

Topics of Master Thesis/PhD dissertations

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General remarks

1. Students working on a master thesis will be involved in a seminar in which they will present and discuss their research.
2. Please consider that the selection of sources is the most challenging part in the research project.
3. The final version of the Master Thesis/PhD dissertation must be completed at least 3 months in advance the official submission to have enough time to revision it.

Areas of research:

Totalitarian regimes and nature (especially in Southern Europe)

Migration and the environment

Nature and nation

War and the environment

Environmental Justice, ecological conflicts and subaltern environmentalism

Commons

Alps and mountain communities,

History of fishing

A few examples:

Becoming global. The representation of a local environmental struggle in the global media

The garbage crisis of Naples has become an international issue. Media from all over the world have addressed this problem, proposing their narratives about the crisis, the popular resistance, and the possible solutions. The activists

themselves have tried to overcome the national borders and reach the attention of the international community. This has been the logical consequence of their distrust for local and central government and, in some way, for the national media.

The research I propose will be focused on the analysis of the representation of the Neapolitan garbage crisis in the international media. The student will examine a group of newspapers and/or other media looking for articles on the Neapolitan case. The selection of the media will depend on the student's linguistic competences.

The student must be familiar with the literature on environmental justice activism (Bullard, Martinez Alier, Gottlieb).

Local struggles, global movements. A case-study and its transnational connections

The thesis should present a case-study on an environmental conflict; any proposal from the students is welcomed. Obviously, the choice of the case-study will depend by and large on the biographical background of the student. For the Spanish students, case-studies on the incinerators in the Asturias, Navarra, or Catalunya are especially recommended.

The thesis will provide: a. the general overview of the conflict; b. the repertoire of mobilization; b. an analysis of the rate of trans-national/regional connections developed by the activists.

Main sources will be: interviews, documents produced by the activists (websites), mass media, hopefully, judicial papers (if accessible)