The seminar is intended to acquaint students with the work of William Morris and to evaluate his position in the history of modern art, poetry, design politics and environmentalism. For this purpose, we will look at, read and discuss Morris and his works from four different vantage points: 1) in the history and theory of ornament; 2) as an entrepreneur and professional artist in late Victorian England; 3) as a theorist and critic of art, design and politics; and 4) as an environmentalist, ecologist and architectural preservationist.

We will read texts by Morris, Pevsner, Thompson, Salmon, Naylor, and Eisenman, among others.