

Re-evaluating Epistemic Frameworks in the Study of Graphic Communication Systems

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Section language:

English

Call for Papers:

As self-reflection becomes a cornerstone of modern scholarship, numerous disciplines within the humanities are re-evaluating their foundational epistemic frameworks. Historically, “classical” scientific paradigms—predominantly Eurocentric—and prevailing cultural stereotypes have shaped the perception of, and behavior toward, non-Western cultures. In response to the recognition of these “unfaithful representations,” there is a burgeoning movement to move beyond critical deconstruction toward the development of more equitable analytical models. The goal is not a wholesale rejection of Western scientific traditions, but a synthesis: retaining rigorous methodologies while integrating Indigenous notions and conceptual frameworks.

This shift is particularly pertinent to the study of non-Western writing and graphic communication systems. For decades, these systems have been filtered through inherently glottographic and alphabeto-centric lenses, which often obscure the Indigenous meanings embedded in their visual media.

This panel invites papers that rethink traditional models applied to the study of writing and graphic communication in the broadest sense. We welcome diverse disciplinary perspectives—including semiotics, cognitive science, and linguistics—as well as approaches rooted directly in Indigenous epistemologies. To conclude the session, a roundtable discussion will bring together participants to synthesize key themes and contribute to a collaborative model of epistemic re-evaluation.

Associated Research Groups:

Sign and Symbol Research Group, University of Warsaw

