

# COLT 620

Seminar in Literature, Culture, and Thought

## *From Territory to Blasted Landscapes*



Do we still live in a world and on whose territory? This course begins by reviewing the phenomenological notion of the “world” along with its critiques by Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari and Jacques Derrida. What is the (potentially shifting) significance of these concepts world and territory in an era of ecological and climate crisis and global heating when late capitalism and environmental upheavals have produced ruined landscapes out of the places in which these earlier philosophical concepts would find their referents? The course focuses on a handful of speculative efforts in literature and art to flesh out new concepts for a blasted world.

Discussion topics will include: nuclear remaking of being, slime mold, plants and vegetal ontologies, rewilding and feral life, and fire.

**Spring 2020**

**Wednesdays**

**2-4:50 pm**

**THH 111**

**Professor Antónia Szabari**

**office: THH 155B**

**email: [szabari@usc.edu](mailto:szabari@usc.edu)**