



SENTIENCE

Photo credit: Lauren Hayes.
Photo taken during the Ars Bioarctica Residency,
Kilpisjärvi Biological Station, Finland, 2017.

This virtual lecture series will probe the bounds and varieties of sentience. Questions include: What is sentience? Is it contingent on the possession of a nervous system? How is sentience distributed beyond the human? How does sentience differ from intelligence (including Artificial Intelligence)? Topics include: plant-sensing, animal senses, human sentience, environmental-sensing, animate artefacts, machine-sensing, and new media art. The aim is to arrive at a general theory of sentience, in all its multiplicity.

The series is presented via Zoom in the form of six webinars. Each session (lecture and Q&A) will run for approximately 1 hour and 40 minutes. Please click on the titles opposite to register.

Curated by David Howes, professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology.

Sponsored by the Centre for Sensory Studies in collaboration with the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture (CISSC).

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CISSC Virtual Happening
concordia.ca/cissc

Thursday, September 23 at 1 p.m.
Jonathan Balcombe, Author of *What a Fish Knows* and *Super Fly*
[Animal Sentience from Fishes to Flies](#)

Thursday, October 21 at 1 p.m.
Lauren Hayes, School of Arts Media and Engineering, Arizona State University
[Site-responsive Sonic Art](#)

Thursday, November 4 at 1 p.m.
Maureen Matthews, Manitoba Museum & David Garneau, Media, Art and Performance, University of Regina
[Animating Artefacts](#)

Friday, November 12 at 11 a.m.
Natasha Myers, Anthropology, York University
[Sensing Sentient Lands: Detuning Settler Common Sense and Uprooting Colonial Restoration Ecology in an Urban Oak Savannah](#)
Discussant: Jill Didur (English, Concordia), Director of the Greening Narrative research project

Friday, November 19 at 11 a.m.
Chris Salter, Computation and Design Arts, Concordia University
[Sensing Machines: How Sensors Shape Our Everyday Life](#)

Thursday, December 2 at 11 a.m.
Jennifer Gabrys, Sociology, Cambridge University
[Sensing Smart Forests](#)
Discussant: Gisèle Trudel (École des arts visuels et médiatiques, UQAM), MÉDIANE Canada Research Chair (Tier 2) in Arts, Ecotechnologies of Practice and Climate Change

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