

[Yale University's Second Annual Symposium on the Environmental Humanities](#)

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Type:

Conference

Date:

May 3, 2018

Location:

Connecticut, United States

Subject Fields:

Anthropology, Environmental History / Studies, History of Science, Medicine, and Technology, Humanities, Literature

Yale Environmental Humanities is pleased to announce the "Second Annual Symposium on the Environmental Humanities." Please join us at the Whitney Humanities Center for a lively day of discussion on Thursday May 3, 2018.

This one-day conference will showcase current Yale graduate student research from across the diverse range of disciplines that make up the environmental humanities. The conference includes four moderated panel sessions featuring presentations by graduate students from eleven different fields.

The first session, "**Environmental Rights and Multi-species Ethics**," will examine new legal horizons in the Anthropocene; the relationship between science and local knowledge in the Philippine banana industry; and emergent modes of intercentric environmental thought, which refract existing biocentric and anthropocentric ethic models through the lens of religion.

The second panel, "**Landscape, Development, and Spatial Politics**," will analyze the everyday entanglements of ritual purity and air pollution in household kitchens in the rural Indian Himalayas; coastal regions and shipping ports as natural, economic, and symbolic transition zones; and the historical (re-)development of shanty towns in Amazonia's two biggest cities: Manaus, Brazil and Iquitos, Peru.

The third session, "**Ethics, Literature and the Anthropocene**," will explore the intersections of theology and marine biology; new modes of human-nonhuman engagement through a notion of "ecstatic embodiment"; and the relationship between attention exercises and political ecology, from Marcus Aurelius to Aldous Huxley to the more recent work of Timothy Morton and Ursula K. Heise.

The fourth session, "**Representation and the Material**," will address the cultural and economic corridor between Houston, Texas and Saudi Arabia by attending to energy development and infrastructure; the interplay between art, materiality, and "proto-environmental" thought in the work of nineteenth-century social critic John Ruskin; toxic geographies of U.S. imperialism and the "bioaccumulation of empire" in Marshallese women exposed to radiation from nuclear weapons testing in the 1950s; and the "ecological turn" in theater and performance.

The presentations will be formatted as flash talks designed to provide a brief overview of each presenter's main arguments and their engagement with the environmental humanities.

For more information, please visit the Yale Environmental Humanities website.

We hope you will join us!

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<https://environmentalhumanities.yale.edu/news/yale-universitys-second-annual-symposium-environmental-humanities>