

Literary Studies & Environmental Studies in Africa

Sponsored by the
Kansas African Studies Center

Co-sponsored by: Hall Center for Humanities Nature & Culture Seminar and Globalization Seminar, KU English Department, Geography Department, and Environmental Studies Program

March 28-29 9 am-5 pm
Malott Room, Kansas Union

For info contact the Kansas African Studies Center @ 864.3745, kasc@ku.edu



Keynote Speakers

Jane Carruthers & Rob Nixon

Presenters: Omofolabo Ajayi-Soyinka
Byron Caminero-Santangelo
Chris Conte
Mara Goldman
Amanda Hammar
Jonathan Highfield
David Hughes
Garth Myers
Rod Neumann
Rick Schroeder
Anthony Vital
Laura Wright

The Kansas African Studies Center will be hosting an interdisciplinary colloquium on the theme of literature and environment in Africa. Papers will be focused, in particular, on the potential benefits of the uses of literature (both oral and written) and literary modes of analysis for the study of the African environment by geographers, anthropologists, and historians, as well as of the application of theoretical frameworks and forms of knowledge drawn from geography, anthropology and environmental history for the study of African and colonial literatures. Put more simply, the two

questions to be addressed will be: 1) In what ways might African literatures and modes of analysis drawn from literary studies contribute to ways of reading the environment in the other disciplines?; 2) How might African literary studies productively draw from studies of African environments?

All speakers are established scholars in their respective fields; many have already published on issues related to the theme of the colloquium.