

“Use Them All”
(Handout, James Engell’s Remarks)

Thou art no slave
Of that false secondary power by which
In weakness, we create distinctions, then
Deem that our puny boundaries are things
Which we perceive, and not which we have made.
To thee, unblinded by these outward shows,
The unity of all has been revealed;
And thou wilt doubt with me, less aptly skilled
Than many are to class the cabinet
Of their sensations, and in voluble phrase
Run through the history and birth of each
As of a single independent thing.
Hard task to analyse a soul, in which,
Not only general habits and desires,
But each most obvious and particular thought--
Not in a mystical and idle sense,
But in the words of reason deeply weighed--
Hath no beginning.

William Wordsworth, *Prelude* 1805, Book II, ll. 220-37

“Both Lisa and I have discovered that using one discipline to address the environment is not going to work. You have to use them all.” William D. Ruckelshaus, first Administrator, EPA, 1970-73, 1983-85, speaking with current EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson on “Living on Earth,” broadcast through Public Radio International (April 16, 2010).

“The ongoing explosive growth of knowledge, especially in the sciences, has resulted in a convergence of disciplines and created the reality, not just the rhetoric, of interdisciplinary studies.” Edward O. Wilson, “On General Education at Harvard,” 2004.

“‘Interdisciplinary’ is a ladder-like word created by humanists to climb out of a hole they never should have fallen into in the first place.” Wilfred Cantwell Smith, scholar of comparative religions and of Islam, in conversation, c. 1988.