



Venice International University
VIU Graduate Seminar
How Can Humanities Save the Planet?

10 - 14 June 2019

Day One, Monday 10 June

Morning: *Lecture 1*

Discovering alternative worlds in the Middle Ages; Human versus divine imagination; The breakthrough of the new science.

Prof. Dorit Tanay, Tel Aviv University

Readings may include:

- Amos Funkenstein, *Theology and the Scientific Imagination from the Middle Ages to the Seventeenth Century* (1985);
- Timothy Reiss, *Knowledge, Discovery and Imagination in Early Modern Europe* (1997).

Afternoon: *Breakout sessions* on topics related to readings and lecture

Lagoon Field Trip with Prof. Carlo Giupponi, Dean of VIU

Day Two, Tuesday 11 June

Morning: *Lecture 2*

New Materialisms and the integration of scientific and humanistic thinking.

Prof. Elizabeth Wallace, Boston College

Readings may include:

- Barad, Karen. "Posthumanist Performativity: Toward an Understanding of How Matter Came to Matter." *Signs* (2003), 28: 801-831;
- selections from Bennett, Jane. *Vibrant Matter*. Duke UP, 2011;
- Frost, Dianne and Samantha Coole, editors. *New Materialisms*. Duke UP, 2010;
- Latour, Bruno. *Pandora's Hope*. Harvard UP, 1999;
- Haraway, Donna. *Staying with the Trouble: Making Kin in the Chthulucene*. Duke UP, 2016.

Afternoon: *Breakout sessions* on topics related to readings and lecture



Day Three, Wednesday 12 June

Morning: TBA21 (<https://www.tba21.org>) and visit to the Biennale
How does contemporary art world respond to the environmental crisis?
Activities, TBA

Day Four, Thursday 13 June

Morning: *Lecture 3*
**Fiction and climate change; environmentalism and social justice;
Pedagogies for environmental action.**
Prof. Shaul Bassi, Ca' Foscari University of Venice
Readings may include:

- Amitav Ghosh, *The Great Derangement: Climate Change and the Unthinkable*. University of Chicago Press, 2016;
- Amitav Ghosh, *Gun Island*, John Murray, 2019;
- Salvatore Settis, *If Venice Dies*, New Vessel Press, 2016.

Afternoon: *Breakout sessions* on topics related to readings and lecture

Day Five, Friday 14 June

Morning: *Guest Lecturer, TBA*
Afternoon: *Workshops presenting final projects and proposals*

What is each one of us taking away from the seminar in the form of pedagogies to share, work to be researched and published, and/or ideas for broader engagement with the movement for environmental awareness?
How does our work move towards an ideal of environmental justice?

VIU Humanities Planet		
Sunday 9	arrivals	
Monday 10	EW General Introduction / DT Seminar	Lagoon tour - VIU
Tuesday 11	EW seminar	
Wednesday 12	TBA 21	Guest Lecture, TBA
Thursday 13	SB seminar	
Friday 14	Student workshop	Biennale guided tour
Saturday 15	departures	