



**Special Issue: Comparative Critical Approaches to the Anthropocene**

**Guest Editors: Adeline Johns-Putra (Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University) and  
Xianmin Shen (Shanghai University of Finance and Economics)**

*Intertexts* invites papers for a special issue on Comparative Critical Approaches to the Anthropocene.

Ever since Eugene Stoermer coined the term Anthropocene in the 1980s and Nobel Prize laureate Paul Crutzen identified the present period as the Anthropocene, this ecological and geographical concept has been gradually adopted in other disciplines beyond the realm of science, and has taken on particular resonance in the environmental humanities. The advent of the Anthropocene connotes not only a global physical phenomenon but also the ways in which we imagine the world, as well as the position of human beings within human and nonhuman ecosystems. Acknowledging the (irreversible) impact of human behaviors, it is also high time that we reflect on the adequacy of our current social mechanisms. From this perspective, literature and other creative arts offer alternative paths to reimagine our economic, political, and social structures. In particular, they enable an interrogation of the designation of *anthropos* in the Anthropocene. Given the unevenness of agency, responsibility, and impacts not just on nonhuman species but within and between human cultures, societies, and politico-economic systems, this question is of particular trenchancy.

**In light of this, this special issue seeks to focus on representations—from a world literature and comparative critical perspective—of ecological thinking and responses to climate and other environmental crises, taking as the primary object a critique of modernity and capitalism.**

We invite submissions that explore ecological imaginaries and alternative communities in world/comparative literature, film, philosophy, and critical theories, on topics including but not limited to:

- Reimagining community in apocalyptic times
- Climate fiction and Anthropocene fiction
- Ecothinking and pandemics
- The intersection of ecocriticism and postcolonial studies / world literatures
- Poverty, community, and ecocriticism
- Women, gender, sexuality and ecology

Prospective contributors should submit **250-word abstracts** to Adeline Johns-Putra ([adeline.johnsputra@xjtlu.edu.cn](mailto:adeline.johnsputra@xjtlu.edu.cn)) & Xianmin Shen ([Shen.xianmin@mail.shufe.edu.cn](mailto:Shen.xianmin@mail.shufe.edu.cn)) by **August 31, 2021**. Prospective contributors may email general inquiries about the issue as well.