Course Overview

The world warms, and global environmental imaginaries transform. As geologists debate “The Anthropocene”, critical theorists in the humanities and social sciences learn to ask new questions. Evolving representations of culture and environment have compelling implications for human rights and indigenous sovereignties over land, water and natural resources. Human security will be shaped not only by changing climates, but also by how we frame the understandings and ethical commitments we articulate in response to them. This course will explore evolving environmental concerns to consider how visions and aesthetics of place in the twenty-first century are interconnected with emerging global discourses about environmental security, governance and power. Blending environmental humanities and social science perspectives, we will reflect upon critical approaches to political ecology and the very idea of “the Anthropocene”.

Image above from the 2013 Habitus Art Installation by artist Robyn Woolston at Edge Hill University, Liverpool, UK.
Course Texts & Materials

Books are available on library reserve, but it is highly recommended to buy your own copies of required texts. Other readings & resources will be available via CANVAS, and you will need internet/computer access to access course materials. It is advisable to print hardcopies for study.

Required for all (U/G):


Additional texts required for graduate credit (G):


Optional materials for graduate research projects: