



A Landscape of Reciprocal Capture / Main Depiction / Studio Inside Wetness: Pyrite Group/ Authors: Chauhan, E., Van den Berge, J, Ucar, D.

What topics can be covered?

The subject area of Designing Landscape in the Anthropocene deals with the development of landscapes and open space as design research.

We understand the term Anthropocene in all its ambiguity and contentiousness as a geological epoch and as a discursive space that brings together disciplines and, beyond the academic world, sets out on a quest for a new, more-than-human coexistence.

As an event in the history of the Earth, the Anthropocene is unfolding during the Holocene, a period during which temperature, sea level, and CO₂ concentrations were largely constant for nearly 12,000 years. The Anthropocene is characterised by the dominant geophysical influence of human activities on the Earth system. At the same time, it is becoming increasingly apparent that humans can neither control nor fully understand the complex interactions between human activity and the Earth system.

As planners and researchers in landscape architecture and urban design, we see the necessity to anchor our spatial questions in the discourse of the Anthropocene. We are looking for conceptual and design perspectives that focus on the connections between humans and non-human actors such as animals, plants, microbes, materials and technology. We are particularly interested in transdisciplinary and interdisciplinary issues.

We see the following topics as well represented in our subject area:

- o water landscapes
- o post-industrial landscapes
- o landscapes of urbanisation (centre-periphery, hinterland, infrastructures, translocal design)
- o territory (territorial urbanism, territorial transformation, territorial design)
- o Postcolonialism, post-extractivism, post-developmentalism, posthumanism
- o New materialism

- o Critical zones
- o Multispecies landscapes, more-than-human worlds, animal-human relations, biodiversity
- o Critical mapping

We encourage original ideas within and across these themes.

The work can have a design or research focus and can be developed from fieldwork-based empirical studies or from theoretical questions. The focus can be on urban or rural areas. A creative approach to change should be developed from the study of interactions and processes. In doing so, old dualisms such as nature versus culture, city versus countryside, subject versus object should be dissolved and new interdependencies imagined.

The department is open to further targeted thematic issues. It is important to understand that complex tasks do not require complicated work, but a well-argued ordering.

What kind, form and scope do we expect?

In the Bachelor's thesis, students should demonstrate fundamental knowledge, skills and methods of design and scientific work in landscape architecture by means of an innovative and independent piece of work. Two types of work can be completed in the field:

1. a scientific paper of up to 50 pages including independent graphic representations such as photos, sketches, maps, pictograms, notations and diagrams.
2. a design research work with approximately 70% spatial design and 30% theoretical discussion; the latter corresponds to up to 20 pages of text.

The Master's thesis, in complement, should contain extended and comprehensive content and methods of design research.

Theses can be developed in a freely chosen format – both with a scientific and a design research approach. The word/page count is topic-dependent and free but should still be as short and precise as possible.

-Theoretical work with a scope of approx. 70% draft and 30% theoretical discussion; this corresponds to up to 20 pages of text work.

How are Bachelor's and Master's theses supervised?

We invite any interested student to apply to us with a meaningful exposé.

The exposé (1 page) should explain which problems are being investigated and which solutions are being sought. This includes:

- o a specific research question
- o the methodological approaches and
- o an objective

Furthermore, the motivation for the selected topic and previous experience with the topic should be apparent. The department reserves the right to make a selection based on the topic and the main focus.

After selection, we will announce dates for orientation, topic identification and topic development. The colloquium starts at the beginning of the respective summer or winter semester and includes 4 dates for the bachelor's and master's classes. The duration of the work should not exceed 16 weeks.

We wish you success and enjoyment with your topic.

Your FG Landscape Design in the Anthropocene

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