



[Martin Johnson Heade, \*Jungle Orchids and Hummingbirds\* \(1872\), Yale University Art Gallery](#)

# **Environmental Humanities Courses**

## **Spring 2024**

### **Yale University**

*Last updated 12/18/23*

*Please note that this list may change as courses are added. We invite you to submit courses for inclusion to [environmentalhumanities@yale.edu](mailto:environmentalhumanities@yale.edu).*

## 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 Program 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. Some of the courses are entirely focused on the environment and the humanities; others approach the environmental humanities as one of several integrated themes. This accompanying list provides a guide to course offerings for the Spring 2024 semester.

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## [Undergraduate Courses](#)

## [Graduate Courses](#)

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# Undergraduate Courses

[AFAM](#) [AMST](#) [ANTH](#) [ARCH](#) [ART](#) [CSGH](#) [CSYC](#) [EALL](#) [EDST](#) [EVST](#) [ER&M](#) [FREN](#) [GERM](#) [HIST](#) [HSHM](#) [HUMS](#)  
[ITAL](#) [LAST](#) [RLST](#) [SPAN](#)

AFAM 353 (30164) / HSAR 353

## **Bodies, Senses, Representations: Medieval and Black Studies in Conversation**

Jacqueline Jung

Th 1:30pm-3:20pm

Areas HU

This team-taught, cross-disciplinary seminar uses diverse sensory and medial paradigms to explore the very different yet surprisingly congruent figurations of bodily and racialized difference and selfhood in the cultural productions of medieval Europe (ca. 800-1500) and modern America. Extending forms of analysis that interpret visual, spatial, musical, and performance arts through a strictly historical lens, this seminar listens for the resonances between Medieval European definitions of personhood through bodily movements, sensations, and signs and Black Studies' grappling with the aesthetic implications of racialization—how Black peoples are sensed in and make sense of the world. Even as it takes specific works of art, music, performance, and literature as focal points to teach students about particular forms of cultural production, the course offers students the chance to reflect on field-specific processes and languages of interpretation, and to think about the entanglements both of diverse peoples within particular historical contexts and also of the past with the present.

AMST 038 (30063) / ENGL 038 / ER&M 038

## **The Native American Renaissance**

Lloyd Kevin Sy

TTh 2:30pm-3:45pm

Areas HU, WR

In 1983, Kenneth Lincoln described the flowering of Native literatures in the years after N. Scott Momaday's publication of *House Made of Dawn* (1968) as the "Native American Renaissance." This course goes through many of the most important literary works in the decades after 1968 and studies their themes in relation to other salient qualities of Native life. Namely, we examine those works' investments in ecology, sovereignty, and politics (especially the Red Power movement). We explore how this period led to a revitalization of traditional storytelling and the emergence of new forms of expression that reflected the changing realities of Native American life. Readings may include works by Momaday, Leslie Marmon Silko, James Welch, Joy Harjo, Louise Erdrich, Simon Ortiz, Gerald Vizenor, and Vine Deloria. We also evaluate how Native literature transformed from this literary period into more recent works by Native creators like Tanya Tagaq, Tommy Orange, Sterlin Harjo, Cherie Dimaline, and Deborah Miranda. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program.

AMST 070 (26413) / ENGL 067 / HUMS 067

## **The Road in Literature and Film**

Steven Shoemaker

TTh 1pm-2:15pm

Areas HU, WR

Stories about journeys are at the heart of some of the most powerful works of art and literature that humankind has produced, from the time of Homer's *Odyssey* onward, and the trope of the journey has played an especially prominent role in American literature and film. In this course, we look at modern and contemporary examples of books and films that explore "the road" both as a path to freedom and discovery and as a site of hardship and precarity. Along the way, we examine quests for personal enlightenment, flights from economic and political oppression, and attempts to locate some "elsewhere" that's more exciting than home. Works of literature are likely to include Walt Whitman's "Song of the Open Road," Jack Kerouac's *On the Road*, John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*, Muriel Rukeyser's *U.S. 1*, Jesmyn Ward's *Sing, Unburied, Sing*, and Colson Whitehead's *The Underground Railroad*. Films are likely to include *Sullivan's Travels*, *It Happened One Night*, *Easy Rider*, *Thelma and Louise*, and *Into the Wild*.

AMST 190 (29599) / URBN 307

## **Race, Class, and Gender in American Cities**

Laura Barraclough

Th 9:25am-11:15am

Areas SO

This seminar explores how racial, gender, and class inequalities have been built, sustained, and challenged in U.S. cities, with a focus on the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. The first part of the course examines historical processes that are especially salient for identity and inequality, such as the gendered organization of public and private space, the shifting fate of industrial work, and suburbanization. The second part of the course focuses on contemporary processes that reproduce or challenge the historical construction of urban inequality. Topics include gentrification, transit equity, environmental justice, and the relationships between public space, democracy, and community wellbeing.

AMST 236 (26767) / HIST 199 / EVST 318 / HSHM 207

## **American Energy History**

Paul Sabin

MW 11:35am-12:25pm

Areas HU, WR

The history of energy in the United States from early hydropower and coal to present-day hydraulic fracturing, deepwater oil, wind, and solar. Topics include energy transitions and technological change; energy and democracy; environmental justice and public health; corporate power and monopoly control; electricity and popular culture; labor struggles; the global quest for oil; changing national energy policies; the climate crisis.

AMST 281 (29000) / ENGL 278

**Antebellum American Literature**

Michael Warner

MW 2:30pm-3:45pm

Areas HU, WR

Introduction to writing from the period leading up to and through the Civil War. The growth of African American writing in an antislavery context; the national book market and its association with national culture; emergence of a language of environment; romantic ecology and American pastoral; the "ecological Indian"; evangelicalism and the secular; sentimentalism and gender; the emergence of sexuality; poetics.

AMST 310 (30274) / HSAR 447

**The American West: Art, Land, Politics**

Jennifer Raab

T 1:30pm-3:20pm

Areas HU

The American West holds a powerful place in the cultural and political imagination of the United States. This seminar considers changing conceptions of the land across media—from maps and guidebooks, to paintings, panoramas, and photographs, to earth art and satellite imagery. We examine the politics of water rights; artists' engagement with ecological questions; the representation of railroads, National Parks, ghost towns, and highways; the mythology of the frontier; and the visual construction of settler colonialism and indigenous resistance. The course emphasizes close attention to works of art, archival research, and developing term papers that engage with the Beinecke's extraordinary Western Americana Collection. Classes are held at the Beinecke as well as the Yale University Art Gallery, the Yale Center for British Art, and the Peabody Museum.

AMST 332 (28595) / HSAR 410

**Humbugs and Visionaries: American Artists and Writers Before the Civil War**

Bryan Wolf

T 1:30pm-3:20pm

Areas HU

This course examines American literature and visual culture in the years before the Civil War, focusing on the ways that writers and artists not only anticipated but helped construct the modern era. We look in particular at mythmakers, prophets and self-promoters, from poets like Phillis Wheatley and Emily Dickinson, to painters like Thomas Cole and Hudson River School artists, to popular entertainers like P. T. Barnum. Topics include: visibility and the invention of "whiteness"; landscape and empire; genre painting and hegemony; race and double-coding; domesticity and sentimentalism.



[Image: Maria Uhden, \*Insel \(Island\)\*, 1918, Yale University Art Gallery](#)

AMST 364 (26656) / FILM 423 / EVST 366 / ENV 598

**Documentary and the Environment**

Charles Musser

M 7pm-10pm; T 3:30pm-5:20pm

Areas HU

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 389 (30076) / ENGL 390

**The Southern Gothic**

Caleb Smith

TTh 9am-10:15am

Areas HU, WR

A seminar in gothic literature and culture from the U.S. South, exploring haunted houses, dismal swamps, and fearsome wilderness; reflecting on conjure, possession, and metamorphosis; and encountering monsters, spirits, and so-called freaks. We consider how Southern histories of settlement, slavery, and religion find expression in the gothic mode, from at least the 1830s through

the present. Readings may include works by Edgar Allan Poe, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Charles Chesnut, William Faulkner, Zora Neale Hurston, Flannery O'Connor, Jesmyn Ward.

AMST 304 (29120)

**Introduction to Public Humanities**

Dicky Yangzom

F 3:30pm-5:20pm

Areas HU

Introduction to the various media, topics, debates, and issues framing public humanities. The relationship between knowledge produced in the university and the circulation of ideas among a broader public, including modes of inquiry, interpretation, and presentation. Public history, museum studies, oral and community history, public art, documentary film and photography, public writing and educational outreach, and the socially conscious performing arts.

ANTH 203 (27092)

**Primate Conservation**

David Watts

TTh 2:30-3:45pm

Areas SO

A study of nonhuman primates threatened by deforestation, habitat disturbance, hunting, and other human activities; the future of primate habitats, especially tropical rainforests, as they are affected by local and global economic and political forces. Examination of issues in primate conservation, from the principles of conservation biology and rainforest ecology to the emergence of diseases such as AIDS and Ebola and the extraction of tropical resources by local people and by transnational corporations.

ANTH 294 (27124) / ARCG 294

**The Ancient Maya**

Oswaldo Chinchilla Mazariegos

MW 1pm-2:15pm

Areas SO

Introduction to the archaeological study of ancient Maya civilization in southern Mexico and northern Central America. Maya origins and modes of adaptation to a tropical forest environment; political history of the Classic Maya and competing theories about their collapse; overviews of Maya art, calendar, and writing.

ANTH 322 (27070) / EVST 324 / SAST 306

**Environmental Justice in South Asia**

Kalyanakrishnan Sivaramakrishnan

W 3:30pm-5:20pm

Areas SO

Study of South Asia's nation building and economic development in the aftermath of war and decolonization in the 20th century. How it generated unprecedented stress on natural environments; increased social disparity; and exposure of the poor and minorities to environmental risks and loss of homes, livelihoods, and cultural resources. Discussion of the rise of environmental justice movements and policies in the region as the world comes to grips with living in the Anthropocene.

ANTH 358 (27093) / SAST 304

**Corporations & Communities**

Jane Lynch

T 1:30pm-3:20pm

Areas HU, SO

Can communities redefine corporations? How do corporations shape everyday life? To whom are they responsible? This course examines the relationship between commerce, society, and culture through a diverse set of case studies that are rooted in both global and local histories. Students learn about Henry Ford's rubber plantations in the Amazon, family firms in Italy, how the East India Company shaped the modern multinational, the first company town to be established and run by an Indian firm, transnational "stakeholder" arrangements to compensate injured garment workers in Bangladesh, and the rise of "corporate social responsibility" culture. The goal of this course is not to define the relationship between corporations and communities as singular or obvious, but rather, to draw out the variety of factors—economic, historical, social, and cultural—that shape commercial interactions, institutional cultures, and claims about market ethics and social responsibility.

ANTH 372 (27125) / ARCG 372 / ANTH 772 / ARCG 772

**The Archaeology of Urbanism**

Oswaldo Chinchilla Mazariegos

M 9:25am-11:15am

Areas SO

Archaeological studies of ancient cities and urbanism. Topics include the origin and growth of cities; the economic, social, and political implications of urban life; and archaeological methods and theories for the study of ancient urbanism. Case studies include ancient cities around the world.

ANTH 375 (27099) / ARCG 379 / ANTH 775

**Anthropology of Mobile Societies**

William Honeychurch

F 9:25am-11:15am

Areas SO

The social and cultural significance of the ways that hunter-gatherers, pastoral nomads, maritime traders, and members of our own society traverse space. The impact of mobility and transport technologies on subsistence, trade, interaction, and warfare from the first horse riders of five thousand years ago to jet-propulsion tourists of today.



ANTH 423 (27138) / ANTH 623

**The Anthropology of Possible Worlds**

Paul Kockelman  
M 9:25am-11:15am  
Areas SO

This course focuses on the nature of possible worlds: literary worlds (Narnia), ideological worlds (the world according to a particular political stance), psychological worlds (what someone remembers to be the case, wishes to be the case, or believes to be the case), environmental worlds (possible environmental futures), virtual worlds (the World of Warcraft), and—most of all—ethnographic works in which the actual and possible worlds of others are represented (the world according to the ancient Maya). We don't focus on the contents of such worlds per se, but rather on the range of resources people have for representing, regimenting, and residing in such worlds; and the roles such resources play in mediating social relations and cultural values.

ARCH 160 (29132) / URBN 160

**Introduction to Urban Studies**

Elihu Rubin  
TTh 11:35am-12:50pm  
Areas HU, SO

An introduction to key topics, research methods, and practices in urban studies, an interdisciplinary field of inquiry and action rooted in the experience of cities. As physical artifacts, the advent of large cities have reflected rapid industrialization and advanced capitalism. They are inseparable from the organization of economic life; the flourishing of cultures; and the formation of identities. They are also places where power is concentrated and inequalities are (re)produced. Debates around equity are filtered through urban environments, where struggles over jobs, housing, education, mobility, public health, and public safety are front and center. The course is organized as a colloquium with numerous guests. Accessible entirely online, there will also be live, in-person events, with social distancing and face masks/shields, available to students in New Haven.

[Image: Unrecorded Yami artist. Fishing Canoe \(Tatara\). early 20th century, Yale University Art Gallery.](#)

ARCH 316 (29795) / URBN 416

**Revolutionary Cities: Protest, Rebellion and Representation in Modern Urban Space**

Alan Plattus  
T 1:30pm-3:20pm  
Areas HU

Cities have always been hotbeds of radical ideas and actions. Their cafes and taverns, drawing rooms and universities have been incubators of new ideas, revolutionary ideologies and debate, while their streets and public spaces have been the sites of demonstrations, protests, and uprisings. Since cities are key nodes in larger networks of trade and cultural exchange, these local events have often had a global audience and impact. This seminar

explores the interaction of urban space and event, and the media and technologies of revolutionary representation, through case studies of particular cities at transformational moments in their development. These begin with Boston in the 1760s and 1770s, and may include Paris in 1789, 1830, 1848, 1871 and again in 1968, St. Petersburg in 1917, Beijing in 1949 and again in 1989, Havana in 1959, Prague, Berlin and Johannesburg and other cities in 1989, Cairo in 2011, Hong Kong in 2011-12, 2014 and 2019, and other urban sites of the Occupy and Black Lives Matter movements. Course work in modern history is recommended.

ARCH 332 (29127)

**Cultural AI: Machine Vision, Art, and Design**

Brennan Buck  
Th 3:30pm-5:20pm

More than any other technology, Artificial Intelligence (AI) promises to transform the fields of art and design over the next decade. In addition to its economic impact as it replaces and alters human labor, machine vision and cognition will alter and displace human creativity. Already, AI has added a series of invisible layers—filters and lenses—to how we see and create our environment. Understanding this new machine-mediated visual culture is critical to addressing its growth, finding potentials and opportunities for intervention, and identifying avenues for critique and resistance. Readings and discussion trace the historical role of algorithms in human culture and the understanding of creation and design as an algorithmic—even machinic—process. They chart the shift from the explicit code of software to the black box of machine learning and the birth of what Lev Manovich calls 'cultural AI'—a filter over our collective imagination as technology is incorporated into image-making, -selection, and -viewing platforms. Students also work with AI platforms such as Runway



ML to develop design proposals that take a critical and aesthetically specific stance on the current and impending impact of AI on cultural production.

ARCH 341 (27406) / GBLB 235 / LAST 318 / URBN 341 / ENV 782

**Globalization Space**

Keller Easterling  
TTh 10:30am-11:20am

Infrastructure space as a primary medium of change in global polity. Networks of trade, energy, communication, transportation, spatial products, finance, management, and labor, as well as new strains of political opportunity that reside within their spatial disposition. Case studies include free zones and automated ports around the world, satellite urbanism in South Asia, high-speed rail in Japan and the Middle East, agripoles in southern Spain, fiber optic submarine cable in East Africa, spatial products of tourism in North Korea, and management platforms of the International Organization for Standardization.

ARCH 392 (30087) / ENGL 478

**Writing About Place**

Cynthia Zarin  
T 9:25am-11:15am

Areas HU, WR

An exploration of reading and writing about place. Definitions of home; different meanings and intent of travel. Readings include exemplary contemporary essays from the eighteenth century to the present. Workshop for assigned student essays. An Advanced Level course in the Creative Writing Concentration. Application due November 1 at Noon. See <https://english.yale.edu/undergraduate/courses/creative-writing-journalism-courses>.

ART 013 (28576)

**Temperamental Spaces**

Instructor TBA  
Th 1:30pm-4:30pm

Areas HU

Spaces can sometimes appear as idiosyncratic as the people within them, taking on characteristics we usually ascribe to ourselves. They can appear erratic, comforting, uncanny—even threatening. Working like a therapy session for architecture, the body, and the objects around us, this seminar analyzes a diverse collection of readings and works, ranging from Renaissance mysticism to conceptual art and film, to explore how the visual arts have utilized a productive, but skeptical, relationship with space. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program.



CSGH 200 (31392)

**Relating Bodies: Performing Sites and Ecologies**

Henriëtte Rietveld  
M 1:30pm-3:20pm  
Areas HU

This course explores how artists and scholars engage with their relationship to place and ecology in the face of the climate crisis. Together, we analyze a combination of theoretical readings by scholars including Dipesh Chakrabarty, Alexis Pauline Gumbs, Miwon Kwon, and Robin Wall Kimmerer; and the work of contemporary artists such as Paul Chan, Erika Dickerson-Despenza, and Emily Johnson. We also experiment with our own approaches: making small-scale performances, engaging our bodies and local ecologies. Core concepts include climate and environmental justice; relationality; notions of space, place, and site; the intersection of ecology and performance; and more-than-human agency. How is place constructed, and how does our physical presence shape it? What does it mean to be “human,” what does that category do and hold, and how can and should it be decentered? Is it possible to think both on a local and a planetary level? Tending to how the legacies and structures of colonialism, imperialism, and the slave trade, as well as personal locations and histories, shape space and time and our experience of them, we consider if and how performance can address issues of environmental justice.

[Image: Unrecorded Japanese artist, Short-sleeved Kimono with Landscape, 19th century, Yale University Art Gallery](#)

CSYC 203 (31401)

**Approaches to Sustainable Food and Agriculture**

Mark Bomford  
W 1:30pm-3:20pm  
Areas SO

What makes food and agriculture "sustainable" in light of the worsening climate crisis? Can organic or regenerative farming capture and store carbon in the soil? Can lab-grown meat revolutionize animal agriculture? How might urban agriculture and vertical farming impact food security and hunger? This transdisciplinary seminar considers the multiple roots and possible futures of organic farming, local food, urban agriculture, controlled environment agriculture, and related concepts, contestations, trends, and fads. Drawing from writings in agrarian political economy, science and technology studies, human and environmental geography, and the work of activists, organizers, farmers, entrepreneurs, policymakers, and beyond, we will examine the relations between land, labor, capital, technology, and society. The course includes three required Friday afternoon working visits to the Yale Farm at the end of the semester, which will ground our discussions in hands-on work in the soil.

EALL 205 (29837) / EAST 306 / EVST 205 / HSAR 477 / HUMS 181 / EALL 505

**The Culture of Landscape in China**

Pauline Lin

TTh 1pm-2:15pm

Areas HU

An introduction to Chinese philosophical, poetic, and visual explorations of landscape and the changing relationship between human beings and nature. Through texts, archaeological materials, visual and material culture, and garden designs from the 2nd c. BCE to modern times, we learn about the Chinese conception of the world, relationship to and experiences in nature, and shaping of the land through agriculture, imperial parks, and garden designs. We conclude with contemporary environmental issues confronting China, and how contemporary parks can help regenerate our ecosystem.

EAST 406 (28155) / HSAR 352

**Introduction to Central Asian Art and Architecture**

Dilrabo Tosheva

Th 3:30pm-5:20pm

Areas HU

Overview of the art and architecture of Central Asia including Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan, in addition to Afghanistan and Xinjiang, from the Late Antiquity to the modern day. Examination of artistic, architectural-urban transformations as a reflection of the broader societal and cultural change. Through readings, we challenge ourselves 1) to reconsider some of the prevailing understandings of Central Asian history/art & architectural history and 2) to perceive the built environment as an artifact that uncovers secrets and affirms political, social, cultural, and economic aspects of the human past. Throughout, we focus on interactions across the Eurasian continent among Sogdians, Turks, Persians, Arabs, Chinese, Mongolian nomads, and Russians during the last millennium and a half, to understand how these cultures shaped Central Asian urban landscapes, art, and architectural styles. Previous knowledge of Central Asian history is helpful but by no means necessary. Previous knowledge of Art & Architectural history is helpful but by no means necessary.

EAST 417 (27106) / ANTH 414 / ANTH 575 / EAST 575

**Hubs, Mobilities, and World Cities**

Helen Siu

T 1:30pm-3:20pm

Areas SO

Analysis of urban life in historical and contemporary societies. Topics include capitalist and postmodern transformations; class, gender, ethnicity, and migration; and global landscapes of power and citizenship.

**Origins of Civilization: Egypt and Mesopotamia**

Harvey Weiss

TTh 9:00am-10:15am

Areas HU, SO

The origins of the earliest civilizations in Mesopotamia and Egypt along the Nile and Tigris-Euphrates Rivers explored with archaeological, historical and environmental data for the origins of agriculture, the classes and hierarchies that marked earliest cities, states and empires, the innovative monumental architecture, writing, imperial expansion, and new national ideologies. How and why these civilizational processes occurred with the momentous societal collapses at periods of abrupt climate change. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program.

EVST 060 (26623)

**Topics in Environmental Justice**

Michael Fotos

TTh 1:00pm-2:15pm

Areas SO, WR

This seminar introduces students to key concepts in environmental justice and to a selection of cases representing a wide range of environmental dilemmas. Course readings and discussions impart awareness of the diverse contexts in which problems of environmental justice might be studied, whether historical, geographic, racial, social, economic, political, biological, geophysical, or epistemic. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program.

EVST 189 (26779) / HIST 246

**The History of Food**

Paul Freedman

TTh 10:30am-11:20am

Areas HU



The history of food and culinary styles from prehistory to the present, with a particular focus on Europe and the United States. How societies gathered and prepared food. Changing taste preferences over time. The influence of consumers on trade, colonization, and cultural exchange. The impact of colonialism, technology, and globalization. The current food scene and its implications for health, the environment, and cultural shifts.

EVST 229 (30669) / SPAN 230 / ER&M 287 / LAST 226

**Reading Environments: Nature, Culture, and Agency**

Luna Najera

MW 11:35am-12:50pm

Areas LA (5)

Extreme weather, proliferation of species extinctions, climate migration, and the outbreak of pandemics can all be understood as instances of *koyaanisqatsi*, the Hopi word for life out of balance. They may also be viewed as indications that we are living in the age of the Anthropocene, a term in the natural and social sciences that acknowledges that human activities have had a radical geological impact on the planet since the onset of the Industrial revolution. In this course we study relations between humans and other-than-humans to understand how we arrived at a life out of balance. We inquire into how binary distinctions between nature and culture are made, sustained, or questioned through a diversity of meaning-making practices in Spanish, Latin American, and indigenous literature, visual culture, and material culture. The indigenous artifacts studied include Popol Vuh, poetry, petroglyphs, and documentaries by indigenous people of the Amazon, which provide opportunities for asking pressing questions: To what extent does the nature and culture binary foreclose alternative possibilities for imagining ourselves and our relation to the world? Are there ways of perceiving our world and ourselves that bypass such binaries and if so, what are they? In the final weeks of the course, we draw from our insights to investigate where the nature/culture binary figures in present discussions of environmental catastrophes and rights of nature movements in Latin America. **Taught in Spanish.** Prerequisite: SPAN 140 or 145, or in accordance with placement results.

EVST 255 (27003) / GBLB 282 / PLSC 215

**Environmental Law and Politics**

John Wargo

Th 1:30pm-3:20pm

Areas SO

We explore relations among environmental quality, health, and law. We consider global-scale avoidable challenges such as: environmentally related human illness, climate instability, water depletion and contamination, food and agriculture, air pollution, energy, packaging, culinary globalization, and biodiversity loss. We evaluate the effectiveness of laws and regulations intended to reduce or prevent environmental and health damages. Additional laws considered include rights of secrecy, property, speech, worker protection, and freedom from discrimination. Comparisons among the US and EU legal standards and precautionary policies will also be examined. Ethical concerns of justice, equity, and transparency are prominent themes.

EVST 315 (30497) / ENV 615 / THST 254

**Green Stages: Environmental Themes in the Theatre**

Marian Chertow

Th 3:30pm-5:30pm

What do the plays of Henrik Ibsen and the Flint, Michigan water crisis have in common? How might one connect certain themes in Aristophanes' plays with the cultural role of salmon? This course – offered for the first time -- explores the evolving relationship between theater and the environment, addressing topics and theatrical traditions that stretch across geographical, temporal and cultural contexts. Weekly reflections, class discussions and performances will encourage students to absorb the readings and synthesize the materials in creative and discrete ways. Join us as we investigate innovative approaches to environmental awareness and advocacy using theater as an instrument of communication and change. This is a unique opportunity to explore diverse perspectives on environmental issues through the lens of the theater. The course is open to undergraduate and graduate students.

EVST 319 (30186) / ENV 618

**Anthropology of Smallholder  
Agriculture in Developing Countries**

Carol Carpenter

W 1pm-3:50pm

Areas SO

The premise of this course is that small-scale agriculture, its distinctive



economic character, and the ecology of its crops and soil, shape each other in important ways. The course explores this premise through ethnographies of smallholder farming in the developing world.

EVST 391 (29409) /GMAN 390 / HUMS 368 / LITR 481 / PHIL 400

**Alienation, Reconciliation from Hegel to the Ecological Rift**

Rudiger Campe

M 1:30pm-3:20pm

Areas HU

Alienation has been explored in social, economic or environmental respects, and thinkers differ widely according to how, where, and when to identify the other of alienation, a non-alienated way of life or reconciliation. This course discusses alienation and reconciliation along these lines in Rousseau, Hegel, Marx; Simmel, Lukács, Sartre; Lefebvre, J.B. Foster, J.W. Moore and others.

EVST (26627) / ARCG 399

**Agriculture: Origins, Evolution, Crises**

Harvey Weiss

Th 3:30-5:20pm

Areas SO

Analysis of the societal and environmental drivers and effects of plant and animal domestication, the intensification of agroproduction, and the crises of agroproduction: land degradation, societal collapses, sociopolitical transformation, sustainability, and biodiversity.

[Image: Unrecorded artist \(Nayarit, Mexico\) House Model, 100 C.E.–A.D. 250, Yale University Art Gallery](#)

ER&M 240 (31222)

**Introduction to Food Studies**

Hi'ilei Hobart

TTh 11:35am-12:50pm

Areas HU

Are we what we eat? 19th century French gastronome Jean Anthelme Brillat-Savarin famously stated as much in his *Physiology of Taste* (1825), but what does this mean within our increasingly globalized food system? The phrase "you are what you eat" suggests that the act of eating is one of entrenchment: food choices represent and intensify one's own cultural and personal identity. But considering that issues of food access, public health, and unfair or illegal food labor practices within the food system cut across race and class boundaries, this may now be an inaccurate—or at the very least—uncomfortable maxim. This course interrogates themes of identity, ethnicity, race, land, and power to better understand the complexity of human relationships with food. We focus on how individual and group identity is constructed, affirmed, or refused through food choices by surveying foundational works within the field of food studies and connecting them to the pressing social issues of today, particularly as they manifest in the everyday act of eating.

ER&M 278 (29592) / SPAN 228 / LAST 228

**Borders & Globalization in Hispanophone Cultures**

Luna Najera

MW 2:30pm-3:45pm

Areas LA (5)

The borders that constitute the geographical divisions of the world are contingent, but they can have enormous ordering power in the lives of people and other beings. Human-made borders can both allow and disallow the flow of people and resources. Like geographical borders, social borders such as race, caste, class, and gender can form and perpetuate privileged categories of humans that restrict access of excluded persons to natural resources, education, security, and social mobility. Thus, bordering can differentially value human lives. Working with the premise that borders are sites of power, in this course we study bordering and debordering practices in the Hispanic cultures of Iberia, Latin America, and North America, from the 1490s to the present. Through analyses of a wide range of texts students will investigate the multiple ways in which social, cultural, and spatial borders are initiated, expressed, materialized, and contested. Some of the questions that will guide our conversations are: What are social borders and what are the processes through which they perdure? How do the effects of local practices that transcend borders (e.g., environmental pollution, deforestation) change our understanding of borders? How does globalization change discourse about borders? **(To be conducted in Spanish.)** Prerequisite: SPAN 140 or 145, or in accordance with placement results. A maximum of one course in the 200-230 range may count as an elective toward the Spanish major.

FREN 307 (27752) / LITR 302

**France by Rail: Trains in French Literature, Film, and History**

Morgane Cadieu

MW 11:35am-12:50pm

Areas HU, WR

Exploration of the aesthetics of trains in French and Francophone literature and culture, from the end of the nineteenth-century and the first locomotives, to the automatically driven subway in twenty-first century Paris. Focus on the role of trains in industrialization, colonization, deportation, decolonization, and immigration. Corpus includes novels, poems, plays, films, paintings, graphic novels, as well as theoretical excerpts on urban spaces and public transportation. Activities include: building a train at the CEID and visiting the Beinecke collections and the Art Gallery.

GERM 169 (29990)

**Architecture, Art and Social Justice**

Marion Gehkler

TTh 11:30am-12:50pm

Areas HU, LA (5)

This class introduces students to aspects of architecture as art and building design, within the context of social and environmental justice issues in the 20th and 21st centuries. Students explore the “New Settlements of Berlin Modernism,” the Bauhaus School, subsidized public housing, industrial and solar architecture in Germany, as well as examples at Yale and in New Haven. **Taught in German.** Prerequisite: GMAN 140 or equivalent, any L5 class, permission of the instructor.

HSHM 224 (30159) / HSAR 170 / HUMS 170

**Nature and Art, or The History of Almost Everything**

Marisa Bass

TTh 11:35am-12:25pm

Areas HU

This global introductory course surveys the interrelation of nature and art from antiquity to the present. Throughout the semester, we consider a controversial question: is it possible to understand the history of art and science as a more-than-human story? Challenging traditional narratives of human progress, we attend to episodes of invention and destruction in equal measure. We discuss how art history is inseparable from histories of extracted resources, exploited species, environmental catastrophe, racialized and gendered understandings of the ‘natural’ and ‘unnatural’, and politicized understandings of land as power. At the same time, we explore how makers across cultures approached the natural world as a locus of the divine, a source of inspiration, and the ground for both scientific inquiry and the pursuit of self-knowledge. The very notions of art and artistic creation are impossible to define without recourse to nature as both a concept and a site of lived experience. This course is open to all, including those with no prior background in art history. Sections will include visits to collections and sites across Yale campus.

HSHM 430

**Atmospheric Histories**

Deborah Coen

Th 1:30-3:20pm

Areas HU

This course tracks the emergence of new ways of engaging with and making meaning from the atmosphere between the 1600s and the present. To investigate the atmosphere is to attune the senses to the body’s dependence on place at local and global scales. “Atmosphere” is a concept that mediates between private and collective experiences, between scientific and artistic representations, and between local and planetary processes. We will explore the shifting significance of “atmosphere” through historical episodes including seventeenth-century matter theory, eighteenth-century medical climatology, nineteenth-century landscape painting, and twentieth-century atmospheric science. We will analyze atmospheric texts and images (including paintings in the collection of the Yale Center for British Art) using methods from history of science, art history, affect theory, and critical race, disability, and queer studies. These tools will help us understand how the impacts of climate change are compounding the historical injustices of racism and colonialism. The course will include a three-day field trip to the Gull Island Institute, located on a tiny island off the coast of Massachusetts, where students will experience being part of a sustainable, self-governing community. In partnership with Gull Island, we will explore multiple ways of knowing a place and its atmosphere, and we will reflect on the question: what does it mean to inhabit a place well? Throughout the semester, we will consider how scientific and cultural analyses can complement each other as well as the tensions between them. **LEARNING GOALS:** Students will gain experience using historical research to think critically about the present. They will learn to work with the methods of history of science, analyzing science as a social and material process bound to the cultural and epistemological particularities of its historical context. Analyzing primary sources will be a core part of this training. Students will also refine their observational skills by practicing atmospheric description in both an aesthetic and ethnographic vein. Finally, they will grapple with ethical problems that have become urgent in the era of anthropogenic climate change.

HSHM 464 (30336) / HUMS 382

**Nature and Human Nature**

Gary Tomlinson

M 3:30pm-5:20pm

Areas HU, SC

This course explores the Western conception of the human place in the natural world as it has shifted across four centuries. It features, alongside corollary readings, close study of three classic texts: Galileo’s Dialogue Concerning the Two Chief World Systems (1632), Giambattista Vico’s New Science (1744), and Darwin’s Origin of Species (1859)—fundamental texts locating humans in the cosmos, in society, and in natural history, respectively. It finishes with a new work, Terrence Deacon’s Incomplete Nature (2011), an attempt to explain the emergence of mind from the natural world. No prerequisites, though the challenging nature of the materials suggests that this course will be aimed mainly at students beyond their first year.

HIST 086 (27929) / MMES 086

**Cairo, 1850–Present**

Omnia El Shakry

TTh 1pm-2:15pm  
Areas HU, WR

This course explores the history of Cairo from the middle of the nineteenth century to the present. We examine various facets of modern Cairo ranging from architectural modernism to urban expressions of Christian and Muslim piety, while focusing on the principal political, cultural, and social factors that have shaped the city. Themes include political technologies; colonial modernity; artifacts and architecture; workers and students; capitalism, commodities, and consumerism; gender and sexuality; policing and surveillance; urban expansion; piety; the everyday; soundscapes; and the 2011 Uprising. We mobilize a diverse array of primary and secondary sources, novels, films, music, art, and architecture in our exploration, with an emphasis on work produced in Cairo. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program.



[Image: Eugène Atget, \*Point du jour, Porte du bas Meudon\*, ca. 1910, Yale University Art Gallery](#)

HIST 156J (26738)

**Capitalism, Labor, and Class Politics in Modern U.S.**

Jennifer Klein

W 9:25am-11:5am

Areas HU, WR

History of American capitalism from the mid-19th century through the 21st century. This course examines different modes of capitalist accumulation and creation of landscapes, territories, boundaries. Readings address how regionalism, race, and class power shaped the development of American capitalism. We consider the continuum of free and coerced labor well after the end of slavery in the U.S. We read about indigenous communities, the environment, energy politics, and on-going struggles with the state. This mix of labor history, social theory, intellectual history, business history, social history, and geography also impel us to imagine the workings of American capitalism beyond the borders of the nation—to think about how capitalists and workers

move through space and reshape space; the exchange of workers, ideas, technologies, and resources across national, imperial, and oceanic boundaries.

HIST 307 (30307) / EAST 301

**The Making of Japan's Great Peace, 1550–1850**

Fabian Drixler

TTh 11:35am-12:25pm

Areas HU

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.

HIST 328J (26756)

**History of Indonesia**

Nurfadzilah Yahay

Th 1:30pm-3:20pm

Areas HU, WR

As a diverse archipelago of more than 10,000 islands in Southeast Asia, Indonesia has a rich and diverse history with different languages, religions as well as rich flora and fauna. We explore the history of Indonesia from its earliest beginnings to the recent times through themes such as religion, environmental history, colonialism, revolution, Cold War, and democracy.

HIST 405 (29247) / ENV 628

**How to Ruin the World: Global Environmental History Since 1500**

Sunil Amrith

TTh 10:30am-11:20am

Areas HU

How did we get to this point of accelerating global environmental crisis? This lecture class provides a long historical perspective, and a global one, on the roots of our predicament. The class aims to introduce students to the field of environmental history, emphasizing the value of a global and comparative perspective. Beginning around 1500, the class makes connections between the violent conquest of the Americas and the state of China's forests, and between the trading networks of the Indian Ocean and the transformation of Europe's demography. The class examines the transformative impact of fossil fuels in the nineteenth century, alongside widening global inequality. Moving into the twentieth century, we explore the push and pull between growing environmental consciousness and accelerating environmental harm. What was

the relationship between decolonization and environmental awareness? How have environmental movements around the world learned from and been inspired by one another? Why, despite an upsurge of activism, has there been so little political will to confront climate change? A central question motivating the class is: what can a complex understanding of history bring to urgent debates about environmental justice?

HIST 420J (27467) / URBN 370

**Urban Laboratories: Early Modern Citymaking**

Date/Time TBA

Areas HU, WR

This interdisciplinary seminar explores the diverse forms of urbanism that emerged in Europe, the Americas, Africa, and Asia before the modern era. Course readings probe the ideas of writers, travellers, politicians, and social reformers on topics including commerce, migration, policing, citizenship, and sexuality. The aspirations and setbacks that emerge from these sources offer a long timescale of evidence of the different ways in which urban societies operated and structured day-to-day life. At the end of term, we look at urban environments of our time. In doing so we articulate comparative perspectives, identifying how today's cities have mirrored, advanced, and built upon the actions, designs, and errors that early modern cities gave rise to.

ITAL 204 (30008)

**The Making of Italian Urban Landscape: From the 'borgo medievale' to the 'città ideale'**

Simona Lorenzini

MW 2:30pm-3:45pm

Areas HU, LA (5)

What is a city? What a city can tell us about human life? How can we position ourselves in a city? How can cities bridge social, political, cultural differences to become more inclusive? How our perception of the urban landscape has changed during the centuries? This course explores the changing of Italian urban landscape from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance from a multidisciplinary and comparative perspective, from art to economics, from literature to urban design. We go through some discourses and representations of the city; maps, views, travel and narrative literature, tourist guides, films. These sources provide different ways to tell of the experience of the Italian urban environment, the evolutions of Italian towns, the changes in size and organization, the emergence of new spaces and new functions, as well as of new challenges (public health, demographic crisis, destructions, sacks, etc.). By considering the city as both a physical and conceptual space, we eventually relate the material covered in class with the world outside: What is an ideal city? What is an invisible city? What is our relationship with real cities? **Taught in Italian.** Prerequisite: ITAL 140 or equivalent.

LAST 371 (26952) / SPAN 371

**Science and Fiction in Spanish American Narrative**

Anibal González-Pérez

TTh 1pm-2:15pm

Areas HU, LA (5)

A study of the speculative incorporation of scientific ideas and themes in contemporary Spanish American fiction from Argentina, Chile, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, and Peru. Readings and discussions of early and mid-20th-century precursors, such as Jorge Luis Borges, Adolfo Bioy Casares, Leopoldo Lugones, Pablo Palacio, and Clemente Palma; of late-20th to early 21st-century examples of "technowriting" in Samantha Schweblin, Jorge Volpi, and Alejandro Zambra, and of utopias, dystopias and possible futures in Jorge Adolph, Jorge Baradit, Hugo Correa, Angélica Gorodischer, Francisco Ortega, Yoss, Yuri Herrera, and Carlos Yushimito. Related themes include: post-humanism, ecofiction, and sociopolitical satire. **Course is taught in Spanish.** Prerequisite: L4 Spanish or higher.

RLST 179 (29602)

**Writing Religious Studies: Narrative and Ecological Crisis**

Emily Theus

MW 1pm-2:15pm

Areas HU, WR

Many writers and scholars have characterized climate change as a crisis of story and narrative. Some emphasize that narrative offers a way of understanding the problems of ecological crisis—including its causes, the ways it escapes comprehension, and widespread denialism and apathy. Others advocate storytelling as a possible route forward, into better relations between humans and the world(s) they inhabit. This writing-intensive seminar introduces students to major themes in religion and ecology through conversations about the narrative dimensions of ecological crisis. Students learn to evaluate the stakes of these conversations and advance their own claims in relation to them. How have the stories we tell about ourselves and others shaped the world? What are the critical problems and possibilities of understanding ecological crisis in relation to narrative?

SPAN 357 (31382)

**Energizing Latin America**

Santiago Acosta

TTh 11:25am-12:50pm

Areas HU, LA (5)

This class presents an in-depth examination of how modern societies are entangled with the energy systems that have fueled their own potential demise. Recognizing the current ecological crisis as the main challenge of our times, the class



invites students to reflect on how culture, ideas, and narratives shape our relationship with the earth. Contrary to the common perception of energy as a passive resource that is “just there” for the taking, the course posits it as dependent on narratives, labor practices, and political projects that constitute nature as the “raw matter” of modernity. Such narratives and practices often remain hidden, subtly influencing our trajectory in manners that evade daily recognition. Therefore, one of the primary objectives of this class is to unveil the often invisible systems of energy that dominate modern life. For this reason, our sessions will delve into how artists and thinkers have sought to imagine sustainable futures by exposing the impacts of energy’s covert yet extensive presence. Focusing on the history and cultural production of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, the course is deeply informed by the histories of colonialism, imperialism, and resistance across Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Latinx world. We will start by analyzing the roots of the current climate crisis through the lens of oil capitalism, reflecting on the problem of how to “read” the pervasive influence of petroleum on modern societies. Our focus will then shift to the politics and cultural representations of oil in Venezuela—Latin America’s largest oil producer and an early “petro-state” in the region—, from the beginnings of oil extraction in the early twentieth century to the contemporary nostalgia for the golden era of the 1970s and 80s oil booms. We will also address the cultural politics of petroleum extraction in the Ecuadorian Amazon and current struggles over fuel accessibility through Mexican “petrocinema.” The second half of the course delves deeper into other energy regimes, including the political ecology of hydroelectric dams, the imaginaries of the Nuclear Age, struggles over energy justice in Puerto Rico, and conflicts concerning lithium (used in electric car batteries) in the Chilean deserts. Finally, the last section explores the promises and pitfalls of wind and solar energies, as we collectively attempt to envision alternative worlds and more sustainable ways of relating to the earth. **All readings and assignments will be in Spanish.** Instructor permission required to register.

## Graduate Courses

[AMST](#) [ANTH](#) [ARCH](#) [EAST](#) [EMST](#) [ENV](#) [FILM](#) [HSHM](#) [HSAR](#) [REL](#) [SPAN](#)

AMST 529 (30275) / AMST 529

### **Art and Extraction**

Jennifer Raab

W 1:30-3:20pm

This graduate seminar examines the relationship of art with extraction: as visual representation and material condition, as shaping political consensus or giving form to dissent, as imagining land and geological time, and as naturalizing—or revealing—the violences of settler-colonialism and racial capitalism. We think about gold, silver, oil, and water, about mines, mills, rocks, and rivers, about empire and enslavement, about golden myth and toxic dust. Classes often revolve around works of art and visual culture held in Yale collections and museums. Instructor permission required.

ANTH 771 (27130) / ARCG 771

### **Early Complex Societies**

Anne Underhill and Richard Burger

TTh 11:35am-12:50pm

A consideration of theories and methods developed by archaeologists to recognize and understand complex societies in prehistory. Topics include the nature of social differentiation and stratification as applied in archaeological interpretation; emergence of complex societies in human history; case studies of societies known ethnographically and archaeologically.

ANTH 772 (27127) / ANTH 372 / ARCH 372 / ARCG 772

### **Cities in Antiquity: The Archaeology of Urbanism**

Oswaldo Chinchilla Mazariegos

M 9:25am-11:15am

Archaeological studies of ancient cities and urbanism. Topics include the origin and growth of cities; the economic, social, and political implications of urban life; and archaeological methods and theories for the study of ancient urbanism. Case studies include ancient cities around the world.

ANTH 964 (26826) / HIST 864 / HSAR 842 / HSHM 692

### **Topics in the Environmental Humanities**

Paul Sabin and Sunil Amrith

W 5:30pm-7:20pm

This is the required workshop for the Graduate Certificate in Environmental Humanities. The workshop meets six times per term to explore concepts, methods, and pedagogy in the environmental humanities, and to share student and faculty research. Each student pursuing the Graduate Certificate in Environmental Humanities must complete both a fall term and a spring term of the workshop, but the two terms of student participation need not be consecutive. The fall term each year emphasizes key concepts and major intellectual currents. The spring term each year emphasizes pedagogy, methods, and public practice. Specific topics vary each year. Students who have previously enrolled in the course may audit the course in a subsequent year. This course does not count toward the coursework requirement in history. Open only to students pursuing the Graduate Certificate in Environmental Humanities.

ARCH 341 (27406) / GLBL 235 / LAST 318 /  
URBN 341 / ENV 782

**Globalization Space**

Keller Easterling  
TTh 10:30am-11:20am

Infrastructure space as a primary medium of change in global polity. Networks of trade, energy, communication, transportation, spatial products, finance, management, and labor, as well as new strains of political opportunity that reside within their spatial disposition. Case studies include free zones and automated ports around the world, satellite urbanism in South Asia, high-speed rail in Japan and the Middle East, agripoles in southern Spain, fiber optic submarine cable in East Africa, spatial products of tourism in North Korea, and management platforms of the International Organization for Standardization.

[Image: Unrecorded Vietnamese artist. Water Dropper in the Shape of a Puffer Fish, late 15th-early 16th century, Yale University Art Gallery](#)



ARCH 2247 (30250)

**Soil Sisters**

Mae-Ling Lokko  
T 11am-12:50pm

This course aims to investigate a new paradigm for connecting agricultural waste to large-scale regional material supply chains, in which improving soil nutrition and soil resiliency underpin the design goal of providing cross-sectoral environmental performance through the provision of new biomaterial construction systems.

ARCH 3011 (30251)

**Architecture and Modernity I: Sites and Spaces**

Eeva-Liisa Pelkonen  
W 11am-12:30pm

(Required of first-year M.Arch. I students; available as an elective for M.Arch. II and M.E.D. students.) The course embraces the last century and a half's history of architecture, when traditional fables began to yield to more scientifically conceived ideas of architecture's role in the creation of civilizations. As architecture gained importance in advancing social and industrial agendas, it also built a basis for theoretical reflection and visionary aesthetics. The expanding print and media culture accelerated the migration of ideas and propelled architecture beyond its traditional confines. Discussion of major centers of urban culture and their characteristic buildings alternates with attention to individual concepts and their impact in an increasingly interconnected culture of design.

ARCH 3290 (30254)

**Body Politics**

Joel Sanders  
F 11am-12:50pm

COVID-19 underscores how public health and environmental justice are intimately related. This seminar explores the urgent need for transdisciplinary teams representing design, science, and the humanities to create safe, hygienic, accessible, and inclusive spaces that accommodate all bodies, including people of different races, genders, religions, and abilities that fall out of the cultural mainstream. Through in-depth analysis of everyday spaces—homes, workplaces, hospitals, museums—we look at how the conventions of architecture, transmitted through building typologies, standards, and codes, have marginalized or excluded persons who fall outside white, masculine, heterosexual, able-bodied norms. After analyzing each of these sites in their cultural and historical context, students generate innovative design proposals that allow a spectrum of differently embodied and culturally identified people to productively mix in a post-pandemic world. Limited enrollment.

ARCH 3328 (30259)

**Latin American Modernity: Architecture, Art, and Utopia**

Luis Carranza  
M 11am-12:50pm

Throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, architects, planners, landscape architects, artists, and designers understood and reacted to the specific conditions of their historical and geographical place within Latin America. In this way, they developed new yet fluid relationships with those and which each other that produced work ranging from the individual work of art, to buildings, cities, and possible utopias. How this production was made, theorized, and developed expresses alternate conceptions and reactions to the specific forms of modernity developed there. The goal of this course is to engage in broad dialogues with historical case studies throughout Latin America during this period that show how the creation of ideas, works, space, and place was part of a critical practice with/in "alternative modernities;"

self-conscious and original, yet operating under a progressive spirit. We look at the self-reflexive practices and negotiations within/through modern art, architecture, and utopias in Latin America—as operations of vernacularization, transculturation or creolization, denaturalization, and deterritorialization—as fundamental works, problems, and didactic exercises intent on producing new knowledge and directions central to its socio-cultural development and to its architectural and artistic expressions.

ARCH 3330 (30261)

**Feral Surfaces and Multi-Species Architecture: Rethinking Posthuman Territory**

Ariane Harrison

W 9am-10:50am

This seminar examines the concepts and buildings that characterize the discourse on posthuman architecture over the past decade, asking whether architecture as a discipline has demonstrated a capacity to move away from its 500 years of anthropocentrism. A controversial term since its inception in the 1970s, the term “posthuman” is widely used to refer to work that embraces non-humans, from machines to multiple species. It is a term that is also criticized for its failure to acknowledge its racialized undertones within the environmental discourse. Other terms that address posthuman architectural programs include non-human, animal, multi-species, and feral: terms whose capacity to describe an inclusive and biodiverse approach to architecture we explore. The trajectory of the term is dedicated to mapping the new landscape of architecture for multiple species in projects and texts. The bulk of the seminar is devoted to describing the reality of building for multiple species and focuses on developing wall sections through LIDAR-based digital twins of case study buildings. We analyze built work that manifests the hybrid entanglement envisioned by posthumanism, but more critically, we interrogate its facture: how is the analogous habitat constructed? How is duration, maintenance, and other time-based process inscribed in building cladding? How do you represent scales that are typically too small for human consideration? The course is conceived as a workshop-style seminar in which students develop research, writing, and analysis of existing examples of multi-species architecture. The framework for this questioning will be provided by literature reviews and case studies in which students develop a familiarity with LIDAR scanning, point-cloud models, and their manipulation in Rhino and Revit. Time-based analysis integrates data from sensors. Our hypothesis is that the digital twin, and recent speculation on the digital twin city, harbors new potential for fostering biodiversity support as feral surfaces for the city. This research is envisioned within the framework of a new publication, building on my 2013 Routledge anthology *Architectural Theories of the Environment: Posthuman Territory*. In the short term, students build research skills and cultivate critical thinking, while in the long-term students establish a habit of design that seeks space for multiple species in contemporary architecture.

ARCH 4220 (30263)

**Port City: Transformations of Urban Networks**

Alan Plattus

W 11am-12:50pm

Historically, port cities around the world have played a crucial role as the nodes of connection and exchange for both local and vast global networks of production, trade, culture, and power. Since the industrial revolution, rapid development of new technologies of transport and communication has challenged the planners and developers of these cities to both adapt and innovate, creating new and hybrid spatial typologies and transforming vast areas of urbanized waterfront and rural hinterland. And now, climate change and its impact on coastal and riparian geographies add an additional layer of complexity and challenge. This seminar considers the changing and persistent patterns, functions, and images of port cities, particularly in the context of their regional and global networks, researching, analyzing, and mapping the architectural and spatial manifestations of those systems. Limited enrollment.

[Image: Marsden Hartley, \*Flaming Pool—Doatown\*, 1931, Yale University Art Gallery](#)



ARCH 4223 (30265)

**Introduction to British Landscape and Architectural History: 1500 to 1900**

Warren Fuermann

F 11am-12:50pm

This seminar examines chronologically the history of landscape architecture and country-house architecture in Britain from 1500 to 1900. Topics of discussion include the history of the castle in British architecture and landscape architecture; Italian and French influences on the seventeenth-century British garden; military landscaping; the Palladian country house and British agricultural landscape; Capability Brown’s landscape parks; theories of the picturesque and of the landscape sublime; Romanticism and the psychology of nature; the creation of the public park system; arts and crafts landscape design; and the beginnings of landscape modernism. Comparisons of historical material with contemporary landscape design, where appropriate, are made throughout the term. The collection of the Yale Center for British Art is used for primary visual material, and a trip to England over spring break, partially funded by the School, allows students to visit firsthand the landscape parks studied in this seminar. Limited enrollment.

ARCH 4253 (30266)

**Labs and Landscapes of the Green Revolution**

Anthony Acciavatti

M 11am-12:50pm

In 1968, the director of the US Agency for International Development, William Gaud, christened the decades-long experiments with agriculture and technology as the "green revolution." Juxtaposing it with the Red Revolution of the USSR and the White Revolution of the Shah of Iran, record harvests during the Cold War made the Green Revolution as much about food and hunger as it did geopolitics and diplomacy. This seminar explores the origins and development of the Green Revolution through its principal sites of experimentation: laboratories and landscapes. Whether hailed by some as a major turning point in the history of combatting hunger and food insecurity or castigated by others for perpetuating colonial and imperial asymmetries of power and environmental degradation, the legacies of the Green Revolution endure to this day. We attend to the global legacies of this color-coded revolution and how it reshaped the contours of the land, food distribution networks, settlement patterns, and cultures of eating and cooking, as well as reconfigured the habits and habitats of the human subject. Along with weekly readings and assignments that involve eating and cooking, we travel to one of the major laboratories and landscapes of the Green Revolution: India.

ARCH 4254 (30267)

**The (Built) Environment: environmental design and urban transformation in practice**

Jen Shin

Th 11am-12:50pm

Over the next decade, cities and human settlements will remain a critical lever for addressing the climate crisis and ecological collapse. Contemporary urbanization differs from historical patterns of urban growth in its scale and rate of global change, touching on such dimensions as food and agriculture, land use, biodiversity, water, energy, governance, and more. Large-scale urban expansion of new and growing cities as well as continued development of established cities present opportunities for a new conceptualization of the built environment in the context of sustainability. As cities dominate the globe, the intersection between architecture and environmental action must be redefined. This course is designed for students who seek new terrain for architectural thought within the context of evolving environmental challenges. The course is run as a colloquium and workshop. Invited guests forging new work in the built environment will share not only their current research and practice but also their methods of work. Student-moderated discussions with our guests will present the opportunity for students to build the skills to critically position themselves within the discourse of urbanization, architecture, and environmental action. Concurrently, students will workshop individual or group projects operating at the intersection of the built and natural environments resulting in a project proposal of each student's choosing. In the short-term, students will build research skills and cultivate critical thinking. In the long-term, students will build the foundations for their future professional / academic trajectory by forging new methods of practice or research in urbanization and architecture. Students from all programs are encouraged to enroll and no design work is required. Projects can be historical, analytical, speculative, policy-oriented, etc. The only requirements is for the proposed project to interrogate the intersection between the built and natural environments and open new avenues for cross-disciplinary work about built form as a critical lever for global sustainability.

ARCH 4297 (30268)

**Historic Preservation in the 21st Century**

Norma Barbacci

W 2pm-3:50pm

This seminar explores the evolution of historic preservation from a narrow focus on monumental properties to its broader, more complex, and more inclusive current purview. The course begins by learning about the history of the field of preservation through the understanding of its theoretical roots, definitions, professional practice, and the basics of material conservation. This introduction serves as a preamble to the second part of the course which focuses on the expanding role and potential future of historic preservation as it aligns its objectives with the principles of sustainability, social inclusion, and decolonization. At the end of this seminar, the students should have a working understanding of the theory and practice of historic preservation, the wide array of its concerns and sub-specialties, and its potential as an agent for sustainable development and social inclusion; the basic concepts of material conservation and documentation of existing conditions; and the challenges and opportunities presented by a preservation project in an underserved community.

ARCH 4298 (30269)

**Agroecological Urban Constellations**

Ana Duran

W 9am-10:50am

Description TBA

ARCH 4304 (30347)

**Architecture for a World After**

Joyce Hsiang

W 4pm-5:50pm

Description TBA

EMST 649 (30060)

**Environment and Infrastructure in Middle Eastern History**

Alan Mikhail

M 3:30pm-5:20pm

This readings seminar explores how historians have understood the environment and infrastructure in the Middle East from the medieval period to the early twentieth century. We read most of the major works on these topics and look at questions of method, sources, and historiography to interrogate the possibilities of future scholarship in these areas.



[Image: Unrecorded Temne artist, \*Mask with Superstructure in the Form of a Female Figure\*, mid to late 20th century, Yale University Art Gallery.](#)

ENV 615 (30497) / EVST 315 / THST 254

**Green Stages: Environmental Themes in the Theatre**

Marian Chertow

Th 3:30pm-5:30pm

In an era defined by environmental challenges and crises, this course explores the evolving relationship between theatrical and environmental themes. Through reading and discussion of the selected plays the course will have navigated through a wide range of topics stretching across diverse geographical and cultural contexts, from beginnings in Greece to the nuclear age. Through these narratives, the course aims to inspire reflection on current environmental dilemmas and to encourage dialog that confronts problems and embraces challenges. The course will feature a combination of lectures, discussions, and guest speakers. Limited Enrollment.

ENV 649 (28342)

**Food Systems: The Implications of Unequal Access**

Dorceta Taylor

Date/Time TBD

The course examines several dimensions of food insecurity. It starts with an assessment of household food insecurity in the United States, with discussions covering access to food in urban and rural areas. The course also examines the research and conceptualization of food systems as we analyze concepts such as "food deserts," "food oases," "food swamps," "food grasslands," and "food sovereignty." We examine food systems and take a

supply-chain approach wherein we study food producers (farmers, urban agriculturalists, community gardeners). We also study food suppliers and processors such as farmers markets, community-supported agriculture, and food retailers. Students have an opportunity to study incubator kitchens and small-scale entrepreneurship in low-income communities. We also examine consumer access to food as well as perceptions, attitudes, and behaviors; understudied parts of food systems such as urban farms, community and school gardens, and emergency food assistance programs; and food production and food acquisition strategies in low-income areas. The course also studies the pricing of food and whether retailers decide to sell healthy foods or not. Three to four mandatory field trips are being planned—to farms, farmers markets, grocery stores, and other food outlets in and around the New Haven area—but these could be affected by the pandemic protocols and the weather. All students complete an individual take-home assignment, group class exercises, and a group term paper. Attendance at field trips, class attendance, and class participation (including class presentations) are also graded.

ENV 653 (28343)

**Maple: From Tree to table**

Joseph Orefice

Date/Time TBA

This course covers the cultural, industrial, and sustainable practices of nontimber forest products through the lens of maple sap and syrup. Maple sugar is a forest product unique to northeastern North America, and it has seen a resurgence in interest as global consumers seek nutritious, natural, and sustainably produced foods. This course covers the booming industry and culture around maple syrup, from backyard operations through modern 100,000-tap investment operations. Maple producers are on the front lines of climate change and forest health threats. The course provides students with the knowledge of how challenges related to forest health and climate change are directly impacting maple producers and how these producers are learning to adapt in ways that are environmentally friendly, ecologically sound, and financially competitive in a global market.

ENV 818 (32128)

**Sovereignty and the Environment**

Dana Graef

T 2:30-5:20pm

In recent years, there has been a proliferation of sovereignties in academic research and professional practice. In some cases, expressions of sovereignty are entwined with environmental integrity, while in others, sovereignty is aligned with environmental extraction. Likewise, sovereignty can be associated with hierarchical power—taken to mean "supreme authority"—or with grassroots action and citizens' self-determination. Drawing from scholarship in the humanities and



social sciences, this course considers multiple meanings and contestations of sovereignty in relation to the environment, including Indigenous sovereignties, national sovereignties, energy sovereignties, food sovereignties, and the rights of nature. Limited to twenty.

ENV 820 (30194)

**Land Use Law and Environmental Planning**

Marjorie Shansky

Date/Time TBA

This course explores the regulation by local governments of land uses in urban, rural, and suburban areas and the effect of development on the natural environment. The course helps students understand how the environment can be protected through effective regulation at the local level. It provides an introduction to federal, state, regional, and local laws and programs that promote watershed protection and to the laws that delegate to local governments primary responsibility for decision-making in the land use field. Theories of federalism, regionalism, states' rights, and localism are studied, as are the cases that provide a foundation in regulatory takings and the legitimate scope of land use regulation. The history of the delegation of planning and land use authority to local governments is traced, leading to an examination of local land use practices that relate to human settlement patterns, water resources, low-impact development, watershed protection, alternatives to Euclidean zoning, brownfields redevelopment, and resiliency and adaptation in response to sea-level rise and climate change. Students engage in empirical research to identify, catalog, and evaluate innovative local laws that successfully protect environmental functions and natural resources, and the manner in which towns incorporate climate change into their planning and regulations. Nearby watersheds are used as a context for the students' understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of local planning and regulation. Attention is paid, in detail, to how the development of the land adversely affects natural resources and how these impacts can be mitigated through local planning and subsequent adoption of environmental and other regulations designed to promote sustainable development in a climate-changing world.

ENV 975 (29505)

**Western Lands and Communities Field Clinic: Research to Practice**

Justin Farrell

Date/Time TBA

This project-based course is for students engaged in social research, humanities study, natural science, and/or conservation management and policy in Western U.S. landscapes. The Spring 2024 version of the course focuses heavily on helping students excel in the writing and publishing process. The course counts toward the MEM capstone if desired. There is a mandatory spring field trip (expenses generously covered by YSE) for experiential learning, research, and writing in the Rocky Mountain West during the second week of spring break. Western lands and communities face growing ecological, economic, and social equity problems that require integrated solutions. Students complete a self-driven writing project throughout the term. At the end of the term, they submit it for publication to an outlet fit to their field of study and career goals (i.e., scholarly journal, book press, reputable news media, audio/video script-writing, etc.). The course is capped and requires an application. No preference is given to a particular field of study. Strong preference is given to students with ongoing writing projects or new ideas that are refined.

EAST 508 (30314)

**Mapping Asia: A World-History Perspective (Thirteenth-Eighteenth Centuries)**

Angelo Cattaneo

W 1:30pm-3:20pm

Maps and mapping processes have become multilayered and transdisciplinary objects of study and analysis. Long considered and evaluated exclusively as objective scientific tools par excellence, in recent decades they have undergone a profound reconceptualization that has accentuated their being primarily devices of cultural interpretation framed in specific contexts of political, religious, colonial, social, and economic power. This stratification makes maps and mapping operations particularly interesting objects of historical analysis that have generated interest in many fields of knowledge, conveying perspectives, knowledge, interests, and worldviews through a combination of visuality and writing. These specific "intentionalities" aim to make an impact on the communities and societies they address: by representing worlds, they create worlds. It is these intentionalities that the course aims to bring out, study and analyze, particularly in the context of Asia, which has been mapped very precociously and has been a very important area of investigation and exploration by foreign travelers. Asia occupies a central place in the imagined geography of cartographers, as maps have been a fundamental tool that has shaped the continent, its self-perception, and its understanding of the world. Special attention is given to early modern mapping processes and cartography, from the fifteenth to the eighteenth century. This period became a turning point in the way both European and Asian cartographers saw their regions and represented them, also giving rise to cartographic productions that complemented or juxtaposed their knowledge systems. The circulation of knowledge and visual cultures among cartographers from both macro-regions, with a focus on Japan and China, is a focus of the course. The analysis of the cartographic construction of Asia and its regions is integrated with a world history-research perspective, from classical to modern times, spanning the cultures of Asia, Europe and Islamic Africa, in turn examined through the maps that different cultures made of their own worlds. Students also have the opportunity to analyze a selection of historical maps in the Beinecke Library collections to discover how maps have variously embodied cultural lenses, religious beliefs, scientific discoveries, and political concerns.

FILM 779 (29880) / ITAL 783

**Italian Film Ecology: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow**

Millicent Marcus

W 3:30-5:20pm

Landscape and the natural environment have never occupied “background” status in Italian film. Given the spectacular visual presence of its terrain—thanks to the relative proximity of mountain chains and the long seacoast—and given the pivotal importance of farming and pasturage in this traditionally agrarian economy, the synergy between the human and natural worlds has played a prominent role in Italian filmmaking since the very inception of the industry. Most recently, two developments have pushed this issue to the forefront of scholarly attention: the advent of ecocriticism, which found one of its earliest and most influential champions in Serenella Iovino, and the establishment of regional film commissions, grassroots production centers that sponsored cinematic works attuned to the specificity of “the local.” The course includes study of films that predate our current environmental consciousness, as well as recent films that foreground it in narrative terms. In the case of the older films, which have already attracted a great deal of critical commentary over time, we work to shift our interpretive frame in an “eco-friendly” direction (even when the films’ characters are hardly friends of the environment). Among the films considered are *Le quattro volte*, *Il vento fa il suo giro*, *L’uomo che verrà*, *Gomorra*, *L’albero degli zoccoli*, *Riso amaro*, *Red Desert*, *Christ Stopped at Eboli*, and *Il ladro di bambini*. We screen one film a week and devote our seminars to close analysis of the works in question.

HSHM 753 (26825) / HIST 749 / AMST 838

**Research in Environmental History**

Paul Sabin

T 9:25am-11:15am

Students conduct advanced research in primary sources and write original essays over the course of the term. Readings and library activities inform students’ research projects. Interested graduate students should contact the instructor with proposed research topics.

HSAR 565 (29407)

**The Media of Architecture and the Architecture of Media**

Craig Buckley

T 1:30pm-3:20pm

Architecture’s capacity to represent a world and to intervene in the world has historically depended on techniques of visualization. This seminar draws on a range of media theoretical approaches to examine the complex and historically layered repertoire of visual techniques within which architecture operates. We approach architecture not as an autonomous entity reproduced by media, but as a cultural practice advanced and debated through media and mediations of various

kinds (visual, social, material, and financial). If questions of media have played a key role in architectural theory and history over the past three decades, recent scholarship in the field of media theory has insisted on the architectural, infrastructural, and environmental dimensions of media. The seminar is organized around nine operations whose technical and historical status will be examined through concrete examples. To do so, the seminar presents a range of differing approaches to media and reflects on their implications for architectural and spatial practices today. Key authors include Giuliana Bruno, Wendy Hui Kyong Chun, Beatriz Colomina, Robin Evans, Friedrich Kittler, Bruno Latour, Reinhold Martin, Shannon Mattern, Marshall McLuhan, Felicity Scott, and Bernhard Siegert, among others.



[Image: Childe Hassam, \*The Evening Star\*, 1891, Yale University Art Gallery](#)

REL 593 (30165)

**Antioch and Dura-Europos**

Laura Nasrallah

T 1:30pm-3:20pm

Antioch, a city located in ancient Syria (modern Turkey), and

Dura-Europos, a city in Syria (close to the modern Iraqi border) were characterized by religious diversity. From them comes a wealth of stunning mosaics, frescoes, and other archaeological evidence. These, and a rich literary tradition, help us to understand life in the cities. In this seminar we join with students at Princeton University who are taking the same course to learn about these ancient cities and their social and religious history. Cultural heritage is also addressed. Yale students travel once to Princeton and Princeton students travel once to New Haven to learn about the collections that each of our universities has due to early twentieth-century participation in excavations. There, and in our respective universities, we engage in new research into historical reconstructions of Antioch and Dura, focusing on the topic of religion and power and using literary and material evidence. Permission of instructors required. Area I and Area III. Prerequisites: Coursework in the history of Mediterranean antiquity, at least one research language, at least one ancient language relevant to the coursework, or coursework in museum studies/cultural heritage.

REL 676 (28493)

**Natural Theology and the New Animism**

Willie Jennings

W 3:30-5:20pm

This seminar explores the question and status of natural theology in contemporary theology. We engage the question of a natural theology in relation to recent reflections on animism. Two questions guide our exploration. First, what is the relation between visions of animacy and concepts of revelation? Second, how is knowing (God and self) constituted within and/or formed in resistance to visions of an animate and communicative world? With these questions we are seeking to examine the relationship between the idea of a living communicative God and a living communicative world, and the various effects of how one articulates that relationship. Area II. Prerequisite: limited to second-year master's students (unless students have had significant work in theology and philosophy before entering divinity school) who have had at least two courses in bible and two courses in theology and/or ethics. Students from outside the Divinity School are welcome to enroll with permission of the instructor.

REL 849 (28061)

**Preaching for Creation**

Carolyn Sharp

W 1:30pm-3:20pm

This course considers ways to bear witness to the inherent value of Earth as a living and interconnected community that teaches profound theological and ethical truths. In discussions and preaching structured around mutual witness and deep listening, students explore such issues as: ways in which Scripture passages testify to the intricate glories and stark vulnerabilities of creation as a site of God's transforming work; the beauty, giftedness, intelligence, and relational sophistication of nonhuman creatures; human sin as a major vector for harms that cause untold suffering in creation; and grace as the divine intention not just for humanity but for all living beings, Earth, and the cosmos. Engaging contemporary homiletical theory and studying sermons from expert preachers, students develop their homiletical skills and capacity to imagine, honor, and advocate for the whole community of Earth and its flourishing. Together students listen for the Gospel in sermons focused on creation, explore the potential of micro-homilies to build the capacity of faith communities for ecotheological reflection and creation care, and attend to poetry and memoir writing as sources of wisdom. There is no prerequisite; those for whom this will be their first homiletics course are welcome. Area IV.

REL 992 (29981) / MDVL 992

**Art and Ritual at Mount Sinai—Travel Seminar**

Vasileios Marinis and Robert Nelson

Th 1:30pm-3:20pm

This course looks at art and ecclesiastical and pilgrimage rituals at the monastery of St. Catherine in the Sinai. Founded by Emperor Justinian on a site already venerated by Christians as the place where, supposedly, Moses encountered the Burning Bush, the monastery is one of the oldest continuously inhabited Christian communities in the world. Its holdings of icons have no parallel and offer the opportunity to study Christian imagery in the context of both devotional use and corporate rituals, if not place of origin. This course introduces various aspects of Orthodox liturgy and religious pilgrimage relevant to the explication of the surviving church arts at the monastery and the surrounding area.

REL 995 (28486)

**The End of the World**

John Pittard and Matthew Croasmun

W 3:30pm-5:20pm

A philosophical investigation of present-day apocalyptic fears, utopian dreams, and possible ways that the world (as we know it) might end. Topics examined include the potential implications of artificial superintelligence, the assumptions dividing climate alarmists and their critics, the promises and perils of life in virtual worlds, competing views on whether we should seek to avert humanity's extinction or welcome it, and contrasts between secular and religious ways of relating to the end. Engagement with these topics provides the occasion to engage with questions of enduring philosophical and existential importance: what is most valuable, how should we live, and for what should we hope? Area V.

SPAN 690 (30068) / ENV 690

**Rethinking Nature and Culture from Latin America**

Sebastian Acosta

Th 3:30pm-5:20pm

The present ecological crisis, characterized by climate change, species extinction, global pandemics, and the unequal distribution of environmental harm has brought about a transformation in critical thought. The "environmental humanities" denotes the integration of interdisciplinary perspectives analyzing the relations between humans and nature to critique dominant modes of production and consumption and envision alternate ways of inhabiting the earth. This seminar provides a critical overview of some of the key approaches and debates in this growing field, with an emphasis on Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx culture and history. Over the course of the semester, students carefully examine diverse contemporary frameworks generated both in the Global South and the Global North, such as posthumanism, new materialisms, ecofeminism, eco-Marxism, world-ecology, and the energy humanities. By engaging with recent works by philosophers, environmental historians, critical geographers, and scholars in literary and cultural studies, students gain a strong foundation in human and nonhuman relations within the broader context of the environmental history of capitalism. Students participate in class discussions, write weekly responses, lead and moderate academic-style presentations, write a book review, and produce a final research paper. **Conducted in Spanish; may change to English depending on enrollment.**