

Creative and Disruptive Methodologies in Tourism Studies

Call for Papers

A Special Issue of *Tourism Geographies*

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In this special issue on Creative and Disruptive Methodologies in Tourism Studies we advocate the importance of challenging and creatively disrupting conventional methodological approaches to encourage the creation of novel forms of knowledge which would enable tourism studies to creatively advance. As such, this special issue will examine and expand critical considerations of qualitative methodologies that creatively disrupt and subvert the established linear and sometimes entrenched ways of generating knowledges within the field of tourism. Our aim is to contribute critical discussions regarding the state of qualitative methodologies in tourism studies. To further expand tourism methodologies we will engage in debates about transformational routes and creative methodological tools such as LEGO serious play (see Wengel et al., 2016), tourism ethnography and paraethnography, non-dominant handwriting in tourism studies. Authors in this Special Issue are invited to provide novel lens to discussing established qualitative methods of data collection such as interviewing, focus groups and observation.

Qualitative tourism methodologies, we argue, experience a surge in interest from tourism researchers and are ripe for further robust and creative debates. It was contended, more than a decade ago, that the majority of tourism researchers still regarded qualitative methods as the soft, non-scientific other to quantitative, rigorous tools (Phillimore & Goodson, 2004). Following this claim, debates ensued regarding the use of qualitative methodologies in tourism research especially within, what has been identified as, the critical turn in tourism studies (see Ateljevich et al. 2007; 2013). More recently, disparate accounts calling for robust considerations of co-creative and experiential methods offer exciting avenues for tourism researchers to advance qualitative methodological scholarship, as well as to become facilitators in imaginative outcomes with tourism stakeholders.

Our special issue continues and expands such accounts with in-depth debates on how tourism studies can offer multidimensional, multilogical and multiaffective ontological, epistemological and methodological approaches to research (Buda 2015; Burrai et al. 2017; Hollinshead & Ivanova 2013). Our proposed special issue tackles questions of the ways in which research methodologies can be creative and disruptive to the seemingly prevalent narratives within tourism studies. Such explorations have the potential to contribute critical understandings of the responsibility of tourism research to be disruptive first before it can engender progress and transformation within and outside of our field.

We invite papers exploring tools, methods or methodologies which creatively disrupt linear notions of:

- **research roles and relationships** - creative and disruptive methodologies through which entrenched ways of conducting and participating in research are dismantled, redefined and co-constructed (e.g. paraethnography);

- **disciplinary boundaries and assumptive frameworks** - methodological tools to undertake tourism research that interrogates the production and organisation of knowledge along rigid and unproductive disciplinary boundaries, and aims to disrupt the status quo of tourism research (eg critical pedagogy see Brown et al, 2014);
- **methodological and epistemological boundaries** - confront notions of theoretical rigidity and favour critical theories, or seek to expand upon theoretical re/interpretations (e.g. feminist research).
- **collection and analysis of data** - creative and disruptive methods that seek to find alternative ways of collecting and analysing data that value different ways of being and knowing, and provides inclusion of perspectives that may be marginalized and less valued in tourism research (e.g. crystalisation).
- **dissemination of research findings** - that intentionally seeks imaginative presentation formats and ways to disseminate research that engages co-researchers/co-creators in dialogue (e.g. performance ethnography).

Guidance for Contributors:

Please submit expression of interests comprising of an **abstract of 250 words**, and a **list of highlights** with the main contribution of the paper in the form of 3 to 5 bullet points (max. 200 words), **along with a short biography** (including recent publications) to the guest editors at Milka Ivanova <m.ivanova@leedsbeckett.ac.uk>, Dorina-Maria Buda <d.buda@leedsbeckett.ac.uk>, and Elisa Burrai <e.burrai@leedsbeckett.ac.uk> by **28th February 2018**.

We will communicate decisions by 15th March 2018 and expect to receive full paper submissions by 30th June 2018. The usual author guidelines and review process for the journal of *Tourism Geographies* apply <<http://www.tgjournal.com/notes-for-authors.html>>.

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