

Fri 25 June –
Sat 3 July 2021

The Critical Poetics Summer School Critical Poetics: Care Of...

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(Further speakers to be confirmed)

The COVID-19 pandemic and recent political, social and environmental crises have fundamentally changed the way that we perceive and experience care. As a result, the double-edged meaning of the term can be felt more sharply than ever; care encapsulates our attention and concern for someone or something at the same time as it defines our troubles, pains and sorrows. Moreover, taking care with our writing is an ethical and aesthetic imperative. In 2021, the Critical Poetics Summer School will be delivered care of a group of internationally recognised artists, writers and thinkers whose work addresses current and pressing issues of care and caring.

How has the global pandemic changed care? What does care now mean in light of the social injustices and inequalities foregrounded by Black Lives Matter? What does it mean to be charged with the care of animal, vegetal and mineral lifeforms during the sixth mass extinction and the care of the environment in the ongoing climate crisis? Furthermore, how has care, both as a concept and an experience, changed for writers, artists, critics and readers? Over the course of the 2021 summer school, we will explore these issues together, and in the process we will interrogate the degree to which writing, art, criticism, or a combination of these, can help us attend to manifold, interconnected and collective care responsibilities.

Online

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Coordinated in partnership with Nottingham Contemporary, the 2021 programme features a wide range of virtual activities – from one-to-one tutorials, to workshops and public events – tailored for interdisciplinary scholars, writers, artists and students. Participants will benefit from access to internationally renowned practitioners and thinkers and will be provided with time and resources to develop their own critical-creative practice. There will be opportunities to produce a publishable output as well as the chance to participate in a form of social action.

Up to 18 participants will be selected to attend the full programme. To apply, please download our [application form](#) and email your responses to jack.thacker@ntu.ac.uk by midnight on Sunday 9 May 2021. The Summer School is free to attend and we especially welcome applications from those from disadvantaged backgrounds as part of our commitment to accessibility and engagement.

The Critical Poetics International Summer School is run by the Critical Poetics Research Group at Nottingham Trent University, which explores the role of creative-critical writing in promoting cross-cultural conversation and driving social change. Working with regional, national and international partners, and bringing together perspectives from a wide range of fields in order to inspire new forms of engagement with pressing social, political, cultural and environmental concerns, the research group provides a home for scholars and artists who work across disciplines to explore creative and critical theory and practice. For more information please visit our [website](#).

Our partner, Nottingham Contemporary, has been described as ‘the most inspiring gallery in the UK’ (Guardian), with exhibitions, events, learning programmes and research offering extraordinary perspectives on today’s society. Nottingham Contemporary’s programme of events asks: How does research and practice intertwine in the cultural sector? And what does research look like when speaking from the site of practice? To find out more, please click [here](#).