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Nicolaus Copernicus University  
Lab for Exclusion and Alienation Research (LEAR), Faculty of Philosophy and  
Social Sciences  
Institute of Literary Studies, Faculty of Humanities  
The University Center of Excellence “IMSErt – Interacting Minds, Societies,  
Environments”  
Deputy Rector for equality  
Avant Project  
Institute for the Prevention of Exclusion

# Discourses of Exclusion: Theories and Practices

22-25 June 2023  
Toruń, Poland

*The way we imagine discrimination or disempowerment often is more complicated for people who are subjected to multiple forms of exclusion.*  
Kimberle Williams Crenshaw

*We must not imagine a world of discourse divided between accepted discourse and excluded discourse, or between the dominant discourse and the dominated one [...] We must make allowance for the complex and unstable process by which discourse can be both an instrument [...] of power, but also a hindrance, a stumbling block, a point of resistance and a starting point for an opposing strategy.*  
Michel Foucault

The conference examines the discourses of exclusion in contemporary sciences and societies. By adopting an interdisciplinary perspective, we wish to explore various forms and spaces of exclusion and the practices through which some subjects are alienated, dehumanized and objectified, situated outside culture and society. We are interested in exploring real-life contexts and experiences and scientific projects and theories – schemes, normative systems and relations that produce such exclusionary discourses. We wish to focus on both the theoretical and practical aspects of exclusion as these are the elements that (co-)create discourse.

We do not wish to limit the range of possible topics but invite intersectional proposals from the fields of philosophy, sociology, literary and cultural studies, women's studies, gender studies, studies of monstrosity, otherness and exclusion,



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interdisciplinary analysis of cultural texts and practices, discourse analysis, refugee studies, border studies, animal studies, science and technology studies, and environmental humanities. Both regular papers and posters are welcome; the posters are to be accompanied by a short presentation of the work, followed by discussion. We are planning to organize workshops, roundtable discussions, poster sessions and meetings with activists and artists.

Keynote speakers: TBA

Abstracts of 150-200, containing the title of the paper or poster and the author's name and affiliation, accompanied by a short biographical note, should be sent to the following address: [pracowniawykluczenie@umk.pl](mailto:pracowniawykluczenie@umk.pl)

Abstracts submission deadline: **1 May**

Notification of acceptance: **15 May**

Conference fee:

150 EURO / 400 PLN

100 EUR / 150 PLN– M.A. and Ph.D. students, freelance researchers

Fee waivers will be provided for 3 social activists. Please note that this waiver covers conference registration only.

The conference fee includes publication costs and keynote lectures as well as workshops, coffee breaks and a conference dinner for onsite participants.

The conference is planned as an onsite event, with the option of online participation in special cases. If there is enough interest, we will provide child care during the conference.

The conference proceedings will be published in a special issue of *Avant: Trends in Interdisciplinary Studies*, a peer-reviewed, open-access journal. For more information about the journal, please visit <http://avant.edu.pl/en/>. The complete paper should be sent to the conference organizers by **30 June 2023**.

For more information, see the conference website:

<https://pracowniawykluczenie.umk.pl/discourses>

Organizing committee:

Anna Kola

Katarzyna Więckowska

Aleksandra Derra

Anna Branach-Kallas

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Witold Wachowski

Tomasz Markiewka

Alex Lubiński