

CALL FOR PAPERS

UNPACKING CAPITALISM: STRUCTURES, ENDURANCE, REPRODUCTION

**ST AIDAN'S COLLEGE, DURHAM UNIVERSITY
30-31 JULY 2020**

Since capitalism was first theorised and written about, it has been described as inherently crisis-prone and many have insisted that its tendency is toward its own abolition. Financial crises, decline of profit rates and manifest tendencies towards stagnation put into question economic viability of capitalism as a regime of accumulation. Similarly, increased precarity and intensification of work raise questions over the sustainability of capitalism as a way to organise social and economic relations. This said, capitalism remains the dominant way of structuring and organising social and economic relations globally. This conference will consider the structures, endurance and reproduction of capitalism. We therefore invite papers which consider the reasons for the endurance of capitalism, as well as papers which present alternatives to capitalism or suggestions of possible escape from the rule of capital.

The conference invites papers from a broad range of disciplines that combine theoretical analysis with empirical research. We encourage submissions which reflect on histories of capitalism; the legal structures which create, perpetuate and enforce capitalism; capitalism and imperialism; sociology of work; the creation of precariousness; and other relevant themes. The perspectives we seek to bring together are studies of capitalist political economy, historical inquiries into development and transformations of capitalism, and explorations of social and economic relations in capitalist societies.

Please submit abstracts for papers to Holly Chalcraft (h.a.k.chalcraft@durham.ac.uk) by 29 February 2020.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The conference will take place in the beautiful historic city of Durham between Thursday 30 and Friday 31 July 2020. Our venue is St Aidan's College with its marvellous hill-top location offering views of the cathedral and city. We would expect sunshine but can guarantee unhindered free debate on the exciting topic of capitalism. In addition to key notes and participants from other institutions, this conference will build on existing research across departments at Durham University to create a platform for ECRs with shared research interests. The conference will be free to attend for Durham University undergraduates to increase engagement and accessibility.

Sign-up for the conference will be via Eventbrite, which will go live from 1 June 2020. We would like to thank Durham's Institute for Advanced Study for their generous financial support of this conference, and St Aidan's College for hosting us. Directions to St Aidan's can be found on their [website](#).

More information about Durham's Institute for Advanced Study can be found [here](#).

