



territories

OFF — EARTH ATLAS is a joint project of the University College London (UCL) and the Université Paris Sciences et Lettres (PSL), in partnership with the Collège de France and the Maison Française d'Oxford. It aims to foster a sustained dialogue between anthropology, and the social sciences/humanities more generally, and all those engaged in ongoing human activity in outer space. A series of workshops will cast new light on four key aspects of that emerging dialogue: 'Forms of Life' (Paris), 'Territories' (London), 'Architectures and Infrastructures' (London), 'Cosmologies' (Oxford). Ultimately, these will result in an *Off Earth Atlas*, containing some fifty images and graphs accompanied by short texts.

The Off Earth Atlas Team

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Territories

Territory is one of the central political concepts of the modern world. Terra, land, earth, refers not only to the materiality of the ground but to the concepts of place, ownership and possession. Territories can be explored, divided, imagined and fought over. They can be mined, exploited, shared or stolen.

This workshop explores how the ground upon which the concept of territories is built may be shifting as humanity concerns itself with outer space. It asks how a move to outer space shifts our thinking on territory.

This workshop invites ten academics from different backgrounds in the social sciences, humanities and arts to think through the concept of territory. If humans are to leave Earth, then we need a new conceptual Atlas in our toolbox as foundational concepts such as territory are disrupted.

Programme

9.30 Welcome coffee

10.00 Introduction

10.10 Website + layout

10.30 Thinking with atlases

Teresa Castro
Université Sorbonne Nouvelle

11.00 Territory off-terra

Rory Rowan
Trinity College Dublin

11.30 Break

11.45 Inhabiting outer space from Africa

Davide Chinigò
University for Foreigners of Perugia

12.15 Satellite underworld

Dr Mia Bennett
University of Washington

12.45

Artist-in residence

...on a Martian Analogue

Sarah Fortais

COSS Artist-in Residence

13.15

Lunch

14.15

Outer space driftwork

Nigel Clark

Lancaster University

Bronislaw Szerszynski

Lancaster University

14.45

Drawing lines in the Selene sand

Legal geographies of space law

Alban Guyomarc'h

Paris Panthéon Assas University

15.15

Planetary being

Lisa Messeri

Yale University

15.45

Break

16.15

The Hawaiian shirt

...is the uniform of the off-duty astronaut

Hī'ilei Julia Hobart

Yale University

16.45 The deadly life of a lump of metal

Julie Michelle Klinger
University of Delaware

Romain Richaud
University of Delaware

17.15 Discussion

Led by Luis Campos
Rice University

17.45 Reception



How might territories be imagined otherwise or rather how might it solidify existing power dynamics in new ways? As companies and space agencies start to talk of mining the Moon we can ask questions as to who owns the Moon, who has the right to the territory? How does space exploration shift notions of place, territory and rights to it on Earth?



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UCL Anthropology
14 Tavition St., Bloomsbury
WC1H0BW London
8 June 2023
09.30 - 18.45

