IM334 Regenerative Futures:
Pathways to Planetary Wellbeing

Term 2

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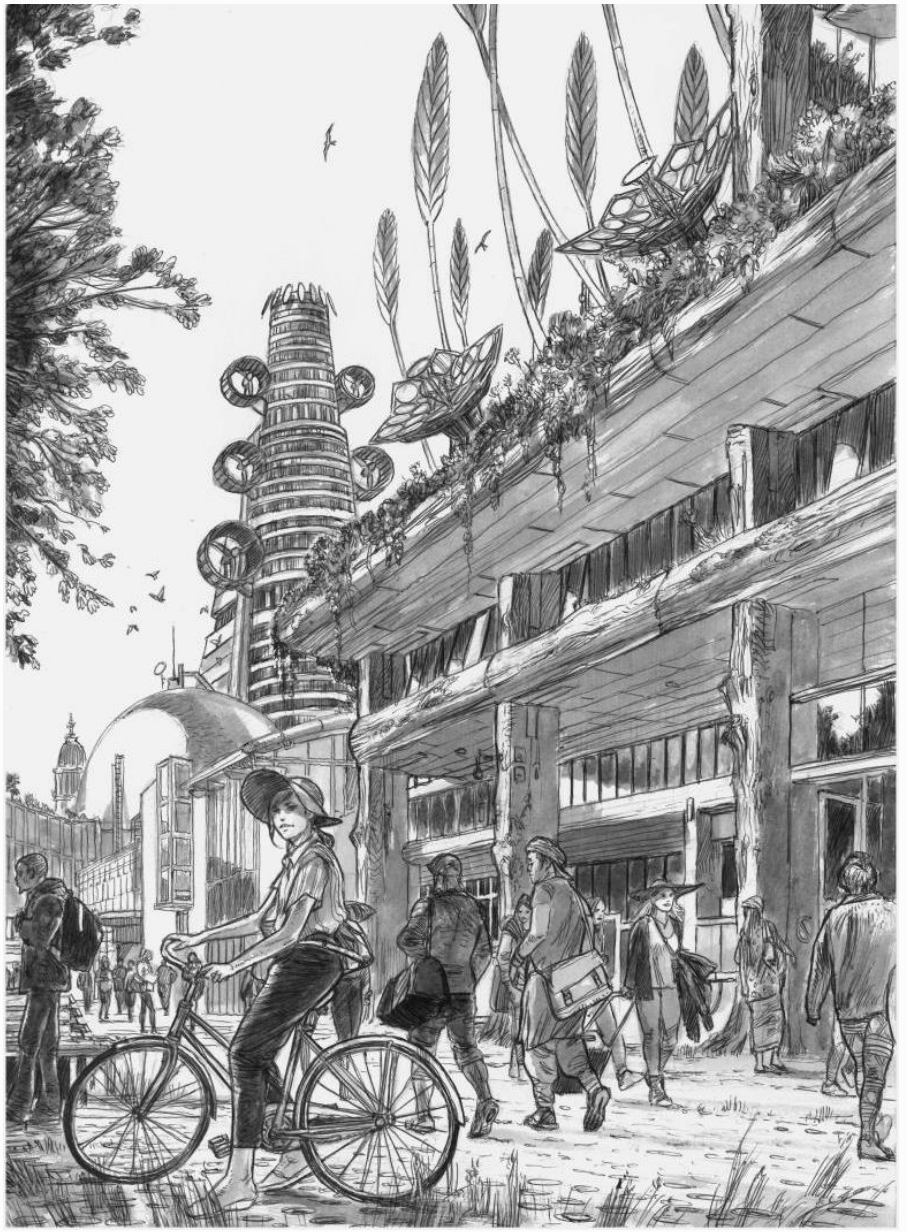
Description

‘**Regenerative Development**’ is an emerging area of research and practice, enabling **healthy** and **flourishing social** and **ecological systems**. Moving away from a system where humanity and nature work against each other, to a paradigm where humans thrive as part of nature.

From nature-based flood management to new bio-based materials, **regenerative approaches** are **inspired by** and **work with** the **evolving, self-organising** and **self-healing potential** of **ecological systems**.

This module explores the **potential** that **regenerative approaches** have to **transform** areas as diverse as **food production, construction, manufacturing, product design** and **urban planning** and how **technical**, **policy** and **social** shifts can support these changes into the future.

This module develops students’ **theoretical, methodological** and **practical skills** to enable humanity to thrive, in the context of pressing environmental challenges.



James McKay

Content and Structure

James Bridle (2023) "Things Said, Things Seen, and Things Done"

Themes that the module will cover include:

- Understanding regenerative development
- Regenerative systems
- Working with nature - ecological and bio-inspired approaches to:
  - Food and fuel
  - Materials and products
  - Art and design
  - Engineering and construction
  - Policy and society
- Ecoliteracy - crafting stories of regenerative futures
- Regenerative development - a critical appraisal

Weekly lectures: introduce key concepts and theories, using case studies and examples.

Seminar sessions: apply concepts, methods and approaches in real-world settings.

Assignments

15/20/30 CATS

Formative:

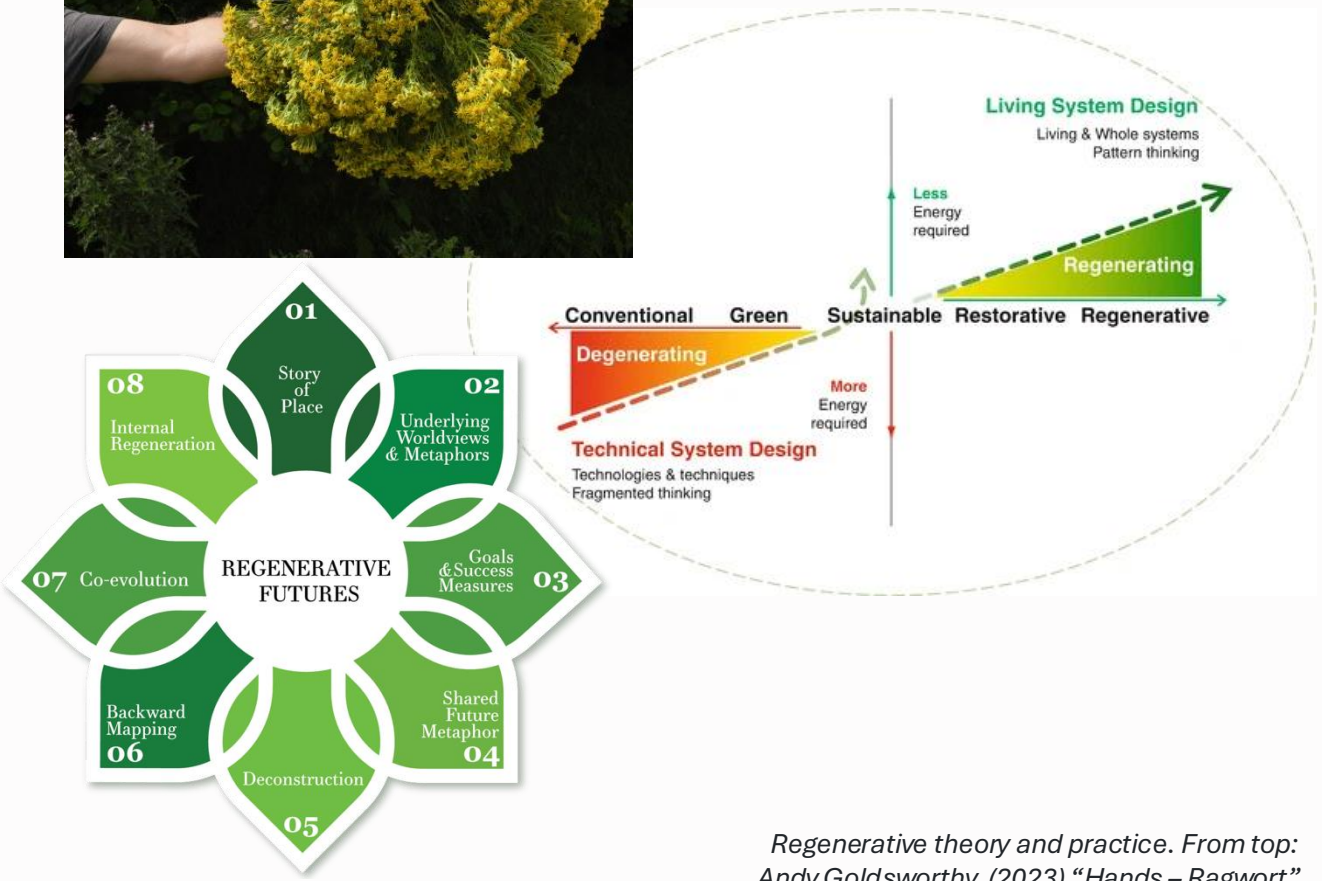
- **Short case study presentation.** Midway through the term. Compulsory for module completion but does not contribute to the final grade.

Summative:

- **Final assessed piece**. In a disciplinary or professional context of interest, choose between:
  - **Present** and **analyse** a **case study** that takes a regenerative approach.

  Or,

  - **Present** and **critique** a **theoretical framework** related to regenerative development.
- 2000 words for 15 CATS; 4000 words for 30 CATS.



Regenerative theory and practice. From top:
Andy Goldsworthy (2023) "Hands – Ragwort"
Pamela Mang and Bill Reed (2012) Conceptualising Regenerative Development and Design
Kimberly Camrass (2023) Regenerative Futures: Eight Principles for Thinking and Practice

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- **Demonstrate knowledge** of contemporary issues and key debates around **global environmental challenges**.
- **Critically reflect** upon the relevance of **regenerative approaches** for achieving sustainable futures, using theoretical frameworks and practices from across a **range of disciplines**.
- **Critically examine responses** to future global and local environmental challenges faced by contemporary societies (e.g. climate change, biodiversity loss)
- **Apply knowledge** to examples and **analyse selected cases** of regenerative approaches to environmental concerns.
- **Apply theories** of regenerative development to concrete disciplinary, and professional contexts
- **Identify innovation** in regenerative approaches and their significance for **tackling emerging environmental** and **social challenges**