



Call for papers

The conference brings together an international and interdisciplinary field of researchers. The unifying interest in the conference is scientific questions about the horse as well as the horse in society and the relation between humans and horses. In focus for the conference this year are questions regarding past, present and future challenges in relation to horse – human activities and interaction. Horse welfare and ethical issues regarding horses and horse keeping are a common thread through all the sessions.

The conference will take place *online* and includes the following sessions with oral presentations organized in five themes:

Theme One: Psychological, pedagogical and didactic perspectives on the relation between human and horse. The theme also includes challenges for equestrian coaching.

Within this theme we invite papers that address the demands of educating people that handle horses in different ways. We also address issues regarding new demands, such as mental and physical challenges, on riders when conditions for sport and recreation in companionship with horses are developed.

Theme Two: Historical, philosophical and ethical perspectives on human-horse relationships

Within this theme we invite papers that specifically explore historical, philosophical and ethical questions regarding interspecies communication and aspects on horse-handling in both the past, the present and in the future.

Theme Three: Consequences for the human-horse relationships connected to the lifestyle of modern humans – for example leisure, sport, tourism, technology and media.

Within this theme we invite papers that explore human-horse interactions through tourism, sports and leisure in the light of modern lifestyle such as for example globalization and social media. Consequences of modern technology in our interaction with horses are also welcomed in this theme.

Theme Four: Issues related to equine assisted therapy, in relation to the human body, mind and social work

Within this theme we address questions about practical and ethical implications, as well as considering future challenges and advantages of using the horse in equine assisted therapy in relation to both psychological and physical treatment and other arenas for social work.

Theme Five: We will also organize open sessions for those of you who would like to address an issue outside of the sub-themes.

We also invite social science and humanistic research that focuses on other aspects of challenges we stand for in the human-horse relationship. What we can learn from the past and how to approach the future.

Abstract submission

We welcome researchers with diverse backgrounds, both disciplinary, theoretical and methodological. We welcome submissions from colleagues at any stage of their academic career. Please make a note if you recently received your PhD, we are trying to give a special slot for you in the programme. **The abstract should be submitted to Susanne.Lundesjo-Kvart@slu.se at latest 28 February**

Submissions should include title of the presentation, an indication of which theme the paper falls under, four key words, an abstract of maximum 250 words, author(s) and affiliation, author bio (max 100 word). Since the conference will be held virtually with delegates from all over the world we also need you to inform us about the timezone that you are within.

If your abstract were accepted last year and you want to present it this year instead you still need to resubmit your abstract including all requested information above. Just make a note that it was accepted last year. Off course, you also have the possibility to send in a new abstract to replace the last one.

A Best presentation award will be given to honour the memory of Karen Dalke that tragically past away soon after the conference in Leeds. Applicants should just make a note about this when submitting their abstracts.

The Solidarity Prize for Excellence in Early Career Equine Research

This award recognizes high quality early career equine research and supports a junior scholar with excellent potential. Current graduate students and those who received their PhDs in 2016 or later who will be presenting at the virtual Equine Cultures in Transition conference in 2021, are invited to submit their work. To be eligible, papers must consider one or more of the following: equine and/or human-horse wellbeing, work and labor issues, interspecies ethical and/or methodological possibilities. Applicants should submit their conference papers of approximately eight pages in length along with a short biography to Kendra Coulter at kcoulter@brocku.ca by June 1st, 2021. Submissions will be assessed by a jury of leading human-horse researchers and the winner will be honored at the conference. The prize includes \$250 CDN.

Important dates:

15 November	Abstract submission opens
28 February	Deadline for abstract submission
2 Mars 2020	Registration open
2 Mars 2020	Notification of acceptance
28 May 2020	Deadline registration

More information about the conference can be found at the [conference website](#) or by joining us at facebook "[Equine Cultures in Transition](#)".

You are also welcome to send questions to: Susanne.Lundesjo-Kvart@slu.se.