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).

We wish to acknowledge the additional financial support of two CISSC Working Groups: Sensing Atmospheres and CRIE (Colonial, Racial and Indigenous Ecologies), as well as CARG (Critical Anthropocene Research Group) of the Speculative Life Cluster of the Milieux Institute.

CISSC Virtual Happening
concordia.ca/cissc