

Transatlantic Ecologies: *Utopia to Zoonomia*

University of California, Santa Barbara

Conference Date: May 16-17, 2014

Abstracts Due: February 12, 2014 (extended deadline)

The **Early Modern Center** at the **University of California, Santa Barbara** invites proposals for our thirteenth annual conference, “Transatlantic Ecologies: *Utopia to Zoonomia*,” to be held on Saturday, May 17, 2014, featuring keynote speakers Daniel Brayton (Middlebury College) and Gordon Sayre (University of Oregon). This year's conference will be held in conjunction with the Literature and Environment Center's Symposium on Disaster on May 16, 2014, with keynote speakers Timothy Morton (Rice University), Adrian Parr (University of Cincinnati), and Steven Vanderheiden (University of Colorado, Boulder). There will also be two activities linking the conference and symposium: a plenary roundtable on “Temporality and the Anthropocene,” and a series of environmental humanities discussion sessions. Conference attendees and presenters are encouraged to attend both Friday's and Saturday's events.

Transatlantic Ecologies seeks readings of the complex and developing connections between ecological and global thought in the early modern period. When discussing burgeoning forms of early modern ecological awareness, how should we account for the complex networks of knowledge construction in the Atlantic world resulting from the confluence of European, African, and Amerindian cultures? And, how do nonhumans figure into this network? Namely, how do we account for the influence of diverse New World ecologies and changing conceptions of land, space, animal consciousness, and ecological interdependence? Broadly, we seek studies of early modern literature, history, and culture that explore how Atlantic peoples came to view themselves as world citizens through their interactions with nature, and as natural citizens through their interactions with an increasingly but inconsistently networked Atlantic world.

We seek participation from a broad spectrum of disciplines, and scholars studying perspectives from any node in the Atlantic. Possible topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Non-European influences on Enlightenment ecological thought
- Non-human influences on Enlightenment ecological thought
- Transatlantic natural history
- Transatlantic Romanticism
- Ecological or transatlantic re-readings of canonical early modern authors
- Collection and exhibition: plant/animal, living/dead
- Agriculture and national/global identity
- Human and animal bodies
- Hunting, by land and by sea
- Early modern environmental crises
- Early modern science and medicine

Please send abstracts, 300 words in length, to EMCconference@gmail.com by February 12, 2014. Feel free to contact the organizing chair, Thomas Doran, at thomasdor@umail.ucsb.edu with any questions, or visit the [conference website](#).