ART & /IN ECOLOGY

Human-Non Human Interconnections in Art, Visual Culture & Everyday Life. Tentative Lesson Plan (January 12th - April 6th, 2022)



Uutelan luontomaisemaa / © Teemu Saloriutta, Citynature.eu https://www.myhelsinki.fi/en/see-and-do/nature/uutela-the-largest-and-most-diverse-outdoor-recreational-area-in-eastern-helsinki

This iteration of this two-period course will take place in East Helsinki where we will set up base in the site-specific premises in Villa Lil Kalvik, Vuosaari). You would therefore be required to travel to Vuosaari (zone B) most Wednesdays of the course

The area of Helsinki has been chosen as it presents a complex and troubled urban zone of contact between a diverse but unequal group of humans and non-humans.

The idea is that you will spend two periods from January to April devoting your time to researching an aspect of urban naturecultures in and around one particular site as the seasons change. You will also be expected to spend considerable time outdoors





Vuosaari Landfill Jukka Toivonen, 1980s–1990s From: https://vihreatsylit.fi/en/vuosaarenhuippu/from

Dress warmly! You will need to have really good winter clothes, ski trousers and ice spikes for shoes as it may be very cold. Pack an extra set of clothes in case you get wet or perspire too much while out on your walks. You will also need a hot water flask and a lunch pack if you do not want to purchase lunch from the local Columbus mall. Do not walk on the sea ice unless it is officially agreed to be safe.

It is expected that you take TAI-E3159 Ecology in Theory, Practice & Everyday Life 2 as well as 1 as the two courses are part of the same learning process. You cannot take part 2 without having taken part 1. There is no cut off for Period 1

Please note that you would often be expected to work in groups during this course. First priority on this course will be given to ViCCA first years after that DoA, ViCCA minors and students with a proven interest in nature and urban cultures.

https://vihreatsylit.fi/en/lillkallvikinpuisto/ https://www.taiteilijatalo.fi/villa-lill-kallvik

Villa Lil Kalvik is keen that we hold an exhibition at the end of the two periods. This is however not compulsory and open for discussion among the group.





COURSE DEMANDS & GRADE BREAKDOWN

Attendance: You are required to attend 80% of the course in order to pass

Inside Course Time: Lectures & Workshop Exercises (25%)

This includes compulsory participation in lectures, presentations and experiential exercises as well as attendance at excursions and workshops in class time

Outside Course Time: Research, readings independent exercises and project preparation. (25%) You are all expected to complete the readings and participate in reading discussions. Work outside course participation in subsequent in-class reading-group presentations and discussions

Final Project & Essay (50%)

- -A group creative project with final presentation end of period 4. We can discuss exactly how the group project might be graded and whether for example you prefer a group or an individual grade for your project on a case by case basis.
- -An individual reflexive/critical essay about your creative practice project.

The essay and your journal essay are due one week after the end of period 4





TENTATIVE LESSON PLAN

12 January: Vuosaari in time and space (1) Walk to Vuosaari Landfill

MORNING 10.15.am-13.00 in person

Meet at Vuosaari metro at 10.15. We will meet geologist/ecologist Antti Salla for a tour up Vuosaari landfill hill.

AFTERNOON TBC c 15-17 ZOOM/Vuosaari library if space

Introductory lecture: TBC eg Art &/In Ecology

Introduction to course demands, parameters and frameworks.

Introduction to main assignment Division into 4-5 reading groups

HOMEWORK Compulsory reading TBC

19 January: Vuosaari in time and space (2) Trip to Kallahti peninsula

MORNING IN PERSON Meet at Vuosaari metro at 10.15-13.00: Tour of Kallahti peninsula

AFTERNOON 15-17 on Zoom/ Vuosaari library if space

Group-lead discussion of reading

HOMEWORK COMPULSORY READING TBC

27 January: Move into Villa Lil Kalvik

Morning 10.30

Group 2 leads discussion of reading

Lucy input 2 TBC Situating Ourselves:

From Dualistic Thinking to Interconnected Worldings

Afternoon

EXPLORATORY EXCERCISES (group and individual) and staggered check-ins with Lucy

HOMEWORK Compulsory reading TBC

2 February:

Morning 10.30 – Lecture & tour with Vuosaari historian Matti Lipponen

Afternoon: Group 3 leads discussion of reading

Brainstorming/recap of content so far

HOMEWORK Compulsory reading TBC

9 February:

Morning 10.30

Group 4 leads discussion of reading

Lucy input 3 TBC eg Intersectional & Interspecies Politics

Afternoon EXPLORATORY EXCERCISES (group and individual) and staggered check-ins with Lucy HOMEWORK Compulsory reading TBC

16 February:

Morning 10.30

Group 5 leads discussion of reading

Lucy input 4 TBC eg Scales Materialities, Geopolitics,

Afternoon

BRAINSTORM PROJECT

HOMEWORK Project proposals/group formation

23 February:

Reading/Exam week Independent work: Group formation & projects

2 March:

Morning 10.30

Presentations of project proposals

Afternoon

Lucy input 5 TBC egTemporalities, Memory, Hauntings

HOMEWORK Compulsory reading TBC

9 March:

Morning 10.30

Discussion of reading

Lucy input 6 TBC eg Narrative Ecologies

Afternoon

Site specific project work

HOMEWORK Compulsory reading TBC

16 March: 23 March: 30 March:

Project work: Lucy inputs, readings and themes dependent upon project directions

6 April: FINAL PRESENTATION AND OR EXHIBITION

14 April: Individual essay max 2500wrds due one week after presentation

Reading examples

One text per week. Group responses

