



The Stony Brook University Department of Philosophy and
SBU Graduate Student Organization Presents:

How to Live at the End of the World

A lecture by Travis Holloway, PhD
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**Tuesday March 7th, 2023 at 6:00PM | Harriman Hall Room 214
Dinner to Follow**

As we face down a new era of climate change, we require nothing short of a philosophy for the end of the world. How do we live at the end of the world? How do we write the story of our species differently? Or construct a politics that does not belong to human beings alone? In this talk, I will propose using philosophy's counterpart to geological dating, the genealogical method, to develop a counternarrative for human beings in the Anthropocene. Folding the history of gender, race, colonialism, and capital into geological time, I will consider various genealogies of human beings alongside anthropogenic events and CO2 levels. These philosophical genealogies, I argue, offer something in excess of scientific facts: They direct us towards ways of life that would allow life to flourish, in contrast to the way we are forced to live biopolitically. Examining contemporary art, I will mark a transition from postmodern art, as Lyotard defined it, towards a renewed interest in metanarrative today, as well as a "nature" that collectivizes us and politicizes us in the face of it. The final section on politics will propose directing this new sense of history and collectivity towards a radical form of democracy on the part of human beings. This democracy, however, is insufficient by itself; it would have to be won, yet reconceived as a zoocracy, a rule of all of the living. This talk will take up difficult questions in recent work by Donna Haraway, Kathryn Yusoff, Bruno Latour, Dipesh Chakrabarty, and Isabelle Stengers, and engage with the fields of Continental philosophy, feminism, postcolonialism, political theory, and Black studies. Ultimately, I hope to explore a way to live and assemble at "the end of the world" that resists neoliberalism, ethnonationalism, and neocolonialism.

