



WAGENINGEN
UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH

WASS/CSPS Winter School Natural Resources and Conflict: Violence, Resistance and the State

Monday 9 – Wednesday 18 December 2019

The extraction, exploitation, distribution and trade of natural resources continue to be a source of conflict worldwide, notwithstanding claims of inclusive and equitable development. The course helps PhD students unravel the multiple contradictions surrounding the access to natural resources, the overt and covert forms of violence involved, and the resistance this may generate. Specific attention is paid to the role of institutionalised and state power in shaping conflict. The course offers students a solid theoretical basis to problematize the relation between natural resources and conflict.

The course is relevant to PhD students who are interested to (further) develop a conceptualization of conflict and violence relevant to their research problem and setting. It moves beyond well-known theories on resource scarcity and the 'resource curse', discussing critical perspectives from political sociology, philosophy, geography, and economics.





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Course set up

- This course encourages students to reconsider their own research from new perspectives and stimulates creative thinking through interactive methodologies.
- The course is organised around reading, self-study, active pre-class preparation, in-class dialogue, and interactive methods.
- The course includes literature-based tutorial sessions that take place every morning. The sessions develop around questions and reflections brought in by the participants. Topics discussed include structural violence, dispossession, contentious politics, legal pluralism, violence as performance.
- The course concludes with a full day: master class/ seminar (morning) and public lecture with Prof An Ansoms, Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium (afternoon).

Course coordinators

Lotje de Vries (SDC) (contact person), Gemma van der Haar (SDC). Lecturers include experts from different Social Science groups at Wageningen University.

Location

The sessions will be held in building "De Leeuwenborch", Hollandseweg 1 in Wageningen, The Netherlands. The exact rooms will be announced later.

Further information

Details about the programme can be found on:

<https://www.wur.nl/en/activity/CSPS-Winter-School-Natural-Resources-and-Conflict-Violence-Resistance-and-the-State-4-ECTS.htm>

On *course content* please contact the course contact person, Lotje de Vries: Lotje.devries@wur.nl

For details about the *logistics, accommodation, registration, fees, study materials*, etc. please contact Marcella Haan; Tel +31 317 484126

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The course is developed by the Conflict Theme Group of the [Centre for Space, Place and Society \(CSPS\)](#) that brings together researchers from three chair groups within Wageningen University (WUR) – [Cultural Geography \(GEO\)](#), [Rural Sociology \(RSO\)](#) and [Sociology of Development Change \(SDC\)](#).

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