



Shortage Studies: Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Deficiencies in Social, Cultural, and Natural Contexts

University of Opole, Opole, Poland - 9 April 2019

After the age of extremes (Hobsbawm, 1994) and the prosperity of the Core at the cost of the Peripheries (Wallerstein, 2004), the world is probably drifting inevitably towards the times of deficiencies. The anthropocene accelerates towards a severe intervention into the biodiversity, ecology and climate. Also the human societies and cultures, together with spaces and spheres of communication seem to undergo a similar dynamic. The saturation and acceleration leads to acute limitation. We introduce the perspective of deficiencies to talk about the problems of contemporary world. Shortage studies are interdisciplinary and inclusive, although we seek papers devoted to the consequences of human activity. This interdisciplinary conference is devoted but not limited to the following topics:

- shrinking public sphere (democracy)
- truth/information (as opposed to fake news, misinformation, manipulation)
- attention (as opposed to streams of content and information overload)
- ethnocentrism (as opposed to human universalism, European identity, human rights, interculturalism)
- science-public gap or evidence based policy (as opposed to emotion and political marketing driven policies)
- privacy (as opposed to surveillance, skewed life-work balance)
- work (as opposed to unemployment, automation and AI)
- equality in class, gender, race and ethnicity (as opposed to solidarity and equality)
- ecological sustainability and biodiversity (as opposed to pollution, warming, and exploitation)
- urban public spaces (as opposed to gentrification and commercialization of space)
- academic freedom (as opposed to predatory publishing, neoliberal ranking, and academic bureaucracy)

Students and PhD candidates who would like to share their research projects and discuss them with experts are welcome to join the conference panel for students held on 10 April 2019.

To take part please register through an [online form](#) and include the topic of your proposed presentation with a short abstract by **20 March 2019**. Papers accepted for the conference should be 15 minutes long.

Selected conference papers will be published a volume of an interdisciplinary academic journal.

Web: http://hello.uni.opole.pl/international_week#conference

Should you have any questions, please email us at international@uni.opole.pl.

Organizers

Institute of Sociology, Department of Economic Geography and Spatial Management in cooperation with Institute of Political Sciences and Institute of English

Organizing Committee

Professor Robert Geisler, Dr. Michał Wanke

Scientific Board

Professor Janusz Słodczyk, Professor Katarzyna Molek-Kozakowska, Dr. Barbara Curyło, Dr. Joanna Kulska, Dr. Borys Cymbrowski

Important dates

- [Registration](#) and abstract submission: before 20 March 2019
- Acceptance: 25 March 2019
- Fee payment: 9 April 2019
- Conference: 9 April 2019
- Student panel: 10 April 2019
- Central European International Week at the University of Opole: 8 - 12 April 2019

Fees

- Conference fee: 30 EUR
- Participation in the [International Week](#) and conference: 120 EUR
- Participation of UO students and staff is free of charge
- University of Opole bank account: PL88 1090 2138 0000 0005 5600 0076 (SWIFT: WBK PP LPP)