



Centre for Death & Society

October 2024 Newsletter

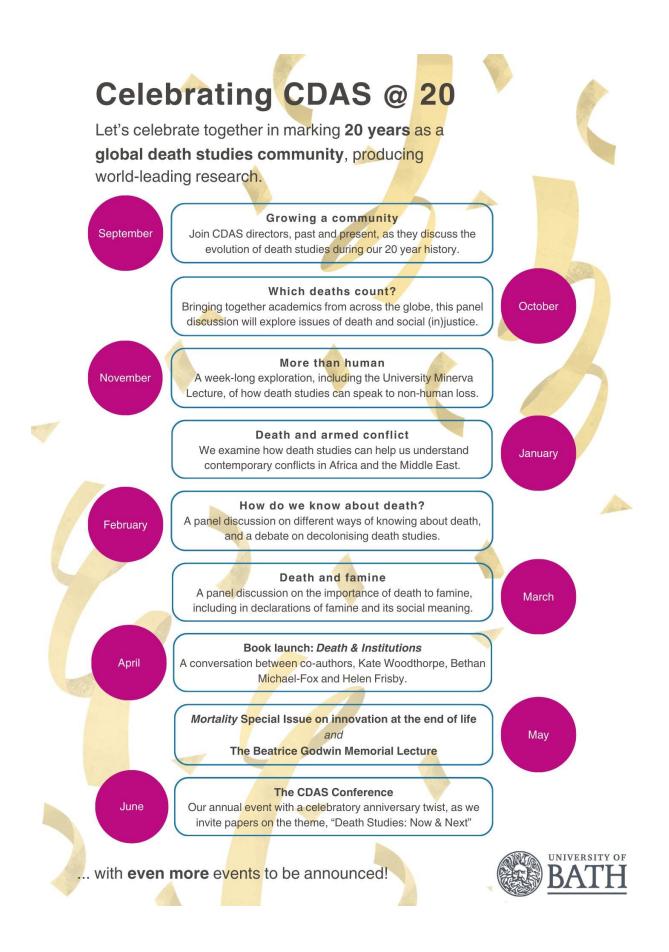
Director's Note CDAS <u>News</u> <u>Events</u> <u>News</u> <u>Events</u> <u>Calls</u> <u>PhD and job vacancies</u> The celebrations for **CDAS's 20th Anniversary** have now started. We are so proud of all that CDAS has done over the last twenty years, and so encouraged by the community that it is today. We produce such fascinating work and a sample of 20 of our books and papers for the 20 years of CDAS can be found <u>here</u>. The first event of the anniversary year titled 'Reflecting on the past' brought together past and present Directors to provide a rich institutional history of CDAS and was an important reminder of the consistency of passion within the Centre over the last twenty years. It was also a reminder of how strong the CDAS currently is, and that developing this thriving Centre has taken decades of labour and careful navigation. You can watch this directors' discussion <u>here</u>. In October, the 'Which deaths count?' seminar brought together research from India, the UK and the USA. It was an important panel discussion on social (in)justice, inequity and what politics and people become invisible. These pivotal themes are central to much work that happens in CDAS, and the panel opened a discussion which we hope will continue through this anniversary year.

The next anniversary event is the 'more-than-human loss' event at Makerere University (Uganda) on the 23rd October and the 'more-than-human loss' week at the University of Bath starting on the 11th November. The week includes **a hybrid workshop on the 11th and 12th November** with people from the USA, UK, Ireland, Canada and the Netherlands including Darcy Harris (King's University College, London, Canada), Cherry Leonardi (Durham University), Esther Marijnen (Wageningen University, Netherlands), the editors of *Death's Social and Material Meaning beyond the Human*, Tony Walter, Jane Ribbens McCarthy, and others. On the 13th November, Darcy Harris, Caroline Hickman from our home department, Emily Malik from <u>EcoWild</u> and Caleb Parkin from the University of Exeter's <u>RENEW</u> programme will also give a University of Bath Public Lecture, the **Minerva Lecture on Ecological Loss and Grieving for the Non-Human**, which will be broadcast live on YouTube. Full details of this public lecture will be shared shortly. Following on from this exciting week of activities we have a Reddit Ask Me Anything with Bethany Simmonds and Chao Fang, and a developmental seminar and book launch to mark the publication of Erica Borgstrom and former PhD student Renske Visser's new book.

Bethany Simmonds will also kindly be organising online writing workshops throughout 2024/25. The dates are 12th November 2024, 22nd January 2025 and 10th April 2025. The workshops are a chance to set aside time for focused writing on specific, self-set tasks. Occasional check-ins with others at the workshop, as well as a writing schedule, help you focus. Many of us find these so useful and you are welcome to join us. Just let Bethany know.

Finally, last but not least, well done to Diana Teggi who delivered her lecture at the British Science Festival in September! As always, continue to send us your news and events and we will do our best to share them.

Until next month, Naomi and Kate.



20 CDAS publications for 20 years!

To mark the 20th anniversary of the Centre we have created a list of 20 publications from CDAS members past and present. We hope you find them interesting and a good walk down memory lane.

https://www.bath.ac.uk/corporate-information/20-cdas-publications-for-20-years/

CDAS@20 Growing a Community

In September we recorded a panel discussion with CDAS Directors past and present to reflect on the history of the Centre over the last 20 years, how to build a research and teaching community, and where the field of death studies is going next. You can hear from Allan Kellehear, Tony Walter, John Troyer, Jeremy Dixon, Kate Woodthorpe and Naomi Pendle <u>here</u>.

Want to do a PhD with us?

We have been very successful in growing our PhD community and are actively recruiting for new students. To help you learn about the ways to do a PhD, how funding works, and what current students say about the Centre, we have created a guide. If you're interested, get in touch!

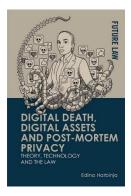


https://www.bath.ac.uk/announcements/doing-a-phd-with-the-centre-for-death-and-society/

Law Commission consultation

Kate Woodthorpe, Diana Teggi and Mat Crawley were very pleased to be able to complete a study earlier in the year to submit to the Law Commission for their consultation on funerary legislation in England and Wales. More details about the consultation can be found <u>here</u> and later in the newsletter.

New Book Alert! 'Digital Death, Digital Assets and Post-mortem Privacy: Theory, Technology and the Law' by Edina Harbinja



Edina Harbinja examines the theoretical, technological and doctrinal issues surrounding online death and digital assets. By examining different areas of law, humanities and social science, she proposes the new concept of postmortal privacy (privacy of the deceased individuals) and provides answers and suggestions as to what happens to digital assets and online identity after death.

'My book Digital Death, Digital Assets and Post-mortem Privacy is now available as a paperback and is much more affordable! With the code PAPER30 you can get 30% off!'

Follow link to purchase:

https://edinburghuniversitypress.com/book-digital-death-digital-assets-and-post-mortemprivacy.html

New Blog Post by Visiting Fellow Dr Imogen Jones

'Respecting the dead' by Imogen Jones and John Pitchers.

Follow the link below to read:

https://deadbodiesandthelaw.wordpress.com/2024/09/16/respecting-the-dead/

Mat Crawley interviewed following CDAS' involvement with the Law Commission's report into grave re-use

Following CDAS' involvement with the Law Commission's consultation into grave re-use, Mat has done 6 regional interviews with BBC radio, been interviewed on 'the sofa' for BBC national breakfast TV and also had a further radio interview with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation about the same topic. Well done to Mat!

Links to audio interviews below:

BBC Radio Shropshire - https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0jnznk7 from 3:09

BBC Radio Lincolnshire - https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0jr1s1r from 3:15

BBC Herefordshire & Worcester - https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0jnzbj6 from 1:51

BBC Radio Berkshire - https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0jpg8cs from 2:20

Canadian Broadcasting Corporation - <u>https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-2-as-it-happens/clip/16100361-a-family-decides-stay-milton-bears from 52:56</u>



Welcome to new members

Welcome to new Visiting Fellows Laura Towers and Nick Taylor-Collins, who join the Centre to work with us on areas of shared interest.

Laura is a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow in the Sociology Department at the University of Manchester. UK. In a project titled 'Storying the Unspeakable: Narrating the Experiences of Siblings Bereaved by Suicide', Laura is using a relational approach to consider how siblings bereaved by suicide understand and make sense of their loss over time through narratives of personal experience. She has also recently carried out research in partnership with Hospice UK, looking at people's experiences at work when caring for someone who is dying. Overall, Laura is keen to explore the social nature of grief, loss and bereavement, emphasising the longevity of these experiences. She was co-convenor of the British Sociological Association's Social Aspects of Death, Dying and Bereavement Study Group between 2017 and 2022. Laura has also co-edited a book titled Death, Dying and Bereavement: New Sociological Perspectives, to be released in January 2025, as part of the British Sociological Association's 'Sociological Futures' Series.

Nick is Senior Lecturer in English at Cardiff Metropolitan University. His research examines the ethics implicated in the triangular relationship between text, reader, and society. Following work on the interplay between Shakespeare's drama and modern/contemporary Irish literature (Shakespeare, memory, and modern Irish literature (Manchester UP, 2022)), he is now researching for a monograph, Affirming Life and Guarding Death in John Banville's Fiction (Bloomsbury, forthcoming). Nick is interested in the way that reading about death—however morbid, uncensored, or distressing—can help readers engage

positively with death.

Welcome too to Ng Yong Hao (Yong) who joins us as a visiting PhD student from the University of Hong Kong. We hope you really enjoy your time based in Bath Yong and look forward to learning about your work. If you are interested in becoming a Visiting PhD student yourself, you can find out more <u>here</u> (scheme due to reopen in early November).

CDAS EVENTS

Workshop on More-Than-Human Loss

In October and November, **CDAS will co-host and host** small workshops at Makerere University (Uganda) and at the University of Bath on more-than-human loss.

In different contexts around the world are experiencing unprecedented changes and losses, including of **animal and plant species, as well as ecosystems, landscapes and environments.** How these losses are made and experienced is shaped by both social and ecological dynamics. These losses can be entangled with human death, such as in times of war or through disease, but can also compound, reshape and be shaped by boarder experiences of human loss. The workshop will aim to bring together research and thinking around 'more-than-human' with scholarship on loss and its aftermath. How is loss experienced when it is loss by animals, plants and landscapes, and not just humans? How do non-humans respond to loss? How should we understand loss if we recognise these more-than-human entanglements?

Please e-mail Naomi Pendle (<u>nrp36@bath.ac.uk</u>) if you would like to participate in this workshop. We already have people from Canada, the USA, the Netherlands, Ireland and across the UK signed-up to attend the workshop at the University of Bath.

Reddit Ask Me Anything with CDAS Visiting Fellows Bethany Simmonds and Chao Fang

Friday 1st November 2.30-3.30pm GMT

Join Bethany and Chao for their Reddit Ask Me Anything on Ageism, End of Life and Digital Exclusion. They are happy to receive questions on how digitally accessing art and creative activities, volunteering, paid work, banking services, benefits, pensions and other everyday services could be made more accessible for older people; loss in general,; death, dying, grief, ageing, and illness-related loss; and comparing different countries, so if you are interested in how loss is perceived and coped with in different societies and cultures, please feel free to get in touch as well!

Follow the link for more information on this event: https://festivalofsocialscience.com/events/copy-copy-images-of-research/

'Birth, Birthing and Death: Practices of Writing at the Edges of Life' Symposium

5th November 2024

Convened by Tamarin Norwood and Loralie Rodrigues

Birth and death may be the only certainties in life. Yet in life writing, the task of representing birth and death is an uncertain one. They are fundamental events but are also, in many ways, quite untellable. This is no less true of the mid-life event of giving birth.

This research symposium accompanies a forthcoming special issue of Life Writing



journal, edited by Dr Tamarin Norwood, which asks how life writing attends to the challenges presented by writing the edges of life. For the symposium, we are bringing life writing into dialogue with health humanities, by further narrowing our focus onto two specific questions:

1. How might we define 'practices' of life writing as distinct from its processes (techniques) and its products (texts)?

A written text might provide factual or affective insight into birth, birthing or death, or perhaps offer a sense of community or catharsis. Writing techniques might provide guidelines for individuals navigating birth, birthing or death in scholarship or in life, including for historical, auto/biographical or therapeutic reasons.

But there is a third thing: practice. Writers are making decisions, finding ways to think and ways to know, being interested and not interested in things, and developing a craft and a style and a drawerful of drafts even when there is not really any writing going on. A writer's practice is the thing that shapes and allows for all the processes and products of their craft, and yet this third but very central thing seldom makes the transition into health humanities because it is ephemeral, difficult even for the writer themself to grasp, and still more difficult to put into words and into the service of healthcare. And so:

2. In applied health humanities including arts in hospitals, palliative narrative therapy, arts in bereavement care and literature in medical education, how might the concept of writing 'practice' help practitioners to more effectively achieve their aims?

Focusing on these two questions, this symposium aims to build bridges between scholarship and practice in life writing and health humanities and better understand what the practice of life writing can contribute to the ways we navigate birth, birthing, and death in healthcare practice.

This event is free and open to all. Reservation is required.

This is an informal working group conversation with invited contributors. We have a handful of in-person spaces available. If you are interested in contributing to the conversation, you can request a space here, indicating the reason for your interest, and we will confirm by 25 October. If you are unable to attend the event, please inform Events Manager, Dr Eleri Watson (events.oclw@wolfson.ox.ac.uk) as soon as possible-- any returned tickets will be assigned to those on the waiting list.

Alternatively, you are welcome to listen to the conversation online as an audience member. Online audience members will be sent the Zoom link the day before the event.

This event is funded by a Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowship Grant.

To find out more and reserve your ticket please click here: <u>https://oclw.web.ox.ac.uk/event/birth-birthing-and-death-practices-of-writing-at-the-edges-of-life-symposium</u>

Development seminar and book launch

Critical Perspectives on death: where we are where we're going

Prof Erica Borgstrom and Dr Renske Visser Tuesday 19th November 6pm – 7pm GMT

To celebrate the publication of the new book <u>Critical Approaches to Death</u>, Dying and <u>Bereavement</u>, CDAS and <u>Open Thanatology</u> are co-hosting an online seminar that will take you behind the scenes of book authorship and critically explore the future of death studies.

Particularly aimed at early career academics, those interested in death and dying, and those looking to write across a range of areas, former CDAS PhD student **Dr Renske Visser** and her co-author, the lead of Open Thanatology, **Professor Erica Borgstrom**, will lead an hour of candid conversation. They will discuss their new book, the challenges they faced in writing it, and where they see the field of death studies heading. All attendees will be given a discount code for the newly published book. During the seminar, CDAS will hold a competition to win a paperback copy.

Sign up here.

CDAS to host Law Commission public consultation 26th November 2024 on the University of Bath campus

The Law Commission's consultation on Burial and Cremation began on 3 October 2024 and runs for 13 weeks until 9 January 2025. The consultation considers, among other things, the proposed reuse of old graves, regulation of burial grounds, and issues in cremation law like what should be done regarding sets of ashes left uncollected at funeral directors' premises.

As part of the consultation, the Law Commission is holding in-person events across the country (these events will not include a hybrid/virtual option). These events will be an opportunity to:

- hear about our provisional proposals for reform from Professor Nick Hopkins, the Commissioner for Property, Family and Trust Law, and his team; and
- ask your questions about the Law commission's provisional proposals and the issues raised in the Consultation Paper.

Join us in Bath on 26th November to input into the consultation. Full details and how to sign up are available <u>here</u>.

Future Anniversary Events

We will be advertising these in due course, and expect to include:

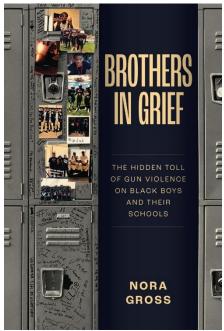
- Developmental seminars for PhD researchers and early career researchers on writing, translating your research, and exploring where the field is going
- Events on the value and meaning of knowledge(s)
- Events on famine, conflict and migration, and their relationship to death studies
- The Death and Institutions edited collection book launch
- The launch of our Mortality special issue on Innovation at the End of Life
- The Beatrice Godwin Memorial Lecture
- And not to forget, our annual conference

.... It promises to be a very busy year. Watch this space!

CDAS COMMUNITY NEWS

New book: 'Brothers in Grief: The Hidden Toll of Gun Violence on Black Boys and Their Schools' Nora Gross, Assistant Professor of Education, Barnard College, Columbia University

Brothers in Grief: The Hidden Toll of Gun Violence on Black Boys and Their Schools (University of Chicago Press, 2024) spotlights the neglected aftermath of neighborhood gun violence and its consequences for racial and educational equity. Drawing on two years of school-based ethnography and more than five years of digital ethnography at a single-sex charter school in Philadelphia, sociologist Nora Gross examines how Black teen boys manage their grief after losing friends to gun violence and how school leaders and teachers balance their educational mission with often incomplete understandings of students' emotions.



For **30% off**, visit <u>https://press.uchicago.edu/index.html</u> and enter code **UCPNEW** at checkout.

New research article by Dr Laura Towers

Siblings and the Bereaved Self: Identity (Re)Construction Following the Death of a Brother or Sister, Sociology, <u>https://doi.org/10.1177/00380385241278139</u>

Having and being a sibling can be vital in shaping one's identity. Using data from a qualitative study exploring experiences of sibling bereavement over the life course, this article questions how the death and subsequent loss of a brother or sister impacts upon the way that surviving siblings (continue to) construct their sense of self. It explores how people re-assess the established similarities and differences they shared with living siblings and re-negotiate their positioning within the chronological sibling birth order. In doing so, this article emphasises the sociological importance of lateral kinship ties with siblings, demonstrating that being and having a sibling can have lasting implications for the way that the dead can continue to maintain an important and influential, albeit liminal, position in the webs of relationships in which people are embedded.

'For After I've Gone' Journals

"For After I've Gone" Journals are a unique product range born out of a deeply personal journey and developed by Joanne Begley who has an incurable brain condition. Faced with her own mortality Joanne created these journals to leave a legacy of love . "For After I've Gone" - a series of end of life legacy journals were also inspired by a need to ensure that her children would have a piece of her wisdom, stories, and love to cherish. Joanne also supported a dear friend battling MND who shared the same sentiment. The Irish market place did not offer the kind of product that could truly capture these profound emotions and experiences. As a result, Joanne created "For After I've Gone," a journal like no other.

With guided prompts to help individuals share their stories, life lessons, and meaningful moments. The prompts make it easier to document and discuss life stories. Customizable: The journals come in a variety of editions based on the relationship such as Parent, Sibling, Friend and Partner Editions.

These journals can be passed down as a cherished keepsake for generations, ensuring that all memories and wisdom are preserved. The artwork inside is contributed by local artists, and the poetry comes from some of the most respected names in the field including Donna Ashworth, Liz Newman and Stephen Jenkinson.

Available to purchase <u>here</u>

CDAS COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Deadbot Society: AI and the End of the Human Past

23 October 2024 11:00 - 12:30 Venue Violet Laidlaw Room, Chrystal Macmillan Building and online



Digital Legacy Conference as part of Public Health Palliative Care International 2024

25th October 2024 Location: Bern, Switzerland Free to attend



This year, the Digital Legacy Conference (#DLC2024) will be heading to Switzerland and taking place as part of the <u>Public Health Palliative Care International</u> Conference 2024 (#PHPCI2024). The Digital Legacy Conference is a not for profit conference organised by the <u>Digital Legacy Association</u>.

Digital Legacy Conference attendees will learn about emerging best practices in areas relating to digital assets planning and digital legacy safeguarding. The conference theme for the PHPCI 2024 Conference is '*building bridges between science and people*'. The theme for the DLC2024 will align to the wider conference theme and also be '*building bridges between science and people*'.

The Digital Legacy Conference 2024 will welcome nearly 150 attendees and it is free to attend for all PHPCI badge-holders. If you are not a badgeholder, we have a limited amount of free tickets. Simply, get in touch with us

Find more information on the conference here

European Grief Conference Dublin November 11th to 13th

The programme is built around a public health approach and includes international plenary speakers addressing societal as well as clinical perspectives around grief. <u>https://europeangriefconference.org/images/EGC_Final_preliminary_Conference_Schedule_July_20_2024.pdf</u>

An overview of the conference and registration access is here

Symposium on Grief Literacy

Jesus College, Cambridge is running a series of six panels and lectures at the Intellectual Forum this autumn on the topic of death and dying. The aim is to explore this fundamental human experience from cultural, spiritual, legal, and technological perspectives.

Sessions will consider questions such as:

• Can we combat inequalities in death and dying?

- How are developments in technology changing our experience of death?
- What is a 'good death'?

More information can be found here: https://www.jesus.cam.ac.uk/events/death-and-dying-lecture-series

Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care Annual Conference

The SPPC team are really looking forward to welcoming you to the 2024 Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care Annual Conference, 6th November in Edinburgh. You can read about the speaker line up, download the draft programme and book a place <u>here</u>.

We have planned an event which we hope will inform, inspire and energise. The theme for this year's conference is "The Space Between". Topics will include:

- uncertainty a challenge and an opportunity for practitioners and families
- reducing the gaps between rhetoric and reality, policy and practice, expectations and experience
- between the last breath and a funeral options, practicalities and healing
- theory and practice in future care planning learnings from a public helpline
- palliative care in humanitarian settings and emergencies
- the importance of presence, and the causes of absence
- improving patient safety and carer confidence around palliative medication
- tackling exclusion and disadvantage

After the formal programme is completed you're invited to stay for a while, have a drink and mingle.

Details and registration here.

Lifting The Lid International Festival of Death and Dying 2024

Fri 15 Nov 2024 07:00 - Sun 17 Nov 2024 23:45 GMT (Online, Zoom)

An annual, online festival that lifts the lid on everything death & dying, through conversations, interactive events, workshops, art and craft sessions, live music, poetry and performance from around the world.



INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF DEATH & DYING

Featuring an international line-up of end of life and

palliative carers, funeral directors, grief supporters, artists, musicians, writers, doctors, filmmakers, pet bereavement counsellors, coffin weavers, change makers and everyone in

between. Lifting The Lid is informative, creative, fun, joyful and life affirming, catering for people of all levels of interest.

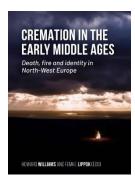
Three days of ideas, information, arts, crafts and ground-breaking insights. We're really proud of the 50+ speakers, collaborators, panels and activities we've curated and everyone involved is volunteering their time, there will be opportunities throughout the weekend to support individuals and organisations if you choose to. We have hand-picked speakers and collaborators carefully to bring you a diverse, varied and engaging, international programme of events.

Join us for all or any part of this weekend-long programme of events. You can pick and choose the sessions you want to join and create your own schedule. Meet other like-minded people, exchange ideas, share experiences and contact details if you choose to, and lay the foundations for new, fruitful relationships in the death positive community.

Death is of course something that will affect every one of us but can still be extremely challenging to discuss. Lifting The Lid offers audiences the opportunity to find out as much or as little as they like, allowing people to dip in and out as they feel comfortable. We hope this annual event continues to encourage an acceptance of the inevitability of loss and impermanence, and removes some of the fear of talking about death and dying so people can ask questions and talk openly and honestly about their experiences.

For more details and ticket info click here

Cremation in the Early Middle Ages' Book Launch, 5pm-7pm GMT Thursday 12 December 2024



Running from 5pm-7pm GMT, Thursday 12th December, to book for FREE for the book launch.

I'm delighted to be able to invite all of you to the online book launch via Microsoft Teams to celebrate the publication of Cremation in the Early Middle Ages edited by Femke Lippok and Howard Williams by Sidestone Press.

When, where, how and why did early medieval people cremate their dead? The brand-new edited collection published with Sidestone –

Cremation in the Early Middle Ages – draws together the latest research and thinking on early medieval cremation practices.

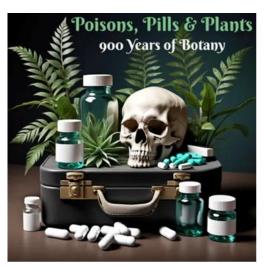
<u>Click here</u> for more information on the event and registration.

'Poisons, Pills & Plants: 900 Years of Botany' at Barts Pathology Museum.

We're welcoming three esteemed guests to regale us with illustrated talks on the various uses of plants as medicine, as poison, and as tools to help solve serious crime.

October 30th - 'Death in the Garden' with Michael Brown. Landscape gardener, and author of 'Death in the Garden: Poisonous Plants & their use Throughout History', Michael Brown, will discuss the cultivation and use of poisonous plants. <u>Click</u> <u>here for the book.</u>

November 13th - 'From Apothecary to Pharmacy' with Catherine Walker. Manager of the Royal



Pharmaceutical Society museum, Catherine Walker, will discuss the historical use of plants in materia medica, through to more modern medicines inspired by plants. Given the location tonight, she will also touch upon the unusual human remains specimens at the RPS Museum and discuss their historical usage. <u>Click here for the museum's website</u>.

November 27th - 'Murder Most Florid' with Dr Mark Spencer - Forensic Specialist and author of 'Murder Most Florid: Inside the Mind of a Forensic Botanist', Mark Spencer, will discuss his unconventional and unique career solving serious crimes using botanical evidence. <u>Click here for the book.</u>

Admission to all talks is $\pounds 10$ (to go directly to the upkeep of the museum) and includes glass of wine, non-alcoholic drinks and nibbles. See links to the full series here. We also hope to have a stall featuring relevant books to be signed by the authors on the night.

Follow this link to purchase tickets and find out more about the events.

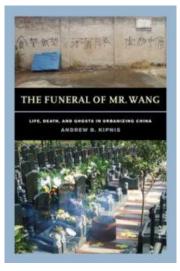
Cemetery Research Group

Virtual Colloquium, 15 November 2024

Our Keynote Speaker this year is Professor Andrew Kipnis, who has written widely on the subject of funeral practices in China. The title of his presentation is 'Ghosts, Urbanization and Strangers in China and Hong Kong'.

Follow the link here to view the programme and to book your place: <u>https://www.cemeteryresearch.org/events/webinar/</u>

Attendance is free. We'll be using the Zoom platform, and you can book by indicating which session(s) you would like to attend. Booking will be closed on 8th November: invitations will be sent by the 10th November.



"Death Notice/Body Copy: Representations of Death in Global Journalism"

The journal Media and Communication invites abstracts for an upcoming issue on "Death Notice/Body Copy: Representations of Death in Global Journalism," to be edited by Kristin Skare Orgeret (OsloMet University) and Nechama Brodie (University of the Witwatersrand)

https://www.cogitatiopress.com/mediaandcommunication/pages/view/nextissues#DeathRepresentations

1st International Congress on Pedagogy of Death and Improvement of Education

Dates: April 2, 3 and 4, 2025

The first deadline for the proposal of <u>oral communications</u> is <u>October 31, 2024</u> (only an abstract will be required).

Venue: Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (Spain).

This conference, bilingual Spanish-English, is a meeting point to share theoretical advances and research on the Pedagogy of Death and Educational Improvement. It is an opportunity to collaborate, establish international networks and contribute to social and educational research and innovation.

Key topics:

- 1. Research in the Pedagogy of Death and Death Education.
- 2. Innovation, practice and social and educational transfer in schools and curricular change.
- 3. Training and resources in the Pedagogy of Death for educators and professionals in social and health sciences.
- 4. Radical pedagogy and curriculum with other fundamental issues for the improvement of education.

This conference is part of the Spanish state R&D project 'Pedagogy of Death, Pandemic and Improvement of Education' (Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities), with an attendance certification of 15 hours of training (1.5 ECTS).

We are waiting for you at the Assembly Hall of the Faculty of Teacher Training and Education of the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid for an event that promises to be enriching and inspiring. Register now and be part of the change in education.

Register, send your oral communications and more

here: <u>https://eventos.uam.es/112658/detail/i-congreso-internacional-de-pedagogia-de-la-</u> muerte-y-mejora-de-la-educacion.html

(the language can be changed to English-Spanish at the top right of the web page, in the "Idioma" icon)

The Together for Short Lives Conference Built to Last: Towards a strong, sustainable future

7th – 8th May 2025 Hilton Manchester Deansgate, Manchester Dear Colleagues,

The landscape of children's palliative care is evolving at a remarkable pace. With more children living with complex conditions that demand specialized, round-the-clock care, the need for innovative, sustainable solutions has never been greater. Over the past two decades, the number of seriously ill babies, children, and young people has tripled, with the highest prevalence among the most socially and economically disadvantaged groups.

Building on the momentum of our previous conference, which focused on unlocking potential in a post-pandemic world, we are excited to announce that the 2025 Together for Short Lives Conference will continue to look forward with hope and resilience. This year's theme, "**Built to Last: Towards a Strong, Sustainable Future**" will explore the future of our sector, spotlighting groundbreaking innovations, new research, and best practices that will lead the way to a more robust and sustainable future for children's palliative care.

A cornerstone of our conference is the opportunity for professionals like you to share and learn from each other. We warmly invite you to submit your abstracts, whether you're presenting fresh ideas, showcasing innovative approaches in care, evaluating service developments, or sharing the outcomes of pilot studies or ongoing research projects. We welcome contributions from all disciplines and sectors.

Abstract themes

We encourage submissions that align with one of the following themes:

1. **Innovative and Collaborative Service Models:** Strategies that enhance access to palliative care for all babies and children, with a focus on reducing inequalities.

2. **Education, Training, and Quality Improvement:** Initiatives aimed at improving skills and standards within the children's palliative care sector.

3. **Family Experience:** Efforts that centre care around babies, children, and their families, including advancements in end-of-life and perinatal care.

4. **Perinatal Palliative Care:** Exploring initiatives that enhance care delivery, integrate services across disciplines, and address the unique needs of families.

5. **Practice/Service Development Including New Research:** Research that has the potential to influence practice and service development across the sector.

6. **Sustainability and Growth:** New approaches to encourage sector growth and sustainability, including workforce strategies and regional developments.

Key dates

- Abstract Submission Opens: 2nd September 2024
- Submission Deadline: 4th November 2024
- Final Acceptance Notification: Week of 3rd February 2025
- Conference Dates: 7th-8th May 2025

Abstract guidelines

- Authors must indicate their preference for presentation:
- Oral presentation for parallel workshop session (20-30 minutes)
- Quick-fire presentation for research students (Masters or Doctorate) (10 minutes)
- Display Poster
- No Preference
- Abstracts must be submitted electronically via our conference digital platform using the form provided:

https://app.oxfordabstracts.com/stages/7064/submitter

- You will need to register for an Oxford Abstracts digital platform account to submit your abstract.
- All accepted abstracts will be published in a virtual abstract book, available for download on the conference website. All accepted posters will be displayed throughout the conference.

Abstract criteria

- The abstract text must not exceed 300 words.
- Abstracts must be written in English, with any abbreviations clearly explained.
- The abstract text must not contain information identifying the presenters or institutions to facilitate blind review.
- Generic drug names should be used; trade names should only be used when necessary.

• The main source of funding for the study must be indicated at the end of the abstract.

• The abstract must not have been published at a previous conference or in any journal.

Required submission details

- **First author**: Full name and contact information.
- **Co-authors**: Names and affiliations.
- **Presentation preference**: Indicate whether the submission is for oral or poster presentation, or both.
- **Title**: A title that captures the theme and topic.
- **Background:** provide the context to the study/development or gap in knowledge/practice that the work addresses.

• **Aims:** indicate the purpose and objective of the research or the hypothesis that was tested.

• **Methods:** describe the setting for the study, study design, study population, ethical considerations, data collection and methods of statistical analysis or a description of how the innovative practice has been evaluated.

• **Findings:** present as clearly as possible the findings/outcome of the study, with specific results in a summarised form.

• **Conclusions:** briefly discuss the data and main outcome of the study as well as its possible limitations. Emphasise the implications of the results and their significance for the treatment, care and/or support of children and their families.

Rules for submission

The presenting author is expected to attend the conference if accepted. Each abstract will undergo a rigorous review process based on relevance, clarity, methodology, practical insights, and the significance of findings.

Notification of acceptance

Notifications will be sent via email during the week of 3rd February 2025.

Please do note: If your abstract is accepted, you will need to book your place at the conference. Accepted presenters are eligible for the early bird discounted rate at any time.

Asia Pacific Journal of Social Work and Development

For a Special Issue on

Palliative care across the world: Transcending professions and cultures

We are now inviting submissions for our special issue in 2025, Palliative care across the world: Transcending professions and cultures. For details please see below: https://think.taylorandfrancis.com/special_issues/palliative-care-across-the-world/

We welcome different manuscripts coming from all professions and cultures.

"The Evolution of Palliative Care – Where to next?"

Our International Palliative Care Conference "Kaleidoscope" returns on the 16th & 17th May 2025, in the Convention Centre Dublin. The 17th Kaleidoscope Conference, hosted by St. Francis Hospice Dublin, offers members of the Irish and international health care community an opportunity to explore issues related to palliative care. The overall theme for 2025 is "The Evolution of Palliative Care – Where to next?". We have an exciting line up of speakers across both days, call for papers presentations and poster exhibition as well as workshops on Friday and Saturday morning. Tickets to attend the conference will be available soon. **Abstract submissions are now open until the 15th November 2024** Abstract Submission Information Submit Your Abstract Form

Marie Curie Research Impact Fund

Maximising the impact of palliative and end of life care research on policy and practice.

At Marie Curie we believe that supporting the development of evidence-informed policy and practice in palliative and end of life care is key to our strategic goal of achieving the best possible end of life experience for everyone.

Our Research Impact Fund provides support for well-planned, high-quality, targeted activities that will facilitate the uptake of existing palliative and end of life care research into practice or policy to benefit people affected by dying, death and bereavement.

The fund will be open to applications from 30 August to 3 November 2024, with decisions expected by January 2025. A total of $\pm 100,000$ is available for this round of the Impact Fund. Applicants can apply for grants of up to $\pm 10,000$ through the scheme.

The application form, including guidance for applicants, is provided below. If you would like to discuss the scheme and any planned applications with a member of the Marie Curie Research Management Team, please email <u>research.grants@mariecurie.org.uk</u>.

Application guidelines and documents

- Impact Fund Round 4 Application Form and Guidance
- Marie Curie Research Grant Terms and Conditions

Special Issue of Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences "Grief in the Digital Age"

The Special Issue aims to explore the role of digital technologies for grief experiences

Grief is a complex phenomenon that can be characterised as an emotional process in response to the irrevocable loss of a significant person. In recent years, research at the intersection of phenomenology and empirically informed philosophy of mind has gained momentum (e.g., Cholbi, 2021; Fuchs, 2018; Markovic, 2022; Millar & Lopez-Cantero, 2022; Ratcliffe, 2023). This research has identified and analysed key aspects of the phenomenology and emotional structure of bereavement responses. However, the influence of socio-cultural practices and technologies on the structure and quality of grief experiences deserves further exploration and scrutiny. This is particularly true for death technologies (deathtech). Death technologies can be defined as personalized and individualized artificial intelligence (AI) systems, which are marketed as effective resources for the regulation of grief experiences and commemoration. Recently, death technologies have received considerable philosophical attention (e.g., Buben, 2015; Krueger & Osler, 2022; Lindemann, 2022; Stokes, 2021). However, this research has largely focussed on the ethical and moral implications of death technologies, rather than the systematic development of descriptive accounts of interactions between grieving agents and death technologies. This special issue aims to bring together research in phenomenology, philosophy of mind, the cognitive sciences, and the philosophy of AI to help better

understand the impact of death technologies on the structure, quality, and temporal unfolding of grief within and across agents, situational contexts, and cultures.

Possible topics include (but are not limited to):

- How can agent-deathtech interactions be described from a phenomenological perspective?
- To what extent can accounts of 4E cognition and situated affectivity help understand agent-deathtech interactions?
- How do death technologies influence and shape grief experiences?
- To what extent does the wide availability of death technologies change our attitudes towards our own mortality?
- To what extent does the wide availability of death technologies change how we anticipate the death of significant persons?
- What are the phenomenological and moral implications of the actual or anticipated impact of death technologies on grief?

Invited contributors:

- Adam Buben
- Robert Brooks
- Nora Lindemann
- Mianna Lotz
- Thomas Montefiore
- Katarzyna Nowaczyk-Basińska
- Paul-Mikhail Catapang Podosky
- Patrick Stokes

Guest Editors:

- Regina E. Fabry, Department of Philosophy, Macquarie University, regina.fabry@mq.edu.au
- Marilyn Stendera, School of Humanities and Social Inquiry, University of Wollongong, <u>mstendera@uow.edu.au</u>.

Submission deadline:

Please submit your paper by February 1 2025.

Word limit:

Submissions larger than 10,000 words (including references) are discouraged.

Online submission:

Please use the journal's Online Manuscript Submission System (Editorial Manager®).

Author Submission's Guidelines:

Authors are asked to prepare their manuscripts according to the journal's standard Submissions Guidelines.

Please access the Collection Page for further information. For any questions, feel free to contact the Lead Guest Editor Regina Fabry (<u>regina.fabry@mq.edu.au</u>).

Death Notice/Body Copy: Representations of Death in Global Journalism

Editor(s):

Kristin Skare Orgeret (OsloMet University) and Nechama Brodie (University of the Witwatersrand)

Submission of Abstracts: 15-30 November 2024 Submission of Full Papers: 15-30 April 2025 Publication of the Issue: October/December 2025

Information:

The thematic issue seeks to explore the ways in which news media around the world explore, report, and narrate death and the dead, in words, pictures, and even sound, where acts of counting become forms of recounting through which the literal body (a cadaver or corpse), being counted or discounted, becomes a site of incompatible biography: An object that has a history, but which no longer has a life. Accounts of death are unevenly explored across the journalistic landscape and earlier research has shown that images presenting dead bodies are infrequent (Griffin, 2010; Zelizer, 2010). This may however change with the increased importance of digital media and new conditions of production, content, and reception for representations of death in the news. Whereas some earlier research has focused mainly on the mediation of exceptional death (Sumiala, 2022), we see a need to empirically consider a variety of types of deaths, geopolitical perspectives, and whose bodies count in different geographies, societies, and times.

We are interested in singular and interdisciplinary articles and studies that look at current and historical journalistic forms of coverage of death, dying, and the dead, from journalists and photojournalists who are sent to cover combat zones, mass killings, or large-scale natural disasters, to media coverage of deadly pandemics, reporting on ways of assisted dying, or even a close reading of forms of obituaries. A specific focus will be given to emerging trends in the representation of death in digital and social media. Researchers looking at forms of journalism in the global south are encouraged to submit an abstract, and editing support will be given for accepted contributions where the authors are not first-language English speakers.

References

Griffin, M. (2010). Media images of war. *Media, War & Conflict, 3*(1), 7–41. Sumiala, J. (2022). *Mediated death*. Polity Press. Zelizer, B. (2010). *About to die: How news images move the public*. Oxford University Press.

Instructions for Authors:

Authors interested in submitting a paper for this issue are asked to consult the journal's instructions for authors and submit their abstracts (maximum of 250 words, with a tentative title) through the abstracts system (here). When submitting their abstracts, authors are also asked to confirm that they are aware that Media and Communication is an open access journal with a publishing fee if the article is accepted for publication after peer-review (corresponding authors affiliated with our institutional members do not incur this fee).

Open Access:

Readers across the globe will be able to access, share, and download this issue entirely for free. Corresponding authors affiliated with any of our <u>institutional members</u> (over 90 institutions worldwide) publish free of charge. Otherwise, an article processing fee will be charged to the authors to cover editorial costs. We defend that authors should not have to personally pay this fee and encourage them to check with their institutions if funds are available to cover open access publication costs. Further information about the journal's open access charges can be found <u>here</u>.

DDD Conference call for papers

Death, Dying and Disposal Conference from ASDS, organised by the University of Utrecht for 27-30 August 2025.

We are pleased to share the call for proposals for:

- Organised panels and individual papers
- Roundtables
- Workshops
- Other

You can find all the details about how to submit your proposal on the conference website, as well as more information about the theme, The Politics of Death. The deadline for all proposals is 30 November 2024.

With best wishes, Sarah (ASDS Administrator)

'Heritage Matters' series

Julie Rugg (University of York) and David Ocón (Singapore Management University) are coediting a text for Boydell and Brewer's <u>'Heritage Matters'</u> series. The rationale for the text sits below. We are issuing a call for chapter proposals. The themes include

- the cemetery as a locale for tangible and intangible funeral heritage;
- the principles of cemetery interpretation;
- the emotional, social and economic impact of cemetery tourism;
- $\cdot\,$ contested sites, where the site's purpose desire for preservation is compromised by the site's purpose; and
- the interaction between funeral heritage and sustainable development.

The chapters will have an 8,000-word limit. Please submit a 250-word abstract by the end of November 2024. The deadline for completed chapters is September 2025. The text will include academic contributions from across the globe but, unfortunately, all submissions will have to be in English. Please send your abstracts to us both: julie.rugg@york.ac.uk; davidocon@smu.edu.sg

'The 2025 Socio-Legal Studies Association (SLSA) Conference features a new current topic stream 'Defining, Defying, and Desiring Death'

This Current Topic brings together scholars and practitioners to consider the legal, social, political, and scientific developments pertaining to our perception of death and its meanings. It will provide a space to interrogate what death is precisely, why/if we should fear it, to what extent the law should be involved in the death of the individual, and to what extent technologies transform these challenges.

Some of the themes and questions that the papers might want to explore include:

• When does death occur, and according to what criteria is it identified (total brain, higher brain, info-theoretical, cardiopulmonary, etc.)?

• Responses to the Nuffield Council on Bioethics' Citizens' Jury on assisted dying. Should assisted dying remain prohibited, or should it be permitted within part or all of the UK?

• What is a good death, and is it a matter of Law to promote or protect such states of dying?

• Is the legal interpretation of life and death being binary still fit for purpose, or does a more nuanced understanding need to be developed?

• How do technological advancements (cryopreservation, BrainEx, AI, etc.) challenge the contemporary understanding and definition of death and the postmortem?

• How do/should we regulate technologies designed to alleviate grief and/or replace the deceased's persona? Is this a concern of law, policy and regulation?

Convenors: Richard B. Gibson (Aston Law School) r.gibson2@aston.ac.uk and Edina Harbinja (Aston Law School) e.harbinja@aston.ac.uk .

Call for Papers Deadline: 18 December 2024.

Please find more at: https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/law/slsa-2025/call-for-papers/

2025 conference of The Roles of the Agency of the Dead in the Lives of Individuals in Contemporary Society project

International interdisciplinary conference, July 2-4, 2025

Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana, Aškerčeva 2, Ljubljana, Slovenia Organised by

ERC project *The Roles of the Agency of the Dead in the Lives of Individuals in Contemporary Society*

Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia (DEAGENCY, ERC № 101095729)

Contrary to pre-modern European societies, and many contemporary non-Western societies, where the dead were considered members of the community and continued to be significantly involved in people's everyday lives, the dominant Western ontology nowadays does not integrate communication and exchange between the living and the dead. However, as a bulk of quantitative as well as qualitative research testify, for people in many contemporary

Western societies, social interactions do not necessarily cease after death but are merely transformed. The dead continue to be involved in our lives, affecting our thoughts, emotions, values, behaviour, and social relations. While scholars have often treated the accounts of the agency of the dead as expressions of "folk belief", and ghosts as symbols and metaphors of larger cultural and social problems and changes, our aim is to take the effects of the agency of the dead in the lives of individuals seriously, as people themselves experience them.

The aim of this conference is to gain an insight into the situations in which the agency of the dead manifests itself and the presence of the dead is experienced. What are the reasons, the triggers and the contexts in which the dead affect the living? The violation of social norms of behaviour and cultural and religious values is generally seen in traditional cultures as a typical reason for the manifestation of the agency of the dead. Temporal contexts traditionally regarded as triggers for unwanted interaction with the dead as ghosts, were usually critical, liminal periods in the daily, annual and life cycle. The same applies to the spatial context: boundary sites within the social construction of space, but also places associated with death (where people died or were buried), buildings with particular physical features and history, as well as places associated with mourning and the commemoration of the dead, were typical locations where the encounters with the dead were expected and where the agency of the dead was invoked. But do such "traditional" reasons and contexts still have meaning for people today? Or have new reasons and triggers emerged for the dead to affect the living? And how have new platforms for post-mortem communication - such as social media and the digital space - influenced the interactions between the living and the dead?

We invite folklorists, ethnologists and anthropologists, sociologists, psychologists, thanatologists, but also scholars from other disciplines who deal with the dead in contemporary society to submit an abstract and participate in the conference. Papers may be based on a variety of sources – ethnographic, archival, digital, media, etc. The conference language is English; the expected length of papers is 20 minutes. There is no conference fee, but you will have to cover your own travel, accommodation and catering costs. Please use the following link to submit your application:

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=35DMpoD13EmQP4evWnUzjsEWlR mdLMpPoBXXuJWeZJIUMTNMMIZaS1dIVVNTSTBUMINQMUJJMUZKQS4u&route=s horturl

In case of questions, contact <u>Marja.Kovanda@ff.uni-lj.si</u>. The deadline for submission of applications is 31 December 2024. Acceptance of papers will be confirmed by 31 January 2025.

Special issue on Digital Death to be published in the Thanatos journal

Thanatos is an open access multi-disciplinary peer-reviewed online journal published by the Finnish Death Studies Association (FDSA).

The first deadline for abstract submissions (500 words max) is 30 November 2024.

We invite contributors from various academic backgrounds and scholarly positions to explore the cultural and social transformation of death in the present era of digital saturation and to deepen and enrich a global understanding of digital death as a cultural and social phenomenon.

This special issue invites both theoretical and empirical contributions from relevant disciplinary backgrounds, addressing but not being limited to the topics below:

- Digital mourning and grief
- Digital afterlife
- Hybrid death rituals
- Platformed politics of digital death
- The dark side of digital death
- AI and digital immortality
- Legal and ethical perspectives on digital health

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Authors are invited to submit original research articles, reviews, and case studies that align with the themes outlines below. Submissions should adhere to the journal's guidelines and will undergo a double-blind peer-review process.

If you want to contribute an article to this Thanatos special issue, **please send your proposed paper title and an abstract (500 words max.) by email to** <u>Thanatos.fdsa@gmail.com</u> by **30 November 2024.**

For more information about the journal, please visit: https://journal.fi/thanatos

Symbols of Mortality Online Conference In Conjunction With Orkney Museum - Call For Papers

Mortality symbolism is an important part of our heritage, and deserves to be treated as such. It resides in a landscape of both poignancy and sadness, complete with a wide variety of inscriptions and carvings that reflect the lives, the beliefs and the attitudes to death of communities now past. As part of the Symbols of Mortality Exhibition, opening in Orkney Museum (February 2025), this online conference aims to bring about an interdisciplinary and wide-ranging approach to the study of mortality symbolism, in all its many guises, thus providing an engaging space to people from all backgrounds to share their research with others.

We welcome papers from a wide variety of topics and subjects, including but not limited to Archaeology, Architecture, Art History, Folklore, Cemeteries and Graveyards, Church History, Historiography, Literature, Material Culture, Museum and Heritage Studies, Social History and Victorian Studies.

Please send an abstract of no more than 250 words, together with a short biography to: symbolsofmortality@gmail.com by 10th January 2025

Call for British Academy Visiting Fellowships 2025!

Funded by the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology

More about the programme

The British Academy's Visiting Fellowships programme provides outstanding academics based in any country overseas with the opportunity to be based at a UK higher education or other research institution. The programme is open to academics at any career stage, and in any discipline within the humanities and social sciences.

Aims

Visiting Fellowships illustrate the British Academy's profound and on-going commitment to international engagement. The aim of this programme is to ensure that the UK remains an attractive, welcoming, and productive research environment for academics globally. Through this programme, the Academy aims to:

- Enhance and build new links between scholars from around the globe and in the UK;
- Foster opportunities and encourage the development of new and future partnerships for collaborative research into the humanities and social sciences
- To enable academics from across the globe to undertake research and/or professional development with UK colleagues;
- And strengthen the UK's research bases in the humanities and the social sciences.

Eligibility requirements

Visiting Fellows must be of postdoctoral level or above, or have equivalent research experience at the time of application. Candidates should be based outside of the UK at the time of application. Applicants may be on permanent *or* fixed-term contracts. Fixed-term contracts must not end before the end date of the Visiting Fellowship. Independent scholars are also welcome to apply.

Applicants must demonstrate that they have been in contact with their UK host institution prior to applying. Please note that the British Academy is not able to assist with locating of facilitating contact with a UK host institution.

The British Academy welcomes applications from a diverse range of UK host institutions, and would particularly encourage applications from historically and/or structurally disadvantaged groups, low-income countries, and female researchers.

For more details about the Visiting Fellowship programme, including eligibility requirements, please see the <u>Scheme Notes</u>.

Value and duration

Visiting Fellowships are available for a period of between 3 to 6 months. Applicants will be asked to provide their preferred start date for their Fellowship over the spring and summer (March-August 2025).

The maximum funding available is £40,000.

Application process

Applications must be submitted online using the British Academy's Grant Management System (GMS), <u>Flexi-Grant®</u>.

Deadline

The deadline for applications is 17:00 (GMT) on Wednesday, 23rd October 2024.

Contact Us

Email: cdas@bath.ac.uk

Web: <u>www.bath.ac.uk/cdas</u>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/centrefordeath

Twitter: <u>@cendeathsociety</u>

To unsubscribe, please email cdas@bath.ac.uk