Winter 2023

LA 407/507

Spatial Justice Seminar - Myth of Nature

Time
Thursday, 1:00 PM - 3:50 PM

Credits
4

Instructor
Jean Yang (Jean*, she/her/they)
Spatial Equity Fellow
Department of Landscape Architecture
Lawrence Hall, Room 231
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Prerequisites
None

Seminar Description
America has had a schizophrenic relationship to nature. We cannot decide whether to dominate nature in the name of civilization, or to worship it, untouched, as a means of escape from civilization. We tend reflexively to assume that nature and culture are intrinsically opposed, engaged in a kind of zero-sum game in which the gain of one entails the loss of the other.

From Thoreau to Spirn and Tsing, this course will review historic and contemporary readings that have shaped contemporary conversations about nature. Framed through LAF's 1966 Declaration of Concern and the New Landscape Declaration, the 10-week course will seek to understand the role that Landscape Architecture can play in connecting concepts of nature and culture.