This course offers an introduction to the history of land art and environmental art from the classic “earthworks” of the 1960s and 70s to the eco art, experimental geographies, and social practices of today. Focusing on artists and the altered landscape in the Great Basin, the course will also address global issues of art, ecology and climate change.

How have artists either reflected, engaged with or contributed to changing ideas and debates about nature, land, ecology and human history? What role do artists play in making visible what is unseen? Key concepts to be explored include: the Anthropocene; Geoaesthetics; the production of space; “non-places,” art as fieldwork and social practice.