

WRITING LANDSCAPES, WRITING THE URBAN

Methods Workshop in Landscape, Urban Studies, and Architecture

064-0017-22K - LUS Seminar AS 2022
Autumn Semester 2022, Thursdays 13:45-15:30
Hybrid – Rote Hölle, HIL E67, 2 ECTS

22.09 EXERCISES IN STYLE

29.09	Ethnography from the field and archive	ADAM JASPER
06.10	Writing spatially, writing otherwise	MATTHEW CRITCHLEY
13.10	Indigenous Landscape Urbanism	KELLY SHANNON
03.11	Informed gardening activism	BARBARA VAN DYCK
10.11	Ordering the unfamiliar	ANNE HULTZSCH
17.11	Landscape, dwelling, and the political ecology	MAAN BARUA
24.11	From notes to narrative	NIKOS MAGOULIOTIS
01.12	Imagining the invisible	NANCY COULING
08.12	Writing in the Planetary Age	HOLLYAMBER KENNEDY
15.12	LUS Doc Crits	

Abstract

This seminar supports researchers writing on topics related to landscape, urban studies, and architecture through offering hands-on guidance and a safe space for peer-to-peer exchange. The seminar participants receive guidance on how to work with fieldwork, literature reviews, and archival research, develop arguments and narrative arcs in writing.

Objective

Research writing can often be a solitary, arduous, and unrewarding exercise, this seminar aims to promote peer-to-peer exchange, and offer hands-on guidance and a safe space for researchers writing on topics related to landscape, urban studies, and architecture. The seminar will offer guidance as to how researchers can work with fieldwork, literature reviews, and archival research, develop arguments and narrative arcs in writing, in addition to practical tips and tricks. While the seminar is primarily geared towards supporting doctoral researchers in the dissertation-writing phase, it is open to all researchers regardless of where they might be in their research provided they are in the process of developing a work of academic writing such as research plan, a journal article, or a design manifesto.

The participants of this seminar are expected to bring a text that they would like to develop over the course of the semester. The texts can be diverse in format and length; it can be a dissertation or book chapter, journal or magazine article, or a research plan.

The seminar will alternate between inputs by invited guests, reading and discussion sessions, tutorials, and peer-review. A number of invited guests from the Department and beyond will provide a behind-the-scenes look into their writing process, discuss how they structure arguments and organise their sources, and how they find inspiration for their writing process. These input lectures will be alternated with thematically organised tutorial sessions structured around the following themes: writing about fieldwork and field methods, about landscapes, about political ecology and economy, ethnographic human and other-than-human vignettes, about dwelling and urban space. In the first half of these tutorial sessions, the seminar participants will discuss and debate a requisite reading followed by a writing tutorial and feedback session based on the texts. The seminar participants can choose to present the work developed during the seminar at the LUS Doctoral Crits organised at the end of the semester.

Reading list

- Barua, M. (2014) 'Bio-geo-graphy: Landscape, dwelling, and the political ecology of human-elephant relations', *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*, 32(5), pp. 915–934.
- Couling, N. (2021) 'The Offshore Petroleumscape: Grids, Gods, and Giants of the North Sea', in *Oil Spaces*. Routledge, pp. 109–126.
- Couling, N. (2022) 'Imagining the invisible: Spatial design for the North Sea', *Planning Practice & Research*, pp. 1–23.
- Critchley, M. (2013) 'Continuity or Crisis?', *A brief history between the polemics of Aldo Rossi and Reyner Banham*. Recuperado de <http://www.aaschool.ac.uk/downloads/WritingPrize/2013Shortlist/MatthewCritchley.pdf> [Preprint].
- Crysler, C.G. (2003) *Writing Spaces: Discourses of Architecture, Urbanism and the Built Environment, 1960–2000*. London: Routledge. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203402689>.
- Eco, U. (2015) *How to write a thesis*. MIT Press.
- Escobar, A. (2007) 'Worlds and Knowledges Otherwise', *Cultural Studies*, 21(2–3), pp. 179–210. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1080/09502380601162506>.
- Geertz, C. (1973) 'Thick Description: Toward an Interpretive Theory of Culture 1973'.
- Ghodsee, K. (2016) *From notes to narrative: Writing ethnographies that everyone can read*. University of Chicago Press.
- Hayot, E. (2014) *The Elements of Academic Style: Writing for the Humanities*. Columbia University Press, p. 256 Pages.
- Hultzsch, A. (2017) *Architecture, travellers and writers: Constructing histories of perception 1640–1950*. Routledge.
- Jackson Jr, J.L. (2013) *Thin description*. Harvard University Press.
- Jasper, A. (2017) *Anthropology and Architecture: A Misplaced Conversation*, *Architectural Theory Review*. Taylor & Francis, pp. 1–3.
- Jon, I. (2021) 'The City We Want: Against the Banality of Urban Planning Research', *Planning Theory & Practice*, 22(2), pp. 321–328. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1080/14649357.2021.1893588>.
- Kennedy, H. (2019) 'Infrastructures of "Legitimate Violence": The Prussian Settlement Commission, Internal Colonization, and the Migrant Remainder', *Grey Room*, pp. 58–97.
- Madden, M. (2005) *99 ways to tell a story: exercises in style*. Penguin.
- Magouliotis, N. (2020) 'French architects and "églises grecques": the discovery of Byzantine architecture in Greece, 1820s–1840s', *The Journal of Architecture*, 25(8), pp. 1028–1054.
- Malm, A. (2013) 'The origins of fossil capital: From water to steam in the British cotton industry', *Historical Materialism*, 21(1), pp. 15–68.
- Malm, A. (2016) *Fossil capital: The rise of steam power and the roots of global warming*. Verso Books.
- Malm, A. and Hornborg, A. (2014) 'The geology of mankind? A critique of the Anthropocene narrative', *The Anthropocene Review*, 1(1), pp. 62–69.
- Marcus, G.E. (1995) 'Ethnography in/of the world system: The emergence of multi-sited ethnography', *Annual review of anthropology*, 24(1), pp. 95–117.
- Narayan, K. (2012) *Alive in the Writing: Crafting Ethnography in the Company of Chekhov*. University of Chicago Press.
- Pratt, M.L. (2007) *Imperial eyes: Travel writing and transculturation*. routledge.
- Pratt, M.L. (2022) *Planetary Longings*. Duke University Press.
- Queneau, R. (2018) *Exercises in style*. Alma Books.
- Shannon, K. and Manawadu, S. (2007) 'Indigenous Landscape Urbanism: Sri Lanka's Reservoir & Tank System', *Journal of Landscape Architecture*, 2(2), pp. 6–17. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1080/18626033.2007.9723384>.
- Soja, E. (2003) 'Writing the city spatially', *City*, 7(3), pp. 269–280. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1080/1360481032000157478>.
- Tornaghi, C. and Van Dyck, B. (2015) 'informed gardening activism: steering the public food and land agenda', *Local Environment*, 20(10), pp. 1247–1264.

Resources

The Association for Writing Across the Curriculum YouTube channel - <https://wacassociation.org/>

Writers: Craft & Context Journal - <https://journals.shareok.org/writersccjournal>

The International Writing Centers Association - <https://writingcenters.org/>

The Ivory Tower Boiler Room Podcast - <https://ivorytowerboilerroom.com/the-ivory-tower-boiler-room-podcast/>

The Pedagogue Podcast - <https://www.pedagoguepodcast.com/>