

## About that name.....

The debate about whether to call it Aging Studies or Age Studies is much like the debate about “Women’s Studies” versus “Gender Studies.” The first term privileges the group that has been underprivileged in an effort to focus attention on that which has been ignored or understudied; the second eliminates the Center/Other binarity and recognizes aging as a continual process, but risks reinscribing the invisibility of the devalued portion of age (or gender, as the case may be).

## Definitions

From the *Journal of Aging Studies*:

“The *Journal of Aging Studies* features scholarly papers offering new interpretations that challenge existing theory and empirical work. Articles need not deal with the field of aging as a whole, but with any defensibly relevant topic pertinent to the aging experience and related to the broad concerns and subject matter of the social and behavioral sciences and the humanities. The journal emphasizes innovations and critique - new directions in general - regardless of theoretical or methodological orientation or academic discipline.”

From the *Journal of Aging in the Humanities and Arts*:

“The *Journal of Aging in the Humanities and Arts* foster[s] a dialogue between the humanities and arts and the bio-medical, psychological, behavioral, and social sciences to challenge stereotypes, further our understanding of the aging process, and provide creative approaches to the exploration of issues pertaining to aging.”

As my web skills improve, I hope to create a forum here for discussion on both these topics. Stay tuned...!