

Call for Papers: Education for Transformation: Perspectives on Flourishing in the Anthropocene



University of Humanistic Studies (UHS), Utrecht, The Netherlands **20–22 May 2026**

Key Information

- Conference Dates: **Wednesday, May 20, 2026 to Friday, May 22, 2026**
- Final Abstract Submission Deadline: **December 19, 2025**
- Results of abstract review returned to authors: **latest by January 30, 2026**
- Conference registration fees € 200 (including three days coffee/tea and lunch) due: **April 24, 2026**



Introduction

The Department of Education at the University of Humanistic Studies recently published **Education for Transformation – Humanistic Perspectives on Flourishing in the Anthropocene | Brill (2025)**. To mark this occasion, we invite scholars, educators, policymakers and artists to an international conference on how education can foster human and planetary flourishing. The conference will explore how education shapes our sense of place in the world, our relationships with human and more-than-human life and our capacity to face the uncertainties of the Anthropocene. Together, we seek to imagine educational pathways toward more attentive, just, and sustainable futures.

Conference Themes & Keynote Lectures

The conference program is structured around three interconnected themes:

- 1. Moral and Citizenship Education for the Anthropocene**
Which moral and civic virtues, principles, or ideals are necessary for the (interconnected) flourishing of humans, other sentient beings, nature and the Earth? How can moral and citizenship education prepare learners to act as responsible democratic citizens in an ecologically fragile and interdependent world?
Keynote lecture by: **Professor Kristján Kristjánsson** (University of Birmingham)
- 2. Addressing Colonial Legacies and Climate Justice in Education**
(How) could and/or should education reckon with colonial histories of exploitation and their links to ecological degradation? How can curricula and pedagogy integrate diverse epistemologies and knowledge traditions and contribute to climate justice and epistemic justice?
Keynote lecture by: **Professor Francio Guadeloupe** (University of Amsterdam)
- 3. Transformative Pedagogies: From Theory to Practice to Theory**
What kind of pedagogical practices, artistic, embodied, participatory or community-based, can help learners confront complexity, nurture resilience, and cultivate ecological consciousness? How can theory and practice inform one another in addressing the challenges of the Anthropocene?
Keynote lecture by: **Dr. Lynne Wolbert** (University of Applied Sciences Utrecht)

Conference Participants

We invite the following people to contribute to the conference:

- **International scholars and academics** from education, philosophy, ethics, humanistic studies, social sciences and environmental humanities, as well as interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary researchers who work on educational research.
- **PhD candidates and early-career researchers** who research themes of moral education, decoloniality, climate justice or transformative pedagogy.
- **Education practitioners and professionals**, including school leaders, teachers, policymakers and those who are engaged in curriculum development and educational innovation.
- **Artists, activists, and community-based educators** whose practices foster ecological awareness, democratic participation and social transformation.

Formats

We welcome proposals for:

- Academic papers (30-minute session which includes 10 minutes for discussion)
- Symposia consisting of three papers (each 20 minutes) focused on a single theme
- Roundtables (dialogical panel sessions on key debates)
- Posters
- Workshops and practice-based contributions (participatory formats, artistic or community-based interventions) which aim to bridge academic, civic and artistic practices around education.

Submission Guidelines

- Abstracts of max. 300 words (with title and indication of theme)
- For a symposium an abstract of 300 words that describes the form and focus on the symposium is required as well as outlines of 100 words for each of the papers
- Short bio of presenters (max. 150 words)
- State your preferred conference theme and format: paper, symposium, roundtable, workshop or poster

Conference Registration Fee is €200 (US \$235) which includes 3 days coffee/tea and lunch

Deadline for submissions: 19 December 2025

Notification of acceptance: latest 30 January 2026

For more information and submissions of abstracts: educationconference2026@uvh.nl



For international participants: The conference will take place in **Utrecht**, a historic university city in the heart of **the Netherlands**. With its rich academic tradition, central location, and easy access from Amsterdam Airport, Utrecht and the University of Humanistic Studies offer an ideal setting for international exchange.

About the UHS: [University of Humanistic Studies](https://www.uvh.nl)
[Universiteit voor Humanistiek - Utrecht](https://www.uvh.nl)