

# Humanities Lab

Where Inquiry Meets Action



Newsletter - May / June 2020

## May/June Humanities Lab Newsletter

Welcome to the May/June 2020 issue of the Humanities Lab Newsletter.

The recent racial justice movement has inspired our team to consider new ways that we can all advocate for anti-racism. At ASU, we value who we include, and not who we exclude. At the Humanities Lab, we value and advocate for socially conscious leadership in the face of complex social challenges.

We invite everyone to join us in activating the humanities as a tool to help probe beneath the surface and to identify the ideas, ethical issues, historical backgrounds, cultural assumptions, and power relationships that complicate and perpetuate challenges such as racial injustice.

As part of our personal commitment to dismantling racial injustice in its many forms, the Humanities Lab will be running a weekly racial justice series via our social media ([Instagram](#) & [Twitter](#)), spotlighting scholars and activists of color who have valuable messages for us all to hear.

The Lab has always tackled social justice challenges and will continue to prioritize those challenges as we move forward. Examples of such Labs past and future include: *Facing Immigration I & II*, *Energy and Social Justice*, *Rebuilding Puerto Rico*, *Health Humanities* and upcoming Fall 2020 *Why is the Amazon Burning?* as well as Spring 2021 *Facing Immigration*. We will also be offering *Educating for Inclusion* in Spring of 2022 with more like it in the works. As we continue to expand Lab offerings addressing social and racial inequities, please let us know if you would like to collaborate!

The Humanities Lab Team



## Spring 2020 in Action: the Highlight Reel

May has closed its doors on 2020, and with it the Spring 2020 semester. What is left behind has been abundant perspective, change to boot and impact outcomes from our Lab students that simply blew us away! The commitment our students have shown to social justice, re-imagining just worlds and for deepening their understandings of what exists, why - and how to better it - is nothing shy of profound!

**Below is a collection of Springs' finest** when it comes to impact outcomes. Thank you to ALL who participated in our Spring Labs, our world is a better place with your commitment and leadership!

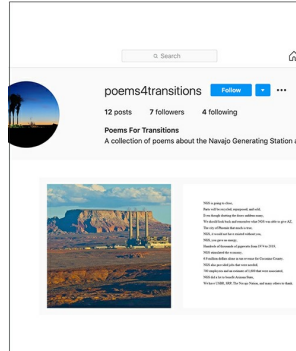
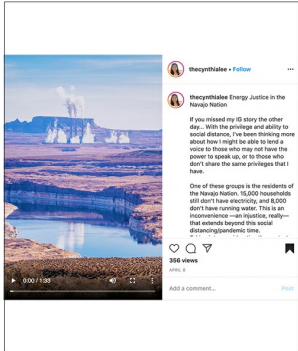
As part of OUR commitment to YOU we consistently work to enhance programming in our Labs and therefore feedback is essential! At this time we would like to invite SPRING 2020 students who have NOT already filled out our internal end of semester survey to share thoughts in the link below.

Impact Outcomes of Spring 2020: the Highlight Reel Continued...

## Energy and Social Justice Lab

(Learn more about the Lab [HERE](#))

Moving to clean energy sources is desirable but the transition can cause devastating consequences to the affected populations. Students in the Energy and Social Justice Lab investigated energy equality, and in doing so, looked to the recent closure of Arizona's Navajo Generating Station as their case study. To see the types of impact outcomes students created, CLICK any of the below images.



**Social Media Interventions (click images to view):**

Lab students identified an energy injustice, chose a social media platform to target and identified an audience to address. They then proposed a solution and/ or created a call to action for their chosen audience as seen in these linked examples.



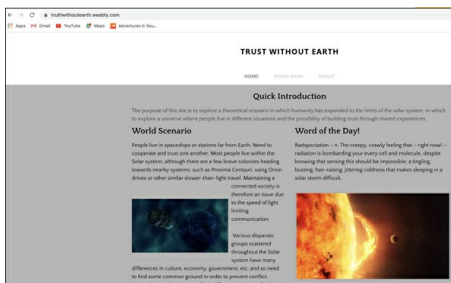
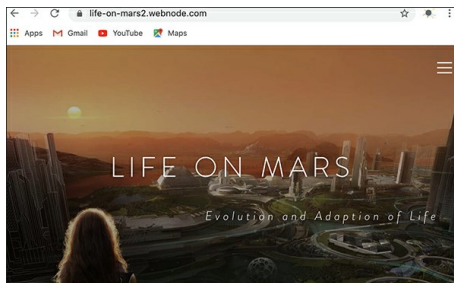
**Animated Short Film (click to view):**

You won't want to miss this animated short created by a team of Energy & Social Justice students, with an aim to elucidate water injustice on the Navajo Nation this impact outcome is on point!

## Life Without Earth Lab

(Learn more about the Lab [HERE](#))

Have you ever thought about what it would mean to be human if you lived far from our home planet? What notions about life do we assume because of our shared planetary heritage?



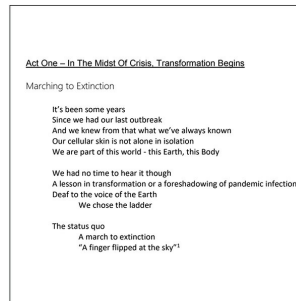
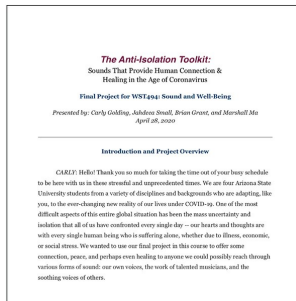
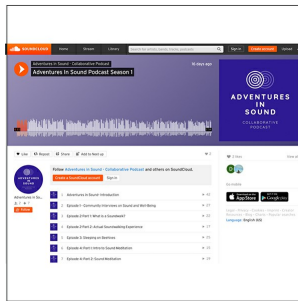
**Website collectives (click images to view):**

Through-out the semester students in the Life Without Earth Lab worked with their lead faculty-team and guest collaborators, discussing issues of governance for Earthling colonies in outer space, bio-ecology and the role of the arts for humanity in space. Lab students developed these mixed media projects viewable via the image web links above (click to view)!

## Sound & Well-Being Lab

(Learn more about the Lab [HERE](#))

Have you ever considered how deeply sound affects our health? Can sound play a role in the healing of cultural and historical trauma? What is the relationship between sound and social justice?



Podcasts + Anti-Isolation Toolkits + Poems (click images to view):

Sound and Well-Being students had been slated to perform the prose/poem "Deaf Republic" by Ilya Kaminsky on Tuesday, March 17th but in lieu of the pandemic situation, did an incredible job transforming their work into interpretive essays. One student, Brian Grant (click image above right to view) chose to extend his personal experience and wrote a collection of 'poems in the style of "Deaf Republic," while utilizing the pandemic as the key for his expression. Other collaborative Lab teams also using the pandemic as a direct connection to sound and well-being created this series of podcasts (left image above) and an anti-isolation kit (middle image above) featuring a variety of sound experiences to help cope.

## Beyond the Lab

The Humanities Lab kicked off this brand NEW program last year - it's a HIT!



One year ago, three students from our Spring 2019 Rebuilding Puerto Rico Humanities Lab, became the first students to enter our *Beyond the Lab* program, a program designed to support student's who wish to further develop impact outcomes after the semester's end, and with the mentorship of their faculty.

These interdisciplinary students, Molly O'Neal (Philosophy major - far left), Jasmine Amoako-Agyei (Marketing major with a minor in Sustainability and Tech Entrepreneurship, 2nd from left) and Madison Billingsley (Bio-Chem & Global Health double major, far right) joined together with our Humanities Lab Founding Director, Dr. Sally Kitch (pictured 2nd row) to continue their collaboration in authoring a children's book. The book's aim is to provide children language, tools and resources for coping with natural disasters such as Puerto Rico's Hurricane Maria. The students, having met with many experts through-out development, are currently in talks with publishers for their book, *I can do something!*

To hear a riveting digital sound podcast detailing their experience in *Beyond the Lab* over the course of the past year, click [HERE!](#)



Fall 2020 Labs: Now Enrolling

Have you signed up for a Fall 2020 Lab yet? Just about 2 months left to go - we want to collaborate with you! We have been in dialogue with our Fall 2020 faculty and they are prepared to offer robust Labs in-person or online - rain or shine - whatever the climate calls for. Meet them in linked video trailers below!

### Something else to note...

We welcome students from ALL degree programs for our team-oriented collaborative Lab experiences of up to 25 students. You can sign up for a Lab under a variety of prefixes ([search](#) Lab titles for options). Interdisciplinary students (graduate and undergraduate) and faculty teams join together in ONE space for



ONE semester to research and address their Lab's complex challenge and produce impact projects.

Humanities Labs offer students:

- General studies **humanities credit HU (APPROVED!)**
- Automatic honors credit to Barrett Honors students
- CISA students can earn capstone credit for 494 level Labs
- Research opportunities & a public forum in which to present their ideas
- An opportunity to continue course work in our *Beyond the Lab* program.

## Fall 2020 in the Spotlight + Meet the Faculty Trailer Films



### Shaping Climate Narratives

Interested in being part of a creative endeavor that's taking action on climate change? The Shaping Climate Narratives Lab and its renowned faculty-team have gathered a unique collection of stories of survivor lived experiences from extreme weather events in the U.S. and around the world. Students collaborating in the Lab will work closely with the faculty to co-create a live performance text out of existing interviews, narrative research and collaborative activities that address a series of Lab and student-driven questions.

Effect change while collaborating with accomplished faculty creators. Join Michael Rohd (HDA) & Steven Beschloss (JMC) this Fall!

HUL/HDA/ENG/SOS 494 & HUL 598

Thursdays 2-5 pm & \*Wednesday 3:15 - 4:30 pm

\*Lab time reserved to work on collaborative Lab projects

[Watch Faculty Trailer & Enroll HERE!](#)



### Performing the Anthropocene

Wondering what the Anthropocene is and why its important?

Join us for "Performing the Anthropocene" with Rachel Bowditch (HIDA) and Scott Cloutier (SOS), where students will investigate global issues tied to human consumption and create impact projects that educate the public on the ways our individual actions have a rippling effect on the entire planet.

HUL/ THP 494 /598 and SOS 498 /594

Wed 9 am-12 pm & \* Lab time Mon 10:45 am-12 pm

\*Lab time reserved to work on collaborative Lab projects

[Watch Faculty Trailer and Enroll HERE!](#)



### Why is the Amazon Burning?

In August 2019, fires in the Brazilian Amazon made international headlines. Want to learn more about the causes of these fires and ways we can respond? Register for our Lab, "Why is the Amazon Burning?!"

Team taught by Glenn Goodman (SILC) and Mary Jane Parmentier (SFIS), this Lab will allow students to examine the complicated human relationship with the rich and diverse ecosystem that is the Amazon Rainforest.

HUL/FIS/SLC/POR/SPA 494 & HUL/SLC/GTD 598

Tue/Thur 3-4:15pm & Lab time \*Tue 1:30-2:45pm

\*Lab time reserved to work on collaborative Lab projects

[Watch Faculty Trailer and Enroll HERE!](#)

### Meet Some of our Fall Faculty

Fall Labs are being offered by a collection of accomplished faculty including a Pulitzer Prize nominee, a Regents Professor, an artistic director and authors abound ... Come join them this fall and "do" the humanities!





DISRUPTING DIS/ABILITY

**Team-taught by:**  
[Heather Switzer](#) (WST) &  
[Annika Mann](#) (ENG)

[Watch Trailer / Enroll Here!](#)



PERFORMING THE ANTHROPOCENE

**Team-taught by:**  
[Rachel Bowditch](#) (THP) &  
[Scott Cloutier](#) (SOS)

[Watch Trailer / Enroll Here!](#)



ONLY ENGLISH?

**Team-taught by:**  
[Katie Bernstein](#) (ENG) &  
[Danko Sipka](#) (SLC)

[Watch Trailer / Enroll Here!](#)

[Click here for details on ALL Fall 2020 Labs](#)



## Bright Opportunities Ahead

Looking to add a little excitement to your mix? "Bright Opportunities" offers a curated collection of hand-picked opportunities around campus and online that we think will help you grow, learn and succeed in all the best ways.



## Life is Better when you have an ASU Mentor!

So you're on track, you've selected a major and you're well on your way to meeting your career goals. Why not bolster those efforts by finding a mentor? The ASU **Mentor Network** is a great way to connect with professionals who are interested in supporting ASU students and alumni through mentorship. Meet someone who is in the career industry that you are headed towards, works in a position you want to learn more about or shares your same major in common.

Don't miss this great opportunity!  
**For more information:**  
Click [HERE](#)



## Be Part of the Conversation!

Join ASU's Center for the Study of Race and Democracy for an important conversation about race, crisis and the future of democracy as they dialogue with a handful of panelists including Phoenix's City Manager and a representative from the ACLU. The event is free and welcomes the public to join - register at the link below.

When: Sat, June 20, 2020 / 2 – 3:30 PM MST  
Where: Online Event

**For more information:**  
Click [HERE](#)

YOU DIDNT COME THIS  
FAR TO ONLY COME  
THIS FAR

[Resources & Support](#)



## Curious about logistics for returning to campus in Fall?

### ASU - Live Well, Be Well

ASU has mapped out all the details for welcoming Sun Devils back to campus this Fall. Want to make sure that you are in the know and have the most up to date planning tools at the ready? The ASU *Live Well, Be Well* page will provide you with the most up to date information available.

Click [HERE](#) for the Details



### ASU Counseling Services

Counseling Services is offering new drop in sessions every day on their home page. There are also mind, body, and spirit options available that are run by professionals.

For more information:  
Click [HERE](#)



### Devils 4 Devils

Devils 4 Devils is a peer-led, peer-based, online platform for students to support and connect with each other while taking online classes and practicing social distancing. They build an entire "tv channel" filled with peer to peer fun/quirky/connection offerings. They believe that students need extra places to be social/connected, and they build an incredible offering of such opportunities.

For more information:  
Click [HERE](#)

### ASU Students with Disabilities



The Disability Resource Center will continue operations to assist you in learning remotely. If you need additional support or information, contact your Disability Access Consultant (DAC) via their email, phone, or Zoom conference. If you haven't previously used DRC services but need accommodations, you may register with our office using the [New Student Application](#). DACs can complete your intake by email, phone, or Zoom conference. For more information on the DRC's continuity plans, please see the [DRC website](#) or contact us by phone at 480-965-1234 or by email at [DRC@asu.edu](mailto:DRC@asu.edu).

PS. If you like our newsletter please share it with your friends!  
We always welcome new faces and ideas to the Lab!



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