The current literature on climate change revolves more and more frequently around the concept of “deep history,” valid not only for nature (ages of the earth), but also for the mind. From this perspective, it seems crucial to rediscover the meaning of Bateson’s concept of an “ecology of mind,” which insists on the coalescence between mental and natural evolution. Like the earth, the mind is an aggregate of interacting parts or components, and requires collateral energy and circular chains of determination. A specific mentality and landscape thus corresponds to a specific age and stratification of the earth. If we want to understand the proliferating forms of ecological violence in today’s world, we cannot just look at ecology proper, but need to understand its relation to history and to Bateson’s definition of the term as associated with mind.

Deep History:
Discussing Bateson's Steps To An Ecology Of Mind
22 April, 2016 | 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. | HG 1010

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Co-organizd by Visiting Professor of Comparative Literature Catherine Malabou and Professor of Comparative Literature and European Languages and Literatures Jane O. Newman

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