



**CALL FOR PAPERS
Demeter Press**

**is seeking submissions for an edited collection:
*"Off Time" in Academe: Career and Lifecourse in
Personal Narratives of Mothers and Non-Mothers*
Editors: Drs. Kristin Marsh and Elena Neiterman
Extended Deadline for Abstracts: October 15, 2016**

The life course perspective recognizes culturally-shaped normative expectations for the sequencing of life events. Finishing high school, completing college, starting a family, starting and thriving in a career, and retiring are ideally timed in an expected sequence. In addition, one's family life course and work life course are expected to develop simultaneously; we are to make individual and family-based (private) decisions that balance family and work. In sum, women and men come of age anticipating their lives to work out a certain way (or feeling marginalized when personal preferences or experiences don't fit the cultural norm or life and work events happen "off time").

Women are more likely to work outside the home today than ever before, and their participation in the academic labour force is now comparable to men's. Told "you can have it all," women are finding that having it all comes at the price of deciding when and how much, and they are facing choices that have an impact on both family and work. While academe was originally organized—as were other professional workplaces—with rules of the game established that assumed an "ideal" (male) worker, unencumbered by family obligations, the increasing representation of women (both mothers and non-mothers) has brought to light the contradictions inherent in a presumed separation of work and home and personal/private sphere of family responsibilities.

While the scholarship on gender in academe has well established the structural contradictions shaping difficult work/life conflicts for women and men in academe, we are interested in providing the space for women—across a wide array of disciplines and at various places in their careers—to tell their stories. This collection explores the experiences of women of various ages navigating changing social options for mothers and workers. How do women experience their life course, and how do they make sense of the life trajectories influencing their family and career? How has the dominant ideology of a gendered division of labour and heteronormativity in the family affected mothers' and non-mothers' experiences? While this CFP is written with professional careers in the U.S. and Canada in mind, the editors welcome contributions providing a cross-cultural frame, with other gender regimes and cultural contexts represented, and those utilizing methods accommodating the intersectionality of race, class, gender and sexuality.

Submission Guidelines:

Please send abstracts of approximately 250 words and a short bio to Kristin Marsh at kmarsh@umw.edu, by October 15, 2016. Completed manuscripts of 4,200-5,500 words (15-20 double spaced pages, including references and endnotes) will be due by April 15, 2017. Contributors will be responsible for ensuring manuscripts adhere to MLA style. Inquiries may be directed to kmarsh@umw.edu.

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