

## Progressive Etudes on Consciousness and Noetic Sciences

By Stephanie Lynne Thorburn.



Cover image for *The Astrosociological Imagination*, with art and prose by Stephanie Thorburn, illustrating space advocacy themes.

Excerpts from *World Ontology*, representing the *Thought Matrix* educational series by author Stephanie Lynne Thorburn.<sup>1</sup>

### Introduction

The aim of *Progressive Etudes on Consciousness Studies* is to define concepts of *new humanism* and the fruition of higher consciousness through enhancing human conscience and creativity.

This work is dedicated to Gaia Earth, in the context of the growing insular fragility of both Earth and humanity. The text embraces definitions of *homo noeticus* or new humans, evolving in an age of both practical and philosophical crises. Humanity's nascent environmental conscience is contextualised through the complementary ethos of *The Overview Institute*. The mission of the institute is to accomplish global unity and a shift in the cadence of human consciousness through the establishment of a *holistic* world view.

A consistent ethical theme evoked throughout the author's work is the challenge of human progress in light of our increasingly enhanced technological capacities to ensure human survival. Technology is juxtaposed thematically with human empathy

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<sup>1</sup> The work has also been developed in the spirit of supportive resonance for the 39th Annual Conference of the *International Institute of Integral Human Sciences* (IIHS) and the *Spiritual Science Fellowship* (SSF). Themes addressed encompass new-humanism, higher consciousness, and a desire for the establishment of global peace. (Succinct summary information on IIHS and SSF is included at the base of this précis paper. The reference index includes information on a range of resourceful independent organisations related to consciousness studies, ecology and noetics sciences. The organisations highlighted reflect admirable humanitarian goals that have been researched and recommended by the author.)

for the natural environment. The discussion is enriched through an integration of academic research, astrological concepts, and cultural insights.

*Stephanie Lynne Thorburn* is an author, social researcher, and Reiki Master, who has written texts on academic and holistic spheres; she also has a notable penchant for nanotechnology issues and engages with environmental politics. All these facets are represented in this vignette work, encapsulating themes represented in *World Ontology*.

**Key Concepts & Themes:** Human progress, transformative studies, the Overview Effect, new humanism, global peace, paradigmatic science.

**Theorists:** Dr. Edgar Mitchell, Frank White (Overview Institute), author Stephanie Lynne Thorburn, *Thought Matrix* series.

### Overview: The Concept of *Homo Noeticus*

#### Prose by Stephanie Lynne Thorburn.

Progressive and avant-garde reading in the parapsychological domain frequently refers to the notion of *homo noeticus*.<sup>2</sup> The concept being evoked is related to humanity's potential to evolve towards a heightened state of consciousness and intellect. *Homo noeticus* is essentially a *new human*, originating from a nascent generation, with new, refreshing beginnings. I am not convinced the notion of *homo noeticus* is avant-garde for those with a spiritual or ecological conscience. Earth and humanity are facing challenging times; undoubtedly admirable human qualities extend beyond the remit of individuals and concern the need for a conceptual reassessment of our environmental crisis. I hold a conviction that humans would benefit through a greater intellectual curiosity, pertaining to the restoration of cultural confidence in constructive advances achievable through technology. Popular fictional classics such as Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-Four* and Huxley's *Brave New World* express inherently dystopian anxiety connected to philosophies such as *transhumanism*.<sup>3</sup> I resonate with the integrated perceptual insights of new humanism. To ensure the survival of Gaia Earth, perhaps humans must first overcome our dependence on fossil fuels, embracing a genesis in understanding and application of the technological sphere. This may be one of our fundamental challenges in cultivating the realisation of the evolving construct of *homo noeticus*.

#### Gaia Earth – Igniting Global Consciousness: The Overview Institute.

*World Ontology* includes a resume and vignette from some of the author's postgraduate published work on the emerging sphere of *Socioastronomy*. This work is connected to the ethos of the Overview Institute, welcoming a shift in global

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<sup>2</sup> The conceptualisation of new humans or *homo noeticus* is illustrating a new age paradigm. The fruition of advancing human intellect is expressed through specific conceptual schemata related to honing human rational and emotive cognitive skills. See Mary Rodwell, "The Star Children," Australian Close Encounters Resource Network (ACERN), [www.thelosthaven.co.uk/StarKids.html](http://www.thelosthaven.co.uk/StarKids.html).

<sup>3</sup> Kyle Munkittrick, "Science not Fiction," Editorial, *Discover Magazine*. September 2010, [blogs.discovermagazine.com/sciencenotfiction/2010/09/15/the-most...](http://blogs.discovermagazine.com/sciencenotfiction/2010/09/15/the-most...) This is an evaluative discussion on scientific advances and transhumanist fiction encompassing critical insights on Darwinism, Orwell, and transhumanist ethics. For further contextual discussion and the key precepts of transhumanism, see Sebastian Anthony, "What Is Transhumanism, or, What Does It Mean to Be Human?" *ExtremeTech Newsletter*, April 2013. [www.extremetech.com/extreme/152240-what-is-transhumanism-or-what-does-it-mean-to-be-human](http://www.extremetech.com/extreme/152240-what-is-transhumanism-or-what-does-it-mean-to-be-human)

consciousness, grasped through realisation of the vulnerability of planet Earth perceived as a fragile ball of life, shielded and nourished by a fractured atmosphere. The challenge of achieving global planetary unity and furthering the evolution of global consciousness toward a holistic world-view is ignited as a viable unifying vision when perceived through the insights of Socioastronomy.

Socioastronomy can be defined as a newly developed domain established in line with the key objectives & mission of the Overview Institute. In principle, Socioastronomy co-exists with the Overview Institute in focussing on potentially unifying social effects of astrological paradigms, in light of the cognitive, practical shifts mobilised through enhanced technologies of communication. Socioastronomy further supports the precepts of the Space Renaissance Initiative (SRI), a diverse working group of astro-humanists with an agenda aimed at improvements in *scientific education, environmental protection, cultural development, and the establishment of humanitarian goals* such as *global peace*.

### **Natural Resonance**

An ethical theme inferred by the challenge of enhanced technologies is the question of how humans might maintain an organic sense of connection to nature. For environmentalists of an eco-feminist persuasion, resonance with nature is potentially compromised by the prospect of a future in which humanity may be confronted by the alienating domination of cyber culture (even if such technology has the potential to be cultivated to provide genuine benefits for our environment). This paradox I believe is challenging, although not impossible. The achievement of an amicable resolution is dependent on both humanity's *adaptive and creative* capacity; hence the fruition of *homo noeticus*.

### **Organisational Links**

***The Overview Institute*** homepage. Organisation inspired by space philosopher and author *Frank White*. See [www.overviewinstitute.org](http://www.overviewinstitute.org).

***The Institute of Noetic Sciences***<sup>™</sup> was founded in 1973 by Apollo 14 astronaut *Dr. Edgar Mitchell*. It is a 501(c)(3) non-profit research, education, and membership organization whose mission is supporting individual and collective transformation through consciousness research, educational outreach, and engaging a global learning community in the realization of our human potential. Noetic comes from the Greek word *nous*, which means 'intuitive mind' or 'inner knowing.' The Institute's primary program areas are consciousness and healing, extended human capacities, and emerging worldviews. See [noetic.org](http://noetic.org).

***International Institute of Integral Human Sciences***. The IIIHS is a non-governmental organization affiliated with the United Nations Department of Public Information. The IIIHS is also integrated with the SSF, an interfaith member unit of the International Council of Community Churches, Geneva, offering spiritual services and educational programmes representing all traditions. The IIIHS was established in 1975 by Prof. John Rossner and co-founded with Dr. Marilyn Rossner (founder & president of SSF). Annual Conferences of the IIIHS are held in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. See [www.iiihs.org](http://www.iiihs.org).

## Feature and Resource Index by Stephanie Lynne Thorburn

NB. A précis of this paper is available on *International Space Fellowship* news pages: [spacefellowship.com/news/art36784/progressive-etudes-on-consciousness-noetic-sciences.html](http://spacefellowship.com/news/art36784/progressive-etudes-on-consciousness-noetic-sciences.html).

“**Progressive Etudes on Consciousness and Noetic Sciences**” is an integral chapter from Stephanie Lynne Thorburn’s *Thought Matrix* Trilogy, cited within book two, *World Ontology*. This Kindle work supports Stephanie Thorburn’s initiative in developing *World Ontological Webs*.

### Exploring the Integral Human Sciences

*World Ontology* extenuates the mission of the Overview Institute and the domain of noetic sciences, presenting a vignette compendium of unpublished preview works, focusing on *mind*, *science*, and *spirituality*. The work addresses thematically cogent aspects of paradigmatic science, deconstructions of public discourse, and contemplations on humanity’s collective future. *World Ontology* is assimilated as a sincere collection with open-ended intent, designed to stimulate the community of readers and participants within the emerging sphere of *integral human science* towards new contemplations and conceptual understandings of both the human condition and the human psyche, situated within the broader nexus of our cosmos.

The anthology presents a stark holistic integration of traditional and Quantum theoretical science, framed by potent Taoist philosophies. *Thought Matrix* explores social and human challenges characterized by post-modern humanistic academic domains. The series evaluates issues of *academic credibility*, *methodology*, *education*, and the overarching ethical dilemmas posed through stretching human experience towards new paradigms inherent within the emerging domain of Exoscience.

This is a progressive etude in the *Thought Matrix* Study Series.

Kindle edition: [www.amazon.com/World-Ontology-Thought-Matrix-Book-ebook/dp/B00VGUHCTK/ref=sr\\_1\\_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1445457338&sr=8-3&keywords=stephanie+lynne+thorburn](http://www.amazon.com/World-Ontology-Thought-Matrix-Book-ebook/dp/B00VGUHCTK/ref=sr_1_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1445457338&sr=8-3&keywords=stephanie+lynne+thorburn).

Stephanie Lynne Thorburn – CV and Author-Educator profile page via *World Metaphysical Association*: [www.worldmeta.org/stephanie.htm](http://www.worldmeta.org/stephanie.htm).

*World Ontological Web* (in development): <http://www.worldontologix.webs.com>.

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**About the Author:** Stephanie Lynne Thorburn is a freelance writer, researcher, and alternative therapist with an interest in holistic health. She writes features primarily focused on music and nascent areas of social science, including Sociology, especially Environmental Sociology and Parapsychology. She holds an MA in Sociology: Qualitative Research from Goldsmiths College, London, UK and a combined honours degree in Sociology Psychology from City University, London. Stephanie has undertaken a range of vocational diplomas including Graphic Arts (UKCHT),

Parapsychology, and Computing with distinctions. She is a fellow of the Institute for Meridian Psychotherapy and Associated Complementary Therapies and is on the Board of Editors of the *Journal of Space Philosophy*.

Stephanie has freelanced extensively for press, especially the online news journal Los Angeles Chronicle and PR-Inside.com. She assisted on the Space Renaissance Initiative Board of Directors in 2010. Over time, Stephanie Lynne has authored a series of music-related e-books, notably *Incendiary Soul*, a succinct biography of the Sales Brothers and *Blues Scholars*, a compendium e-book of her features on blues greats including Robert Johnson and John Lee Hooker. Ongoing academic works include her continuing postgraduate published papers, *The Astrosociological Imagination* and *Primordial Essences*, a book on creative arts and energy healing (recently a top-ranked text on Amazon KDP select). She edits her own avant-garde webzine "Nuance." Currently Stephanie Lynne is working on an independent research project via prior publication, utilising sociological discourse analytical methods. For up-to date news and publications, see [www.stephaniethorburn.webs.com](http://www.stephaniethorburn.webs.com).



**Editors' Notes:** Stephanie Lynne Thorburn is the only contributor to the *Journal of Space Philosophy* from the Noetic Sciences. Her Human Factors focus on combining with Frank White's *Overview Institute* for a holistic world view needed by Earth's leadership if humanity is to thrive and survive. Her article has links to Yehezkel Dror's article "Preventing Hell on Earth," also in this issue of the *Journal of Space Philosophy*. In this context, she will lead a panel that the Kepler Space Institute will conduct at the 2016 International Space Development Conference in Puerto Rico, which will address human pathologies and the Forthcoming Space Epoch. **Bob Krone and Gordon Arthur.**