



University of
Zurich^{UZH}

Institute of Asian and Oriental Studies



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Asian Environmental Humanities: Landscapes in Transition

**Free UZH Online Course
on the Learning Platform *coursera.org***

**Starting
on May 28,
2018**

The free online course “Asian Environmental Humanities: Landscapes in Transition” brings together researchers from the University of Zurich and international institutions in order to introduce some of the most vibrant cultural trends addressing landscape appreciation, degradation, protection, and rehabilitation that currently circulate in the Asian hemisphere. Scrutinizing how they are critically reflected upon, the MOOC’s interdisciplinary approach towards regional ecosystems past and present reaches out beyond pragmatic technological solutions to mitigate environmental damage and studies what kind of changes in the people’s prevalent attitudes, values and behavioural patterns are currently contemplated in cultural representations such as art works, poetry, eco-documentaries, media reports or activists’ street performances addressing the rapidly globalizing crisis. The course facilitates multiple encounters with the stories Asia’s landscapes—and landscape representations—tell about actual and possible human-nature relationships, and thus enables learners to define their own range of actions as informed stakeholders for creating a sustainable future. What is arguably no less intriguing: the course teaches how to appreciate a broad range of eco-aesthetic forms

that re-enchant the world through their creative dialogues with its nonhuman inhabitants, be it landscapes, plants, animals, or rivers.

Organizer

Prof. Andrea Riemenschnitter (UZH)

Instructors

Prof. David Chiavacci (UZH), Dr. Kiu-wai Chu (Western Sydney University), Prof. Dorothea Lüddeckens (UZH), Prof. Angelika Malinar (UZH), Prof. Nicolas Martin (UZH), Prof. Andrea Riemenschnitter (UZH), Kristína Schröder, MA (UZH), Prof. Raji Steineck (UZH), Prof. Rafael Walthert (UZH), Dr. Yue Zhuang (University of Exeter)

The course begins for the first time on May 28, 2018 and will be repeated several times.

For more information, go to [coursera.org](https://www.coursera.org) and search for “Asian Environmental Humanities: Landscapes in Transition”