

Call for Papers

**The Architecture of Minds and Cultures:  
Prospects and problems of cognitive approaches  
in the Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences**

An Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference  
Hosted by the Religious Studies Department  
Brown University  
Providence, Rhode Island  
March 26-27, 2010

The Religious Studies Department at Brown University invites proposals/papers for an interdisciplinary graduate student conference on the theme of cognitive science and the humanities. The conference aims to create a forum for discussion of the emerging role of theories of cognitive science in the study of religion and the humanities in general and hopes to provide students with an opportunity to engage in a critical conversation about the prospects and limitations of cognitive theory and to apply the theory to any historical, philosophical, anthropological, political, and other questions. The department seeks papers from a wide range of scholarly fields in the humanities and social sciences and also encourages collaborative projects. Possible topics may include, but are not limited to:

- ° theoretical considerations of the prospects and/or limitations of theories of cognitive science in the humanities
- ° considerations of the role of cognitive science in the study of religion, history, sociology, anthropology, political science, etc.
- ° applications of theories of cognitive science to particular areas in the study of religion, for example Early Christianity, Buddhism, etc.
- ° applications of theories of cognitive science to problems in philosophy, theology, and ethics
- ° applications of theories of cognitive science to historical, sociological, anthropological, and other problems
- ° topics addressing the impact insights from cognitive science may have on the production and/or consumption of art

Proposals or papers with an abstract of no more than 250 words should be submitted as an email attachment (preferably as a PDF document), along with author's/authors' CV(s), to [rsgradconference@brown.edu](mailto:rsgradconference@brown.edu), with "Cognitive Science and the Humanities" in the subject line by December 1, 2009. Responses will be sent out by December 15.