

Toxic!

Toxicity In-Between the Humanities and Natural Sciences

Symposium

18 Nov. 2022 // 9.00-17.00 CET

Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg // ZHSG, Room 2.013

Toxicity and intoxication surround us: If anything, the resurgence of the terms in the late 2010s reminds us of this statement's basic truth. Toxic masculinity, for example, has become a rallying cry against problematic gender norms, while Britney Spears' 2003 mega-hit 'Toxic' has become a queer anthem conjuring the 'poison paradise'. The future of our planet is decided at the dead banks of toxic rivers, with people living on toxic soil and drowning in an increasing mass of toxic waste. In the Western world, lifestyle-gurus promise 'mental detox' while an opioid crisis ravages the United States.

Toxicity is at the crossroads, floating between being a natural and a cultural signifier, between escapism, problem, and proposed paradigm. Our symposium seeks to understand the toxic by synergising different, interdisciplinary, perspectives on toxicity, from literary through environmental to cultural studies. We hope to assemble students and researchers at the University of Würzburg to discuss Toxicity In-Between the Humanities and Natural Sciences.

Call for Papers

We invite interested scholars and students from all disciplines and levels of study to submit proposals for 20-minute papers to toxic.symposium@gmail.com. Kindly send an abstract of max. 300 words & a biography of max. 100 words.

You may present either in **German** or in **English**. The symposium will take place as an **in-person event**. We will inform you ASAP, should we have to switch to an online format.

Key deadlines

Submission deadline: 3 November 2022

Notification of acceptance: 7 November 2022

Registration: toxic.symposium@gmail.com

Convenors: Adrian Döring and Anna Frieda Kuhn