Environmental Humanities Courses
Spring 2018
Yale University
The Environmental Humanities at Yale

Humanity’s relationship with the natural world is deeply shaped by history, culture, social relationships, and values. Society’s environmental challenges often have their roots in how people relate to each other and how we think about environmental problems and even “the environment” itself.

The Yale Environmental Humanities Initiative aims to deepen our understanding of the ways that culture is intertwined with nature. Faculty and students from diverse disciplines and programs across the university together can pursue a broad interdisciplinary conversation about humanity and the fate of the planet.

Each academic year, Yale offers dozens of courses that approach environmental issues from a broad range of humanities perspectives. This accompanying list provides a guide to course offerings for the Fall 2017 semester.

**Undergraduate Courses, Spring 2018**

**Graduate Courses, Spring 2018**

**Related Courses, Spring 2018**

Web: Environmentalhumanities.yale.edu  Email: Environmentalhumanities@yale.edu  Twitter: @YaleEnvHum

Sign up for the Yale Environmental Humanities Newsletter for upcoming events and news

Yale Environmental Humanities gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the inaugural 320 York Humanities Grant Program and the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies
Undergraduate Courses

**ANTH 473 01 (20304)**
/NEJC588/ARCG473/EVST473/ANTH773/F&ES793

*Abrupt Climate Change and Societal Collapse*
**Harvey Weiss**
Th 3.30-5.20
Spring 2018
Areas Hu, So
Permission of instructor required

YC Anthropology: Sociocultural

The coincidence of societal collapses throughout history with decadal and century-scale drought events. Challenges to anthropological and historical paradigms of cultural adaptation and resilience. Examination of archaeological and historical records and high-resolution sets of paleoclimate proxies.

**HSAR 445 01 (22284)**

*Art, Nature, and the Modern World*
**Marisa Bass**
*Jennifer Raab**
T 1.30-3.20
Spring 2018
Areas Hu
Permission of instructor required

Exploration of the emergence of natural history, still-life painting, collectors’ cabinets, global expeditions of discovery, and technologies for scientific sight, and looks at works by artists from Albrecht Dürer to Robert Smithson. Using images and artifacts from collections across campus, student study the unstable boundary between art and nature, a driving obsession for creative and cultural production from the Renaissance to the present.

**HSAR 452 01 (22862)**

*Landscape, Mobility, and Dislocation*
**Jennifer Raab**
*Tim Barringer**
W 1.30-3.20
Spring 2018
Areas Hu
Permission of instructor required

The study of landscape, during the long nineteenth century, as a powerful and contested artistic medium that could express the ideologies of empire, philosophies of nature, the relationship between geography and vision, and constructions of self and other. Review of such issues in American landscape painting in both a transatlantic and transhemispheric context with specific attention to works in Yale collections.

**ARCG 031 01 (21198) /NELC026/EVST030/CLCV059/HIST020**

*Rivers and Civilization*
**Harvey Weiss**
TTh 9.00-10.15
Spring 2018
Areas Hu, So
Permission of instructor required

The appearance of the earliest cities along the Nile and Euphrates in the fourth millennium B.C. Settlements along the rivers, the origins of agriculture, the production and extraction of agricultural surpluses, and the generation of class structures and political hierarchies. How and why these processes occurred along the banks of these rivers; consequent societal collapses and their relation to abrupt climate changes.

Enrollment limited to freshmen. Preregistration required; see under Freshman Seminar Program.
ANTH 438 01 (20289) /ANTH638
Culture, Power, Oil
Douglas Rogers
W 9.25-11.15
Spring 2018
Areas So
Permission of instructor required
YC Anthropology: Sociocultural
The production, circulation, and consumption of petroleum as they relate to globalization, empire, cultural performance, natural resource extraction, and the nature of the state. Case studies include the United States, Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, Venezuela, and the former Soviet Union.

AMST 358 01 (20250) /ENGL281
Animals in Modern American Fiction
James Berger
T 1.30-3.20
Spring 2018
Areas Hu
Permission of instructor required
Meets during reading period
Literary portrayals of animals are used to examine the relations between literature, science, and social and political thought since the late nineteenth century. Topics include Darwinist thought, socialism, fascism, gender and race relations, new thinking about ecology, and issues in neuroscience.

ER&M 287 01 (22844) /EVST287/HSAR458
Visual Culture of the National Parks
Monica Bravo
Th 2.30-4.20
Spring 2018
Areas Hu
Permission of instructor required
How the visual culture of the national parks creates, supports, and narrates a particular vision of U.S. national identity at distinct historical moments. Topics include the growth of railroads and the highway system; the beginning of the environmental movement; and the development and popularization of photography. Careful readings of primary and secondary accounts, close analysis of advertisements, collections, films, maps, paintings, photographs, posters, videos, and other artifacts of visual culture related to the national parks.

HIST 321 01 (21236)
China from Present to Past, 2015–600
Peter Perdue
TTh 1.30-2.20
Spring 2018
Areas Hu
Underlying causes of current issues facing China traced back to their origins in the premodern period. Topics include economic development, corruption, environmental crises, gender, and Pacific island disputes. Selected primary-source readings in English, images, videos, and Web resources.

AMST 330 01 (20248) /ENGL236
Dystopic and Utopian Fictions
James Berger
M 1.30-3.20
Spring 2018
Areas Hu
Permission of instructor required
Attempts since the late nineteenth century to imagine, in literature, cinema, and social theory, a world different from the existing world. The merging of political critique with desire and anxiety; the nature and effects of social power; forms of authority, submission, and resistance.
The Ethics of Climate Change
Alexandre Gajevic Sayegh
1 HTBA
Spring 2018
Areas So
Permission of instructor required
The response of the United States to global climate change and questions of climate justice. The importance of bridging the gap between theories of climate justice and real world climate policy. Topics include the effort to fairly mitigate and adapt to climate change; the responsibility to act upon climate change by countries and individuals; and how economics, environmental, and social sciences should contribute to the conceptualization of action-guiding moral and political theories.

Collecting Nature and Art in the Preindustrial World
Paola Bertucci
M 1.30-3.20
Spring 2018
Skills WR
Areas Hu
Permission of instructor required
A history of museums before the emergence of the modern museum. Focus on: cabinets of curiosities and Wunderkammern, anatomical theaters and apothecaries' shops, alchemical workshops and theaters of machines, collections of monsters, rarities, and exotic specimens.

Writing Nature, Revolution to Romanticism
Jonathan Kramnick
W 3.30-5.20
Spring 2018
Skills WR
Areas Hu
Pre-1800 Literature Course
Permission of instructor required
Literary representations of the natural world, beginning with works written during the political upheaval of the mid-seventeenth century and ending with the dawn of ecological consciousness nearly two centuries later. Students examine how several major genres of environmental writing developed ideas of the national landscape as well as imperial periphery at an important moment of change.

Ecology and the Future of Life on Earth
Oswald Schmitz
MWF 1.30-2.20
1 HTBA
Spring 2018
Areas Sc
Study of sustainability in a new epoch of human domination of Earth, known as the Anthropocene. Students will learn to think critically and construct arguments about the ecological and evolutionary interrelationship between humans and nature and gain insight on how to combine ethical reasoning with scientific principles, to ensure that species and ecosystems will thrive and persist.
AMST 197 01 (20360) /ARCH280/HSAR219
American Architecture and Urbanism
Elihu Rubin
TTh 11.35-12.25
1 HTBA
Spring 2018
Areas Hu
Introduction to the study of buildings, architects, architectural styles, and urban landscapes, viewed in their economic, political, social, and cultural contexts, from precolonial times to the present. Topics include: public and private investment in the built environment; the history of housing in America; the organization of architectural practice; race, gender, ethnicity and the right to the city; the social and political nature of city building; and the transnational nature of American architecture.

AMST 364 01 (21038) /FILM423/EVST366/AMST834/FILM733
Documentary and the Environment
Charles Musser
1 HTBA
Spring 2018
Areas Hu
Meets during reading period
Survey of documentaries about environmental issues, with a focus on Darwin's Nightmare (2004), An Inconvenient Truth (2006), Food, Inc. (2009), GasLand (2010), and related films. Brief historical overview, from early films such as The River (1937) to the proliferation of environmental film festivals.

AMST 163 01 (21209) /HSHM204/HIST120/EVST120
American Environmental History
Paul Sabin
TTh 11.35-12.50
Spring 2018
Skills WR
Areas Hu
Ways in which people have shaped and been shaped by the changing environments of North America from precolonial times to the present. Migration of species and trade in commodities; the impact of technology, agriculture, and industry; the development of resources in the American West and overseas; the rise of modern conservation and environmental movements; the role of planning and impact of public policies.

AFAM 450 01 (22865) /WGSS468/HUMS460
New Orleans in the American Imaginary
Joseph Fischel
Crystal Feimster
W 2.30-4.20
Spring 2018
Skills WR
Areas Hu
Permission of instructor required
Exploration of historical and contemporary New Orleans through the city's literature, scholarship, theater, music, and food. New Orleans as both outlier and representative case of United States neoliberal economic reforms, racialized policing, casino capitalism, and hedonism.
ARCH 262 01 (21304) /HSAR332
Modern Architecture From the Enlightenment to the Millennium
Craig Buckley
Eeva-Liisa Pelkonen
TTh 11.35-12.25
1 HTBA
Spring 2018
Introduction to the major buildings, projects, and debates of modern architecture and urbanism from its Enlightenment origins to the present. Consideration of design methods, representational tools, and construction techniques, which have shaped architectural practice, as well as modern architects’ complex relationship with time. Study of the built environment through relevant primary texts and secondary sources.

BRST 177 01 (20440)
British Art and Landscape
Martin Postle
1 HTBA
Spring 2018
Areas Hu
Permission of instructor required
The role of visual art in articulating cultural, literary, political, and environmental approaches to the landscape of the British Isles in the period from 1750 to c.1850. Artists include eighteenth and nineteenth-century practitioners such as Richard Wilson, Thomas Gainsborough, J. M. W. Turner and John Constable.

E&EB 145 01 (20739)
Plants and People
Linda Puth
1 HTBA
Spring 2018
This section requires explicit department permission. Department Pre-Approval Required
Areas Sc
Permission of instructor required
The interaction of plants and people throughout history explored from biological, historical, anthropological, and artistic perspectives. Basic botany; plants in the context of agriculture; plants as instruments of trade and societal change; plants as inspiration; plants in the environment. Includes field trips to the greenhouses at Yale Marsh Botanical Garden, the Yale Peabody Museum and Herbarium, the Yale Farm, and the Yale Art Gallery.

EVST 348 01 (21003)
Yellowstone and Global Change
Susan Clark
W 2.30-4.20
Spring 2018
Permission of instructor required
Introduction to sustainability issues in natural resource management and policy, using the Greater Yellowstone ecosystem as a case study. Topics include large carnivores, wildlife conservation, parks, energy, and transportation. Priority to Environmental Studies majors.

AMST 371 01 (21014) /ER&M297
Food, Race, and Migration in United States Society
Quan Tran
Th 1.30-3.20
Spring 2018
Areas So
Permission of instructor required
Exploration of the relationship between food, race, and migration in historical and contemporary United States contexts. Organized thematically and anchored in selected case studies, this course is comparative in scope and draws from contemporary work in the fields of food studies, ethnic studies, migration studies, American studies, anthropology, and history.
ARCH 362 01 (22630)
Urban Lab II: City Making
Staff
Th 10.30-1.20
1 HTBA
Spring 2018
Permission of instructor required
How architects represent, analyze, construct, and speculate on critical urban conditions as distinct approaches to city making. Investigation of a case study analyzing urban morphologies and the spatial systems of a city through diverse means of representation that address historical, social, political, and environmental issues. Through maps, diagrams, collages and text, students learn to understand spatial problems and project urban interventions.
Prerequisites: For non-majors: permission of the instructor is required. For ARCH majors: ARCH 150, 200, 280, and 360.

HIST 361 01 (21251) /LAST361
History of Brazil
Stuart Schwartz
TTh 10.30-11.20
Spring 2018
Areas Hu
Brazilian history from European contact to the reestablishment of civilian government in the 1990s. Focus on the multiethnic nature of Brazilian society, the formation of social and political patterns, and the relationship of people to the environment.

EP&E 497 01 (21799) /PLSC219/EVST247
Politics of the Environment
Peter Swenson
1 HTBA
Spring 2018
Historical and contemporary politics aimed at regulating human behavior to limit damage to the environment. Goals, strategies, successes, and failures of movements, organizations, corporations, scientists, and politicians in conflicts over environmental policy. Focus on politics in the U.S., including the role of public opinion; attention to international regulatory efforts, especially with regard to climate change.

ENGL 258 01 (20944)
Writing about Food
Barbara Stuart
TTh 11.35-12.50
Spring 2018
Skills WR
Permission of instructor required
Writing about food within cultural contexts. Through reading essays written by the luminaries of the food world, students explore food narratives from many angles, including family meals, recipes, cookbooks, restaurant reviews, memoir, and film.

E&EB 336 01 (21328) /HUMS336/HSHM453
Culture and Human Evolution
Gary Tomlinson
M 1.30-3.20
Spring 2018
Areas Hu, Sc
Permission of instructor required
Examination of the origins of human modernity in the light of evolutionary and archaeological evidence. Understanding, through a merger of evolutionary reasoning with humanistic theory, the impact of human culture on natural selection across the last 250,000 years.
**CGSC 139 01 (21855) /PSYC139**  
*The Mental Lives of Babies and Animals*  
Karen Wynn  
TTh 2.30-3.45  
Spring 2018  
Areas So  
Interdisciplinary exploration of the cognitive, social, and emotional capacities of creatures lacking language and culture. The extent to which our complex psychology is unique to mature humans; the relative richness of a mental life without language or culture. Some attention to particular human populations such as children with autism and adults with language disorders.

**HIST 055 01 (21203)**  
*A History of Modern London*  
Becky Conekin  
TTh 1.00-2.15  
Spring 2018  
Skills WR  
Areas Hu  
Permission of instructor required  
Chronological and thematic exploration of modern London as a metropolitan and imperial center from the late-nineteenth-century to the present day. Topics include race, gay rights, women’s rights, consumer culture, the experience of war, and the development of a multi-racial society. The fashion, food, and popular music of London emerge as important components of the city’s global identity in the twentieth century.  
Enrollment limited to freshmen. Preregistration required; see under Freshman Seminar Program.

**EALL 210 01 (20692) /EALL510/LITR172**  
*Man and Nature in Chinese Literature*  
Kang-i Sun Chang  
TTh 1.00-2.15  
Spring 2018  
Areas Hu  
Readings in translation  
An exploration of man and nature in traditional Chinese literature, with special attention to aesthetic and cultural meanings. Topics include the concept of nature and literature; neo-Taoist self-cultivation; poetry and Zen (Chan) Buddhism; travel in literature; loss, lament, and self-reflection in song lyrics; nature and the supernatural in classical tales; love and allusions to nature; religious pilgrimage and allegory.  
All readings in translation; no knowledge of Chinese required. Some Chinese texts provided for students who read Chinese.  
Formerly CHNS 200.

**LITR 420 01 (22014) /SPAN393**  
*The Jungle Books*  
Roberto González Echevarría  
TTh 2.30-3.45  
Spring 2018  
Skills WR  
Areas Hu  
Permission of instructor required  
Readings in translation  
A study of novels, stories, and films about a journey to the jungle in search of personal fulfillment and the origins of history. Authors include Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca, Arthur Conan Doyle, Joseph Conrad, André Malraux, Alejo Carpentier, W. H. Hudson, Claude Lévi-Strauss, José Eustasio Rivera, and Mario Vargas Llosa.  
Readings and discussion in English.
**HIST 307 01 (21232) /EAST301**

The Making of Japan’s Great Peace, 1550–1850

Fabian Drixler

TTh 11.35-12.25  
Spring 2018  
Areas Hu

Pre-Industrial Course

Examination of how, after centuries of war in Japan and overseas, the Tokugawa shogunate built a peace that lasted more than 200 years. Japan’s urban revolution, the eradication of Christianity, the Japanese discovery of Europe, and the question of whether Tokugawa Japan is a rare example of a complex and populous society that achieved ecological sustainability.

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**HSHM 002 01 (22610) /CLCV034/HIST037**

Medicine and Disease in the Ancient World

Jessica Lamont

1 HTBA  
Spring 2018  
Areas Hu  
Permission of instructor required

Examination of ancient medicine considering modern fields of pathology, surgery, pharmacology, therapy, obstetrics, psychology, anatomy, medical science, ethics, and education, to gain a better understanding of the foundations of Western medicine and an appreciation for how medical terms, theories, and practices take on different meanings with changes in science and society. All readings in English.

Enrollment limited to freshmen. Preregistration required; see under Freshman Seminar Program.

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**HIST 444J 01 (22299) /HSHM439**

Scientific Instruments and the Making of Knowledge

Charlotte Abney Salomon

Th 1.30-3.20  
Spring 2018  
Skills WR  
Areas Hu  
Permission of instructor required

A survey of the design and use of instruments for making scientific knowledge from the Renaissance to the present. Topics include visualizing the invisible; proof and credit; standardization and precision; exploration, geography, and politics; doctor-patient interaction; and science and the public. Students have weekly hands-on interactions with historical scientific instruments from the Peabody museum collections.

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**HIST 239 01 (21223)**

Britain’s Empire since 1763

Stuart Semmel

TTh 11.35-12.25  
Spring 2018  
Areas Hu

The varieties of rule in different parts of Britain’s vast empire, from India to Africa to the West Indies. Ways in which events in one region could redirect policy in distant ones; how British observers sought to reconcile empire’s often authoritarian nature with liberalism and an expanding democracy at home; the interaction of economic, cultural, political, and environmental factors in shaping British imperial development.
Public Health in America, 1793 to the Present
Naomi Rogers
TTh 10.30-11.20
Spring 2018
Areas Hu
A survey of public health in America from the yellow fever epidemic of 1793 to AIDS and breast cancer activism at the end of the past century. Focusing on medicine and the state, topics include quarantines, failures and successes of medical and social welfare, the experiences of healers and patients, and organized medicine and its critics.

Historical Perspectives on Global Health
Joanna Radin
MW 11.35-12.25
Spring 2018
Areas Hu
The broader historical context of contemporary practices, policies, and values associated with the concept of global health. Historical formations around ideas about disease, colonialism, race, gender, science, diplomacy, security, economy, and humanitarianism; ways in which these formations have shaped and been shaped by attempts to negotiate problems of health and well-being that transcend geopolitical borders.

Time and Place in Early Modern England
Keith Wrightson
T 1.30-3.20
Spring 2018
Areas Hu
Permission of instructor required
Perceptions of time and place in England and their relationships to personal and social identity, c. 1500 to 1800. Cartography, chorography, antiquarianism, conventions of timekeeping, perceptions of the life course, the creation of social memory and historical narratives, representations of social place, the effects of the Reformation, iconic places, and perceptions of previously unknown places and peoples. Use of visual and textual primary sources.

Politics and Society in the United States after World War II
Jennifer Klein
MW 2.30-3.45
Spring 2018
Areas Hu
Permission of instructor required
Introduction to American political and social issues from the 1940s to the present, including political economy, civil rights, class politics, and gender roles. Legacies of the New Deal as they played out after World War II; the origins, agenda, and ramifications of the Cold War; postwar suburbanization and its racial dimensions; migration and immigration; cultural changes; social movements of the Right and Left; Reaganism and its legacies; the United States and the global economy. Enrollment limited to freshmen. Preregistration required; see under Freshman Seminar Program.

Medicine and Society in American History
Staff
TTh 1.00-2.15
Spring 2018
Areas Hu
Permission of instructor required
Disease and healing in American history from colonial times to the present. The changing role of the physician, alternative healers and therapies, and the social impact of epidemics from smallpox to AIDS. Enrollment limited to freshmen. Preregistration required; see under Freshman Seminar Program.
Graduate Courses

HIST 742 01 (22214) /HSHM732
**Readings in the Environmental Humanities**  
Paul Sabin  
W 1.30-3.20  
Spring 2018  
An interdisciplinary seminar to explore the emerging field of the environmental humanities. This reading course examines how humanities disciplines can best contribute to a broad scholarly and societal conversation about humanity and the fate of the planet. We consider how environmental problems and questions might reshape humanities teaching and research, and what humanities scholars can learn through greater collaboration with social and nature scientists. This seminar draws on faculty expertise from a range of humanities disciplines and engages students in defining the field, including designing possible future courses in the environmental humanities.

ANTH 473 01 (20304) /NELC588/ARCG773/ARCG473/EVST473/ANTH773/F&ES793  
**Abrupt Climate Change and Societal Collapse**  
Harvey Weiss  
Th 3.30-5.20  
Spring 2018  
Areas Hu, So  
Permission of instructor required  
YC Anthropology: Sociocultural  
The coincidence of societal collapses throughout history with decadal and century-scale drought events. Challenges to anthropological and historical paradigms of cultural adaptation and resilience. Examination of archaeological and historical records and high-resolution sets of paleoclimate proxies.

ENGL 717 01 (22187)  
**Loves of the Plants: Imagining Flora, 1735–1835**  
Jill Campbell  
W 1.30-3.20  
Spring 2018  
Study of literary treatments of plant life between Carl Linnaeus and Charles Darwin. Special focus on botany and gender; new systems of classification; the aesthetics of flowers in poetry and the decorative arts; the movement of plants around the globe through imperial trade and settler colonialism; medicinal and commercial uses of plants; and nascent environmentalism. Readings include poems by William Cowper, Erasmus Darwin, William Wordsworth, and Charlotte Smith; prose fiction by Daniel Defoe, Henri Bernardin de Saint-Pierre, and Johann Wyss; and samples of reference works and treatises. Opportunities for students to explore related topics through independent research.

REL 510 01 (20161)  
**Bible & the Environment**  
Judith Gundry  
3 HTBA  
Spring 2018  
Areas DI (1)  
No course description available yet.  
This course explores the theme of the environment in the Bible against a broad backdrop of scholarly research on religion and science/ecology. Students are oriented to the subject matter through readings and lectures by experts in the biological sciences, environmental studies, and at the intersection of biblical studies/theology/ethics/religion and science/ecology. Students then read a variety of biblical texts and traditions that deal with the environment, exploring the history of their interpretation and application in different periods and contexts. The research paper focuses on one such biblical text/tradition. Area I.
HIST 537 01 (22210) /MDVL612
The Mediterranean in Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages
Paul Freedman
T 1.30-3.20
Spring 2018
This course looks at the Mediterranean in late antiquity and the Middle Ages. How unified or diverse was this area in terms of climate, cultures, and populations? Historiography of the Mediterranean includes works by Braudel, Abulafia, McNeil, Horden, and Purcell.

RLST 544 01 (23016)
Animals in Indian Religions
Phyllis Granoff
T 1.30-3.20
Spring 2018
Students read Buddhist, Hindu, and Jain texts dealing with animals. We examine divergent beliefs about the place of animals in the hierarchy of living beings. Readings include stories of the Buddha’s births as an animal, the Ramayana on the monkey god Hanuman, and Jain rebirth narratives. Philosophical readings on animal sacrifice culminate in a consideration of recent debates against sacrifice in the Indian supreme court.

ANTH 736 01 (20322) /ARCG736
Advanced Topics in Asian Archaeology
William Honeychurch
F 9.25-11.15
Spring 2018
This seminar reviews the archaeology of Asia of the Pleistocene and Holocene epochs with emphasis on East, Southeast, and South Asia. Asian archaeology remains little known to most Western researchers, although some of the earliest hominid remains and some of the most powerful states are found in that part of the world. The course emphasizes the particularities of Asian cultural sequences, while illustrating how processes in these sequences compare to those found elsewhere in the world. The diverse Asian record provides a basis for refining key concepts in anthropological archaeology, including domestication, inequality and hierarchy, heterarchy, and complexity. Topics to be covered include history and theory in Asian archaeology; the Pleistocene and paleolithic record of Asia; origins of plant and animal domestication; early farming communities; models of complexity; and early states and empires.

HSAR 811 01 (22216)
Cartographic Japan in the Age of Exploration
Mimi Yiengpruksawan
Seth Jacobowitz
W 1.30-3.20
Spring 2018
It has been well noted that maps and more broadly the cartographic sciences constitute the very core of a voracious desire to know and consume the world that is intimately tied to the European expansion of the 1500s. The existence of Theatrum orbis terrarum and Civitates orbis terrarum virtually insure that the story is typically told from the European perspective. In this seminar we take up the East Asian perspective with emphasis on the ways in which cultural entanglement “east to west” brought about cultural productions in China, Korea, and Japan whose analysis yields insights into the interplay of local and translocal at the heart of the early modern world system.
Man and Nature in Chinese Literature
Kang-i Sun Chang
TTh 1.00-2.15
Spring 2018
Areas Hu
Readings in translation
An exploration of man and nature in traditional Chinese literature, with special attention to aesthetic and cultural meanings. Topics include the concept of nature and literature; neo-Taoist self-cultivation; poetry and Zen (Chan) Buddhism; travel in literature; loss, lament, and self-reflection in song lyrics; nature and the supernatural in classical tales; love and allusions to nature; religious pilgrimage and allegory.
All readings in translation; no knowledge of Chinese required. Some Chinese texts provided for students who read Chinese. Formerly CHNS 200.

Lacquer in a World Context
Edward Cooke
Denise Leidy
F 1.30-3.20
Spring 2018
Taking advantage of the Art Gallery’s recent acquisition of a ca. 1600 lacquered namban writing cabinet and the accessibility of collections from the Art Gallery and the Peabody Museum on West Campus, this seminar offers students a global perspective on lacquer. The use of plant-based materials to provide a durable and decorative surface on wood has a long history, but different cultures drew on different types of materials and different techniques of application, and as a result developed their own aesthetic. This course draws on firsthand examination of and readings on East Asian, South Asian, Anglo-Dutch-American, and New Spain examples to understand the way in which the language of lacquer was shared throughout the world during the age of expansion from the sixteenth to the nineteenth century.

Studies in Sound and Voice
John Peters
W 9.25-11.15
Spring 2018
Since the late nineteenth century, human and nonhuman voices have been technically amplified, recorded, distorted, enhanced, synthesized, and measured for purposes of art, science, and politics. This class explores classic and recent books and essays on the media of sound and culture, with a particular focus on the voice. We are guided by two fundamental questions: How do voices get into bodies and bodies into voices? How do media capture something whose existence amounts to vibrations and whose essence involves disappearance? The voice is a key but conflicted site for defining what it means to be a human being. This complex organ or apparatus depends on lungs, brain, vocal tract, emotion, training, and culture. The voice implicates physics and music, communication and culture, anatomy and art. It raises questions about beauty, identity, power, religion, art, poetry, style, culture, race, gender, and age. Animals and machines have voices; so may the stars.

Religion in the American West
Tisa Wenger
Th 3.30-5.20
Spring 2018
This course investigates the histories of religious encounter and the formation of diverse religious identities in the American West, placing them in broader contexts of Atlantic world, Pacific world, hemispheric, and national histories. The West has played multiple roles in the nation’s imagination: a place to be conquered and controlled, a place for new beginnings (religious or otherwise), a place of perils and of opportunities. Over the course of the term we ponder the religious dimensions of each of these constructed meanings and examine their very real impact on the people and landscapes of the West.
HIST 893 01 (21281)
History of China’s Republican Period
Denise Ho
Th 1.30-3.20
Spring 2018
This reading seminar examines recent English-language scholarship on China’s Republican period (1912–1949) covering themes from state and economy to society and culture. Weekly topics include state institutions and law, nationalism, politics and political movements, the development of cities, media and publication, public health, education, labor, and rural reconstruction.

E&EB 713 01 (20769)
Spatial and Environmental Data Analysis in Conservation and Biodiversity Science
Walter Jetz
1 HTBA
Spring 2018
The course provides an introduction and hands-on exposure to computational and statistical approaches for the analysis of biodiversity data in a geographical, environmental, and conservation context. After a general overview of relevant hot topics and questions in conservation and ecology and their associated methodologies and data sources, we introduce a set of example questions that we then address with a variety of datasets and methods. A particular focus is the analysis of species distributions and abundances in changing landscapes using remotely sensed environmental information. Beyond broadly available data and methods, students explore new biodiversity-relevant remote-sensing products under development with NASA and prototype tools available through the Yale-based Map of Life project and its partnership with the Google Earth Engine team. Participants gain hands-on experience in spatial analysis and modeling relevant for biodiversity and conservation science and learn about key associated concepts and potential pitfalls. Case studies from forestry, species distribution modeling, biodiversity, and remote sensing data processing. The course meets weekly for 2–3 hours, day and time to be determined. The first organizational meeting takes place on January 20 at 2 pm in OML 201; if you are interested in the course but unable to attend the organizational meeting, please contact the instructor at walter.jetz@yale.edu.
Prerequisite: open to advanced undergraduates and graduate students (postdocs also welcome) with an interest in advancing their data analysis and modeling skill set and at least some experience in GIS and statistical analysis in R (or willingness to acquire it).

HIST 724 01 (23083) /AMST767
Research Seminar in U.S. Urban History
Mary Lui
Th 9.25-11.15
Spring 2018
Students conduct archival research to write an original, article-length essay on any aspect of U.S. urban history in any century. The first half of the seminar consists of weekly readings and discussions while the latter half consists of article workshop meetings focused on student writing.

HIST 939 01 (22223) /HSHM750
Approaches to the History of Technology
Paola Bertucci
Th 1.30-3.20
Spring 2018
An introduction to the history of technology, with a focus on classic and recent works in the field. Students discuss theoretical problems and case studies from the Middle Ages to the present. Topics include technological determinism, technology transfer, the Industrial Revolution, the social construction of technology, thing theory, the human-machine relationship.
HIST 931 01 (21189) /HSHM702
Problems in the History of Science
Deborah Coen
T 1.30-3.20
Spring 2018
Close study of recent secondary literature in the history of the physical and life sciences. An inclusive overview of the emergence and diversity of scientific ways of knowing, major scientific theories and methods, and the role of science in politics, capitalism, war, and everyday life. Discussions focus on historians’ different analytic and interpretive approaches.

HIST 943 01 (21191) /HSHM736/WGSS730
Health Politics, Body Politics
Naomi Rogers
W 1.30-3.20
1 HTBA
Spring 2018
A reading seminar on struggles to control, pathologize, and normalize human bodies, with a particular focus on science, medicine, and the state, both in North America and in a broader global health context. Topics include disease, race, and politics; repression and regulation of birth control; the politics of adoption; domestic and global population control; feminist health movements; and the pathologizing and identity politics of disabled people.

Other Relevant Methodological Courses

ARCG 362 01 (21114) /EVST362/EMD548/F&ES726/G&G362/G&G562/ARCG762
Observing Earth from Space
Ronald Smith
TTh 9.00-10.15
Spring 2018
Skills QR
Areas Sc
Permission of instructor required
A practical introduction to satellite image analysis of Earth’s surface. Topics include the spectrum of electromagnetic radiation, satellite-borne radiometers, data transmission and storage, computer image analysis, the merging of satellite imagery with GIS and applications to weather and climate, oceanography, surficial geology, ecology and epidemiology, forestry, agriculture, archaeology, and watershed management. Prerequisites: college-level physics or chemistry, two courses in geology and natural science of the environment or equivalents, and computer literacy.

ECON 737 01 (20808) /EVST340/F&ES804/ECON330
Economics of Natural Resources
Robert Mendelsohn
MW 10.30-11.20
Spring 2018
Linking of abstract economic concepts to concrete policy and management decisions. Application of theoretical tools of economics to global warming, pollution control, fisheries, forestry, recreation, and mining.

The Science of Water
Kanani Lee
TTh 9.00-10.15
Spring 2018
Areas Sc
Permission of instructor required
A study of water in its physical, chemical, biological, astronomical, geological, and environmental aspects. Topics include water’s role in food and energy production, conservation and pollution, magnetic field generation, plate tectonics and volcanism, climate, and security.
EVST 290 01 (20997) /F&ES290
Geographic Information Systems
Charles Tomlin
T 9.25-11.15
Spring 2018
Permission of instructor required
A practical introduction to the nature and use of geographic information systems (GIS) in environmental science and management. Applied techniques for the acquisition, creation, storage, management, visualization, animation, transformation, analysis, and synthesis of cartographic data in digital form.

CHEM 102 01 (20462) /ENVE202/EVST102
Introduction to Green Chemistry
Paul Anastas
MW 9.00-10.15
Spring 2018
Overview of the basic concepts and methods needed to design processes and synthesize materials in an environmentally benign way. Related issues of global sustainability. Case studies that suggest possible solutions for the serious environmental and toxicological issues currently facing industry and society.
Intended for non-science majors with a basic high school background in chemistry and physics, as well as high school algebra. Does not satisfy premedical chemistry requirements or requirements for the Chemistry major.

ENAS 673 01 (20991) /ENVE473
Air Quality and Energy
Drew Gentner
MW 11.35-12.50
Spring 2018
The production and use of energy are among the most important sources of air pollution worldwide. It is impossible to effectively address the impacts and regulation of air quality without understanding the impacts and behavior of emissions from energy sources. Through an assessment of emissions and physical/chemical processes, the course explores advanced topics (at the graduate level) on the behavior of pollutants from energy systems in the atmosphere. Topics include traditional and emerging energy technology, climate change, atmospheric aerosols, tropospheric ozone, as well as transport/modeling/mitigation.

AMTH 160 01 (20328) /MATH160/S&DS160
The Structure of Networks
Staff
TTh 2.30-3.45
Spring 2018
Network structures and network dynamics described through examples and applications ranging from marketing to epidemics and the world climate. Study of social and biological networks as well as networks in the humanities. Mathematical graphs provide a simple common language to describe the variety of networks and their properties.

CHEM 105 01 (20994) /EVST180
Chemistry for the Environment
Paul Anastas
MW 11.35-12.50
1 HTBA
Spring 2018
Areas Sc
Exploration of the fundamentals of chemistry, including atoms, molecules, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, chemical/physical properties, and periodic table trends. How chemistry can address global human health and environmental issues through development of appropriate solutions using green chemistry approaches
No prerequisites; intended for non-science majors. Does not satisfy premedical chemistry requirements or requirements for the Chemistry major. Not open to students who have completed another chemistry course at Yale.
Permission of instructor required

A survey of historical and current approaches to questions about the perception and cognition of music. Topics include psychoacoustics; the cognitive neuroscience of music; relationships between music and language; the nature of musical knowledge; and debates about aesthetics, evolutionary psychology, and musical universals.

Prerequisite: MUSI 110 or familiarity with music notation.