

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

22 FEBRUARY 2025



WARWICK  
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

HUMANITIES RESEARCH CENTRE

**Being Human :**

# Individualism & the Self from the Renaissance to the 21st Century

A ONE-DAY INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE ON THE DEVELOPMENT, CONCEPTUALISATION, AND SIGNIFICANCE OF INDIVIDUALISM, HUMAN NATURE, AND THE SELF IN THE WESTERN WORLD, FROM THE EARLY MODERN ERA TO THE MODERN DAY. BRINGING TOGETHER A DIVERSE RANGE OF SCHOLARS FROM HISTORY AND LITERATURE THROUGH TO PSYCHOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY, THIS CONFERENCE AIMS TO PUT DISPARATE THEORETICAL APPROACHES INTO CONVERSATION WITH ONE ANOTHER, IN AN ATTEMPT TO FACILLITATE A NUANCED CONSIDERATION OF THESE CONCEPTS' HISTORICITY AND CULTURAL VARIABILITY IN A MODERN-DAY WEST WHICH OFTEN ASSUMES THEIR TOTAL UNIVERSALITY.

BEINGHUMANCONFERENCE2025@GMAIL.COM

@BEINGHUMAN2025



# CALL FOR PAPERS

## Submissions due 15 November, 2024

We are pleased to announce that the **Being Human: Individualism and the Self from the Renaissance to the 21st Century Conference**, sponsored by the **Humanities Research Centre at the University of Warwick**, will take place on **22 February, 2025**.

**Keynote addresses** will be delivered by **Roger Cooter (Honorary Professor of History at University College London)** and **Roger Smith (Reader Emeritus in the History of Science, Lancaster University)**.

**We are accepting abstracts of 300 words maximum.** The conference is interdisciplinary in nature, and we encourage submissions from scholars working in diverse fields across the humanities. We are also open to submissions from other potentially relevant disciplines, such as neuroscience and psychology, as long as they fit within the geographic scope and timeframe of the conference: the Western world, broadly conceptualised, from roughly the sixteenth century to the modern day.

**Submissions for 20-minute papers might consider, amongst other topics:**

- Belief, human nature, and the self
- Self-control and the law
- Race, gender, and class in the formation of Western identities
- Capitalism, neoliberalism, and the rise of individualism
- Collectivism within individualistic societies
- The role of philosophy in shaping conceptions of the self
- The role of emotion in identity formation
- Historical perceptions of autonomy and self-determinism

Accepted speakers will be notified by **1 December, 2024**

Please email submissions, as well as any questions, to  
**[BeingHumanConference2025@gmail.com](mailto:BeingHumanConference2025@gmail.com)**

Find us online at **[warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/hrc/confs/bh/](http://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/hrc/confs/bh/)** or  
**[@BeingHuman2025](https://twitter.com/BeingHuman2025)** on Twitter/X



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