

## Trans Empiricism, A Manifesto

Oct. 26 11:50-1pm Draper 106

Includes lunch.

Trans and nonbinary people practice empiricism every day. Whereas scientists reduce empiricism to objectivity, empiricism's original meanings are experience, experimentation, and sensory knowledge. Well, sensory knowledge and experiments with gender presentation are how trans people know that we are trans in the first place. While transphobes claim that trans people are at war with our bodies, our sexes, and our biology, this manifesto proposes that trans empiricism is a way of honoring trans body-knowledges, even and especially when they call for transition in the flesh. By putting empiricism, not identity, at the center of our politics, our spirituality, and our theory, and by using the Black feminist intersectional praxis of coalition as our compass, we can envision and create a world that materially supports trans flourishing.

Respondent: Amrita Mishra, Assistant Professor of English

Gender



bell hocks

the bell hooks center feminism is for everybody

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