



Centre for Medical Humanities and Bioethics

YEARBOOK 2024/2025



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From the Director

In 2025, as Linköping University marks its 50th anniversary, we are celebrating two distinguished scholars receiving Honorary Doctorates, both of high relevance for the field of medical humanities and interdisciplinary work across medicine, humanities, and social sciences: Professor Angela Woods of Durham University's Institute for Medical Humanities, and Professor Gillian Einstein from the University of Toronto's Department of Psychology.

Every year, Linköping University awards honorary doctorates. However, to award two honorary doctorates in the same year to two scholars, both of whom have made central contributions to the field of interdisciplinary work across the humanities/social sciences/biomedicine, either in medical humanities/critical health humanities or in gender and medicine, is a rare occurrence – one that we cherish and have celebrated over three days in May.

The 2024/2025 academic year is CMHB's fifth year. It is also the year we launched – together with the Institute for Medical Humanities at Durham University – the joint International Medical Humanities PhD School, which consists of several postgraduate courses offered in the summer- and winter school format. As can be seen in the yearbook, the first two of these have already taken place, namely “Interdisciplinarity: Medical Humanities and Research at the intersections of the Humanities, the Social Sciences, Clinical Practice and Biomedicine” and “Queer Methodologies in Medical Humanities.” This academic year has also seen the official kick-off of the Consortium for Health Humanities, Arts, Reading and Medicine (CHARM), organised by Professor Jürgen Pieters and Visiting Professor Zoë Ghyselinck and colleagues from Ghent University. CMHB is one of several partners within this consortium, and we see CHARM as

an important contribution to the international field of medical and health humanities.

We have also had the opportunity to strengthen relations with colleagues in Scandinavia, particularly Denmark. This was visible at CMHB's Annual Visionary Day, where we focused on creating bridges to and engaging in conversations with medical humanities colleagues in Denmark. Professor Mette Terp Høybye, Department of Clinical Medicine – Interactive Minds Centre, Aarhus University, and Associate Professor Karin Tybjerg, Medical Museion, University of Copenhagen, presented their work, experiences, and insights concerning medical humanities in Denmark. Further, on a national level, colleagues at CMHB, together with colleagues at other Swedish medical humanities centres, nodes or research clusters have continued to jointly strengthen the field of medical and health humanities through the Swedish Network

for Medical Humanities. More locally, CMHB, the Centre for Applied Ethics and the National Centre for Priorities in Health are co-organising the Linköping University Medical Ethics Conference, to be held in June 2025.

As can be seen in the yearbook, colleagues at CMHB are engaged in several research, art and teaching collaborations. Apart from singular courses, we're also examining the possibility of starting a Master's Programme in Critical Health Studies, as this would resonate well with the focus on critical medical and health humanities and bioethics at our centre. Most centrally, we continue the CMHB research seminar series that offers a constructive and supportive space for presenting and receiving comments and feedback on manuscripts that are still in progress.

The yearbook also offers a few additional glimpses into the future: we are excited to co-organise yet another summer school with colleagues at Durham University, this time with a focus on the theme of bodies and embodiment from different disciplinary and interdisciplinary research strands within medical and health humanities and bioethics. We'll also organise a scientific salon on the theme of digitalisation in health care and its role for health and illness, among other things.

Finally, the individual contributions and joint work from the excellent and generous colleagues at CMHB are what makes CMHB the creative and engaging collective that it is. Without this engagement and participation in CMHB's activities, none of the above would have been possible. Thank you colleagues and supporters of CMHB!



Kristin Zeiler
DIRECTOR OF CMHB

Who We Are

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CMHB's Annual Visionary Day Connects Researchers in Medical Humanities

In November, CMHB held its Annual Visionary Day. The gathering brought together CMHB-affiliated researchers to reflect on the centre's first four years and discuss future directions, this time with guests from Denmark joining the discussions.

Building on international collaboration

The programme featured guest speakers Professor Mette Terp Høybye from Aarhus University and Associate Professor Karin Tybjerg from Copenhagen University, who provided perspectives on medical humanities research in Denmark.

"I felt honoured and excited to further engage with the stimulating academic atmosphere of CMHB," said Mette Terp Høybye, who participated following an earlier visit by CMHB's Kristin Zeiler to Aarhus University. Lisa Guntram, coordinator at CMHB, described the event's purpose: "CMHB's Annual Day aims to gather researchers affiliated with CMHB, both to get to know each other and our research better, but also to discuss what we want to do together."

Sharing research across disciplines

One highlight was a session where all participants presented brief overviews of

their research, showcasing the breadth of work within medical humanities.

"It was tremendously inspiring to listen to all members present the focus and status of their research," noted Mette Terp Høybye. "There was such a wealth of ideas across disciplines, with new attention to potential overlapping research interests." Karin Tybjerg agreed and added: "What stood out to me at the Annual Visionary Day were, among other things, the thought-provoking episodes that researchers encounter in the field or use to make sense of their field or own trajectory. For instance, a neurologist working with epilepsy patients was crestfallen to hear that the seizures were not the main concern of their patients." Thomas Grice-Jackson, a postdoctoral researcher who joined CMHB in 2023, found these introductions valuable: "They were very helpful for learning more about the wide range of interests."

Planning ahead

With CMHB entering its second four-year period, participants focused on shaping future initiatives. "I hope participants found inspiration in everything we've done together and our ideas about how we can shape activities for the com-

ing period," Lisa Guntram said. Further, during the day, education emerged as a priority area, and Guntram reflected: "Developing teaching is particularly important, especially considering there is no educational programme in Sweden in this field".

International perspectives strengthen the field

Centres like CMHB form the backbone of sustaining research efforts and interdisciplinary collaborations within medical humanities, added Mette Terp Høybye. "These environments foster the development of novel research frameworks through collaboration, and I consider CMHB a pioneer in this work", she concluded. She encouraged CMHB to "continue developing its international outreach while focusing on diversity among research topics and researchers."

The day concluded with discussions about potential collaborative initiatives, helping to chart CMHB's course for the coming years.

Jenny Widén





Honorary Doctorates in Medical Humanities, and Gender and Medicine

In 2025, Professor Angela Woods, Durham University, and Professor Gillian Einstein, University of Toronto, are awarded Honorary Doctorates at Linköping University.

Every year, each of the faculties at Linköping University awards honorary doctorates. This recognition is conferred to honour the honorary doctorate's contribution to society or to research or education at the university.

This year, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences has awarded Professor Angela Woods, Institute for Medical Humanities, Durham University, an honorary doctorate. This is done as a recognition of Woods' research, which combines medical humanities with critical theory as a generative force and challenges the conditions for interdisciplinary health research, and her facilitative leadership. The Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences has also awarded an honorary doctorate, to Professor Gillian Einstein,

“I read the email from Dean Prof Melin, at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Linköping University, blinked, looked away, looked back at the screen, and gave in to wide-eyed surprise and delight. This is a huge honour for me personally, and for a shared vision of the medical humanities as a truly interdisciplinary and collaborative venture that will play an increasingly important role in health research globally.”

PROF ANGELA WOODS

University of Toronto. Professor Einstein works in the field of gender and medicine, and her work and long contribution to the field of gender and medicine, at Linköping and internationally, are being recognised.

At CMHB, the celebrations started May 22 with an afternoon of conversations with the honorary doctorates, including a panel where each panel member offered a five-minute “spaning” in interdisciplinary health/medical humanities and/or gender and medicine. The task was to contribute a creative identification of a tendency or trend that is emerging, based on three examples and typically told with some kind of twist. The afternoon also included discussions of visions and hopes for the fields of interdisciplinary health/medical humanities and/or gender and medicine. On May 23, the honorary doctorates gave public lectures and on May 24, Professors Woods and Einstein were formally appointed honorary doctorates at the Commencement Ceremony.

Kristin Zeiler



Jelmer Brüggemann, Margrit Shildrick, Gillian Einstein, Angela Woods, Nina Lykke and Maria Björkman.



The Difficult Patient – A Digital Art Project

How can collaborations across art and research initiate reflections about healthcare experiences or situations that are experienced as difficult, and oftentimes in isolation, by both patients and care professionals?

As part of the research project “What are you complaining about?” Jelmer Brüggemann together with colleagues Lisa Guntram and Ann-Charlotte Nedlund explored these questions through a collaboration with the artist Sara-Lovise Ask Ewertson. The vantage point was a book chapter titled “The ‘difficult patient’ – Dominant logics and misfits in medicine” in which the research team conceptualised the difficult patient as a product of the ways in which medicine is organised, in contrast to dominant understandings of the difficult patient in terms of a psychological or relational problem.

“The idea to translate the chapter into digital art arose when LiU announced a funding opportunity for innovative collaborations, and I was curious to explore what we could do with digital art”, says Jelmer Brüggemann.

In practice, the research team and Ask Ewertson met in spring 2024 to first discuss the intentions and ideas presented in the chapter, and later to discuss the artwork that Ask Ewertson developed on the basis of these conversations. This was the first time for all of them to work across art and research. For Ask-Ewertson it was an interesting experience, and she would gladly do it again. “Usually, I dive into a subject myself, but here I got to be part of research, which felt like a privilege” said Sara-Lovise Ask Ewertson and continued “I believe that these collaborations are something that is really needed more in today’s society. Working cross-professionally, I think, increases a broader understanding and dissemination of knowledge in society; simply put, more people get to share the information”.

The final product consists of a series of three looping artworks that serve as commentary on how medicine creates its own “difficult patients”. In October 2024 the series was exhibited at Linköping City Library as part of “Humanistdygnet”, an event that highlights and showcases research and other initiatives within the humanities at Linköping University.

“Our hope is that the artwork can serve as an opportunity for critical reflection on how care professionals and patients can, together, use their knowledge to enable better care and the continued time, space, and trust they need to do so. We also see the methodological potential and would like to explore how the artwork can be used as vignettes in future studies”, says Jelmer Brüggemann.

The series of three artworks is available at: <https://liu.se/en/research/art-project-the-difficult-patient>

Lisa Guntram and Jelmer Brüggemann

DIGITAL ART

Sara-Lovise Ask Ewertson
[@sara.lovise]

PUBLICATION

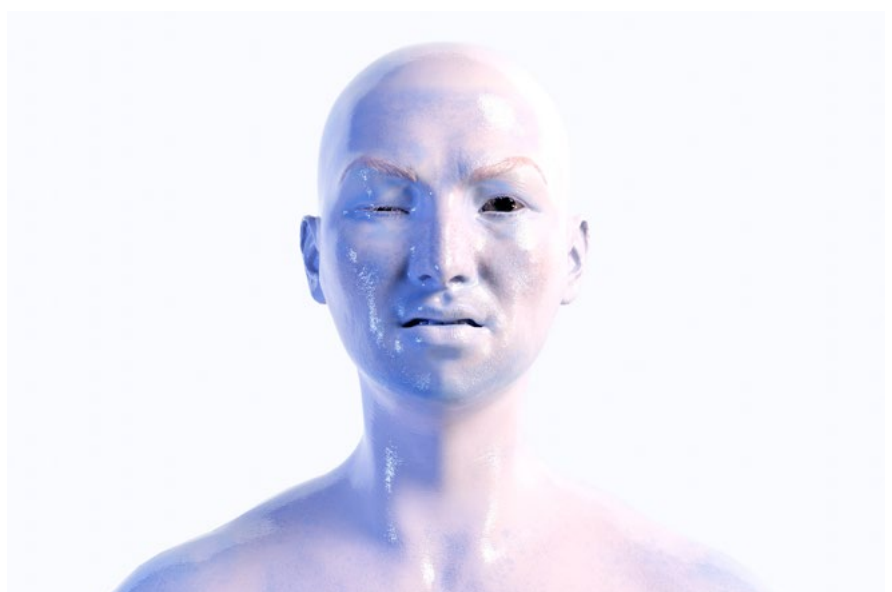
The art project was based on the publication Brüggemann, J., Guntram, L. and Nedlund, A.-C. (2023) The ‘difficult patient’ – Dominant logics and misfits in medicine. In Liamputtong, P. (ed) Handbook of Social Sciences and Global Public Health. Cham: Springer. pp. 1-14.

FUNDING

The project was made possible through support by a Linköping University initiative to valorise knowledge assets (VFN) and the research project “What are you complaining about?” (supported by the Swedish Research Council no. 2020-01594).

WEBSITE

The series of three artworks is available at: <https://liu.se/en/research/art-project-the-difficult-patient>





International Medical Humanities PhD School: Summer and Winter Courses

The International Medical Humanities PhD School is a joint endeavour by CMHB and the Institute for Medical Humanities, Durham University, comprising a set of summer and winter schools. The overarching aim is to offer a creative and constructive space for engagement with theoretical perspectives and methodologies within the field of medical humanities, understood in a broad sense, i.e. as including different humanities and social sciences perspectives, and combinations of these. Each

summer or winter school can accommodate twenty PhD students.

Dedicated bursary places for PhD students from UK universities, and lower- and middle-income countries are offered alongside open places for PhD students from various other countries, and bursary places for PhD students from CMHB. Funding for the International Medical Humanities PhD School is provided by Durham University's Wellcome-funded Discovery Research Platform for Medical Humanities, the

CMHB, and the grant "Biomedicine, Clinical Knowledge, and the Humanities in Collaboration: A Novel Epistemology for Radically Interdisciplinary Health Research and Policy-Work on Post-COVID-19 Condition", which is funded by the Swedish Research Council. During the academic year 2024/2025, one summer school and one winter school have been organised, and more courses are planned for coming years.



Summer School Enables Interdisciplinary Dialogue in Medical Humanities

What does interdisciplinarity in medical humanities mean? What are the epistemological underpinnings of different interdisciplinary ways of engaging in medical humanities research? What are the challenges and possibilities in medical humanities, and in interdisciplinary research at the very intersection between the humanities, the social sciences, clinical research, and biomedicine? These were central foci of the first PhD course, which gathered PhD students from a broad range of disciplines and countries.

The summer school – placed in the medieval city of Vadstena – entailed a space for exploring epistemological questions within medical humanities, and at the intersection of humanities, social sciences, clinical research, and biomedicine – with a particular emphasis on interdisciplinary research.

Building research foundations

Twenty PhD students from around the world participated in the summer school. The schedule combined theoretical lectures with hands-on workshops and discussion seminars.

"In Sweden, there is currently no doctoral programme in medical humanities. Such programmes are also still quite rare in other countries, and we thought it was important that wherever PhD students are pursuing their PhD, whether in a disciplinary or interdisciplinary context, they have access to these courses," said Kristin Zeiler, Professor and Director of CMHB at Linköping University.

Apart from the lectures and workshops, the summer school structure included dedicated time for participants to develop collaborative research project proposals, providing experience in interdisciplinary teamwork. Further, the programme examined different approaches to knowledge production and research methods across disciplines.

Cross-cultural knowledge exchange

The summer school's international diversity contributed to the cross-cultural conversations, which involved the twenty PhD students as well as various tutors.

"In encounters between scholars with different academic backgrounds, it not only becomes important to try to create a space where one feels comfortable engaging in dialogue, but also to explore how one may use concepts and methods in different ways in different research strands, and seek to reflect on one's own and others' concepts and other linguistic tools so that we don't talk past each other," noted Kristin Zeiler. "Further, the international dimension enriched the discussions considerably. We are most grateful for being able to arrange and host courses like this."

Fiona Johnstone, Assistant Professor in Visual Medical Humanities at Durham University, and one of the tutors and co-organizers, explained the selection process: "Students were selected via a competitive process with an emphasis on ensuring a mix of disciplines; similarly, presentation tutors were from a

range of different fields, from art history to clinical practice." She adds that her objective was "facilitating the kind of interdisciplinary exchange that I found absolutely career-shaping when I was a PhD student and early career scholar."

Participant reflections

The summer school offered concrete skills development alongside theoretical understanding, according to participants.

"I think my main take-away is the different perspectives offered by participants from other disciplines, as well as how our work is influenced by geographical and cultural contexts," said one of the attendees, Petter Almqvist-Ingersoll, a PhD student from Linköping University.

The Summer School Planning Group consisted of Jelmer Brüggemann, Fiona Johnstone, Fraser Riddell, and Kristin Zeiler.

Jenny Widén



Winter School Explored Queer Methodologies in Medical Humanities

How can queer methodologies influence research in the field of medical humanities? This question was in focus as the Institute for Medical Humanities at Durham University in collaboration with CMHB hosted a winter school, on the topic of "Queer Methodologies in Medical Humanities".

Taking place in March 2025, this three-day course brought together twenty PhD students from a range of disciplines and countries to critically examine how queer perspectives can challenge dominant frameworks in healthcare and medical knowledge.

Diverse methodological approaches

The winter school covered multiple critical frameworks relevant to medical humanities research. Activities addressed activism as research practice, arts-based methodologies, working with sensitive historical archives, and the ethics of collaborating with marginalised communities.

João Florêncio, Professor at Linköping University, member of the CMHB, and one of the tutors and co-organizers, described the pedagogical approach: "With regards to the session I co-led with my colleague Edyta Just, we designed it as a hands-on workshop, where we offered examples of our own autoethnographic methodologies, discussed our rationale for using them as well as the limitations of such approaches, and then used that as prompts to invite students to engage in a series of writing exercises."

Timely academic focus

Dr. Fiona Johnstone, at Durham University, noted the programme's relevance: "Queer Medical Humanities is enjoying growing visibility in the UK and beyond. We have recently seen the launch of a Queer Medical Humanities Network and a number of significant publications."

The political context underscored the importance of the gathering. "When we started planning the winter school in September 2024, we knew that it would be focusing on important topics, but we had not predicted how pressing and politically consequential it would feel by the time it took place in March 2025," Johnstone reflected.

Network development

The winter school provided researchers with opportunities to build supportive networks. "The participants were extremely thankful for being provided with a space where critical queer methodologies could be explored in relation to re-

search in the medical humanities, and where likeminded PhD students could meet and network," João Florêncio said.

These connections continued after the event concluded. "One of the things that has already emerged from the PhD school was the creation of a group chat where all the participants have continued conversations and exchanges after the PhD course had ended," Florêncio added.

The winter school planning committee consisted of Fiona Johnstone, Fraser Riddell, David Woodhead, João Florêncio and Kristin Zeiler.

Jenny Widén



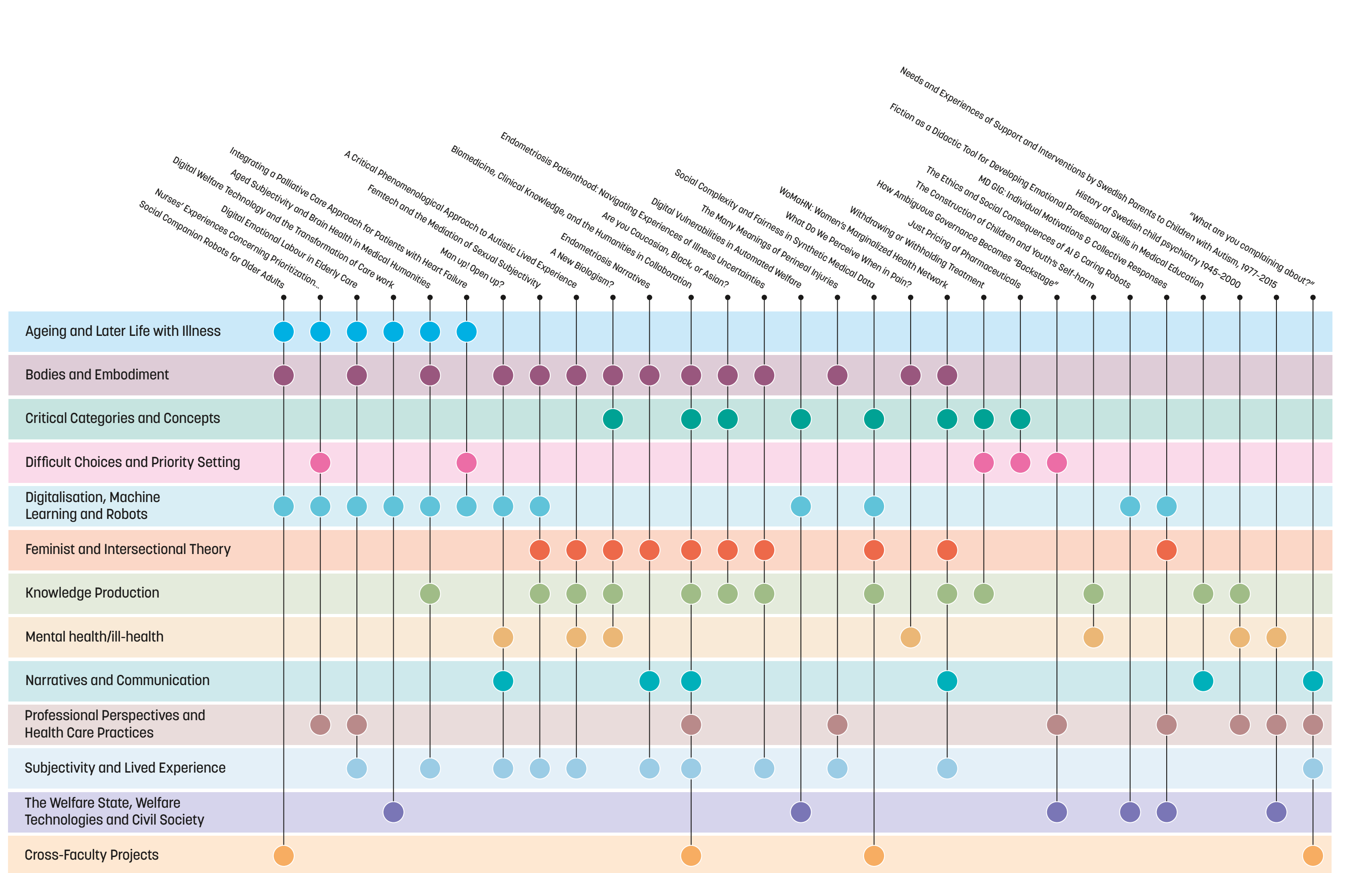
CMHB Research

Research at CMHB is currently structured into twelve interdisciplinary cross-themes spanning 29 research projects.

Cross-themes in ongoing research at CMHB

- 1 The cross-theme of **Aging and Later Life with Illness** addresses the meanings of aging with illness, living as an elderly person with disease, care home living, and new tests and treatments for cognitive impairment or dementia, from social, cultural, institutional, communicative, philosophical, and ethical perspectives.
- 2 The **Bodies and Embodiment** cross-theme explores sociocultural, historical and philosophical conceptions of bodies, lived experiences of embodiment, bodily symptoms and bodily expressions, and assumptions and norms about specific body parts or bodily variations.
- 3 **Critical Categories and Concepts** engages with central concepts and categories within biomedicine, at clinics, and in medical humanities and bioethics. This cross-theme also examines the conceptual tools and perspectives we use when generating new knowledge.
- 4 The cross-theme of **Difficult Choices and Priority-Setting** addresses ethical and existential choices that arise at hospitals and in care homes, and when setting priorities in healthcare. It engages with questions concerning whether to withdraw or withhold, or offer or abstain from, treatment in healthcare and care homes.
- 5 The **Digitalisation, Machine Learning and Robots** cross-theme explores communicative, ethical, social and material dimensions when robots, machine learning, new digital tools, and AI are introduced into healthcare.
- 6 The cross-theme of **Feminist and Intersectionality Theory** examines how ethnicity, gender and age (as some examples) affect healthcare practices and are talked about and made sense of. This cross-theme also contributes to feminist and/or intersectional theory.
- 7 The cross-theme of **Knowledge Production** examines, for example, the production, movement and translation of knowledge. Focusing on medicine, healthcare, and related fields of inquiry, it addresses how different knowledge is valued, and the perspectives of different actors involved in knowledge production.
- 8 The **Mental Health/Ill-health** cross-theme examines conceptualizations and experiences of mental health and mental ill-health. It approaches the topic from individual, medical, social and historical perspectives.
- 9 The cross-theme of **Narratives and Communication** addresses communication in relation to health, illness, and health care. It also engages with the role and the use of narratives in medical education and conceptual work.
- 10 The **Professional Perspectives and Healthcare Practices** cross-theme explores health care professionals' roles, perspectives, experiences and the settings in which they are engaged. It addresses also practices in healthcare and how they are negotiated, managed, developed and transformed.
- 11 The cross-theme of **Subjectivity and Lived Experience** addresses experiences of, for example, illness/ill-health, healthcare encounters and medical diagnosis and treatment. It examines how individuals make sense of such experiences in relation to the broader contexts in which they are situated.
- 12 The cross-theme of **The Welfare State, Welfare Technologies and Civil Society** engages with ways in healthcare contexts and care practices are configured in the welfare state and in relation to welfare technologies. It also addresses the role of civil society – such as social movements – in the welfare state.

The chart on page 18–19 shows the relationships between the cross-themes and the current research projects. Some projects are cross-faculty collaborations, in the sense that they engage researchers from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and researchers from the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences.



Project Descriptions 2024/2025

A Critical Phenomenological Approach to Autistic Lived Experience

This PhD project examines how autistic people make sense of the world in relation to the broader social context in which we are situated. The research project combines a critical phenomenological theoretical perspective with qualitative research methods to analyse autistic experiences. It is designed to

contribute to larger discussions about subjectivity and normativity. Moreover, in taking an intersectional approach to autistic lived experience as its starting point, the project aims to problematise dominant forms of knowledge production about autism.

PROJECT MEMBER

Sarah Bloem (Department of Thematic Studies, LiU)

FUNDING

LiU, Faculty funding

TIME PERIOD

2021-2026

A New Biologism? How Medical Research, Policy and Clinical Practice Approach Ethnic Differences in Health

The project seeks to critically examine the practice of using national and ethnic categories in relation to migrants' health in a Swedish context. The overall aim of this research is to query the possible shift towards a biological understanding of ethnic differences in contemporary Sweden, and its impact on

equal treatment. The project will meet its aim through two case studies: Psychiatric Ill-health (Depression/Anxiety) and Diabetes (Type 2) in Sweden. Quantitative and qualitative methods are used, and particular attention is paid to the translation between medical science, policy and clinical practice.

PROJECT MEMBER

Anna Bredström (Department of Culture and Society, LiU), Shai Mulinari (Lund University)

FUNDING

Swedish Research Council

TIME PERIOD

2020-2024

Aged Subjectivity and Brain Health in Medical Humanities: Interweaving Critical Phenomenology and Feminist Technoscience Studies

Sweden belongs to the countries that according to the OECD and the World Health Organization categories are classified as "aged" or "superaged," based on the proportion of the population above the age of 65 years. High age is also the largest risk factor for dementia, and the importance of early testing for mild cognitive impairment and dementia have been emphasized by the Swedish National Board of Health and Welfare. This book project interweaves a biopolitical

analysis in a feminist technoscience vein with a qualitative critical phenomenology analysis of subjectivity and subjectification, assumptions and norms about ageing and cognitive decline, and practices of screening and testing for cognitive impairment in Sweden, offering a novel approach to critical medical/health humanities and contributing to a bioethics that is attentive to self-formation as an ethical matter.

PROJECT MEMBER

Kristin Zeiler

FUNDING

Faculty Funding and the Swedish Research Council

TIME PERIOD

2022-2025

Are you Caucasian, Black, or Asian?

A Study of the Current Swedish Biopolitical Paradigm of Race and Ethnicity in Medicine

This three-year project investigates the current biopolitical framework concerning race and ethnicity in Swedish biomedicine, employing a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods. Building upon a previous research project that highlighted the growing “biologization” of race and ethnicity in Swedish medical research, which involved

the adoption of racial concepts and categories from the USA (e.g., “White” and “Black”), this project seeks to understand the reasons behind and implications of using such race concepts and categories in the Swedish context where the concept of race has been more or less taboo for many years.

PROJECT MEMBERS

Shai Mulinari (PI) (Department of Sociology, Lund University) and Anna Bredström (Co-applicant) (Department of Culture and Society (IKOS), LiU)

FUNDING

Research Project Grant from the Swedish Research Council (VR/HS/Racism)

TIME PERIOD

2024–2027

Biomedicine, Clinical Knowledge, and the Humanities in Collaboration: A Novel Epistemology for Radically Interdisciplinary Health Research and Policy-Work on Post-COVID-19 Condition (PCC)

The project develops a meta-epistemological framework for interdisciplinary health research and a novel model for health care policy-work, focused on PCC as an emergent multidimensional health challenge whose biomedical, social, political and embodied dimensions require study. Given the complexity of this condition, interdisciplinary analyses are required for apt healthcare, societal response, and policy-making. The project offers such analyses through a combination of perspectives from neuroscience, rehabilitation medicine, intersectional theory, medical sociology and science & technology studies (STS), philosophy of medicine and science, and medical ethics.

Sub-project 1: examines how different epistemological perspectives and choices of methodologies impact on how a complex, emergent object such as post-Covid is perceived, produced, and shared as a knowledge object within and across different epistemic fields.

Sub-project 2: Fatigue and cognitive impairment are common symptoms of PCC, yet these symptoms remain pathophysiologically and phenomenologically enigmatic. The aim of sub-project 2 is to investigate subjectivity, affectivity, and neural processes of fatigue in PCS, through a combination of approaches and methods within rehabilitation medicine, neuroradiology, neurobiology, neuropsychology and qualitative phenomenological philosophy.

Sub-project 3: analyses the emergence/creation of the post-COVID diagnosis, and how this novel diagnosis, and post-COVID rehabilitation, are made sense of by stakeholders such as patients, relatives, health care personnel at post-COVID units, and other interest organizations and state authorities. It studies sense-making between patients and professionals with an intersectional focus on how ethnicity and other social categories affect rehabilitation.

Sub-project 4: examines what is assessed as relevant knowledge for health care recommendations and policies, regionally, nationally, and internationally; how this assessment is done, and which epistemic presuppositions the assessment rests on. Its aim is also to create a model for knowledge assessment that makes it possible to include research results from within randomized clinical trials as well as hermeneutically oriented qualitative research and other studies in medical humanities. PCC is used as a case.

Sub-project 5: visualise research questions, initial results and research processes in SP 1–4 with the aim contribute to examinations of interdisciplinarity and knowledge production through art-based research inquiry. This is achieved through workshops and conversations within and across SP 1–4 in which the involved researchers and artist engage with reflections and lessons resulting from the sub-projects.

PROJECT MEMBERS

Kristin Zeiler (PI), Petter Almqvist-Ingersoll; Jelmér Brüggemann, Lisa Guntram, Ericka Johnson; Sofia Morberg Jämterud (Department of Thematic Studies, LiU), Anna Bredström, Erik Gustavsson, Harald Wiltsche (Department of Culture and Society, LiU), Ida Blystad (Center for Medical Image Science and Visualization, LiU and Region Östergötland), Agnes Andersson, Anestis Divanoglou, Ulrika Birberg Thornberg, Richard Levi (Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, Region Östergötland and Department of Health, Medicine and Caring Sciences, LiU), David Engblom (Department of Biomedical and Clinical Sciences, LiU), Anders Eklund (Center for Medical Image Science and Visualization, Department of Biomedical Engineering and Department of Computer and Information Science, LiU), Olivia Plender (artist and senior lecturer, Konstfack University of Arts, Crafts and Design).

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATORS

Felipe León (University of Lisbon), Jane Macnaughton, Angela Woods (Durham University), Jonathan Metz (Vanderbilt University), Janet Shim (UC San Francisco), Kevin Aho (Florida Gulf Coast University), Claire Crignon (Sorbonne University).

FUNDING

Swedish Research Council, Interdisciplinary Research Environment Grant. Co-Funding LiU, faculty funding.

TIME PERIOD

2022–2027

Digital Emotional Labour in Elderly Care

Digital work tools can facilitate care work for caregivers but also challenge traditional care ideals. In this project, caregivers' expression of and handling of emotions is investigated in connection with the use of digital tools to practice caring work with users and

colleagues. By providing knowledge about caregivers' feelings about digital work in elderly care, the project will contribute to showing how digitalization can take place in a way that makes sense in relation to caregivers' ideals of care.

PROJECT MEMBERS

Marcus Persson (PI, Department of Behavioural Sciences and Learning LiU), Elin Thunman (Uppsala University), Clara Iversen (Uppsala University), David Redmalm (Mälardalen University)

FUNDING

AFA Insurance

TIME PERIOD

2023-2026

Digital Vulnerabilities in Automated Welfare: Infrastructures, Citizens' Experiences and Public Values

This interdisciplinary research project explores the digital vulnerabilities inherent in the algorithmic automation of welfare services across education, healthcare, social services, and media sectors, with a particular focus on Sweden. Despite promises of efficiency and improved decision-making, the reliance

on algorithmic systems introduces new risks, including cyber threats and biases that undermine citizen trust. This research seeks to comprehensively understand and address these challenges through comparative empirical analysis and theoretical development.

PROJECT MEMBERS

Anne Kaun (PI) (Södertörn University); Fredrik Stiernstedt (Södertörn University), Olof Sundin (Lund University), Ericka Johnson, Desirée Enlund (both Department of Thematic Studies, LiU)

FUNDING

Swedish Research Council

TIME PERIOD

2025-2029

Digital Welfare Technology and the Transformation of Care Work: New Ways of Working and Leading in Elderly Care

Appropriate use of digital technology requires comprehensive changes in working methods and organization. The aim of the study is to

investigate how the practical use of digital welfare technology in elderly care can be supported and organized in more efficient ways.

PROJECT MEMBERS

Marcus Persson (PI), Linköping University; Ann-Charlotte Bivall, Linköping University, Ulrika Bennerstedt, Swedish Defence University

FUNDING

FORTE Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare

TIME PERIOD

2025-2027



Endometriosis Narratives

Just's recent research is in Medical Humanities, patients' narratives and, in particular, international and Swedish research on endometriosis patients' narratives. The research aims to 1) create understanding of the narrative medium which people use to tell stories about illness and health 2) create understanding of patients' encounters with medical staff 3)

create understanding of illness and patients' experience of it. Adjacent to that is her work on illness and visual culture, and -in particular- supernatural horror films. Just examines how supernatural horror films can contribute to narrative practices in health in general and about endometriosis in particular.

PROJECT MEMBER

Edyta Just (Department of Thematic Studies, LiU)

FUNDING

N/A

TIME PERIOD

2023-

Endometriosis Patienthood: Navigating Experiences of Illness Uncertainties

Having an illness that is known for being elusive, etiologically ambiguous and lacking in understanding creates patienthood that is riddled with uncertainties and potential invisibility. Endometriosis has been referred to as the "missed disease" or "modern epidemic" due to a myriad of ignorance on the cause of the dis-

ease, inconsistent diagnoses and unknowns in care and treatment options. This PhD project explores how people with endometriosis experience and navigate uncertainties that come with a disease/illness that is largely unknown, and how patienthood is affected and enacted for those with endometriosis.

PROJECT MEMBER

Emilia Kangasjärvi (Department of Thematic Studies, LiU)

FUNDING

LiU, Faculty funding

TIME PERIOD

2023-2027

Femtech and the Mediation of Sexual Subjectivity

Femtech, a growing category within personal health tracking technologies, is designed to help women better understand and manage their bodies. In recent years, this has expanded to include data-driven technologies that focus specifically on women's sexual pleasure.

Drawing on postphenomenology, critical and feminist phenomenology, and feminist technoscience, I examine how technologies such as "smart vibrators" and "pleasure apps," co-shape the body, self-knowledge, and sexual pleasure.

PROJECT MEMBER

Christl de Kloe (Department of Thematic Studies, Tema G, LiU)

FUNDING

LiU, Faculty funding

TIME PERIOD

2023-2027

Fiction as a Didactic Tool for Developing Emotional Professional Skills in Medical Education

The focus of this project is to study how fiction in medical education can contribute to emotional professional skills such as empathy. Using a discursive psychological framework,

the project uses video-ethnography to capture fiction seminars as well as written assignments as part of the regular curriculum of three medical schools in Sweden.

PROJECT MEMBERS

Katarina Eriksson Barajas (PI, Department of Behavioural Sciences and Learning, LiU), Sally Wiggins Young (Department of Behavioural Sciences and Learning, LiU), Anja Rydén Gramner (Division of Behavioural Sciences and Learning, LiU)

FUNDING

Swedish Research Council

TIME PERIOD

2023-2026

History of Swedish Child Psychiatry 1945-2000: Scientific Underpinnings and Changing Notions of Children and Childhood

The project aims to illuminate historical changes and continuities in Swedish child psychiatry, with a specific interest in knowledge production in scientific and professional practice. It shows how this period encompassed a rapid development of child

psychiatric knowledge in Sweden, shaped by both international trends and the specificities of the Swedish nation-state context. The research project further focusses on how child psychiatric knowledge has been disseminated to the public through media and other arenas.

PROJECT MEMBERS

Karin Zetterqvist Nelson (Department of Thematic Studies, LiU) and Peter Holmqvist (Department of Culture and Society, LiU)

FUNDING

Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare 2014-2018; LiU, faculty funding 2019-2024

TIME PERIOD

2014-2024

How Ambiguous Governance Becomes “Backstage” Practice in Healthcare: Professional Reasoning and Practice in the Case of Palliative Care

This project studies how various forms of knowledge, values and priorities are, in practice, handled in processes “backstage”, when

professions are challenged to handle everyday decision-making situations.

PROJECT MEMBERS

Ann-Charlotte Nedlund, Daniel Boethius, Barbro Krevers (all at the Department of Health, Medicine and Caring Sciences, LiU)

FUNDING

Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare. Co-Funding LiU, faculty funding

TIME PERIOD

2018-2025

Integrating a Palliative Care Approach for Patients with Heart Failure (RAPHAEL)

RAPHAEL is an international, multicentre research project with a patient advisory panel at its core, alongside experts in palliative care, cardiology, and primary care. LiU is managing the implementation work packages using mixed social science methods and leads the management of the patient advisory panel

and for the monitoring and evaluation of patient and public involvement on the project. The LiU research group also plays a key role in a sub project which focuses on the ethical and cultural dimensions of the RAPHAEL approach.

PROJECT MEMBERS (AT LIU)

Thomas Grice-Jackson, Malin Idar Walin, Tiny Jaarsma, Pier Jaarsma, Anna Strömberg (all at the Department of Health, Medicine and Caring Sciences, LiU), Maria Friedrichsen (RÖ and LiU)

FUNDING

European commission fundings

TIME PERIOD

2024 - 2028

Just Pricing of Pharmaceuticals

The aim of the research project is to explore ethical, judicial, and economic challenges of pharmaceutical pricing with the purpose to arrive at an ethically, legally, and economically

sustainable model for pricing of pharmaceuticals within publicly financed healthcare systems.

PROJECT MEMBERS

Lars Sandman (PI), Martin Henriksson (both at the Department of Health, Medicine and Caring Sciences, LiU), Erik Gustavsson (Department of Culture and Society, LiU), Niklas Juth, Moa Kindström Dahlin (both at Uppsala University), Erik Malmkvist and Joakim Sandberg (both at Gothenburg University).

FUNDING

Swedish Research Council

TIME PERIOD

2025-2027

Man up! Open up? Teenage boys' interpretations of social media content about mental health

The research project aims to increase knowledge about the mental health-related messages teenage boys encounter in the content published by social media influencers, and about how teenage boys interpret and make use of them. The project will fill the existing knowledge gap about how representations of

mental health and well-being are created and interpreted in relation to different ideals of masculinity. It contributes to making visible the impact that gender norms may have on representations of mental health problems as well as on young people's health behaviour in general.

PROJECT MEMBERS

Anette Wickström (PI) and Judith Lind, both at Department of Thematic Studies/Child Studies.

FUNDING

Swedish Research Council

TIME PERIOD

2025-2027

MD GIG: Individual Motivations & Collective Responses to Gig Work among Medical Doctors

MD GIG examines the transition to digital service provision in the public services by exploring the rise of the "online doctor", providing consultations between doctors and patients via app-based mobile phone technol-

ogy. The aim is to explore the digitalization of healthcare from a worker perspective to highlight the preconditions that give rise to gig work in the healthcare sector and explore the potential consequences at different scales.

PROJECT MEMBER

Desirée Enlund (PI) (Department of Thematic Studies, LiU).

FUNDING

Swedish Research Council

TIME PERIOD

2022-2026

Needs and Experiences of Support and Interventions by Swedish Parents to Children with Autism, 1977-2015

The overall aim of the project is to study historical changes in the view of children with autism and their need for support, help and

efforts from Swedish society and its welfare institutions such as preschool, school and healthcare.

PROJECT MEMBERS

Peter Holmqvist (PI) (Department of Culture and Society, IKOS, LiU) and Sofia Littmarck (Department of Behavioural Sciences and Learning (IBL), LiU)

FUNDING

Partly funded through faculty funding, LiU

TIME PERIOD

2023-

Nurses' Experiences Concerning Prioritization for Health and Wellbeing of Older Nursing Home Residents During the COVID-19 Pandemic in Sweden: A Qualitative Study

An interdisciplinary study with a qualitative descriptive design followed by a normative analysis. The project is a hybrid of a nursing study and a study in empirical ethics, combining descriptive data on nurses' experiences concerning prioritization for the health and

well-being of older nursing home residents during the COVID-19 pandemic with a normative analysis relating these experiences to the discussion on distributive justice and equality in healthcare.

PROJECT MEMBERS

Pier Jaarsma (PI), Tiny Jaarsma, Lars Sandman (all at the Department of Health, Medicine and Caring Sciences, LiU), Thérèse Bielsten (Jönköping University), Suzanne Cahill (Trinity College Dublin)

FUNDING

Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare and the National Centre for Priorities in Health, LiU.

TIME PERIOD

2020–

Social Companion Robots for Older Adults

This project investigates the use of social companion robots in care homes for older adults. The research so far includes long-term ethnographic studies of the use of robot pets in dementia care, as well as participatory workshops with different groups of stakehold-

ers aiming to disentangle the many interrelated factors involved in the introduction of such technologies. In 2022 and 2023, international workshops on care robots for older adults were organized (<https://croa-roman.com/>).

PROJECT MEMBERS

Tom Ziemke (PI), Sofia Thunberg (both at the Department of Computer & Information Science, LiU), Ericka Johnson (Department of Thematic Studies, LiU)

FUNDING

Partly supported by ELLIIT, the Excellence Center at Linköping-Lund in Information Technology.

TIME PERIOD

2019–2024



Social Complexity and Fairness in Synthetic Medical Data

This project is a collaboration between WASP-HS & WASP researchers and will develop fairness metrics to evaluate the production of synthetic data from a specific medical dataset, with the hypothesis that intersectionality can contribute to better data. Additionally,

we will closely examine existing synthetic medical data to see if there are lessons social science can take from it to inform theoretical work about intersectional power dynamics in society.

PROJECT MEMBERS

Erica Johnson (LiU), Gabriel Eilertsen (LiU), Saghi Hajjsharif (LiU), Francis Lee (Chalmers), Tahereh Dehdarirad (LiU)

FUNDING

WASP-HS

TIME PERIOD

2023-2025

The Construction of Children and Youth's Self-harm

This PhD project studies how children and youth's self-harming behaviour is constructed as a problem in medical as well as medial dis-

courses. The focus of the study is how affects, suffering and subjectivity are articulated in late modern society.

PROJECT MEMBERS

Joachim Strand (Department of Thematic Studies, LiU), Karin Zetterqvist Nelson (Department of Thematic Studies, LiU) and Peter Holmqvist (Department of Culture and Society, LiU)

FUNDING

Faculty funding

TIME PERIOD

2022-2027

The Ethics and Social Consequences of AI & Caring Robots

Robots are starting to enter our daily life. We and our children are going to be expected to interact with robots as they perform different kinds of care for and with us at different life stages. What will that do to how we – and

how the robots – think of care? And how are we going to produce accountability, trust and empathy in the relational intra-actions we have, together?

PROJECT MEMBERS

Erica Johnson (Co-PI), Katherine Harrison (Co-PI), Maria Arnelid, Dominika Lisy, Isabel Garcia (all at the Department of Thematic Studies, LiU)

FUNDING

Marianne and Marcus Wallenberg Foundation and WASP-HS

TIME PERIOD

2020-2025

The Many Meanings of Perineal Injuries. Care-Seekers' and Care-Providers' Perspectives on Second-Degree Perineal Injuries, their Implications, and Potential to Improve Care

The project demonstrates how care-seekers' and care-providers' experiences and attitudes come to matter in care for perineal injuries. It aims to investigate care-seekers' and care-providers' experiences of and attitudes towards second-degree perineal injuries, and how

they shape, and are shaped by, information, treatment, and care encounters. The project also looks at how such attitudes and experiences can be unpacked and problematised to improve care.

PROJECT MEMBERS

Lisa Guntram (PI), Lisa Lindén (Chalmers University of Technology)

FUNDING

FORTE Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare

TIME PERIOD

2021-2025

“What are You Complaining About?” – Patients’ Critique in Care Encounters and Its Potential to Improve Quality of Care

This project studies the meaning of patients’ verbal critique in Swedish care encounters. It investigates patients’ and care professionals’ experiences, and the norms that guide how such critique is expressed and dealt with. Ap-

plying a qualitative and collaborative research design, the project aims to develop medical sociological understandings, while informing ongoing work on complaints and quality improvement in Swedish health care.

PROJECT MEMBERS

Jelmer Bruggemann (PI), Lisa Guntram (both at the Department of Thematic Studies, LiU), Ann-Charlotte Nedlund (Department of Health, Medicine and Caring Sciences, LiU)

FUNDING

Swedish Research Council

TIME PERIOD

2021–2024

Withdrawing or Withholding Treatment as a Result of Reimbursement Decisions – Operationalization of Ethical Principles Utilizing Psychological Traits (WITH-OUT)

In healthcare, withdrawing treatment is considered ethically worse than withholding treatment, despite a lack of ethical analyses to support this. In this project, we are exploring stakeholders’ and citizens’ views on this

distinction, using psychological experiments to identify factors influencing their attitudes towards the distinction, with the final aim being to arrive at feasible ethical principles.

PROJECT MEMBERS

Lars Sandman, Liam Strand, Gustav Tinghög, Ann-Charlotte Nedlund (all at the National Centre for Priorities in Health, LiU)

FUNDING

Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare

TIME PERIOD

2020–2024

What do We Perceive When in Pain?

This theoretical three-part project at the interface between clinical practice and the philosophy of pain explores the three tradi-

tional areas of pain medicine: acute, chronic, and cancer-related pain.

PROJECT MEMBER

Emmanuel Bäckryd (Department of Health, Medicine and Caring Sciences, LiU)

FUNDING

N/A

TIME PERIOD

2018–2024

WoMaHN: Women’s Marginalized Health Network

WoMaHN gathers researchers with an interest in marginalization of women’s embodiment and health from perspectives within the critical social sciences, gender studies, philosophy, and medical humanities. During the period 2024 to 2026 the network will conduct four workshops to initiate and contribute to the development of interdisciplinary innovative research to meet the challenges of the marginalization of women’s embodiment and

health. Through the workshops the network seeks to identify persistent knowledge gaps and research needs with regards to the critical appraisal women’s health, initiate research that responds to such gaps and needs and to enable dialogues and collaboration between early career and senior scholars in the field of critical social sciences and humanities with regards to the topic of women’s health

PROJECT MEMBERS

Key members of the network include Marjolein de Boer, Tilburg University, The Netherlands (founding member), Lisa Guntram, Linköping University, Sweden (founding member), Birgitta Haga Gripsrud, University of Stavanger, Norway; Lisa Lindén, Chalmers University, Sweden; Jane Macnaughton, Durham University, the UK; Kari Nyheim Solbrække, University of Oslo, Norway, Cassandra Phoenix, Durham University, the UK; Petra Verdonk, Amsterdam UMC-VU, the Netherlands

FUNDING

Riksbankens jubileumsfond

TIME PERIOD

2024–2026

Collaborations and Guests

This academic year, international collaborations between colleagues at CMHB and the Institute for Medical Humanities (IMH), Durham University, have included the International Medical Humanities PhD courses and the one-day symposium *Gender and Genre: Medical Humanities and the Moving Image*, held at Durham University on September 18, 2024. This symposium was co-convened by Veronica Heney and Fiona Johnstone, at Durham University and Edyta Just at Linköping University. The symposium was part of a programme of activities delivered by the IMH's Narrative Practices Lab and Visual and Material Lab, and supported by funds from the Discovery Research Platform for Medical Humanities at Durham University. Collaborations with colleagues in Durham have also included a one-day workshop led by Mary Robson, Senior Creative Facilitator at IMH, Durham University, within the CMHB project *Biomedicine, Clinical Knowledge, and the Humanities in Collaboration: A Novel Epistemology for Radically Interdisciplinary Health Research and Policy-Work on Post-COVID-19 Condition*.

Under Mary's guidance, the project team took part in a creative process, where all team members brought artefacts to think with, engaged in small group conversations, and formulated visions for the remaining years of the project.

Further, CMHB is one of several partners within CHARM – the Consortium for Health Humanities, Arts, Reading, and Medicine. On September 19–20, the CHARM Kick-Off Event *The Difference We Make* took place in Ghent, co-organised by Professor Jürgen Pieters and Zoë Ghyselinck, visiting professor of Literary Studies and German Literature and Postdoc Coordinator at CHARM, and facilitated by Mary Robson, Durham University.

In addition to the events above, CMHB has also had the pleasure of welcoming guest researchers to take part in recurrent activities such as seminars and conversations over “fika,” i.e., the traditional coffee, tea and possibly cake breaks that comprise regular events where researchers gather and talk. Professor Jane Macnaughton has been conducting several visits as part of her involvement in the project *Biomedicine,*

Clinical Knowledge, and the Humanities in Collaboration: A Novel Epistemology for Radically Interdisciplinary Health Research and Policy-Work on Post-COVID-19 Condition, also called, in short, the *Epistemology and Post-COVID* project. Macnaughton reflects on her research stays:

“I am now in the third year of my Fellowship at CMHB as part of the Epistemology and post-COVID project. My current role is to track and articulate the development of our interdisciplinary process and lead on a co-authored article with the whole team. Engagement with the team in these discussions has been deeply rewarding in terms of my interdisciplinary thinking and has also led to friendships that I have enjoyed revisiting across my many visits. This and staying in a lovely apartment in Linköping, cycling up to the University, and having coffee and cardamon buns in Simon's Bageri has meant Linköping now feels like a second home!”

During the academic year 2024/2025, CMHB has also had the pleasure of welcoming Rudolf Dettlaff, University of Wrocław, Poland and Elena Scalcon, University of Parma, Italy for shorter stays as guest researchers.

LIMEC - Linköping University Medical Ethics Conference

Together with the Centre for Applied Ethics and the National Centre for Priorities in Health, CMHB is pleased to host the Linköping University Medical Ethics Conference (LIMEC). The conference takes place at The Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (Campus US) on 12–13 June 2025 and aims to bring together researchers in medical ethics from Sweden and abroad. At the time of printing, this event is about to take place, with an exciting programme and conversations on medical ethics.

Lisa Guntram and Kristin Zeiler



Upcoming events

SEPTEMBER 17, 15.00-17.00

Hermaphrodite Logic: A History of Intersex Liberation: Book talk with Author Juliana Gleeson

Together with Tema Gender Studies and the seminar group P6: Body, Knowledge, Subjectivity, CMHB is welcoming Juliana Gleeson for a talk about her newly published book *"Hermaphrodite Logic: A History of Intersex Liberation"* (Verso Books). Blending philosophical insights and personal testimonies, Gleeson provides an interesting account of intersex activism versus 21st-century medical knowledge and interventions (framed along bioethical lines), and how this history has shaped our understandings of sex. Unlike other histories of sex written based on medical archives – where very few actual intersex voices were ever present – Gleeson centres the role of intersex activism as a form of rationality that changed not only popular and medical knowledge of sex but also the ways we think about it.

NOVEMBER 27, 18:00-21:00

CMHB Scientific Salon

On November 27, CMHB is hosting a scientific salon – this time on the topic of digitalisation. At a time that demands quick answers, the purpose of the scientific salon is to provide an opportunity for reflection from different perspectives and to create a meeting place for people who are engaged in the evening's theme in various ways but who would not otherwise meet. Regardless of whether the guests at the scientific salon are health-care professionals, researchers, politicians, or other societal actors such as users, patient representatives, regional strategists, or investigators, conversation is at the centre. More information will be announced shortly.

NOVEMBER 2025

Annual Visionary Day

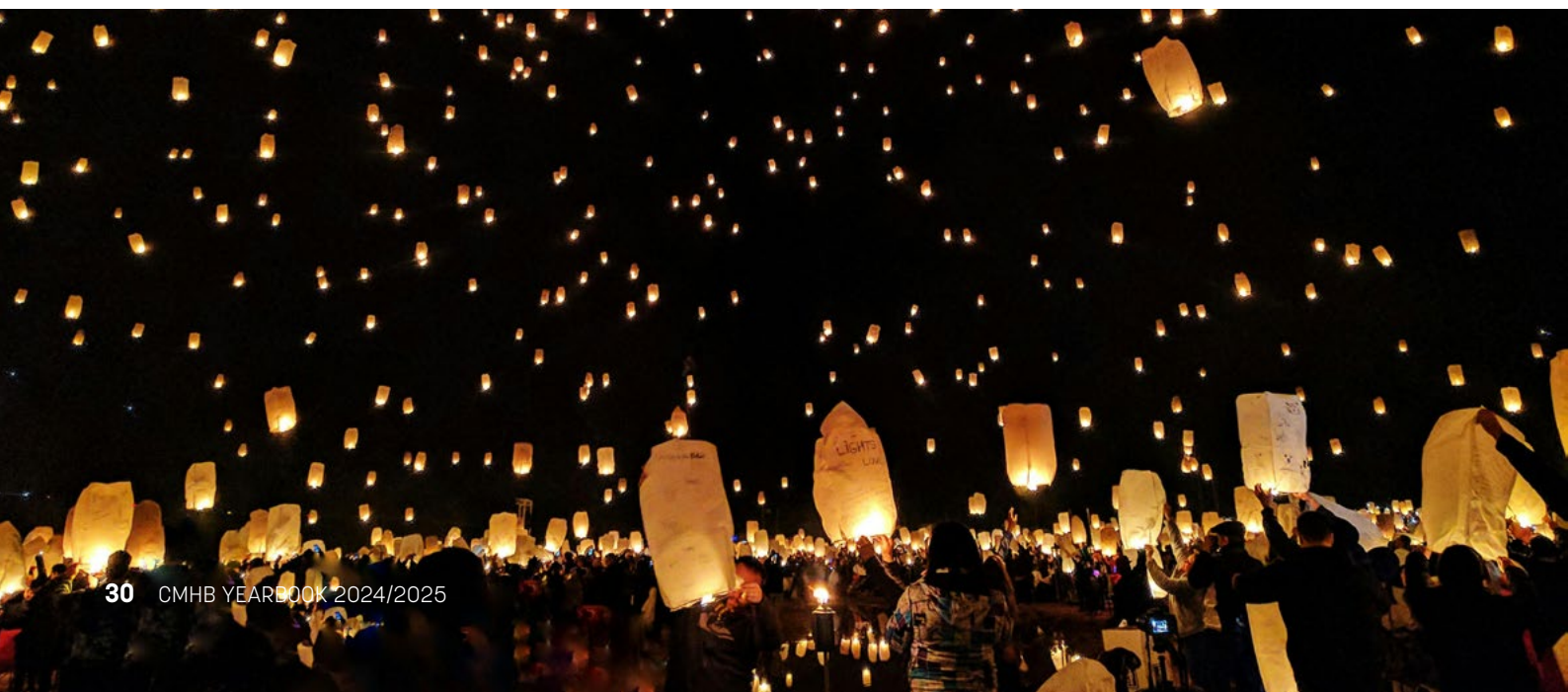
As always, CMHB organises its Annual Strategy Day, where we discuss and plan what we'll do next year. In the academ-

ic year 2024/2025, we hope to invite and learn more about the medical humanities and bioethics in Norway!

MAY 19-21, 2027

International Medical/ Health Humanities and Bioethics Conference

Although still quite a bit in the future, CMHB is happy to announce this international medical/health humanities and bioethics conference! Central foci at the conference will include – but not be limited to – global health care challenges; crisis and resilience; interdisciplinary work across the humanities, social sciences, clinical practice and biomedicine; intersectional approaches in the study of health, pain, illnesses, and bodily and/or functional variations; knowledge assessment in health care policies and recommendations; and bridges between medical/health humanities and bioethics.



Courses

Over several years, colleagues at CMHB have taught in the medical humanities and bioethics at the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences. We also have long experience of teaching the medical humanities and bioethics at undergraduate and postgraduate level in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Our ambition is to further develop teaching collaboration across the faculties as well as outside the university.

Basic level

Children and Young People as Health Actors (736G06) 7.5 credits

Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Department of Thematic Studies. The course studies the health and well-being of children and young people from an interdisciplinary perspective with a particular emphasis on child and youth perspectives. The course covers key theoretical concepts of child and youth agency, rights in healthcare, and ethical dilemmas as well as problematizing diagnoses, digital arenas, and institutional interventions to improve child and youth health.

History of Genetics in Sweden (751G43) 7.5 credits

Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Department of Culture and Society. Human genetics as a science has often been fired by hopes of being able to explain human characteristics and cure hereditary diseases. This course provides an introduction to the establishment of human genetics in Sweden from a history of medicine perspective and looks at the social and cultural values that have been attached to genetic medicine and its applications.

Plague or Cholera? Pandemics through History (751G20) 7.5 credits

Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Department of Culture and Society. Pandem-

ics are nothing new in human history. A hundred years before the COVID-19 pandemic, the world was hit by the influenza outbreak known as “Spanish flu”, which claimed the lives of millions of people. Other widespread infectious diseases have included plague and cholera. This course looks at how people at different times in the past understood pandemics and attempted to protect themselves, as well as the emergence of infection medicine and the social and cultural consequences of pandemics.

Swedish Race Biology through History and its Applications (751G42) 7.5 credits

Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Department of Culture and Society. The course examines the emergence of race biology in twentieth-century Sweden and its societal applications in its international context. The course covers the period from the establishment of race biology in Sweden in about 1909 until the formal abolition of the legislation that regulated one of its most central applications, the Swedish Sterilization Act, in 1975.

Advanced level

Critical Perspectives on Planning for Health (70A09)

Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Department of Thematic Studies, single subject course and elective course in the Master’s Programme in Strategic Urban and Regional Planning. Throughout the course, special attention is given to the ways in which urban and regional planning matters to social justice and how health is distributed in society. The course explores how the built and lived environment fits some individuals but at the same time works to exclude others, keeping in mind different definitions of health and well-being.

Engaging with Normativity – Normative Embodiment and Normativity in Medical/ Technological Knowledge Practices and Policy-Work, PhD level, 6 credits

Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Department of Thematic Studies. The course explores how to research normativity from perspectives of STS and feminist STS, feminist and other critical phenomenology, post-phenomenology, medical sociology, and philosophy of medicine. It presents key theoretical positions on how to conceptualize and analyse embodied normativity and normativity in perception; enacted normativity in different scientific, medical and other technological knowledge production practices, and normative dimensions of policy-making.

Feminist Technoscience & Bodies (7FTEM15), PhD level, 10 credits

Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Department of Thematic Studies. This course explores different tools (terms) and lenses (theories) to use when talking about the body and forming knowledge about it. The course engages different strands of academic work over the last 40 years and some even a little older.

Migration, Health and Biopolitics (742A42) 7.5 credits

Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Department of Culture and Society. In this advanced course, students examine health-related issues using intersectional theories of migration, ethnicity and racism. Students will learn about encounters between sociocultural and (bio) medical perspectives on health, and explore themes such as the history of racial biology, postmodern genomics, colonial psychiatry, population regulation, and migration and trauma.

Publications

Peer reviewed articles

- Alston, J., Gandell, D., **Kangasjarvi, E. et al.** (2024) 'Ready, Set, Goal: A Mixed Methods Study of a Goal-Setting Intervention on 2 Competency-Based Geriatric Medicine Rotations', *Journal of Graduate Medical Education*, 16(4), pp. 453–460. <https://doi.org/10.4300/jgme-d-24-00069.1>
- Brüggemann, J., Nedlund, A.-C. and Guntram, L.** (2025) 'Working the boundaries of "whining" – how patients and care professionals make sense of informal complaining practices', *Social Science & Medicine*, 376, 118112. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2025.118112>
- Björkman, M.** (2024) "Educated, Cultured Men": Features of Urological Masculinity', *Histoire, médecine et santé*, 25, pp. 43–59.
- De Boer, M. and **Zeiler, K.** (2024) 'Qualitative critical phenomenology', *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11097-024-10034-7>
- Friedrichsen, M., Lythell, C., Milovanovic, M., Waldréus, N., Thulesius, H., Jaarsma, T., **Jaarsma, P.**, Hedman, C. and Söderlund Schaller, A. (2024) 'Nurses' experiences of ethical challenges concerning thirst in dying patients in specialist palliative care: a qualitative study', *BMC Palliative Care*, 23, 192. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12904-024-01519-y>
- Grice-Jackson, T.**, Rogers, I., Ford, E., Dickinson, R., Frere-Smith, K., Goddard, K., Silver, L., Topham, C., Nahar, P., Musinguzi, G., Bastiaens, H. and Van Marwijk, H. (2024) 'A community health worker led approach to cardiovascular disease prevention in the UK – SPICES-Sussex: an implementation research project', *Frontiers in Health Services*, 4, 1152410. <https://doi.org/10.3389/frhs.2024.1152410>
- Grice-Jackson, T.**, Rogers, I., Ford, E., Van Marwijk, H., Topham, C., Musinguzi, G., Bastiaens, H., Gibson, L., Bower, M. and Nahar, P. (2024) 'The pre-implementation phase of a project seeking to deliver a community-based CVD prevention intervention (SPICES-Sussex): a qualitative study exploring views and experience relating to intervention development', *Health Promotion Practice*, 25(6), pp. 1009–1022. <https://doi.org/10.1177/15248399231182139>
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