

# call for papers

## Utopia, Dystopia and Critical Theory

We invite submissions for the next issue of *Studies in Social and Political Thought* linked to the theme of 'Utopia, Dystopia and Critical Theory'.

In a period of geo-political, ecological and economic turmoil, we find ourselves in the midst of a crisis of legitimation with respect to the dominant post-Cold War neoliberal economic and political doctrine of unfettered market-led growth, de-regulation and privatization of national resources and public services, and total sovereignty of private ownership and capital over all spheres of life. With a deepening crisis of the neoliberal political economy, it is clear that mere economic functionalism is redundant. Now is a time for a critical reappraisal of the frameworks and structures that continue to be applied to a highly conflicted and unsustainable political and economic system. Such projects will need to engage with debates over utopia/dystopia, for any consideration of transformation in the present entails a complex yet inextricable orientation towards the future.

Please send your articles of 5000-6500 words (in .doc format) via email to [sspt@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:sspt@sussex.ac.uk)

Accepted articles will be published alongside a selection of papers on the same theme from this year's *SSPT* Conference (held in May 2010).

The deadline for submissions is **31 August 2010**.

Possible topics include but are not limited to: -

- Science Fiction, Cultural Politics, the Political Imagination
- Crisis (of Capitalism, Feminism, the State, Marxism, Critical Theory)
- Ends (of History, Ideology, Capitalism, Communism, Neo-liberalism, Postcoloniality)
- Immanent and Transcendent Criticism
- Environment, Catastrophe, Risk
- Futures (of Critical Theory, Political Economy, Postmodernity, Europe, Islam, Secular Humanism, Globalisation, Feminism)
- Representations of Transcendence, Utopia/Dystopia, Apocalypse, Negative Theology
- Iconography, Idolatory and Ideology Critique

studies in

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**social & political thought**