

Experience Day African Studies 24 March 2023



Universiteit
Leiden
The Netherlands

Introduction

A student of African Studies will tell you about your first year at this programme.

Lecture and seminar

Title

Ecological imperialism: Who Owns Africa's Nature...?

Short description

Our climate and the environment around us have changed rapidly and significantly over the last two centuries. Climate change and environmental damage are usually attributed to human activity in a general sense. In this lecture you'll be encouraged to think more specifically about human activity in relation to Africa's nature. The stereotypical images of the "African landscape" are a dry savannah dotted with scrub bushes or a dense jungle. In this Experience Day, we explore how these images of African nature in the public imagination have shaped local realities on the ground.

Lecturer: Dr. Sara de Wit (s.de.wit@hum.leidenuniv.nl)

Both lectures will be given by Dr. Sara de Wit, an assistant professor at the department of History, Africa Section, at Leiden University. She has fieldwork experience in southeast Madagascar, the Bamenda Grassfields in Anglophone Cameroon and Maaseiland in northern Tanzania. Important themes in her research are how global discourses and technologies travel to Africa, including ideas about development and humanitarianism, climate change, gender and water security.

Q&A

Do you have any questions regarding the programme? The student will answer them all at the Q&A.

Preparation

Nothing to prepare for the Experience Day!