

Landscape and Environment: Stylistic and Aesthetic Approaches

Our project involves 11 lectures presented during 11 weeks in the Spring semester 2022. Each lesson is held on-line and lasts 90 minutes. Four teachers will participate in the course, each teacher will teach 2-3 lectures (see the list below).

Expected learning outcomes: The students will be able to describe and explain the basic terms set in the course (see 2.2); to focus on chosen topics of the lectures (everyday aesthetics, environmental aesthetics, cultural studies, comparative literature, stylistics, ecology, urban studies, cultural heritage etc.), analyse them and compare their current status in different countries in contemporary Europe/world.

Course syllabus and the basic bibliography:

1. Introduction. Lenka Lee as a project leader will present the course, the teachers, the syllabus, teaching form, assignment methods.

A. Lenka Lee:

2. Village contra City: The stereotyped Views on Urban and Rural Communities

The lecture will explore the stereotyped views on the monotonous and repetitive way of everyday life in the rural environment. The lecture will present to what extent the influence of traditions and folklore repetitive patterns is evident at least in certain urban subcultures which can be characterized as “villages inside the cities”.

Lee, Lenka: New Beauty: Between Hipsters and. Folklore. *Popular Inquiry* [online]. 2019, [cit. 14.2.2011]. Available from: <https://www.popularinquiry.com/blog/2019/12/19/lenka-lee-new-beauty-between-hipsters-and-folklore>

Newall, Venetia J. 1987. “The Adaptation of Folklore and Tradition (Folklorismus).” *Folklore* 98, no. 2: 131-151. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/1259975>.

Saito, Y. (2017): *Aesthetics of the Familiar. Everyday Life and World-Making*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 141-224.

3. In the Seclusion near the Forest: Czech Cottagers in the Era of Communism

The lecture will expound one of the Czech habits typical for the late communist era in Czechoslovakia - regular weekend stays in nature as a form of the escape from the regime. We will show some works of art (movies, literature) depicting this issue.

Fraňková, Ruth: Czechs love their cottages, but perhaps less than they used to. [radio programme], Czech Radio - Radio Prague International, 07/26/2007. Available from <https://english.radio.cz/czechs-love-their-cottages-perhaps-less-they-used-8605665>

Willoughby, Ian: Cottage tradition changing as line between first and second homes blurs, says Dr. Jiří Vágner. [radio programme], Czech Radio - Radio Prague International, 09/07/2015. Available from <https://english.radio.cz/cottage-tradition-changing-line-between-first-and-second-homes-blurs-says-dr-8249002>

4. Wind Turbines: Monsters or Monuments?

The sources of green power can also be examined in terms of aesthetics - their monumental look, the position in the environment, analogies to art. The lecture offers a more complex approach to the widely discussed constructions.

Saito, Yuriko, 2004 “Machines in the Ocean: The Aesthetics of Wind Farms”, *Contemporary Aesthetics*, 2. Gipe, Paul, 2002, “Design as If People Matter: Aesthetic Guidelines for a Wind Power Future”, in Martin J. Pasqualetti, Paul Gipe, and Robert W. Righter (eds.), *Wind Power in View: Energy Landscape in a Crowded World*, San Diego: Academic Press, pp. 173–212.

Gray, Tyson-Lord J., 2012, “Beauty or Bane: Advancing an Aesthetic Appreciation of Wind Turbine Farms”, *Contemporary Aesthetics*, 10.

B. Daniela Francesca Virdis:

5. Environmental stylistics: Theoretical approaches to discourses of nature, the environment and sustainability

This lecture will explore the theoretical framework and methodology used to analyse ecological and environmental discourses in contemporary non-literary texts from the disciplinary perspectives of ecostylistics and ecology.

Virdis, D.F., E. Zurru, and E. Lahey (eds). 2021. *Language in Place: Stylistic Perspectives on Landscape, Place and Environment*. Amsterdam and Philadelphia: John Benjamins (“Linguistic Approaches to Literature (LAL)”, volume no. 37).

Miller, G.T., and S.E. Spoolman. 2019. *Essentials of Ecology*, 8th edition. Belmont, CA: Cengage.

6. Environmental issues in the Victorian era: An ecostylistic examination of metaphor and framing use in J. Ruskin’s *The Storm-Cloud of the Nineteenth Century* (1884)

This lecture will present an ecostylistic analysis of the use of metaphor and framing in two environmental lectures by the Victorian polymath J. Ruskin, particularly the metaphors and frames triggered by the two title words ‘storm’ and ‘cloud’.

Ruskin, J. 2012 [1884]. *The Storm-Cloud of the Nineteenth Century*, introduction by Peter Brimblecombe, foreword by Clive Wilmer. London: Pallas Athene Arts.

Virdis D.F. (under peer-review). *Environmental issues in the Victorian era: An ecostylistic examination of metaphor and framing use in J. Ruskin’s The Storm-Cloud of the Nineteenth Century (1884)*.

7. Mediterranean landscapes as heritage: An ecostylistic analysis of a Sardinian tourism website

This lecture will examine the tourism website SardegnaTurismo, where the landscapes on the Mediterranean island are depicted as essential components of Sardinia’s cultural heritage shaping its ethnic culture and regional identity.

Autonomous Region of Sardinia. 2012. *SardegnaTurismo*. <http://www.sardegnaturismo.it/en/>. Downloaded at the end of August 2020.

Virdis, D.F. 2016. Mediterranean landscapes as heritage: An ecostylistic analysis of a Sardinian tourism website. In *Mediterranean Heritage in Transit: (Mis-)Representations via English*, eds. L. Abbamonte and F. Cavaliere, 161-177. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

C. Jana Pelclová:

8. Linguistic and semiotic landscape in urban space: Constructing collective identities

The lecture will discuss theoretical frameworks and methodological approaches to the study of language(s) as well as other semiotic resources that help to construct urban spaces.

Ben-Rafael, Eliezer, Shohamy, Elana, Amara, Muhammad Hasan, and Trumper-Hecht, Nira (2006) “Linguistic Landscape as Symbolic Construction of the Public Space: The Case of Israel.” *International Journal of Multilingualism* 3 (1): 7-30.

Scollon, Ron, and Scollon, Suzie Wong (2003) *Discourse in Place: Language in the Material World*. London: Routledge.

9. Creating urban space, shaping the city: Vernacular street signage in our hometowns

The lecture will be based on students’ fieldwork and it will focus on various writings, inscriptions, tags, graffiti and other forms of unofficial texts that students will collect in their university town or their hometown. The objective will be to discuss how this street signage participates in creating the landscape scenery in the given city.

Milon, Arail (2002) “Tags and Murals in France: A City’s Face or a Natural Landscape?” In *Black, Blanc, Bleu: Rap Music and Hip-Hop Culture in the Francophone World*, ed. by Alain-Philippe Duran, 87-98. Lanham: The Scarecrow Press.

Papen, Uta (2012) "Commercial Discourses, Gentrification and Citizens' Protest: The Linguistic Landscape of Prenzlauer Berg, Berlin." *Journal of Sociolinguistics* 16 (1): 56-80.

Pelclová, Jana (2017). "Signifying Brno – creating urban space, shaping the city." *Brno studies in English* 43 (1): 69-87.

Pennycook, Alastair (2009) "Linguistic Landscapes and the Transgressive Semiotics of Graffiti." In *Linguistic Landscape. Expanding the Scenery*, ed. by Elana Shohamy and Durk Gorter, 302-313. New York and London: Routledge.

D. Karel Stibrál:

10. History of Aesthetics of Nature: Between rural landscape and wilderness

The lecture summarizes the most important features of the history of the aesthetic attitude towards nature within European culture since antiquity to the 20th century. Emphasis will be placed on shifts in aesthetic appreciation, especially from rural terrains to the wild, "wilderness" (mountains, forests, swamps) and also to various types of the complexity of the aesthetic object (landscape, place, individual objects).

Adorno, T. W. F.: *Aesthetische Theorie*

Andrews, M.: *Landscape and Western Art*. Oxford: Oxford University Press 1999

Biese, A.: *Das Naturgefühl im Wandel der Zeiten*. Leipzig: Quelle und Moyer 1926

Carlson, A., Lintott, S.: „Introduction. Natural Aesthetic Value and Environmentalism“, in: Carlson, A., Lintott, S. (eds.): *Nature, Aesthetics, and Environmentalism. From Beauty to Duty*. New York: Columbia University Press 2008, pp. 1-21.

Groh, R., Groh, D.: *Von den schrecklichen zu den erhabenen Bergen. Zur Entstehung ästhetischer Naturerfahrung*, v: Weber, H.-D. (ed.): *Vom Wandel des neuzeitlichen Naturbegriffs*. Konstanz: Universitätsverlag Konstanz 1996, pp. 53–96.

Hadot, P.: *The Veil of Isis. An Essay on the History of the Idea of Nature*

Nicolson, M. H.: *Mountain Gloom, Mountain Glory. The Development of the Aesthetics of the Infinite*. New York: Cornell University Press 1959

11. Introduction to Environmental Aesthetics - basic questions and areas

The main topic will be a discussion of the difference between works of art and works of nature and an aesthetic attitude towards nature and works of art.

Budd, M.: *The Aesthetics Appreciation of Nature*, v: *British Journal of Aesthetics* 3/1996, pp.. 207-222

Berleant, A.: *The Aesthetics of Environment*. Philadelphia 1992

Carlson, A.: *Appreciating Art and Appreciating Nature*, v: Kemal, S., Gaskell, I. (eds.): *Landscape, Natural Beauty and the Arts*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press 1993, pp. 199-227.

Carlson, A.: *Environmental aesthetics*, v: Gaut, B., McIver Lopes, D. (eds.): *The Routledge Companion to Aesthetics*, London, New York: Routledge 2002, pp. 423-436.

Carlson, A., Lintott, S. (eds.): *Nature, Aesthetics, and Environmentalism. From Beauty to Duty*. New York: Columbia University Press 2008, pp. 1-21.

Hepburn, R.: *Aesthetic Appreciation of Nature*, v: *British Journal of Aesthetics*, 2/1963, pp. 195–209.

Yrjö Sepänmaa: *The Beauty of Environment: A General Model for Environmental Aesthetics*. Academia Scientiarum Fennica, 1986.

Number of classes (Masaryk University Brno): 11

ECTS ((Masaryk University Brno): 5

The course will be enlisted among the elective courses at Masaryk University.

Number of classes (University of Cagliari): 11

ECTS (University of Cagliari): 2

The course will be enlisted among the elective courses at University of Cagliari.

The assessment methods: homework during the course, a written essay (two-member student teams, 2000 – 2500 words).