



Material+Visual Worlds
Transdisciplinary Area of Excellence
2025 Fall Semester

presents

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Imperial Forestry
and the French Landscape Tradition
Thursday 30 October

6:00 P.M.
Academic Building A 340

This talk explores how the French landscape tradition was shaped by a new science of forest management in territorial France and colonial Algeria. Artworks and technical diagrams alike – and even artworks we assume to be “ecological” in their orientation – gave pictorial form to technocratic procedures for exploiting various kind of “value” in forests, both in the metropole and in its colonial territories. Among other things, it considers the extent to which trees were understood to be a fundamental instrument that French administrators wielded to control the climate of both territorial France and its colonies.