

**QUEER(ING) (AND) THE SOCIAL SCIENCES:
CHALLENGES AND PERSPECTIVES**

- call for paper -

editors:

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The call for paper titled “Queer(ing) (and) Social Sciences: Between Challenges and Perspectives”, aims to explore the various ways in which queer perspectives permeate and enrich the scientific discourse within the field of social sciences. The concept of “queer” originally rooted in textual idealism, has undergone a significant transformation over time, evolving into a disruptive interpretative lens useful for analyzing and reinterpreting the dynamics of the self and social relationships. The inherently fluid nature of the queer concept, characterized by an active resistance to rigid definitions, is evident through a constant commitment to critically deconstruct conventional labels. This resistance, far from being purely conceptual, deeply influences the understanding of gender dynamics and sexuality, effectively contributing to a broader redefinition of societal expectations. Therefore, the queer approach goes beyond outlining new thought paradigms; it also promotes an inclusive perspective that emancipates itself from entrenched stereotypes, offering a more open and pluralistic view of society.

Building on these premises, the goal of the call for paper is to outline the ramifications and applications of queer theory within the broad field of social sciences, with specific attention to emerging theoretical and methodological challenges. The articles from a wide range of disciplines, including sociology, anthropology, cultural studies, and legal sciences, will be welcome. Adopting different perspectives, authors should emphasize the connection between queer theory and their disciplines, exploring synergies and tensions that may arise, in a specific context like Italy as well as in other international contexts. Contributions (written in Italian, English, or French) should range from theory to practice, from critiquing existing social and cultural norms to analyzing individual and collective experiences, revealing new horizons and potentialities that queer theory opens up in the scientific and social landscape, while also highlighting obstacles and critical aspects.

The special issue of “The Lab’s Quarterly” on this topic aims to welcome both theoretical and theoretical/empirical contributions focusing on one or more of the following issues:

1. new queer forms of sexual intimacy, love relationship, reproduction, parenting and family;
2. inclusivity and diversity of identities that eradicate and combat connotations between sex, gender, gender identity, and sexual orientation, stereotypes and the role of LGBTQ* movements;
3. how to include the queer in the processes of socialization and human understanding of nature and society;
4. power of narration and a new semantics of 'privacy', no longer understood as trapped in the private, excluding the 'gaze of society', but as a request for recognition and equality of one's identity expression in all social spheres;
5. Queer representation through mass media and social media. Is queer a new theme of communication and a new symbolically generalized media?
6. intersectionality: how the categories that define belonging (ethnicity, class, age, gender, sexual orientation, religious confession, etc.) fit into the processes of formation and transformation of individual identity, generating dynamics of discrimination, marginalization and exclusion, but also of resistance and renegotiation of domination.

RELEVANT DEADLINES

- SUBMISSION OF STRUCTURED ABSTRACT WITH ESSENTIAL BIBLIOGRAPHY (4000 characters, bibliography excluded): **May 10, 2024**
- NOTIFICATION OF ABSTRACT ACCEPTANCE: **June 10, 2024**
- SUBMISSION OF FULL CONTRIBUTION (drafted according to editorial guidelines): **January 15, 2025**
- ROUND I PEER REVIEW OUTCOME: **February 19, 2025**
- SUBMISSION OF REVISED ARTICLE: **April 1, 2025**
- ROUND II PEER REVIEW OUTCOME: **May 6, 2025**
- PUBLICATION: **June 2025**

CONTRIBUTION SUBMISSION

Contributions should be sent to the following email addresses: mcoppola@unisa.it, luca.guizzardi@unibo.it, Salvatore.Monaco@unibz.it

Images and tables can be inserted directly into the main document.

The editorial guidelines are available on The Lab's Quarterly journal website:

<https://www.thelabs.sp.unipi.it/submit-2/>

Upon request to the guest editors of the special issue, it will be possible to receive a Word template of the Journal to facilitate formatting.

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