

***Journal of Humanistic Psychology* Special Issue Call for Papers**

Part 1. Psychology and The World: Denaturalization, Decolonization, and Reconceptualization of Psy-Discourse

Letter of Intent Deadline: Nov 15, 2025

Manuscript Submission Deadline: April 15, 2026

Editors: Ayurdhi Dhar

The guest editor of *Journal of Humanistic Psychology* invites you to submit papers for [special issue 1 in this series](#).

Denaturalization involves challenging our understandings of what is perceived as given or natural – in a society, a discipline, a paradigm; it is a known method of decolonization. In the Psy-disciplines, it involves *de-sedimenting* ideas around naturalized forms of being, and ways of thinking and feeling that Psychology has taken-for-granted. In other words, it requires questioning the knowledge premised upon hidden assumptions underlying the Psy-discourse. This allows alternative modes of being human to emerge, and shines light on knowledges which push back against the Psy-hegemony.

This special issue invites scholars from multiple disciplines, countries, cultures, and social locations to conduct such a denaturalization of the Psy-disciplines and the underlying Psy-discourse by 1) conducting an archaeology of the Psy-discourse and the Psy-disciplines, or 2) bringing forth the multiplicity of human experiences in non-WEIRD populations, the varied concepts used by cultures to explain those experiences, and the different structures of subjectivities, institutions, and discourses prevalent among these populations. This would in effect help us reconceptualize some psychological ideas while questioning the very existence of others.

Possible topics include:

- Denaturalizing Psy-discourse: What is Psy-discourse? Its constituent elements, effects, and traces. What are the conditions of thought that make thinking in ways congruent with Psychology possible?
- Structures of subjectivity in non-WEIRD cultures. Which institutions, discourses, and power systems pin the subject (if they do) and how?
- Limitations of current psychological conceptualizations and re-imagining new concepts based on lived experience in non-WEIRD cultures.
- The tyranny of meaning: Is meaning making a universal phenomenon? If yes, what are the different ways it is achieved? Is meaning making primarily through language and signification? Do languages with different structures influence this?

- “Does childhood matter?” Questioning the universality of autobiographical self and the narrativized subject.
- Revisiting the psychological and cultural preoccupation with emotional processing and expression.
- Priorities in child-care in non-WEIRD cultures and how it differs from ideas of parenting – blind spots of child development theories.
- Methods: A critical overview of quantitative methods as used in Psychology; indigenous methods from non-WEIRD cultures. How assumptions behind quantitative methods (e.g., studying individual in isolation, one-directional conversations in survey method) don’t translate to majority world nations.
- What is resilience in non-WEIRD cultures? Does the concept exist? If it does, who is seen as resilient? How does someone become resilient according to the community around them?
- “What is a good life?”—Health and well-being in Psychology vs do these concepts exist in non-WEIRD cultures? Does the preoccupation with “well-being” exist across the world? If it does, how is it conceptualized and experienced by people? Is it individual and interior? Is it a lasting quality or a transient state?
- And many more topics that fit the theme.

Abstracts of no more than 350 words should be submitted to dharyurdhiJHP@gmail.com by Nov 15, 2025.

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