



2024 UCalgary CMF Graduate Conference CALL FOR PAPERS

Digital Power & Justice

Conference Dates: May 9 - 10, 2024

Deadline for Submission: **March 15, 2024**

The University of Calgary Department of Communication, Media and Film invites submissions for its 2024 CMF Graduate Conference with the prevailing theme of Digital Power and Justice. We encourage scholars to submit papers that explore, examine, and extend this theme, contributing to the ongoing research on how to improve our world and challenge the powers that be, digitally.

We are living in digitally and dynamically changing times. Now, more than ever, ordinary citizens pursue digital justice by engaging critically with global issues online. Simultaneously, they are faced with and battling increased censorship, and other barriers online, from technology conglomerates, governments, and other profit-motivated organizations and entities. Despite efforts to combat inequality online, access also remains an issue, and the digital divide is still pervasive.

We welcome proposals that consider, but are not limited to, the following keywords and concepts:

- Online censorship
- Digital/online forms of resistance and solidarity
- Cinema and film as resistance
- Negotiating justice/injustice through film
- Social media as a space to negotiate (in)justice
- Digital infrastructures
- Technology and access
- Gender, race, accessibility, and digital/online representation
- Streaming platforms
- Digital distribution and networks
- Digital and online media ethics
- Artificial Intelligence: ethics, representation, and justice
- Power, discourse, and accountability
- Colonization/Decolonization/Anti-Colonization in digital or online media spaces
- Power and injustice rooted in media histories (mapping trajectories of digital justice/injustice)



Delivery:

As we have recently emerged from a global pandemic and universities are still steadily continuing the return to normalcy, the UCalgary CMF Graduate Conference will be a hybrid event. This decision has been made to ensure the event is accessible and to allow a diverse array of presenters and attendees from across the country to participate in the exchange of ideas, build connections, and share their research. The opening keynote (presenter to be announced) and all graduate conference panels will be held on Zoom, while the undergraduate panel and closing keynote talk (presenter to be announced) will be delivered in person at the University of Calgary on Friday, May 10th, followed by an in-person social event to conclude the conference. The closing keynote will be livestreamed for those who cannot attend in person. All conference presenters and attendees are invited to join the in-person portion.

Submission Guidelines:

CMF accepts proposals for **10-minute** individual presentations. Please include the following:

- **300-word** abstract including a brief description of the topic's relevance to the theme
- Title of the presentation
- Authors'/presenters' full names
- Contact information
- Academic affiliation/position
- A short biography of 50-100 words

All individual presentations will be organized into panels of 3-4 presenters by the UCalgary CMF Conference committee according to similar themes. Panels will conclude with a 15-minute Q&A session for presenters to address any questions raised by audience members.

For panel proposals of 3-4 presenters, please submit an application detailing the following:

- A **500-word** abstract including a description of the panel and how it relates to the conference theme
- Title of the panel
- Presenters' contributions to the panel (titles of each presentation)
- Technical accommodation requirements
- Contact information, academic affiliation/position, and short biography of 50-100 words of each presenter

Panels will be a maximum of **45 minutes**, followed by a 15-minute Q & A period.



We welcome both traditional and non-traditional works and formats (e.g.: essays, photo essays, photographs, videos, audio pieces, creative works, digital media pieces, etc.). If you are submitting a non-traditional work, please include a description of how you would like to present or showcase it and outline any technical requirements you may need as part of your abstract document.

This conference encourages submissions from people of diverse identities. We welcome and encourage individuals of all intersecting backgrounds to participate and share their experiential and situated knowledges.

Please submit your abstracts and information electronically by filling out the following Google form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSffbYHegyaf022dyH_iCyVu15H6otFTDIgPgOThNeoPgTwow/viewform

The submission deadline is March 15.

Upon acceptance to the conference, all participants are invited to submit their full paper to be considered for a “Communication and Media Student Paper Prize” and *a chance to win a cash prize or gift card*. More details will be provided to accepted presenters. A full conference schedule and keynote speaker announcements will also occur closer to the conference date.

The CMF graduate conference provides emerging and established scholars across Canada with the opportunity to share their research with a diverse audience, make connections, receive valuable feedback, and engage with the ideas of others across the various interdisciplinary research communities.

We look forward to your participation in the 2024 UCalgary CMF Graduate Conference! Feel free to reach out to our conference chair if any questions arise at hafsa.maqsood1@ucalgary.ca

Hafsa Maqsood, Anurag, Menna Elzairy, Jackie Dersch, and Nadia Ghazanfari
2024 University of Calgary CMF Graduate Conference Committee