

LIVING THE LAND

GLOBAL AND LOCAL (TRANS)FORMATIONS



36TH ANNUAL INTERDISCIPLINARY
GRADUATE STUDENT SYMPOSIUM

GRADUATE ASSOCIATION OF FRENCH AND ITALIAN STUDENTS (GAFIS)
DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH & ITALIAN
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

MARCH 31-APRIL 1, 2023

KEYNOTE: DR. CANDACE FUJIKANE (UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII)

36TH ANNUAL INTERDISCIPLINARY GRADUATE STUDENT SYMPOSIUM CALL FOR PAPERS

The connection between Humans and Nature goes beyond the boundaries of the body and mind: a deep and ancestral bond expressed in the symbiotic relationship that binds each individual to the land. In centuries of technological progress, the furious pursuit of profit, together with insane anthropocentrism, have corrupted the instinctive "sacredness" of this bond. Nowadays, environmental crises are increasing on a worldwide scale, affecting both global and local realities and requiring the implementation of policies that would reshape human relationships with the land. Recurring in many fields of study is the attention given to sustainability and the practices that are necessary to make it a principle to live by; this entails a (trans)formation of collective and individual consciences, the promotion of values such as the respect for the land, the retrieval of ancestral knowledge, and the implementation of community practices of restoration. While the land is continuously changing and facing multiple threats, many studies recognize the centrality of nature's agency and the importance of reconsidering the connection between people and the environment.

This symposium wants to explore past and contemporary understandings of the land, and its relationship with human beings over time, up to an era marked by constantly raising social concerns about the global environmental crisis. We propose to analyze the representations of these connections and how they are shaped by current studies, involving the works of graduate students from multiple fields of study. At the *Living the Land: Global and Local (Trans)Formations* Symposium, our goal is to promote a productive interdisciplinary discussion on those topics and contribute to the global debate on environmental change.

The symposium will be in person; however, we will consider the option of hosting some remote online presentations.

SUBMISSIONS ENCOURAGED FROM GRADUATE STUDENT SCHOLARS IN ALL AREAS, INCLUDING (BUT NOT LIMITED TO):

- Literature & Foreign Languages
- Film, Media & Visual Culture Studies
- Environmental Studies
- Gender & Women Studies
- Art & Art History
- Sociology, Anthropology & Political Science
- Geography
- Postcolonial Studies
- Food studies
- History
- Theater, Music & Performance Studies
- Psychology
- Philosophy
- Religious Studies

TO SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT

Please visit the [36th GAFIS Symposium website](#), or click [here](#) to submit your 300-word abstract **by January 15th, 2023**.

Presentations will be 15-20 minutes long and in English

Info: GAFIS_Symposium@frit.wisc.edu



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