Hello EDST community, and welcome to a new term!

The start of this academic year may feel a bit odd, since we’re more physically spread out than usual, and most of us are probably connecting virtually for the time being. But we’re still excited to see new and familiar faces in our online EDST spaces.

This September, we’re hoping to focus on building connections that will keep us together through the term. We have some changes to our student reps and GAA team, and there are still many opportunities for students to step up and take part if they’re interested. We also have a few events this month which we’re hoping will help keep our virtual EDST community connected.

As always, we’re here to offer support and advocate with and for you. Please feel free to reach out at any time!

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**Announcements**

**GAA Appointments for 2020-2021**

Yotam Ronen, Neil Bassan, and Vanessa Lawrence will continue their work on the GAA team in the 2020/2021 academic year. Alison St. Pierre, who has done tremendous work on her two-year tenure as a GAA, will be leaving the GAA team, and we wish her all the best on her next adventure. Alison, you will be missed!

Joining the GAA team will be a new member, Roshni Kumari. Welcome, Roshni!
Hi. I am Roshni Kumari, a PhD student (EDST), with a passionate interest in understanding how broader context influences research activity or practice. The trajectory of my professional life portrays numerous research and scholarly engagements including review and editorial work, research supervision, mentoring and building capacity for research proposal development and writing for publishing. I am very happy to be part of this vibrant research community at UBC and look forward to our interactions (online for now) and learning from each other.

EDST Student Representatives

Student representatives bring a student voice and perspective to committees within and beyond the Department of Educational Studies. If you want to know what’s happening on a certain committee, or if you’d like a student rep to bring an issue forward, here are the current student reps you could reach out to:

EDST Department meetings: Tierney Wisniewski, Neha Gupta, Olivia Hauck, Keru Chen, Denneisha Griffin-Pinnock
Graduate Student Society Council (GSS): Zhenyang Xu, Julia Burnham
Graduate Programs Advisory and Curriculum Committee (GPACC): Deanna Bracewell
Scholarships Committee: Deanna Bracewell
PhD Committee: Yeonjoo Kim

If you’re interested in taking on a student representative role, it’s not too late! Positions are available on the PhD committee, MA committee, all program committees, and additional spots are available for department meetings and GPACC. If you’re interested or if you want to know more, contact us at edst.gaa@ubc.ca

Department Head Search Student Representative

Nominations are still open for a student representative on the Advisory Committee, which will conduct a search for a head of the Department of Educational Studies. If you’re interested in participating, you will need to submit a nomination form by September 8 to edst.gaa@ubc.ca. The nomination form is attached to this email, or can be requested by contacting the GAAs.
Monthly Events

Movie (Discussion) Party!

Date and time: Saturday, September 19, 2020, 3:00pm - 4:00pm Vancouver Time
Location: Virtual (Zoom)
Please use this link to join us at the time of the event:
https://ubc.zoom.us/j/65059263635?pwd=NDQzN1ZTaERSVGdwcnQzbGpEbnpSQT09

Join us for an evening of film and film discussion! Rather than watch a film together, we will be discussing a film from Kanopy, an on-demand streaming video service available FREE to you as a UBC student. You should watch the film in advance, so you are ready to discuss with others.

We'll be choosing from the list of films below. Please Vote for the film you’d like to watch (on your own) and discuss for this event by clicking HERE, and click titles below to watch and read synopses. Feel free to suggest a film for future viewings, too.

- I Am Not Your Negro
- A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night
- In the Mood for Love
- The Battle of Algiers

Please RSVP here: https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8fgruVFfPmgelY9

The Art and Craft of Study, Dr. Sam Rocha

Date and time: Thursday September 24th, 2:00pm Vancouver Time
Location: Virtual (Zoom)

Description: Over the years, Sam Rocha has offered an annual workshop on reading, writing, editing, and more. These have aimed to give graduate students a sense of the discrete tasks of graduate study. Many of these practical tips and guides have taken inspiration from Rocha’s more formal academic work on the phenomenology of study which, in turn, draws heavily from Rocha’s practice as a musician. In this workshop, Rocha will try to speak more broadly about study,
gathering together some of the better advice from previous years and leaving the floor open to questions and discussion to follow.

Please RSVP here: https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8fgruVFfPmgeIY9

Virtual Co-Working Sessions

This ongoing series of events began in response to the pandemic, and should continue through the term. Online co-working sessions include a group check-in, focused working blocks, and short breaks. Sessions might vary depending on the host, but they’ll always provide some company and accountability to help you be productive. We encourage you to join in for the whole session or drop-in anytime during!

You can join the sessions on Zoom using the same link each time:
https://ubc.zoom.us/s/608580548

The schedule of sessions may be subject to change, and we recommend checking the most up-to-date schedule on Google docs throughout the month. At this time, the following sessions are scheduled for September:

- September 8, 4pm-8pm, hosted by Yotam
- September 10, 10am-2pm, hosted by Vanessa
- September 15, 4pm-8pm, hosted by Yotam
- September 17, 4pm-8pm, hosted by Vanessa
- September 22, 4pm-8pm, hosted by Yotam
- September 24, 10am-2pm, hosted by Vanessa
- September 29, 4pm-8pm, hosted by Yotam

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