Call for papers: PGR Annual Colloquium on 'Languages of Selfhood'

Deadline for submissions: 19th April 2024 at 12 noon

The PGR Annual Colloquium is pleased to announce a Call for Papers for our next one-day event on **Languages of Selfhood** to be held in a hybrid format at **Royal Holloway, University of London (Egham)** and **online**. We are delighted to invite proposals conducted by postgraduate researchers at all stages from across the School of Humanities. We are keen for this to be a platform for interdisciplinary exchange, welcoming proposals that investigate themes related to language and 'identity'.

We talk about our personal identities, constructing and celebrating these identities, and we fight about identity politics. We hyphenate our identities in an attempt not to forget any important part of ourselves, however small, in our self-representations. I am a not-that-kind-of-feminist-something-gender-related-class-nomad-human. The meme that we are all, after all, human nods to the painful inadequacy of identity topologies. World-weary young people who have come of age in this cultural hyphen soup now add 'human' to the end of their bios to say: 'I may be all of the proceeding, but this does not really capture the humanity I share with you.' This colloquium is a space to bring diverse contributions to this broad theme and disrupt embedded ideas around 'identity'.

The theme 'Languages of Selfhood' captures processes around the experience of selfhood, which may be linguistic, historical, sociological or of any observable nature. Identity has become our dominant language of selfhood. We are already developing new languages of selfhood in our research when we enquire into themes of:

1. **Formations: Acculturation, Assimilation, and Exclusion**
2. **Evolutions: Adaptation, Adoption, and Loss**
3. **Reflections: Memory, Manipulations, and Resurgence**

Contributions can respond to any of these three sub-themes, which will form the basis of three panels. Please specify your preference to give either a **ten** or **twenty minute paper** in your application.

PowerPoint presentations, posters, or handouts are welcome but not essential.

Applications should include:
- Name
- Title of paper
- Chosen sub-theme
- Length of paper (ten or twenty minutes), and if it will be presented in person or online.
- Abstract **(max 150 words)**

Please email your submission to jack.dooley.2016@live.rhul.ac.uk
Announcement of application results: Friday 26th April 2024
Publication of provisional programme: Monday 6th May 2024