



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY

Department of
Indigenous
Learning

**INDI-4010-FA / SOCJ-5011-FB:
Indigenous Peoples & Extractivism**
Start Date/Duration: September 3rd to December 3rd, 2024
Mondays, 11:30am - 2:30pm, (In-person)
Instructor: Dr. Juan Sánchez Martínez



Image: The Platter of Petroleum by Brus Rubio

Course Description: In the last three decades, Indigenous movements have been resisting neoliberal extractivism around the world, i.e. hydrocarbon industry, military industry, unbalanced forestry and monoculture as well as hydroelectric dams. In the crossroads of global environmental concern, and Indigenous ways of being, this class will approach case-studies related to sustainability on Indigenous territories through the voices of community leaders, advocates, writers, and artists from four major cultural areas: the Great Lakes, Mesoamerica (Central America), the Andean-Amazonian region (including the Wallmapu, the Mapuche territory), and Oceania. To analyze twenty-first century conflict on extractivism in Indigenous territories, we will reflect on the foundations of Indigenous paradigms where the Earth Mother is not a “natural resource” and “development” is not sustainable. In questioning stereotypes and nation-states’ narratives that relegate First Nations and Indigenous peoples to the past, we will facilitate cross-cultural dialogues on land-based epistemologies.