

Call For Proposals

Considering Covid: Critical Media Scholarship in an Uncertain Time

A Special Issue of the *Journal of Communication Inquiry*

Guest Editors:

Dr. Katherine A. Foss (Middle Tennessee State)

Dr. Peter Joseph Gloviczki (Coker)

Overview

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to reshape all aspects of everyday life. Its devastation extends beyond the private sphere into political, economic, and cultural contexts. As such, people attempt to make sense of and bring meaning to both moments of crisis and the mundane through media production, consumption, and content creation in our digital world.

As scholars and past heads of AEJMC's Cultural and Critical Studies Division, we believe these unusual times call for sustained, focused consideration of COVID and its influence in/on/for critical media studies. Accordingly, we present this call for papers for a special issue of the *Journal of Communication Inquiry*.

The foundational elements of our field: power, identity and representation, are being challenged during and, in many ways, are destabilized by, our pandemic moment. At the same time, grassroots movements and emerging technologies offer counterhegemonic messages, drawing newly-surfaced attention to rug-swept problems. We invite scholars of critical/cultural studies (broadly defined) to employ a wide range of methodologies and theoretical perspectives in their study of the relationship between or interplay among COVID and critical media studies.

Potential Topics

We invite authors offering diverse perspectives to embrace the inclusive spirit of critical/cultural studies and of the Critical Cultural Studies Division of AEJMC. While papers should employ a critical media studies framework, we are open to receiving submissions on a broad and full range of topics, including, but not limited to, the impact of COVID-19 in relation to the following topics:

- Media production for both industries and individuals
- Media professions (including journalism, advertising and public relations)
- Consumption habits for various media content (at home, at work, elsewhere)
- Economic, political, social or cultural power(s) in the communication world

- Social justice organizing and grassroots movements
- Cultural approaches to health and health care
- The changing state of home (and away) during our pandemic moment
- Parenting and caregiving in a time of crisis
- Emerging definitions of productivity
- The notion of labor (what is it, who is it for) amidst COVID-19
- Disparities regarding people of color, along with other underprivileged, underrepresented, and/or marginalized groups
- Communities of practice (broadly-defined)
- Communities united by race, ethnicity, socioeconomic class, gender, LGBTQI+ identities, and (dis)ability, as well as across positions of intersectionality
- The individual (as thinker, doer, being) in a (more) sedentary moment
- Remembering, forgetting, and memory
- The past, present and future of critical inquiry in/and health communication

Submission Details

To be considered in this special issue, submit a full manuscript (max 8,000 words) by March 1, 2021. Papers will undergo the *JCI* blind peer-review process and then be considered for the special issue. Those that are not selected may be considered for publication in a regular *JCI* issue.

Please direct questions to Katie Foss (Katie.Foss@mtsu.edu) and Peter Gloviczki (pgloviczk@coker.edu).

About the Guest Editors

Dr. Katherine A. Foss

I am the author of the newly released *Constructing the Outbreak: Epidemics in Media and Collective Memory* (University of Massachusetts Press, 2020) and two additional books, and edited three collections. My work has appeared in *JCI*, *Critical Studies in Media Communication*, *Health Communication* and other journals. I serve on the editorial boards of *Health Communication* and *The Image of Journalist in Popular Culture* journal.

Dr. Peter Joseph Gloviczki

I am the author of Journalism and Memorialization in the Age of Social Media (Palgrave Macmillan, 2015) and Mediated Narration in a Digital Age: Storying the Media World, which is forthcoming in the Frontiers of Narrative Series from University of Nebraska Press. I serve as an assistant editor of the *Journal of Loss and Trauma* (Taylor and Francis) and I have published in *Health Communication*, *Qualitative Inquiry*, *Humanity & Society* and elsewhere.
