



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



COURSE SYLLABUS

SOCIETY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Environment and Natural Resources 203

Spring Quarter 2008

5 credit hrs

INSTRUCTOR:

Dr. John Heywood

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This course introduces students to concepts and theories in the social sciences that help the student understand how human societies interact with ecosystems and natural resources. This course emphasizes the human dimensions of ecosystems and natural resources primarily from a sociological perspective.

Text - NR 203 course readings from OSU Library Electronic Reserve

Course objectives -

Students will be challenged to critically consider different value systems, competing interpretations of the relationship between humans and nature, and the varying ways that social power is organized to influence and/or determine the status of natural resources.

Students will describe structural, functional models of human society and how culture, institutions, community-social order, and the polity effect ecosystem and natural resource values.

Students will describe process models of human society and how social dilemmas, economic processes, and political processes effect ecosystems and natural resources.

Students will describe the social construction model of human society and how symbolic meanings and differential power effect ecosystems and natural resources.

Course Requirements -

Exam I	= 100 pts.
Exam II	= 100 pts.
Exam III	= 100 pts.
Recitations	= 200 pts. (10 @ 20 pts. each)
Total	= 500 pts.

Grades are based on total points earned by each student. Grading is based on a modified curve with the highest points for the class serving as the maximum points possible. A's are usually 90% and better of the maximum points scored, B's 80% to 89%, C's 70% to 79%, D's 60% to 69%, and E 59% or lower than the maximum points scored. Grading ranges may vary slightly depending on the distribution of scores for the class.

Assignments - Recitation assignments are due at the weekly recitations. Late assignments will not be accepted.

Attendance - Attendance at lectures and participation in recitations are required for a passing grade. All absences must be excused. No unexcused absences are permitted.

Selected readings source list:

Structural/functional human ecosystem models

Axelrod, L.J. (1994). Balancing personal needs with environmental preservation: Identifying the values that guide decisions in ecological dilemmas. *Journal of Social Issues* 50, 85-104.

Culhane, P.J. (1981). *Public Lands Politics: Interest Group Influence on the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management* Baltimore, MD: Resources for the Future, Inc.

Force, J.E. and Machlis, G.E. (1997). The human ecosystem, Part II: Social indicators in ecosystem management. *Society & Natural Resources*, 10, 369-382.

Heywood, J.L. (1993). Social order in outdoor leisure settings. In Ewert, A.W., Chavez, D.J. & Magill, A.W. (Eds.). *Culture, Conflict, and Communication in the Wildland-urban Interface* Boulder, CO: Westview Press, pp. 195-207.

Heywood, J.L. (1996). Conventions, emerging norms and norms in outdoor recreation. *Leisure Sciences* 18, 355-365.

Kemmis, D. (2001). *This sovereign land: A new vision for governing the west*. Washington, DC: Island Press.

Kempton, W., Boster, J.S. & Hartley, J.A. (1995). *Environmental Values in American Culture* Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.

Kubasek, N.K. & Silverman, G.S. (2002). *Environmental Law* (4th Ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall.

Lehman, S. (1995). *Privatizing Public Lands* New York: Oxford University Press.

Lewis, B.J. (1994). *Problem Analysis: The Social Dimension of Ecosystem Management* St. Paul, MN: USDA Forest Service.

Machlis, G.E., Force, J.E., & Burch, W.R., Jr. (1997). The human ecosystem, Part I: The human ecosystem as an organizing concept in ecosystem management. *Society & Natural Resources* 10, 347-368.

Merchant, C. (1992). *Radical Ecology: The Search for a Livable World* New York: Routledge.

Schmid, A.A. (1987). *Property, Power, and Public Choice: An Inquiry into Law and Economics* New York: Praeger Publishers.

Stern, P.C. & Dietz, T. (1994). The value basis of environmental concern. *Journal of Social Issues* 50, 65-84.

Stern, P.C., Dietz, T. & Kalof, L. (1993). Value orientations, gender, and environmental concern. *Environment and Behavior* 25, 322-348.

Various authors (1994). Lessons from FEMAT. *Journal of Forestry* 6-19, 32-35.

Process paradigms

Crance, C. & Draper, D. (1996). Socially cooperative choices: An approach to achieving resource sustainability in the coastal zone. *Environmental Management* 20, 175-184.

Glance, N.S. and Huberman, B.A. (1994). The dynamics of social dilemmas. *Scientific American* 76-81.

Hardin, G. (1968). The tragedy of the commons. *Science* 162, 1243-1248.

Komorita, S.S. & Parks, C.D. (1994). *Social Dilemmas* Boulder, CO: Westview Press.

Ostrom, E. (1990). *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action* Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

Ostrom, E., Dietz, T., Dolsak, N., Stern, P. C., Stonich, S., Weber, E.U. (2002). *The drama of the commons*. Washington, DC: National Academy Press.

Social construction paradigm

- Albrecht, S.L. & Amey, R.G. (1999). Myth-making, moral communities, and policy failure in solving the radioactive waste problem. *Society & Natural Resources* 12, 741-761.
- Charon, J.M. (1992). *Symbolic Interactionism: An Introduction, an Interpretation, an Integration* 4th Edition. Engelwood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.
- Chase, A. (1995). *In a Dark Wood* New York: HoughtonMifflin Co.
- Davis, S. (1995). The role of communication and symbolism in interest group competition: the case of the Siskiyou National Forest, 1983-1992. *Political Communication*, 12, 27-42.
- Dizard, J.E. (1994). *Going Wild: Hunting, Animal Rights and the Contested Meaning of Nature* Amherst, MA: University of Massachusetts Press.
- Fedarko, K. (2000). In the valley of the shadow. *Outside* 25, 114-125+.
- Greider, T. and Garkovich, L. (1994). Landscapes: The social construction of nature and the environment. *Rural Sociology* 59, 1-24.
- Gobster, P.H. & Hull, R.B. (2000). Restoring nature: Perspectives from the social sciences and humanities. Washington, DC: Island Press, pp. 119-142.
- Hannigan, J.A. (1995). *Environmental Sociology: A Social Constructionist Perspective* New York: Routledge.
- Karp, D.A. & Yoels, W.C. (1998). *Sociology in everyday life* (2nd Ed.). Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press, Inc.
- Martin, P.S. & Burney, D.A. (1999). Bring back the elephants! *Wild Earth* 9, 57-64.
- Rogers, M.F. (1981). Taken-for-grantedness. *Current Perspectives in Social Theory* 2, 133-151.
- Rose, D.B. (1996). *Nourishing Terrains: Australian Aboriginal Views of Landscape and Wilderness* Canberra, ACT: Australian Heritage Commission.
- Wilson, M.A. (1997). The wolf in Yellowstone: Science, symbol, or politics? Deconstructing the conflict between environmentalism and wise use. *Society & Natural Resources* 10, 453-468.

This material is also available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact Dr. Don Eckert, School of Natural Resources, 210 Kottman Hall, 2021 Coffey Rd., Columbus, Ohio. Phone 292-2265.

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COURSE SCHEDULE

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Week	Date	Topic	Reading
Week 1	3/24	Introduction - web based course materials Introduction to case studies	
		Lectures Introduction - What is human society and how do human societies interact with ecosystems and natural resources? Paradigms - Structural, functional Process Social construction	
	3/25	Structural/functional Human-Ecosystem Models Social worlds & the natural world Economy (Adaptation) Community (social Integration) Culture (Pattern maintenance), Polity (Goal attainment)	Lewis (1994) pp. 3-5
	3/26	Human Ecosystem Critical Resources Human Social System	Machlis et al. (1997) pp. 351-363
	3/27	Video – Bill Moyers, "The Politics of Trees"	
3/28	Recitation - 1 Background - Pacific Northwest old growth forests		
Week 2	3/31	Lectures Community - Social order Social conventions, social norms	Lewis (1994) pp. 11-16 Brown (1995) pp. 16-33 Heywood (1996) pp. 355-359
	4/1	Weak norms - multiple-use bike trails in Columbus, home energy conservation A strong norm - skiing with dogs in Norway A very strong norm - not littering in Columbus parks	
	4/2	Community - Justice, law, and the judicial role	

4/3 Social cycles

4/4 **Recitation - 2**
PNW communities

Week 3

- 4/7 **Lectures** Lewis (1994) pp. 16-20
Culture, Values
Environmental Value orientations
Terminal, Instrumental - Personal, Social, Biocentric, Religious/spiritual Machlis et al. (1997) pp. 355-356
Ozone transport problem
Dominant Social Paradigm
New Environmental Paradigm
- 4/8 Natural Resource Philosophies and Values Culhane (1981) pp. 2-10
Utilitarianism - Personal
Progressive conservation - Social
Romantic preservation - Religious/Spiritual
- 4/9 Environmentalism - Biocentric Smith (2004) pp. 7, 23-28
Optimistic Environmentalism – Sustainable Development, Ecological Modernization, Green Rationalism
Pessimistic Environmentalism – Survivalism, Green Romanticism, Radicalism, Terrorism
- 4/10 Modern Utilitarianism – Economic Rationalism, Prometheans, Radicalism, Terrorism
Environmental Problem Solving – Administrative Rationalism, Democratic Pragmatism
Environmental Apocalypse, Christian Environmentalism
- 4/11 **Recitation 3**
The players in the old growth controversy

Week 4

- 4/14 **EXAM I – CARMEN (12:01 am to 11:59 pm March 14)**

Lewis (1994) pp. 5-8
Lectures
Economy
Monetary and Social Welfare values
Markets & Commodities - \$ values (tangibles)
Allocation, extraction, commodity, market, exchange
- 4/15 Goods - public, private
Non-commodities (public goods) - no \$ values (intangibles)
Valuation - existence, equity, subsidy
- 4/16 Public policy - Monetary values & Non-monetary values
Contingent valuation
Pareto optimality
Compensation
- 4/17 Polity - Sources of power & power relationships in the U.S.
Federalism, Check & Balances
Leadership, Authority, Regulation
Lewis (1994) pp. 8-11
Lehman (1995) pp. 4-7; 31-37
- 4/18 **Recitation 4**
The economy of the Pacific Northwest

Week 5

- 4/21 **Lectures**
Sovereignty, jurisdiction
Public powers – federal, state
- 4/22 Public powers – property, commerce, treaty, supremacy, State's Rights
- 4/23 Economy
Property rights
Cortner & Moote (1999) pp. 115-117
- 4/24 Public powers, takings, regulatory takings

	4/25	Recitation 5 The Polity of the Pacific Northwest	
Week 6			
	4/28	Lecture Process Paradigms - Social Dilemmas Tragedy of the Commons What is a commons? Property regimes Private, State, Common, Open Access What is the tragedy?	Komorita & Parks (1996) pp. 1-12 Ostrom et al. (2002) pp. 3-6
	4/29	Video – Steve Cowan, "Empty Oceans, Empty Nets"	
	4/30	Social dilemmas The games people play Self interests, Collective interests, Interdependence	
	5/1	Social dilemmas with many people - N-Person games Social dilemmas faced many times - iterated play	Ostrom et al. (2002) pp. 9-14
	5/2	Recitation 6 Background - New England fisheries	
Week 7			
	5/5	Social dilemmas Social traps - pools and sumps	
	5/6	Social fences, free riding, collective & public goods	
	5/7	Solving social dilemmas Structural solutions Privatize, State regulation	
	5/8	Behavioral solutions Collective cooperation, outbreaks of cooperation	
	5/9	EXAM II – CARMEN (12:01 am to 11:59 pm May 9)	
		Recitation - 7 Social dilemmas - Georges Bank groundfishing	
Week 8			
	5/12	Lectures Social Constructions of nature Symbolic Interactionism - reality, social objects, symbols	Charon (1992) pp. 36-46
	5/13	Symbolic Interactionism - action, the self, roles, role taking	
	5/14	Videos – Rosen & Howard, "Wolf, An Ancient Spirit Returns," National Geographic, "Return of the Wolf"	
	5/15	Symbolic Interactionism - action, the self, roles, role taking	
	5/16	Recitation 8 Background - Wolf reintroduction to Yellowstone	M. A. Wilson (1997) pp. 453-459
Week 9			
	5/19	How is reality socially constructed? Sociology of Everyday Life	
	5/20	Social Constructions of nature Group claim making	
	5/21	Restoration Ecology - wolves, Cook Co., IL savannas	
	5/22	Restoration Ecology - mammoths/mastodons	

5/23 **Recitation 9**
The wolf and differential social power

M. A. Wilson (1997) pp. 459-468

Week 10

5/26 **MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY**

5/27 Radioactive waste disposal - Ward Valley, CA

5/28 Radioactive waste disposal - Skull Valley, UT

5/29 Human Dimensions of Natural Resources

5/30 **Recitation - 10**
The Wolf, Endangered Species Act, and delisting

P. I. Wilson (2006) pp. 863-870

EXAM III - CARMEN (12:01 am to 11:59 pm May 30)

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