



# Sense of Place Research 2016

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# What is sense of place?

Sense of place is derived from the Latin term *genius loci* which in classical times meant the guardian divinity in a place. The 18<sup>th</sup> century brought the translation “genius of the place,” which meant the influence of a place. With the 21<sup>st</sup> century came the definition we know to mean the atmosphere of a place, or the quality of the environment.





# What does the research look like?

“How can creative writers capture the elusive torque between temperament and terrain?”





# Research Process

- Cataloguing Literary Works Related to Sense of Place
- 1,000 Search Results Reviewed
- 250 Articles to Read
- 60 Annotated Entries in Bibliography





# Place-based Writing

- What is it?
- Writing Exercises
- Writing and Walking, Pilgrimage and Process:  
Exploring Inner and Outer Narratives





# Creative Product

- Parkland, WA
  - Bresemann Forest
  - PLU Golf Course
- Tacoma, WA





# Outcomes

- Literature Review
- Research for Creative Writing
- Annotated Bibliography
- Awareness of Surroundings
- Conservation of Nature





# Conclusion

“We recognize that certain localities have an attraction which gives us a certain indefinable sense of well-being and which we want to return to, time and again.”

-John Brinckerhoff Jackson





# Comments & Questions?

Mount Rainier 2016