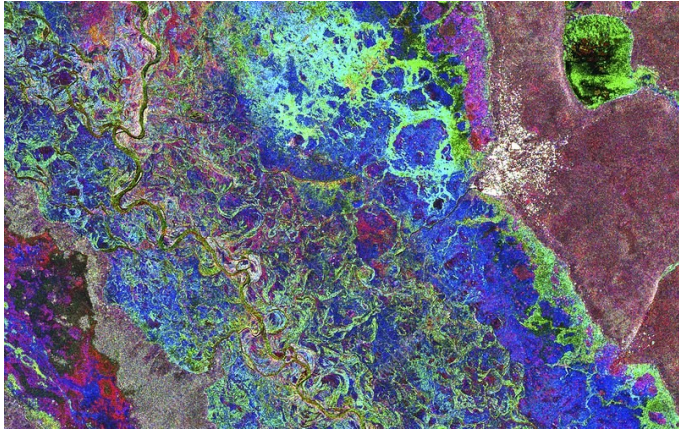


Seminar 3

Liquid Movements: Ebb, Flow, Drift, Submerge (Sarah Nuttall)

Wednesday 7 June, 9.30-12.30



This session will develop a notion of 'earth infrastructures' which are biospheric in their capacities. Such infrastructures are entangled with, while being distinct from, more classical registers of engineering, architecture and urban planning. It will focus specifically on ways in which water moves - laterally, vertically and contrapuntally - and how it does so across different water worlds and hydro-imaginaries. We will consider some of the political and agentive powers of water as it ebbs, flows, drifts and submerges across southern African regions and literary and visual archives. The discussion will be located within an emerging range of elementally inclined approaches, including critical oceanic studies, new materialisms, coastal and hydrocritical approaches and atmospheric methods, with a strong inflection towards Southern scholarship. Specifically, we'll draw into focus two rivers and riverine regions in southern Africa: the Zambezi and the Limpopo rivers and their streams, tributaries, flood plains and drifts, as embedded in both human and other-than-human histories, materially and imaginatively. Here, we'll also consider emerging aspects of the 'weaponization' of rivers (Duncan and Kastoridis) in African and other contexts, mobilizing ideas of hydrocolonialism (Hofmeyr) as we let many different waters in to our analyses of the world-*now*.

Readings

- Isabel Hofmeyr, 'Provisional Notes on Hydrocolonialism', *English Language Notes* 57 (1) (2019), 11-20
- Isabel Hofmeyr, Sarah Nuttall and Charne Lavery, 'Reading for Water', *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies* 24 (3) (2022), 303-322
- Louise Bethlehem, 'Hydrocolonial Johannesburg', *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies* 24 (3) (2022), 340-354
- Sarah Nuttall, 'On Pluviality: Reading for Rain in Namwali Serpell's *The Old Drift*', *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies* 24 (3) (2022), 323-339
- Dilip Mathur and Anuradha da Cunha, *Design in the Terrain of Water* (Philadelphia PA: Applied Research and Design Publishing, 2014)
- Mia Couto, *Rain and Other Stories* (Ontario: Biblioasis, 1994)
- Nessa Leibhammer, 'Fluid of the Ancestors: Water and the Spirit Realm in Past and Present Black Southern African Thought and Practice', in F. Freschi (ed.), *Water, the [Delicate] Thread of Life* (Johannesburg: Standard Bank of South Africa, 2011), pp. 27-41
- Hugo ka Canham, 'Watchful Ocean, Observant Mountain' in *Riotous Deathscapes* (Durham NC: Duke University Press, 2022)
- Ifor Duncan and Stefanos Levidis, 'Weaponizing a River', *e-flux*, April 2020.
- Melody Jue, 'Introduction', in *Wild Blue Media: Thinking Through Seawater* (Durham NC: Duke University Press, 2020)
- Neimanis, Astrida, *Thinking with Water* (2013) and *Bodies of Water: Posthuman Feminist Phenomenology* (2016)

Visual and Aural Resources

- Noria Mabasa, 'Flood Series'
- Penny Siopis, *She Breathes Water*, <https://vimeo.com/330027678>
- 8 Ways to Think Unsettlement, Part 2 (WISER Podcast)