



Call for papers

2021 Association for Borderlands Studies Annual Conference

April 15-17, 2021

Venue: Virtual Conference

The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is spreading and taking a toll all over the world. Despite COVID-19 becoming a global pandemic, it has been met with varied national reactions. Many states have pursued isolationist politics by closing and enforcing borders and by focusing entirely on their own functioning in the moment of crisis. Moreover, with the outbreak of COVID-19, borders have become salient again not only in political action but also in people's everyday lives. This was especially true for people living in the borderlands or border regions, whose cross-border life worlds were suddenly affected by the closing of borders for disease control. However, the current pandemic has also demonstrated the increased evidence of social, cultural, economic, health and mobility boundaries beyond national borders, which raises pressing questions about social inequalities. These dynamics must be discussed using a variety of thematic and spatial approaches to account for territorial borders, social boundaries and (dis)continuities in border regions.

Due to COVID-19, the 2021 conference of the Association for Borderlands Studies will be held online, separately from Western Social Science Association (as per our earlier announcement in October 2020). Due to the change in the format of the annual conference, we strongly encourage proposals for complete panels and roundtables, however, should you have any difficulty organizing a full panel, you may also submit individual papers. We also welcome individual papers from graduate students that address the cross-cutting perspectives on issues related to borders and borderlands. Contributions on all the following topics and other areas concerned with border studies are invited:

- Borders and Global Public Health
- Borders and Gender
- Borders and Migration/ Citizenship
- Borders and Security/Securitization
- Borders and Border Studies Theory/Methodology
- Borders and Education/ Learning
- Borders and Governance/Political Economy/ Institutions
- Borders and Ethics/ Human Rights/ Humanitarian Issues
- Borders and Populism
- Borders and Environment
- Borders and their representation

For Submissions:

- **Panel** is a group of papers with a similar theme that has been organized by the person submitting the proposal to make a unified session. A panel must have a chair and 3 or 4 presenters. Please indicate whether you would like the programme committee to provide you with a discussant. Panels will be given 90 minutes. Please submit your panel proposal at: <https://forms.gle/QZVBdYSEFmSkidf9>. Please enter all the necessary information to submit your panel for the 2021 ABS online conference. We would like to kindly remind you that all members of your panel must be a member of ABS to present their paper.
- **Paper** is a single paper submitted by one or multiple authors. The programme committee will organize individual papers into panels and assign a discussant. Individual papers will be given 15 minutes. Please submit

your individual paper at: <https://forms.gle/EzbBDaDRRcbitV16A>. Please enter all the necessary information to submit your paper for the 2021 ABS online conference. The programme committee will organize these papers into thematic panels.

- **Roundtable** is an open session on a topic with no papers. A roundtable must have an organizer and at least three participants. Roundtables will be given 75 minutes. Please submit your roundtable proposal at: <https://forms.gle/bRA6etRByhWiyFTr8>
- **Book Presentation** is an open session where the author can introduce his/her new monograph to the ABS members. Book presentation will be given 60 minutes. Please submit your proposal for book presentation at: <https://forms.gle/MFJPN1PvNgXagLwt6>
- **Graduate Students Panels:** This year, we will have special panels for graduate students with leading scholars in the field as discussants, so graduate students are welcome to submit individual papers on the above general topics. Graduate students panel will have no more than 4 speakers, and the programme committee will provide all the panels with leading scholars as a chair and discussant. Graduate students panels will be given 90 minutes. Please submit your graduate papers at: <https://forms.gle/E8HWkBP5utBLAHro7>

Important Dates:

- Deadline for all submissions: February 14, 2021
- Notice of acceptance: March 7, 2021

The final programme and abstracts will be available on the ABS website (<https://absborderlands.org>) by late March.

Important Information:

- **ABS Membership:** Please note that non-members can also submit their proposals, but in order to present at the ABS annual conference you must be a member. We encourage that you join the ABS prior to submitting your proposal, that way you can ensure that your membership will be finalized before the annual conference. Please join ABS at <https://absborderlands.org/membership/>
- **Session Recording:** All sessions will be recorded and available for viewing on YouTube to ABS members.
- **Scheduling:** The programme committee will make every effort to make sure that the sessions take place in a reasonable time for everyone, however, due to the diverse and international membership of ABS, some sessions will take place early morning or late evening.

Programme Chair and Coordinator: Dr. Naomi Chi**, ABS President-Elect, Hokkaido University, Japan,

Programme Advisory Committee:

- Dr. Martha Patricia Barraza De Anda, Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez, México
- Dr. Edward Boyle, Kyushu University, Japan
- Dr. Anna Casaglia, University of Trento, Italy
- Dr. Kimberly Collins, California State University, San Bernardino, USA
- Dr. Adriana Dorfman, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- Dr. Fuminori Kawakubo, Chuo Gakuin University, Japan
- Dr. T. Mark Montoya, Northern Arizona University, USA
- Dr. Christophe Sohn, Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research, Luxembourg
- Dr. Laurie Trautman, Western Washington University, USA

***For inquiries about this call, please contact Naomi at: hops.hokkaido.university@gmail.com*