

Call for book chapters

# Humor: MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES



## **GUEST EDITOR**

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## **BOOK SERIES EDITORS (PSYCHOLOGY)**

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The Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia invites researchers and scholars to take part in the open call for research chapters or academic essays addressing the concept of humor as a human and social expression, with a special emphasis on Behavioral and health sciences.

## **MAIN TOPICS**

- ▶ Concept and reception of humor: its history, evolution of the concept, and its biological, philosophical, literary, cultural, social and organizational aspects.
- ▶ Humor and cognitive development, learning and memory, emotional development, human and emotional relationships.
- ▶ Humor and medicine, nursing and neuroscience, mental and physical health.

## **KEY DATES**

- ▶ Deadline for submitting abstracts: December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015
- ▶ Deadline for submitting chapters: May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016
- ▶ Estimated publication date: September 2016

## **INTENDED AUDIENCE**

This call for book chapters is aimed at researchers and scholars from Behavioral and health sciences, regarding disciplines such as psychology, medicine, nursing or biology. We also welcome contributions on the related topics from researchers of Social sciences and other disciplines like sociology, political science, anthropology, philosophy, history, journalism, education, linguistics, literature, arts and computer science.

## **LANGUAGES**

English and Spanish (abstracts or chapters can be submitted in any of these languages).

## **SUBMISSIONS AND FURTHER INFORMATION**

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## GUEST EDITOR

**Willibald Ruch** is a Full Professor of Psychology at the University of Zürich, Switzerland, where he teaches personality, assessment and positive psychology. His research interests are focused on humor, laughter, cheerfulness, and smiling. He developed a taxonomy of jokes and cartoons and its relation to personality. Together with his team in Zurich his research includes humor from the perspective of positive psychology, the effectiveness of humor training programs and clown interventions, the ability to laugh at oneself, the fear of being laughed at (i.e., gelotophobia), and bringing gelotophobe-savvy laughter to avatars. He developed several humor assessment instruments and published about 250 research articles or book chapters and five books. He serves on the Editorial board of several academic journals including *Humor: International Journal of Humor Research*, and has been the president of International Society for Humor Studies (ISHS), in 2002 and, recently, in 2013-2014. He is coeditor (with Victor Raskin) of the *Humor Research* book series. Since 2001 he conducts an annual International Summer School on humor and laughter.

## BOOK SERIES EDITORS

**Jacqueline Benavides Delgado** is a graduate in psychology of the Universidad de los Andes (Bogotá, Colombia), with a master's degree in child protection and a doctorate in psychology from the Universidad del Valle. She currently serves as a full-time doctoral professor at the Psychology Faculty of the Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia (Bogotá campus).

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## ¿Why a book about humor?

Humor is a universal human expression that takes place within the conventions and particularities inherent to each culture. Authors from many places, time periods and disciplines have written treatises about laughter and comedy, with the aim of establishing a concept to describe humor as a thoroughly human characteristic. It can be asserted that humor and language have been achieved through evolution. On this point, evolutionary researchers have much to contribute.

On the other hand, humor clearly implies the existence of the other. Without a dialogical context, humor loses meaning. It is in that relationship with the other that a variety of social and personal scenarios arise. We produce and understand humor in a cathartic exercise of power or incongruence channeled through different humorous expressions. Humor has been present in the most primitive stages of humanity as well as in the ontogenic development of every human being as an expression of feelings understood and produced amongst society. Relevance and importance of studies on humor can be translated into the analysis of significant events such as the occurred as a result of religious satire (i.e. the French satirical weekly magazine *Charlie Hebdo*). Preparing a scholarly monograph on humor, beginning with approaches to its concept, history and evolution in diverse contemporary expressions, is a way of stressing its relevance and “seriousness” in our daily lives.

## Main topics

The question of what is humor –its concepts, nuances, particularities and expressions–, has been studied from such fields as psychology, philosophy, literature, the arts, linguistics, politics, history, sociology, journalism and anthropology, among others. Therefore, the chapters submitted for publication in this volume may address one or more of the following thematic lines:

- ▶ Concept and reception of humor: history, evolution of the concept, biological, philosophical, literary, cultural, and social aspects.
- ▶ Humor and cognitive development, learning and memory, emotional development, human and emotional relationships.
- ▶ Humor and medicine, nursing and neuroscience, mental and physical health.

## Submission terms and guidelines

The selection process of the chapters that will make up the book is divided into two parts:

- 1. Submission of abstracts.** Interested authors shall send an abstract for consideration of the editors, describing purpose of the chapter, main theoretical references or authors supporting their ideas, organization or presentation of topics in the text, and importance of their contribution.

The suggested structure for abstracts is as follows:

1. Title of the chapter
2. Author's academic profile information
3. Purpose of the chapter
4. Approach or theoretical perspective of the author
5. Description of topics and how they are explained in the text
6. Findings, contribution, conclusions and limitations of the chapter
7. List of main references

The abstract should have the same title as the chapter proposed and include author's profile (no longer than one paragraph), containing academic background (degrees), institutional affiliation, country, recent publications and contact information (email, phone, Skype). If the author so decides, he/she can send, along with his/her abstract, a complete version of his/her updated CV.

**Length of abstracts:** Maximum one thousand (1,000) words, excluding references.

- 2. Submission of full texts of the chapters.** Based on the selection of abstracts, the editorial staff will contact each author requesting the writing and delivery of the chapter within the term specified in the Call.

Although the organization of contents of each chapter is at the author's discretion, he/she should ensure a logical, cohesive development of topics, and its length should not exceed ten thousand (10,000) words, excluding the reference list. The chapter, at the time of delivering the full text, should include an abstract of no more than 250 words and its keywords (minimum three, maximum six). The citation style shall be APA, as per its sixth edition.

## Peer Review Process

Abstracts shall be evaluated and authors informed if their work has been selected. Subsequently, each complete chapter received will follow a “double-blind” peer review process. Authors will be responsible for making amendments or corrections arising from this process in order to achieve publication.

## Publication and Dissemination

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The books will also be offered in hard copy, and their circulation and marketing will be done on demand, through channels provided by the press office.

## Important dates:

- ▶ Deadline for submitting abstracts: December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015
- ▶ Shortlisted abstracts: February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016
- ▶ Deadline for submitting chapters (full text): May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016
- ▶ End of peer review: July 2016
- ▶ Estimated publication date: September 2016

## Ediciones Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia

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