



Sustainable Coventry and Warwickshire

October 11, 2021

The Warwick University logo, a stylized white 'W' shape, is positioned above the word 'WARWICK'. The background features a dark blue globe with a network of white lines and dots, suggesting global connectivity and research.

WARWICK

GLOBAL RESEARCH PRIORITIES

warwick.ac.uk/grp



LIFE AT THE EXTREMES



PLANETARY HABITABILITY



NATURAL RESOURCES



REPRESENTING TOTALITIES

OUR THEMES

WARWICK

GLOBAL RESEARCH PRIORITIES
HABITABILITY

LIFE AT THE EXTREMES

THEME LEAD: JOSE GUTIERREZ-MARCOS

- Extremophiles - organisms that thrive in extreme environments.
- Extremozymes are used in most industrial and biotechnological processes.
- Can the hazards and risks of extreme events be predicted and mitigated?
- Cultural perspectives on responses to extreme adversity?

WARWICK

GLOBAL RESEARCH PRIORITIES
HABITABILITY

PLANETARY HABITABILITY

THEME LEAD: DAVID ARMSTRONG

- What are the requirements for life on Earth?
- What is the possibility of its replication on other Solar System planets and exoplanets?
- Where can life persist?
- What makes a habitable environment on Earth physically and sociologically?
- How is the environment changing?
- How does human action and interaction influence those changes?

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GLOBAL RESEARCH PRIORITIES
HABITABILITY

NATURAL RESOURCES

THEME LEAD: MICHAEL BYCROFT

- Are we seeing the end of natural resources as a category?
- How did we come to think of nature as a resource?
- What can science and technology tell us about the value of nature?
- How is the evaluation of nature bound up with states, empires, and other kinds of control over nature?

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GLOBAL RESEARCH PRIORITIES
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REPRESENTING TOTALITIES

THEME LEAD: CATHERINE CONSTABLE

- How do we imagine the future of life and how is this represented in mass culture?
- We use science fiction to understand science fact, drawing on cultural mythologies, cosmologies and philosophies to imagine what might constitute global and planetary habitability.
- We are currently in the 'Anthropocene' period – the geological age in which human activity has been the dominant influence on our climate and environment. This era presents unprecedented challenges. What kinds of representations enable us to think on the global scales required to find solutions?

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GLOBAL RESEARCH PRIORITIES
HABITABILITY

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

*The Apocalypse is Now:
Futures Film Festival
16-21 October 2021
Part of Resonate Festival*

- We are constantly told that humanity is in a state of crisis from climate change, to the impact of space junk, and the replacement of human beings by automated systems and androids.
- This screening series combines the latest research at Warwick University with the examination of films which explore different visions of our future.



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

*Max Alexander: 'The Waste of Space'
A Photographic and Educational Project,
Exhibiting 2022.*

- The project aims to show, from a human perspective, what space debris is, and the enormous quantity and variety of objects it actually involves.
- Space debris will be collaged into the sky and only seen up close.
- This will be achieved through creating a 'Triptych of the Sky' creating a large panoramic image, for the context of an everyday urban setting.



For more information
on the work of the GRP
and its current projects
visit:

<https://warwick.ac.uk/research/priorities/habitability>

<https://twitter.com/HabitabilityGrp>



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