

Education for Sustainability

Education forms you to a large extent and is also a basis of your moral perspective on the world. Where should the educational focus be on in such a drastically changing world? Are we educated in the right way to tackle the challenges to make the world a more sustainable place or are we lacking intrinsic values? Studium Generale, in collaboration with Green Office Wageningen, organises three lectures to find out!

Are we educated to destroy the world?

June 6 Prof dr. Arjen Wals (WUR)

Nowadays, critics emphasize that in the current education system, the main focus is on individual growth and gaining knowledge. However intrinsic moral values, based on personal knowledge, are less cared for. Professor Transformative Learning **Arjen Wals** will discuss the role, or the 'lack' of these intrinsic values within the current education system. One can wonder if the knowledge you gain is constructively contributing to a sustainable future? Or is it only reinforcing the exploitation of the earth and actually counterproductive, making the problems in the light of sustainability too complex to comprehend? And therefore could we ask: *Are we educated to destroy the world?*

How To Build Responsibility into Academic Practice?

June 20 Prof. Dr. Phil Macnaghten (WUR)

Are scientists and students taught how to be responsible? They may be taught to produce reliable knowledge but are they taught how to 'care' for the futures they are shaping? In an education system that tends to view science as an intrinsic good, students and academics are rarely taught how to anticipate the societal and ethical implications of their research. Sociologist of science **Phil Macnaghten** will argue that it is both possible and necessary not least due to the power of science and technology to produce both benefit and harm. He will explore how a forward looking model of responsibility can be developed into education courses as a core value, both in the life sciences and social sciences, using the concept of Responsible Innovation, and in particular the anticipate-include-reflect-respond (AIRR) framework.

Is technology our planet's last resort?

June 27 Dr. Pieter Lemmens (Radboud University Nijmegen)

It is argued that technology might propose potential solutions for sustainability problems; for example, storing the overload of CO₂ in the atmosphere under the ground (geoengineering) or the possibility to go to Mars when the earth turns uninhabitable. However, how is the future of our education involved in this technological inventivity? Philosopher Pieter Lemmens gives his opinion on the role of technology in educating us to tackle the current sustainability problems. And in the context of the 'Anthropocene' he wonders: *Is technology our planet's last resort?*

Imagine that even education will transform into a state where robots become our teachers.

Where: Impulse building. When: 20:00. Be there or be square!

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