

Dreaming the Earth

Mike Gillespie
Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences
UW1 131
425-352-5321
mgillespie@uwb.edu

Gray Kochhar-Lindgren
CUSP/IAS
UW2-030
425-352-3670
gklindgren@uwb.edu

Leslie Bussert: Media Information Consultant: lbussert@uwb.edu

UW Areas of Knowledge: VLPA, IS, W

Course Description:

In *Dreaming the Earth*, we will all actively shape a *Learning Community* through *interdisciplinary and integrative* practices—the mutual illumination of areas of knowledge such as the sciences, arts, philosophy, and literature—in order to address basic questions about how to understand ourselves as human beings inhabiting the Earth.

How do the ways that artists, philosophers, poets, and scientists “dream” the Earth affect our own abilities to perceive, imagine new possibilities, and create effective responses to fundamental questions? How do stories, images, performances, and theories frame the ways we understand our landscape, ourselves, animals, and other peoples? What do we need to learn in order to respond as communities to the growing realization that the Earth is being significantly affected by human activity?

We are all shaping a Learning Community together, in which collaborative research and exchange of ideas, as well as teaching each other more sophisticated practices of learning, will be extremely important. We will engage these questions practicing dialogue, observation, critical reading of texts and images, undertaking research, and through the act of creative making. We will come away from the course with a much fuller sense of the unfolding and interactive history of the arts, sciences, and philosophy; with more practice of engaging in interdisciplinary inquiry at UWB campus, and with a deepened capacity to reflect on ourselves as learners

Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this course, students will have:

- Experienced intellectual excitement
- Examined this particular place on the planet through reflection and research
- Begun the construction of the Discovery Core Portfolio, especially via attention to the CUSP Learning Goals
- Improved their critical reading, writing, presentation, and making practices
- Increased understanding ways in which the arts, sciences, and philosophy interact around ecological themes

