

BSA New Materialisms Study Group Annual Report 2025

Name: New Materialisms Study Group (established: September 2018).

Convenors:

- Professor Pam Alldred (Oxford Brookes University).
- Dr Fay Dennis (Goldsmiths, University of London).
- Professor Nick J Fox (University of Huddersfield).
- Professor Debbie Watson (University of Bristol).

Membership

Total:	210
BSA Members:	39
Non-Members:	171

Finances: Balance at 31/12//25 was £807.57.

Aims

- To supply a forum within the BSA for the discussion of new materialist and posthuman theories and their application to sociological research.
- To host scholarly activities, including seminars and workshops, around new materialist sociology, research methodologies and the development of new materialist social theory.
- To provide a supportive environment and resources for PGR and ECR members of the Association who wish to use these approaches in their research.
- To plan contributions to future BSA annual conferences, regional BSA meetings and free-standing events, and to collaborate and engage with other relevant BSA study groups (e.g. Animal/Human; Disability; Theory).

Review of past year

In-person Day Conference

The Group ran a one-day conference on 23 June 2024 at Goldsmith's University of London on the theme *Materiality, society and the more-than-human*. The keynote speaker was Professor Lisa Blackman, followed by a programme of nine member presentations, plus two exhibition presentations. There were approximately 50 delegates in attendance.

Online Seminar series

Once again, the group ran a very well-attended international seminar series in 2025 using the BSA's Zoom facility.

Seminar 1 (6 October 2025) and Workshop (27 October 2025) 'This is not a Burial: Griefwork through Film and Flesh' Charisse Louw (University of Stellenbosch, South Africa).

Seminar 2 (3 November 2025) 'Feeling and Living Nature: A Relational Ontology' Ann L. Cunliffe and Ana Carolina Aguiar (Fundação Getúlio Vargas-EAESP, Brazil).

Seminar 3 (8 December 2025) 'Dismantling Human-Centred AI: A Feminist Intervention (FAIF)' Dr. Tanja Kubes (Freie Universität Berlin). *Cancelled due to speaker indisposition.*

Future plans

The group ran a very successful day conference in June 2026, and we are now finalising our online seminar series for autumn 2026. It was the Group's turn to convene the Theory stream at BSA Annual Conference 2027, but this has now been deferred to 2028.

Concluding remarks:

The group remains buoyant with a growing membership and good attendance at events.

24 August 2026