

ENST 4007. Special Topics Seminar  
Design Thinking for the Anthropocene  
January 6 – April 8, 2025

Instructor: John Milton  
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Course Timetable: Tuesdays, 8:35 – 11:25am

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### Course Description

Let's face it: few discussions concerning our relationship with the environment today have happy endings. We are constantly being bombarded by images of environmental disasters. It is not surprising that many people simply throw up their arms in despair. What can we do?

You spent enough of your undergraduate lives learning about the doom-and-gloom side of life; it is now time to break free, to think of possibilities and to seek out positive solutions. This course is meant to do just that, combining fun with learning, creativity and imagination with the years of knowledge you have acquired. Through these it is hoped that you will learn that all is not doom and gloom but instead, that there are pathways to a positive and flourishing world for all living creatures.

This course is a studio-based course where you will be working in teams to design a community inspired by regenerative design and development principles. We will be looking at various designs of futurist community designs, both current and historic, and ideas connecting principles of sustainable lifestyles to theories of place to practices of regenerative design and development. Deliverables for this course consist of a collective vision and a personal examination of some topic relevant to the field of design of your choice.

Contact me for more information if you have any questions.