



James McKay

IM334 Regenerative Futures: Pathways to Planetary Wellbeing



Term 2

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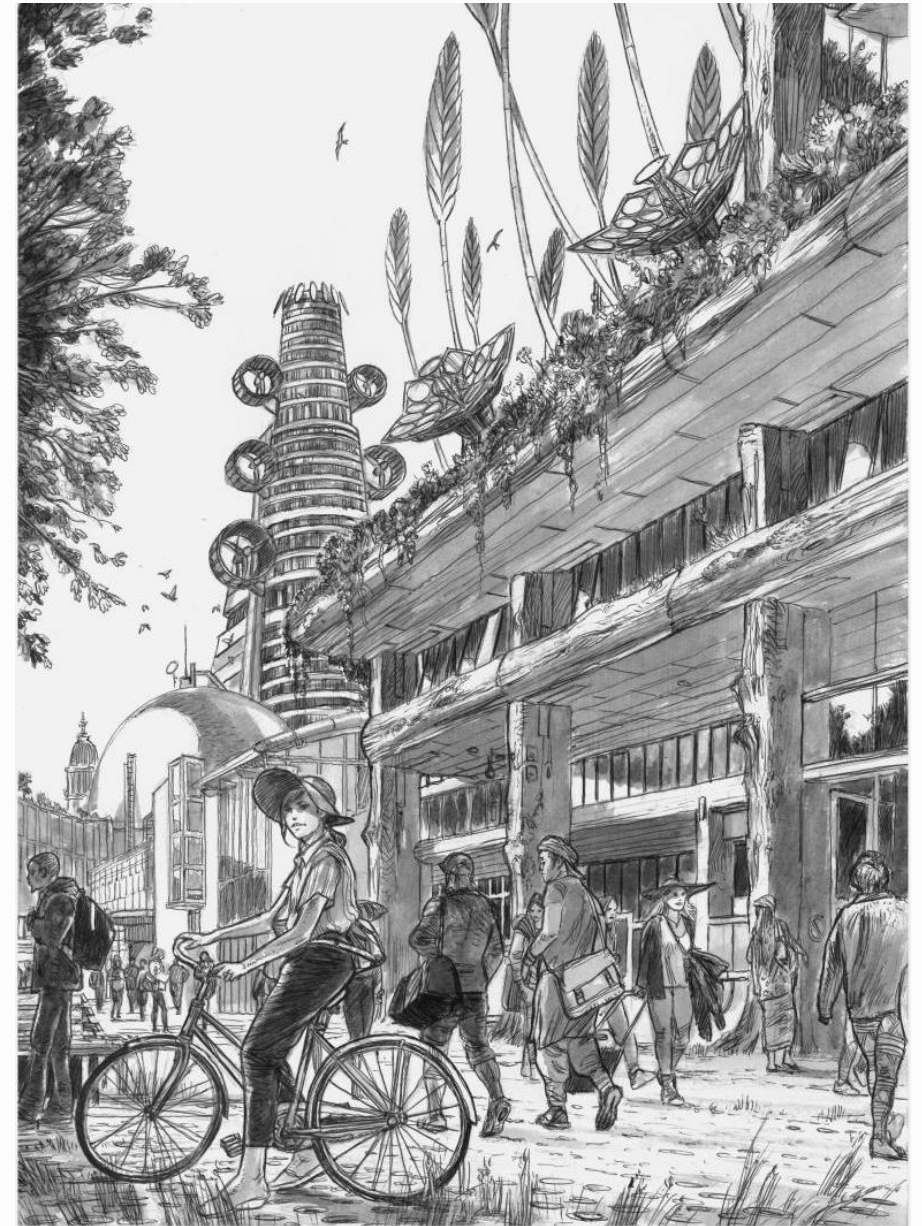
Description

‘**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.



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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

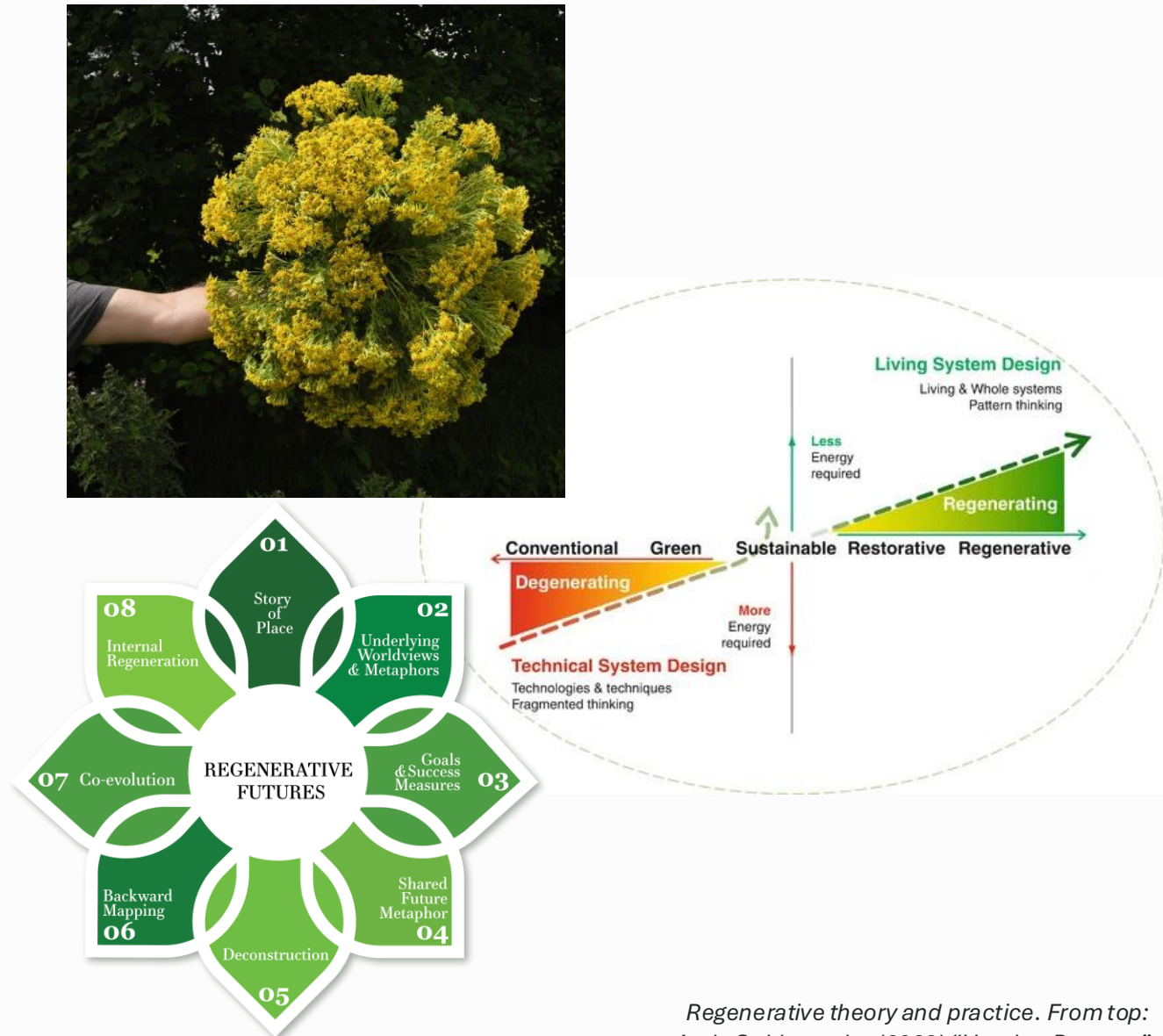
15/30 CATS

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 transdisciplinary 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