What can the humanities (or literature and literary theory, more specifically) offer to a discussion of the most significant crisis of our time--climate change? The solution(s) to the climate crisis, we are told, will come from science and will be implemented through policy. Must we in the humanities be resigned to merely writing or representing its devastating effects? Should we imagine a world without the human, without Being, as the consequence of anthropogenic acts that have changed the earth? In this case, the humanities lose all relevancy, except as a field of mourning. Or can language, literature, or poetics be understood as foundational to thinking about solutions? We will explore these questions through writers such as Italo Calvino, E.T.A. Hoffman, Upton Sinclair, Theocritus, Virgil, Emile Zola; through poetry, film and works of art by Hamish Fulton, Robert Long, J.M.W. Turner, Robert Smithson, Gilberto Zorio and others; and with Martin Heidegger, Bernard Steigler, Ivan Illich, Hannah Arendt, Giorgio Agamben among other guides. Work from the human sciences will be supplemented with basic works from the life and physical sciences. Students from outside of the humanities are especially welcome as the aim of the course is to open up a dialogue from different perspectives and to enable students to develop their own research in a broader context. Feel free to contact me at: pinkus@usc.edu.