

Welcome to *Integrated Perspectives: A Journal of Interdisciplinary Research*

Welcome to the inaugural issue of *Integrated Perspectives: A Journal of Interdisciplinary Research*. We launch this journal at a moment when academic knowledge risks becoming trapped in isolated silos—not just by discipline, but by nation, language, and institutional tradition. Too often, important work in one field never reaches scholars in related areas who could learn from and even build upon it. Answers worked out in one country stay unknown to researchers facing like problems elsewhere. We speak different disciplinary languages even when addressing shared questions, and the intellectual opportunity cost of this fragmentation is immeasurable.

This journal stands to break down those walls. We hold that what truly matters is human making and newness, and we lose that when we shut ourselves off from outlooks beyond our nearest groups. *Integrated Perspectives* will bring out work that crosses old lines—between fields, between lands, between frames of thought. We seek learning that shows how understandings from unlikely places can shed light on long-standing problems, how the tools of one field can reshape questions in another, and how worldwide working-together brings to light shapes hidden from any one standpoint. The writings in this first issue show that bond, bringing together voices and ways that might never have found each other in narrower spaces. We ask you to join us in making the kind of scholarly exchange our balkanized world sorely needs.

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