

都市政治生態學讀書會  
**Urban Political Ecology Reading Group**

(歡迎大三以上及研究所同學參加)

**Organizer:**

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**First Meeting:**

November 13 (Wednesday), 6:30 pm @ 臺大地理系 502  
有興趣的同學請于 11/12 前 email 給高世揚 ([shiyangkao@ntu.edu.tw](mailto:shiyangkao@ntu.edu.tw))

**Description:**

Although the world is rapidly approaching a situation in which most people live in cities (often mega-cities), urbanization remains an under-theorized and often-neglected subject in environmental studies. Similarly, much of the urban studies literature is symptomatically silent about the physical-environmental foundations upon which the urbanization process rests. In this reading group, we explore the scholarship of urban political ecology, which examines the social-ecological dynamics of urbanization. Our discussions will critically engage with concepts such as urbanization of nature, the production of urban nature, urban technological network, cyborg, and social metabolism. We will also discuss each author's research methodology and ontological status. By synthesizing various concepts and perspectives from across disciplines, our ultimate goal is to strengthen the interdisciplinary perspectives within each participant's research.

We will hold our first meeting on November 13 (Wednesday 6:30 pm), at the Department of Geography Room 502. In this first meeting, we will finalize our schedule and select readings from the tentative list (see below). We will also get to know each other. In this first meeting, participants are welcome to recommend readings that are not on the tentative reading list. Ideally the reading group will meet every two to three weeks. Each meeting will last about 1.5 hour. Meetings will be organized around open discussions. Participants are expected to chair/moderate at least one of the meetings. We can open one or two of our meetings for participants to present/discuss their own ongoing research projects.

This reading group is open to graduate students and faculty members who are interested in the topic and who can commit to attend and participate. Scholars and graduate students who are not affiliated with the Geography Department or the university are welcome to join. If you are interested in joining the reading group, please send an email to the organizer ([shiyangkao@ntu.edu.tw](mailto:shiyangkao@ntu.edu.tw)) before November 12.

**Tentative Reading List:**

***Monographs***

- Cronon, William. (1992). *Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West*. W. W. Norton & Company.
- Gandy, Matthew. (2003). *Concrete and Clay: Reworking Nature in New York City*. MIT Press.
- Kaika, Maria. (2012). *City of Flows: Modernity, Nature, and the City*. Routledge.
- Melosi, Martin. (1999). *The Sanitary City: Urban Infrastructure in America from Colonial Times to the Present*. John Hopkins University Press.

Rademacher, Anne. (2011). *Reigning the River: Urban Ecology and Political Transformation in Kathmandu*. Duke University Press.

Swyngedouw, E. (2004). *Social Power and the Urbanization of Water: Flows of Power*. Oxford University Press.

Walker, Richard. (2008). *The Country in the City: The Greening of the San Francisco Bay Area*. University of Washington Press.

Williams, Raymond. (1975). *The Country and the City*. Oxford University Press.

### ***Journal Articles and Book Chapters***

Chen, Jia-chin. (2012). "Greening Dispossession: Environmental Governance and Socio-spatial Transformation in Yixing, China. In *Locating Right to the City in the Global South*, edited by T. Samara et al, Routledge.

Graham, S. (2006). "Urban metabolism as target: contemporary war as forced demodernization. In Heynen N. et. al. eds., *In the Nature of Cities: Urban Political Ecology and the Politics of Urban Metabolism*." Routledge.

Heynen, N. et. al. (2006). "The political ecology of uneven urban green space – The impact of political economy on race and ethnicity in producing environmental inequality in Milwaukee." *Urban Affairs Review*, vol. 42(1): 3-25.

Heynen, N. et. al. (2006). "Urban political ecology: politicizing the production of urban nature." In Heynen N. et. al. eds., *In the Nature of Cities: Urban Political Ecology and the Politics of Urban Metabolism*." Routledge.

Jochen, M. (2009). "Conceptualizing the political ecology of urban infrastructures: insights from technology and urban studies." *Environment and Planning A*, vol. 41(8), 1924-1942.

Keil, R. (2003). "Urban Political Ecology." *Urban Geography*, vol. 24(8): 723-738

Robbins, P. and Sharp, J. (2003). "The lawn-chemical economy and its discontents." *Antipode*, vol. 35(5), pp. 955-979.

McClintock, N. (2010). "Why farm the city? Theorizing urban agriculture through a lens of metabolic rift." *Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society*. 2010, 3.

Medd, W. and Marvin, S. (2006). "Metabolisms of obe-city: flows of fat through bodies, cities, and sewers. *Environment and Planning A*, vol. 38(2): pp. 313-324.

Njeru, J. (2006). "The urban political ecology of plastic bag waste problem in Nairobi, Kenya." *Geoforum*, 37.

Swyngedouw, E. (2006). "Metabolic urbanization: the making of cyborg cities." In Heynen N. et. al. eds., *In the Nature of Cities: Urban Political Ecology and the Politics of Urban Metabolism*." Routledge.