

Call for Papers: AASA Conference 2023 – *Animal Cultures*



The 2023 Conference of the Australasian Animal Studies Association will be held in-person at the University of Sydney on the **27th and 28th of November 2023**, as part of the Congress for the Humanities and Social Sciences.

The Conference theme – *Animal Cultures* – encompasses emerging scientific and philosophical considerations of culture in non-human animal communities, as well as culturally-informed human views of other animals. Cultural transmission has been observed in a wide array of species (Whiten 2021), facilitating the acquisition of social and ecological knowledge and behaviours that influence biological and social wellbeing (Brakes et al. 2019).

Applying a cultural focus can be problematic, as it considers non-human animals through an anthropocentric construct. *Animal Cultures* will address the affordances and complexities of “culture/s” within animal studies.

In addition to the wide array of topics presented by scholars at AASA’s Conferences, we are interested exploring *Animal Cultures* from perspectives, including but not limited to:

- New interpretations of non-human animal culture and knowledge
- Indigenous knowledges of animal cultures
- Cross cultural and multicultural approaches to animal life
- Global animal networks
- Non-human animals and environmental protection
- Political organisations
- Transmissions of knowledge through space, time, sound, bodies, and dance
- Symbiotic animal cultures
- Cross-species cultures
- The culture of Animal Studies

Submit paper and panel proposals via: usygovir.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9uhQJeS4uWbTc3A

- Submissions open: Friday 26 May 2023
- Submissions close: Friday 30 June 2023
- Notification of results: Friday 28 July 2023

All proposals for papers and panels are welcome where they are aligned with the [Vision and Mission](#) of the Association. Questions to: Dr Peter John Chen at peter.chen@sydney.edu.au

References

Brakes, Philippa, et al. 2019. Animal cultures matter for conservation. *Science* 363(6431), 1032–1034, doi: 10.1126/science.aaw3557
Whiten, Andrew. 2021. The burgeoning reach of animal culture. *Science* 372(46), doi: 10.1126/science.abe6514