

Call for Essays on ‘Decolonial Perspectives in Psychology’: An Essay Writing Competition for Graduate Students

The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI) Graduate Student Committee (GSC) invites graduate students to participate in the essay competition on ‘Decolonial Perspectives in Psychology’.

This essay writing competition is organized to inspire students to explore psychology’s colonial legacies. Scholarly efforts have increasingly begun to interrogate how the prevailing knowledge and practice of psychology subordinates’ theories from the Global South. We encourage students to submit essays that address how dominant perspectives of psychology reflect and reproduce ways of thinking, feeling, and being that are consistent with Euro-American global world order.

These submissions can be in the form of critical, analytical, or reflective essays. The essays will be limited to 800-1000 words, excluding references. Essays must be written in APA style. Potential topics might include but are not limited to applications of decolonial perspectives to social issues such as international development, human rights, conceptions of gender, empowerment, environment degradation, immigration, poverty, mental health, and motherhood.

We welcome submissions from a) international members studying in the Global South (e.g., Africa, Latin America, Asia, and southern and eastern Europe) & b) students from underrepresented groups including ethnic and racial minorities; first-generation college students; lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered students; and students with a physical disability in the US and outside of North America. We encourage applications from international students from underrepresented groups.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. All applicants must be a student currently enrolled in either a master’s or Ph.D. program.
2. Applicants may submit only one application at a time.
3. Co-authored entries with other graduate students are eligible.
4. Applicants do not need to be SPSSI members.

AWARD

The winning essay will be awarded \$250 and will be published in the SPSSI newsletter. Co-authored entries with other students are eligible and if selected, student co-authors will share the prize.

EVALUATIVE CRITERIA

The prospective entries will be evaluated based on the following criteria: 1) review and critical analysis of research, 2) style, and 3) organization, and 4) potential impact with respect to social issues.

DEADLINE: The deadline is June 30th. The winners will be announced by 31st July 2021.

HOW TO APPLY: Please use this [online portal](#) to submit your essays in a Word format.