

FACULTY OF SCIENCE School of Geography Semester 1 Seminar Series

Seminar:

Seeing with light and landscape

Date: 7 March, 2017

Time: 1.00pm

Venue: Lecture Theatre 2, Basement level, 221 Bouverie St, Carlton

In addressing the much-neglected contribution of light to the conceptualization of landscape, I discuss how light circulates through our visual system and around the spaces we see, refuting notions that we can be detached from the landscapes that we view and characterize. Though we see with the vital light and the landscape, our experiences are also invariably entangled with prevalent cultural values, meanings and representations. By drawing upon the experience of walking around an area of raised moorland in England's Peak District, I suggest that the experience of particular landscapes can be distinguished by the changing light that radiates upon them and to which we continuously become attuned. By composing an autoethnographic account that highlights key moments when its effects seemed particularly acute, I exemplify the distinctive ways in which the shifting light interacts with elements within this particular landscape. I will supplement the discussion with speculation about the distinctive qualities of Australia's light and landscape.



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Tim Edensor teaches cultural geography at Manchester Metropolitan University. He is the author of *Tourists* at the *Taj* (198), *National Identity, Popular Culture and Everyday Life* (2002) and *Industrial Ruins: Space, Aesthetics and Materiality* (2005), as well as the editor of *Geographies of Rhythm* (2010) and co-editor of *Spaces of Vernacular Creativity* (2009) and *Urban Theory Beyond the West: A World of Cities* (2011). Tim has written extensively on national identity, tourism, industrial ruins, walking, driving and urban materiality. Minnesota University Press will publish his forthcoming book, *Light and Dark*, in Spring 2017.

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