

UC Santa Barbara

becoming undisciplined

Title

Call for Zine Submissions: *becoming undisciplined*

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Becoming Undisciplined Collective

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becoming undisciplined

a collaborative starting point

becoming undisciplined is a zine about what it means, feels, and looks like to be Black in relation to the university. We seek submissions in a variety of genres and formats that convey the breadth of ways that knowledge production happens in and outside of the university. We are interested in the complexities, contradictions, tensions, and pleasures that shape Black scholars' relationships to academia.

This zine is a collaborative starting point for a larger project and community emerging in response to Christina Sharpe's call for Black scholars to "become undisciplined," given that academic legibility often requires being "disciplined into thinking through and along lines that reinscribe our own annihilation" (*In the Wake*, 13). As Black graduate students, we are in stages of our careers where we are being trained and disciplined into various fields, while also having access to a myriad of scholars and ongoing conversations that critique and confront the disciplinary formations that structure the academy and the world. As such, we are interested in the work of simultaneously learning and unlearning; sharing tools for maneuvering through and surviving the academy; and doing generative work that affirms black life.

Just as Sharpe wades into ongoing conversations on the politics of Black (scholars') study, we invite a range of Black thinkers to explore the experience, urgency, and possibilities of knowledge production in the wake of anti-blackness. We seek to build a community of graduate students and independent scholars interested in engaging the work of Black intellectuals and radicals who *dodge, evade, improvise around, funk with* architectures of Black suffering and the paradigms that establish and uphold them. This zine aims to identify some of the ways people are addressing these concerns and to locate the priorities of the community we are building. As such, this collection welcomes works that explore a variety of concerns, including:

Working within and without the academy. What are the embodied experiences of knowledge production in and outside of the university? How do Black people survive within or choose to leave the university? What are the emotional dimensions of survival, flight, and becoming (un)trained? How are various activists, artists, cultural workers, and independent scholars contributing to black thought at large and reshaping "academic" conversations?

Scholarship and refusal. How might we resist the ways we are disciplined and oriented by the university and its disciplinary formations? What alternatives do Black feminist, queer, and trans epistemologies and methodologies make possible? How do we avoid the "sunken place" in academia?

Affirming black life. What is the relationship between our intellectual, political, and spiritual work? What forms of care can we practice for ourselves and each other? How do we imagine and create liberatory futures where Black life and pleasure are affirmed—within and without the university?

becoming undisciplined: Call for Zine Submissions

About the zine

becoming undisciplined will be published online through eScholarship, an open-access platform. A limited run of print copies will be available. This project is being organized by Megan Spencer, Jordan Victorian, and Allison Pierce, graduate students in Feminist Studies at UC Santa Barbara.

Who should submit

Black scholars, activists, and artists who contribute to black thought in or outside of universities or academic spaces. We seek to reflect a range of black experiences, particularly of folks who are Black women, queer, *and/or* trans or gender non-conforming.

Formats and genres

We welcome submissions of a variety of formats and genres such as:

Essays	Visual art	Crafts
Poetry	Photography	Interviews
Fiction	Comics	Critical reviews of books,
Short stories	Textile art	television and film, art shows, etc.

or any combination of the above.

This zine will be put out in limited print format. If you would like to showcase video, audio, or other work that does not fit on a page, please consider submitting a print-format adaptation such as an artist statement, summary of original works, collection of photographs, etc.

Guidelines

The deadline for all submissions is **Monday, October 1, 2018**. Text-based submissions should not exceed 3000 words. However, we may consider longer pieces on a case-by-case basis.



For questions you may have, or to submit work,
please email becomingundisciplined@gmail.com

