



Phenomenologies of Illness and Normality: Critical Engagements with Merleau-Ponty

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Message from the Guest Editors

The philosophy of 20th century French phenomenologist Maurice Merleau-Ponty continues to inspire phenomenologists and critical phenomenologists as well as disability studies scholars, feminist philosophers, critical race theorists, and, more recently, cognitive scientists. His insistence on the primacy of embodied perceptual experience and its fundamentally intercorporeal dimensions, as well as his rejection of traditional dualisms (e.g., mind/body, subject/object, self/other, and body/world), has played a transformative role in fields as varied as the health sciences, performance studies, environmental studies, political theory, ethnography, and the arts. This Special Issue, “Phenomenologies of Illness and Normality: Critical Engagements with Merleau-Ponty,” will take up this Merleau-Pontian legacy by focusing a critical lens on the oppressive as well as liberatory ways that normality and illness are experienced, expressed, and inscribed in both theory and practice.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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