CALL FOR ABSTRACTS
SYMPOSIUM: SPLIJTSTOF STARES INTO THE ABYSS

Splijtstof welcomes submissions of abstracts from students for its symposium and corresponding theme edition on May 16th, 2019, at Radboud University Nijmegen.

This year’s theme will be ‘Splijtstof stares into the Abyss’. We will take an inquisitive dive into the dark parts of emotional, physical or social life that are usually repressed, dismissed, neglected, and/or avoided. We will join those thinkers that aim to look for the positive or beneficial side of our ‘darker’ tendencies and emotions. After all, are we sure there is no value in anger and conflict? Is nothing to be learnt from insecurity, aggression or disgust? Should we shy away from vulnerability, sadness and loneliness? Examples include, but are not limited to:

- The evolutionary role of negative emotions
- The productive role of emotional bias in decision-making
- The value of anger and conflict (cf. Chantal Mouffe, Friedrich Nietzsche)
- Confronting and embracing melancholy (cf. Dirk de Wachter)
- The role of shame in moral education (cf. Aristotle, Plato)
- The moral use of contempt (cf. Macalester Bell)
- Private vices, public benefits (cf. Mandeville)

Do you have an interesting view about the potential positive or productive side of suffering or so called ‘dark emotions’? Get the chance to share your views with an audience at our upcoming symposium! We’re looking for students to give an alluring 10 to 20 minute talk.

Submit your abstract to bestuur@splijtstof.com before April 28th. Abstracts should be no longer than 500 words.