



CENTER FOR
ECOZOIC STUDIES

Seeking integral community in an ecological age

The [Center for Ecozoic Studies](#) in connection with the [Earth Law Center](#) will be conducting a study on ecocentric governance beginning in February. This is the fourth in a series of five studies:

- 2021 – Climate Change and Energy
- 2022 – Humans and the Biosphere
- 2023 – Regenerative Economics
- **2024 – Ecocentric Governance**
- 2025 – Ecozoic Culture

Each study is an inquiry into how to answer Thomas Berry’s call to do the “Great Work” of our time, that of moving on from a terminal Cenozoic era to an emerging Ecozoic era (see “[Meaning of Ecozoic](#)”).

This study, like the former studies, will involve both group sessions and self-directed studies into aspects of ecocentric governance. Governance since the beginning of the industrial revolution has been dominated by concerns for economic growth and industrial development. As described by Karl Polanyi in *The Great Transformation* (1944), historically the economy was an outgrowth of the society, but in this period society became an outgrowth of the economy.

Innovation, technology, and development that drive this economy result in the continuous production of crises that call for even more innovation, technology, and development. In the 21st century, however, the irruption of ecological processes into our common life creates a watershed moment. In the words of Mihnea Tănăsescu in *Ecocene Politics* (2022), “No human society can still

count on the future of their environment. . . . We have entered an era of universal loss, displacement, and decomposition.” And he later adds that periods of decomposition are also periods of recomposition.

What does ecocentric or ecological governance mean in such a time? This is the focus question for this study group.

The study will begin in February, on a date to be determined in consultation with the participants. For additional information on the format and requirements of the study [click here](#).

If you are interested in participating in this study or want to know more about it, send an email to Herman Greene at ecozoic.studies@gmail.com.