

Dear Mad Reading folk,

Welcome back! This month we are pleased to have [Tessa Zirnsak](#) joining us to lead a conversation on the topic **'coming out as Mad in the academy'**.

Time and Date:

Tuesday April 19th

7pm-8.30pm AEST

[The calendar link is here](#)

Zoom link:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://vla-vic-gov-au.zoom.us/j/67530728876>

Meeting ID: 675 3072 8876

Password: 816162

Readings:

You are welcome to engage with any of these readings. You do not need to read all or any of them to participate. You do not need to engage with each reading in full.

- Mad positive in the academy: Early conversations (10mins 36 sec video): <https://www.ryerson.ca/disability-studies/research/mad-positive-in-the-academy/>
- The Absence of Psychiatric C/S/X Perspectives In Academic Discourse: Consequences and Implications by Nev Jones & Robyn Lewis Brown (academic article) <https://dsq-sds.org/article/view/3433/3198>
- Dr Benjamin Habib - Lived experience with anxiety FULL INTERVIEW (36 mins 4 sec podcast) <https://www.3cr.org.au/brainwaves/episode-202009301700/dr-benjamin-habib-lived-experience-anxiety-full-interview>
- Edge dwellers cafe podcast: coming out as 'mad' in academia with Tessa Zirnsak (1 hour, 7 mins, 16 sec podcast): <https://drbenjaminhabib.com/2021/10/05/edc-tessa-zirnsak-2/>

Possible questions for discussion:

- What does tolerance in the academy look like?
- What does acceptance in the academy look like?
- Does it matter if madness/mad people are celebrated in the academy? Why?
- What are the barriers/enablers of mad participation in the academy?
- How can we care for ourselves against the hostilities in the academy and the flow on of this hostility?

Looking forward to seeing you then!

Kind regards,
Antonia and Zara