

The wonder of science is within the scientific method, where objective observations assist in establishing facts through theoretical developments, which are then tested through several iterations of experiments to either prove or disprove a theory. This empirical method is the underlying root to most discoveries within our history, whether it was intuitively or by design.

Thus, science is present within every module we have discussed thus far, whether it is ecological economics, regenerative nature, or the circular economy – each system was developed upon the scientific method's framework. If we were to break this down into parts, the theory should be considered the necessity, the tests; sociological and, as a biproduct, we are the subjects of the experiment that disproves or prove the experiments efficacy.

Within module 12, we discussed the stark differences between the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century approaches to economic growth. Herman Daly, who's work has been in the pioneering of ecological economics and steady state economy, made it known that even he believes the systems of the 20<sup>th</sup> century are no longer suitable to our present. Herman Daly goes as far as to say that while he isn't against the growth of wealth, he has quantitative and qualitative reason to believe that the current practices and ways of measuring growth- increase costs faster than benefits (New York Times, 2022). This perspective is most certainly furthered with the scientific development of Doughnut economics. It is a method and an economical approach to sustainability for all by positioning as a *way of thinking* that illustrates economic perspectives from a holistic focusing on what is ecologically safe and socially just (Module 12, 2023).

Simply put, without having to find solutions to our current systems, colonialism will continue to act as a blockage to our longevity if its expansion continues without adaptation. Through over production and ecological disregard, our earth not only becomes less resourceful by way of depletion, but directly illustrates the importance of understanding our needs as oppose to the desires that are incubated by colonialism... The Tragedy of Commons.

In Regenerative Nature, we shift our focus from the 'take-make-waste' linear economic approach that we have become comfortable with, and instead redirect our focus on supporting natural processes. This allows room and space for the Earth to reclaim itself, providing its ecosystems with assists that further its regenerative process. Science is directly apart of this effort, and this can be directly seen within our oceans and the effort to support regenerative ocean farmers. In a Bioneers program featuring Bren Smith of GreenWave, we learn that land-based agriculture will not survive the effects of a worsening climate (Bioneers, n.d.). The "Solving for Pattern" approach addresses multiple problems at once, by addressing the whole problem instead of parts. Combating industrial fishing is a direct result of colonialism, over population and greed. Ocean farming provides a regenerative support by growing fishing stock, which in turn serves to detoxify polluted waters (Bioneers, n.d.) and alleviate stress on our land-based agricultural systems.

Considering that Regenerative Nature approaches are included in circular economic principles, it is important to consider that these are scientific models at their foundation. The Circular Economy (CE) involves sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing and recycling existing materials and prolonging their utility.

CE is quite simply a scientific collaboration between designers who seek methods to execute these very intents. In Episode 25 of the Circular Economy Show '*Circular-ish: the messy reality of circular design*', opportunities and challenges are the question at hand. One of biggest challenges is the technical challenge (Ellen MacArthur Foundation, 13:43, 2021), which

requires discovering effective methods in stages...without having to cause more harm than necessary and collaborating with cultures that have directly been impacted by colonialism.

Science of Conquest has been extremely informative and admittedly, the course content has highlighted patterns in my own thinking that I was happy to re-evaluate and adapt to.

One of the most alluring parts of this course was not only within the scientific approach to colonialism, but the opportunity to make the connection between Science and Colonialism as separate entities and as working parts. Colonialism is of a huge interest to me, as I see its ideologies are deeply rooted within our unconscious behavioural patterns and this is not exclusive to one continent, but needs to be decrypted either way.

For me, the most powerful learning moment was in our study of Worldviews, something to which, I pursue higher knowledge in as a passion. I was very happy to see that there was a very bipartisan approach to these topics, as in my previous academic experiences. As someone who is of a Left-Handed upbringing, nurturing the Earth and connecting Holistically is something to which I have experienced direct criticisms for. To see that the material connecting Holistic and spiritual approaches were given credibility...that was intensely impactful for me as it not only provided science and fact, but allowed my worldview to feel SEEN.

I don't think I would change anything about this course, I quite enjoyed the content, actually I really enjoyed the content. If I am to suggest anything, it would be to encourage more focus on worldviews, anthropological studies and how we can create connection via these differences that ultimately stem from the same purpose – to improve the moral compass or to provide one that the common majority. This would allow students to reflect on their own perspectives, or as I refer to them – bred beliefs – and allow the opportunity to discover not only our differences, but our commonalities.

## **References**

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