge of different interdisciplinary methodologies
- Share practical experiences and challenges of interdisciplinary study
- Explore interdisciplinarity as a concept within and beyond academia, and how it affects day-to-day research

The day will take the form of a symposium with 15-minute conference-style papers, workshops with practitioners, a round-table discussion with established academics, and a keynote presentation from Robin MacKay, philosopher and director of UK arts organization *Urbanomic*, an organisation that addresses the relationships between philosophy, science and art practice.

We are inviting proposals for the conference-style session. Submissions are open to all Leeds, Sheffield, and York students and researchers working across interdisciplinary boundaries, whose research includes a humanities subject. We particularly welcome submissions from graduate students and early-career researchers. We encourage speakers to present on interdisciplinary themes. Papers may include work-in-progress, challenges you have encountered and overcome in interdisciplinary study, or interdisciplinary methodologies. Submissions may address (but are not limited to):

- Interdisciplinary methodologies
- Structural and organizational challenges to interdisciplinary research
- The role of interdisciplinarity in a "digital age"
- Interdisciplinarity beyond academia: public engagement, policy, arts and industry
- Measuring impact
- Structural change in the university: moving past disciplines

- Challenges and limits to interdisciplinarity
- Interdisciplinarity and academic trends
- Academic tribes, and moving between them
- Distinguishing between cognitive and instrumental interdisciplinarity
- Combining practice based and academic research
- Challenges, shortcomings and limits to interdisciplinary study
- Definitions and uses of interdisciplinarity/transdisciplinarity/multidisciplinarity
- Teaching interdisciplinary skills in the education system or at university level
- “Lost” academic disciplines, and subjects that are inherently interdisciplinary

Submissions may include the disciplines of (but are not limited to):

- History, philosophy, religious studies, law
- Contemporary arts practice, theory in art, design and media, architecture, visual arts, creative writing, music, dance, drama and theatre studies, film studies
- Art history, conservation, cultural geography, archaeology, classics and ancient history, and library, information and museum studies.
- Journalism, media and communication studies, American studies, cultural studies and popular culture, gender and sexuality, lifewriting, literary and cultural theory, post-colonial studies, text editing and bibliography, English language and literature, linguistics and modern languages.

Abstract submissions should be 250 words for a 15-minute paper presentation.

We also invite abstracts for posters to go on display on the day, presenting an interdisciplinary project, methodology or issue. Poster proposals should be 200 words.

All submissions should include a short biographical note. Please send all submissions to [beyondinterdisciplinarity@gmail.com](mailto:beyondinterdisciplinarity@gmail.com) by 5pm on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016.