

Special Issue

Critical Phenomenologies of Illness and Normality

Message from the Guest Editors

The philosophy of 20th century French phenomenologist Maurice Merleau-Ponty continues to inspire phenomenologists and critical phenomenologists as well as disability studies scholars, feminist philosophers, critical race theorists, and, more recently, cognitive scientists. His insistence on the primacy of embodied perceptual experience and its fundamentally intercorporeal dimensions, as well as his rejection of traditional dualisms (e.g., mind/body, subject/object, self/other, and body/world), has played a transformative role in fields as varied as the health sciences, performance studies, environmental studies, political theory, ethnography, and the arts. This Special Issue, "Phenomenologies of Illness and Normality: Critical Engagements with Merleau-Ponty," will take up this Merleau-Pontian legacy by focusing a critical lens on the oppressive as well as liberatory ways that normality and illness are experienced, expressed, and inscribed in both theory and practice.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Philosophies searches for the syntheses of philosophical and scientific inquiries. It promotes philosophical work that is derived from the experience of diverse scientific disciplines and cultures. Multiple philosophies already exist—those of logic, information, computation, natural and artificial life, natural or artificial intelligence, complexity, technology, etc. Our mission is not to abandon philosophical roots and traditions of inquiry, but to promote the development of philosophical foundations and effective methodologies derived from diverse scientific explorations, and intended to enhance these explorations as to generate deeper and more holistic knowledge. Innovation may also be achieved through the cultural dimension. Other cultures can offer from their heritage a diversity of resources for exploration; these resources can also contribute to the emergent synthesis of philosophical inquiry.

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