

FAT FEMININITIES

*Fat Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal of
Body Weight and Society*

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This special issue of *Fat Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Body Weight and Society* explores fatness in relation to femininity. The relationship between fatness and femininity is longstanding and fraught: fatness can be feminizing, and fat flesh is often feminized, while fatness is simultaneously a “failure” of feminine norms (Hoskin & Taylor, 2019). For example, existing scholarship on fat femininities, especially in the areas of feminist theory and fat studies, demonstrates how fat femininities are marginalized via their deviations from normative feminine ideals, particularly slenderness. The goal of this special issue is to build on this literature by centering critical analyses of the relationships between fatness and femininity, especially how these relationships are mediated by sexuality, race, class, disability, age, gender identity, and other axes of identity. This special issue will prioritize submissions that use a critical femininities lens, which challenges femininity’s associations with superficiality and oppression and, instead, centers intersectional and recuperative approaches to femininity. It is our goal that this issue will illuminate: the complex relationships between femininity and fatness; how these relationships differ across intersectional axes; and the ways in which femininity and fatness intertwine to create unique experiences of gendered embodiment and being. We invite papers on a variety of topics around fat femininities. Topics might include, but are not limited to:

- Popular culture representations of fat femininities
- The colonial and white supremacist roots of slenderness as a normative feminine ideal
- Fat feminine individuals’ experiences of oppression, discrimination, exclusion, and/or violence
- Demands of hyper-femininity from fat and feminine individuals
- When and for whom is fatness feminizing?
- When and for whom is fatness defeminized?
- Cultural associations of fatness with femininity
- Trans and nonbinary fat femininities
- Queer fat femme embodiments
- Parallels between fatphobia and feminine-based oppression (e.g., femmephobia, anti-femininity, misogynoir, transmisogyny, rape culture, etc.)
- The centering of whiteness in contemporary conceptions and representations of fat femininities
- Racialized fat femininities
- Decolonial and Indigenous approaches to fatness and femininity
- The relationship between class and fat femininities
- Disabled or crip fat femininities
- Gay fat femininities
- Femininity and (f)athletes
- Fatness, femininity, and the policing of symbolic and/or physical space
- Resisting fatphobia through femininity
- Resisting femmephobia through fatness (i.e., taking up space)

TO SUBMIT:

Please send a 250 word abstract and a current CV to the guest editors at fat.femininities@gmail.com by October 16, 2020.

Any questions can also be directed to the guest editors at this email address.

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Contributors will be notified of the status of their proposal by October 23, 2020. Full manuscripts, including all notes, references, appendices, and tables/figures, should be no longer than 5,500 words and will be due by February 22, 2021. If you wish to include reproductions of visual images with your article, please provide documentation of permission to do so from the artists/copyright holders of the image(s). All authors will need to sign a form that transfers copyright of their article to the publisher, Taylor & Francis / Routledge.

Fat Studies is the first academic journal in the field of scholarship that critically examines theory, research, practices, and programs related to body weight and appearance. Content includes original research and overviews exploring the intersection of gender, race/ethnicity, sexuality, age, ability, and socioeconomic status. Articles critically examine representations of fat in health and medical sciences, the Health at Every Size model, the pharmaceutical industry, psychology, sociology, cultural studies, legal issues, literature, pedagogy, art, theater, popular culture, media studies, and activism.

Fat Studies is an interdisciplinary, international field of scholarship that critically examines societal attitudes and practices about body weight and appearance. Fat Studies advocates equality for all people regardless of body size. It explores the way fat people are oppressed, the reasons why, who benefits from that oppression and how to liberate fat people from oppression. Fat Studies seeks to challenge and remove the negative associations that society has about fat and the fat body. It regards weight, like height, as a human characteristic that varies widely across any population. Fat Studies is similar to academic disciplines that focus on race, ethnicity, gender, or age.

FAT STUDIES: AN
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OF BODY WEIGHT AND
SOCIETY

*Edited by Allison Taylor &
Rhea Ashley Hoskin*

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