

Term Information

Effective Term Spring 2023
Previous Value Spring 2021

Course Change Information

What change is being proposed? (If more than one, what changes are being proposed?)

We are submitting this course to be included in the Sustainability Theme of the New GE.

What is the rationale for the proposed change(s)?

Political ecology is a unique and inherently synthetic approach to sustainability. At its core, political ecology is a way of describing human-environment interactions, explaining socio-ecological problems, and offering pathways to environmental and social justice across multiple axes of difference (such as race, gender, and ethnicity).

What are the programmatic implications of the proposed change(s)?

(e.g. program requirements to be added or removed, changes to be made in available resources, effect on other programs that use the course)?

None.

Is approval of the request contingent upon the approval of other course or curricular program request? No

Is this a request to withdraw the course? No

General Information

Course Bulletin Listing/Subject Area	Geography
Fiscal Unit/Academic Org	Geography - D0733
College/Academic Group	Arts and Sciences
Level/Career	Undergraduate
Course Number/Catalog	3801
Course Title	Political Ecology
Transcript Abbreviation	Political Ecology
Course Description	Introduces students to a geographical school of nature-society thought. It situates PE in the hundred years of geographic thought on nature-society relations prior to PE's emergence in the 1970s, and follows how the field developed since then.
Semester Credit Hours/Units	Fixed: 3

Offering Information

Length Of Course	14 Week
Flexibly Scheduled Course	Never
Does any section of this course have a distance education component?	No
Grading Basis	Letter Grade
Repeatable	No
Course Components	Lecture
Grade Roster Component	Lecture
Credit Available by Exam	No
Admission Condition Course	No
Off Campus	Never
Campus of Offering	Columbus, Lima, Mansfield, Marion, Newark, Wooster

Previous Value

Columbus

Prerequisites and Exclusions

Prerequisites/Corequisites

Exclusions

Electronically Enforced

No

Cross-Listings

Cross-Listings

Subject/CIP Code

Subject/CIP Code

45.0701

Subsidy Level

Baccalaureate Course

Intended Rank

Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior

Requirement/Elective Designation

Sustainability

The course is an elective (for this or other units) or is a service course for other units

Previous Value

The course is an elective (for this or other units) or is a service course for other units

Course Details

Course goals or learning objectives/outcomes

- Students understand foundational theories and methods in Political Ecology. They can define key PE concepts and describe how they are used as analytical lenses, define critique as a method, and critically read academic papers in PE.
- Students understand the history of geographic thought in nature-society relations. Can describe key schools of thought since the 19th century that led to PE in the 1970s, describe how PE differs from past approaches, and describe PE practiced at OSU
- Apply PE theories and methods to analyze nature-society relations. Identify and evaluate existing approaches in specific real-world issues, including their ethical dimensions, especially as related difference and intersectional justice.
- They can apply PE theories and methods to analyze an issue of their own choosing, demonstrating ability to ask questions; gather, evaluate, analyze, and synthesize information; and communicate their findings.

Content Topic List

- Introduction to PE: Power, nature, difference, and knowledge; Historical development of PE
- PE of environmental change: Colonialism and marginalization; development; population
- PE of Environmental Governance: protected areas, violence, and control; Sustainable development; market-environmentalism
- PE of the Anthropocene: intertwining planetary and human health, focus on pollution/chemicals as signature: Anthropocene/Socionatures; Health and the body; Governing through risk; Green consumerism; environmental justice/environmental data justice

Sought Concurrence

Yes

Attachments

- 3801-PoliticalEcology-Syllabus.pdf: Syllabus
(Syllabus. Owner: Grandey, Mary Allison)
- GE-Sustainability-GEOG3801.pdf: New GE Submission Form
(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Grandey, Mary Allison)
- Curriculum-Map-Semesters.xlsx: Curriculum Map
(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Grandey, Mary Allison)
- poli sci 3801 concurrence.pdf: Political Science Concurrence
(Concurrence. Owner: Grandey, Mary Allison)
- anthro concurrence geog 3801.pdf: Anthro Concurrence
(Concurrence. Owner: Grandey, Mary Allison)
- 3801-PoliticalEcology-Syllabus-updated.pdf: Updated Syllabus
(Syllabus. Owner: Grandey, Mary Allison)
- 3801-Cover-letter-second-update.pdf
(Cover Letter. Owner: Ettlinger, Nancy)
- 3801-PoliticalEcology-Syllabus-second-update.pdf
(Syllabus. Owner: Ettlinger, Nancy)

Comments

- Please see feedback email sent 10/07/2022. *(by Hilty, Michael on 10/07/2022 04:28 PM)*
- Revised syllabus attached in response to panel feedback. *(by Grandey, Mary Allison on 08/24/2022 09:30 AM)*
- - Please check off all campuses of offering since per OAA request all campuses for NGE courses should be checked off. If the Dept of has a compelling reason that this should not be the case, please upload a rationale explaining why one or the other campus should not be able to offer the course.
 - Please check off the requested new GE category on the form. *(by Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal on 05/03/2022 12:02 PM)*

COURSE CHANGE REQUEST
3801 - Status: PENDING

Last Updated: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette
Chantal
11/10/2022

Workflow Information

Status	User(s)	Date/Time	Step
Submitted	Grandey, Mary Allison	03/01/2022 09:59 AM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Munroe, Darla Karin	05/02/2022 02:41 PM	Unit Approval
Revision Requested	Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal	05/03/2022 12:03 PM	College Approval
Submitted	Grandey, Mary Allison	05/03/2022 12:11 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Xiao, Ningchuan	05/03/2022 12:44 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal	07/19/2022 04:06 PM	College Approval
Revision Requested	Hilty, Michael	08/22/2022 11:35 AM	ASCCAO Approval
Submitted	Grandey, Mary Allison	08/24/2022 09:31 AM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Coleman, Mathew Charles	08/24/2022 09:48 AM	Unit Approval
Approved	Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal	08/24/2022 10:34 AM	College Approval
Revision Requested	Hilty, Michael	10/07/2022 04:28 PM	ASCCAO Approval
Submitted	Ettlinger, Nancy	10/31/2022 09:40 AM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Ettlinger, Nancy	10/31/2022 09:41 AM	Unit Approval
Approved	Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal	11/10/2022 11:12 AM	College Approval
Pending Approval	Cody, Emily Kathryn Jenkins, Mary Ellen Bigler Hanlin, Deborah Kay Hilty, Michael Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal Steele, Rachel Lea	11/10/2022 11:12 AM	ASCCAO Approval

24 October 2022

Dear Sustainability TAG members,

Thank you for your feedback on the syllabus for Geography 3801, Political Ecology. Your query asked how sustainability would be addressed throughout the semester, given that it is explicitly mentioned in the course schedule only in one week (on sustainable development). Thank you for the opportunity to clarify.

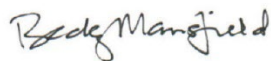
The entire course, from the first day to the last, is about sustainability, as defined by OSU's Sustainability Education and Learning Committee. SELC (of which I am a member) noted that there are many definitions of "sustainability" and, therefore, to choose one would be overly exclusive (and indeed would be the sort of political act that the field of political ecology addresses!). "Sustainable development" provides one of these formal definitions but is not "sustainability" in its entirety. This is how sustainable development is taught in this course: not as sustainability, but as a particularly prominent, influential (and, yes, political!) take on it.

However, the course in its entirety covers a much broader swath of sustainability, as captured by its engagement with all six dimensions of sustainability defined by SELC. These dimensions are not incidental to the course, or covered here and there, but are the throughlines to the entire course: they are throughlines to what political ecology is.

To make this clearer to students, I have amended the syllabus ("Second update" version). In the **Course Description**, I have emphasized that sustainability is addressed throughout the semester and have added a paragraph that explains the significance of the six dimensions framework and how that matters for this course. I now close the **General Education** section with a comment on the difference between the week on "sustainable development" and the focus throughout the semester on sustainability as defined through the six dimensions. In the **Course Schedule**, I changed the description of the first day to include not just introduction to the course, but introduction to the course, political ecology, and *sustainability*. Here, at the very beginning of the course, we will talk about how political ecology addresses the six dimensions of sustainability, and hence why the entire course is about sustainability as defined at OSU.

These amendments to the syllabus are **highlighted in yellow** to make them easy for you to find.

Please let me know if you have additional questions.



Becky Mansfield

Geography

Welcome to **Political Ecology** (Geography 3801, AU 2022)

This in-person class meets **Tuesday and Thursday 11:10AM - 12:30PM in Derby Hall 1116**. It is taught by **Professor Becky Mansfield**, a faculty member in Geography.

See the course **Carmen** for all information and course materials. If you need assistance with Carmen, please contact **OSU Tech Help and Support**: <https://ocio.osu.edu/help>, 614-688-HELP (4357)

Contact information

How to contact me:

I am available via Carmen or email (mansfield.32@osu.edu), or in person. If you send a message via Carmen or email, I will try to get back to you within 24 hours on weekdays (but I'm unlikely to get back to you at all over the weekend). To talk to me in person, you can come without an appointment to my office hours—the hour right after class. Alternatively, we can make an appointment to meet at another time; to schedule an appointment, message me or talk to me before or after class.

Reasons to contact me

You can contact me for many reasons, including:

- *you have questions* about course material, assignments, or grades or you need extra time on an assignment.
- *you are having difficulties* that prevent you from engaging fully in the course, whether those are related to health (including mental health), work, family, or anything else.
- *you are excited about course material* and want to learn more, or you want to learn about opportunities beyond the course, e.g., for research, internships, careers, other courses.

Course description

This course introduces you to core concepts, methods, and applications of Political Ecology, a unique approach to describing human-environment interactions, explaining socio-ecological problems, and offering pathways to environmental and social justice. What makes Political Ecology “political” is that it insists that nature and society are always intertwined and shaped by power, defined broadly as dynamics of influence and advantage within economic systems and across multiple scales (micro to macro) and intersectional axes (class, gender, race, nationality, and so forth).

With its attention to power, intersectional axes of inequality and injustice, and sionatures, Political Ecology offers alternatives to dominant, mainstream approaches to environment and development. Because mainstream approaches are not fully attentive to multiple forms of power, they consistently misdiagnose causes of problems and propose solutions that are not only misguided, but often exacerbate both ecological degradation and social inequity.

Political Ecology offers robust alternative ways of thinking about environmental change, governance, and both human and planetary health and well-being. These perspectives have only become more relevant and necessary with the recent widespread acknowledgement of anthropogenic global environmental change, often called the Anthropocene, in which the intertwining of humans and nature is inherent.

In short, Political Ecology as a field offers alternative perspectives on sustainability, addressing **throughout the semester** all six dimensions of sustainability as defined at OSU. In this course, the six dimensions are covered as follows:

- *Human and natural systems* is a core idea of the course, addressed in the emphasis on integration of nature and society with variation over space and time
- *Earth and environmental systems* are addressed through attention to the causes and consequences of human degradation of natural systems, with attention to natural processes especially in case studies.
- *Economy and governance* are core ideas of the course, addressed through the emphasis on political economy and socio-economic inequalities across scales
- *Society and culture* are core ideas of the course, addressed through the emphasis on power and on social and environmental justice
- *Engineering, technology, and design* are addressed through emphasis on technological knowledge in the politics of the environment and through emphasis on the visual/design as a mode of political ecological communication
- *Health and well-being* are addressed through the course emphasis on issues of pollution and environmental health

OSU's Sustainability Education and Learning Committee emphasized these six dimensions, rather than prescribing a single approach, because there is not a single definition of "sustainability." Emphasizing content across the six dimensions (rather than the word "sustainability") allows OSU to welcome multiple approaches to sustainability. Because the field of Political Ecology engages all six dimensions, it is uniquely situated to provide synthetic perspective on sustainability in the past, present, and future.

Course goals

1. Students understand foundational theories and methods in Political Ecology (PE). You can define key PE concepts, describe how they are used as analytical lenses, and critically read academic scholarship in PE.
2. Students understand the history of geographic thought in nature-society relations. You can describe ideas that led to emergence of PE in the 1970s and how PE differs from other approaches.
3. Students can apply PE theories and methods to analyze nature-society relations. You can identify and evaluate existing approaches in specific real-world issues and cases, including their ethical dimensions, especially as related to questions of difference and intersectional justice for humans and non-humans.
4. Students can apply PE theories and methods to analyze an issue of their own choosing. You are able to ask questions; gather, evaluate, analyze, and synthesize information; and communicate your findings in multiple formats.

General education

This course meets the goals and learning objectives of the Sustainability Theme of the GE curriculum:

1. Successful students will analyze sustainability at a more advanced and in-depth level than in the Foundations component.

- 1.1 Engage in critical and logical thinking about the topic or idea of sustainability.
- 1.2 Engage in an advanced, in-depth, scholarly exploration of the topic or idea of sustainability.
2. Successful students will integrate approaches to sustainability by making connections to out-of-classroom experiences with academic knowledge or across disciplines and/or to work they have done in previous classes and that they anticipate doing in future.
 - 2.1 Identify, describe and synthesize approaches or experiences as they apply to sustainability.
 - 2.2 Demonstrate a developing sense of self as a learner through reflection, self-assessment and creative work, building on prior experiences to respond to new and challenging contexts.
3. Successful students will analyze and explain how social and natural systems function, interact and evolve over time; how human well-being depends on these interactions; how actions have impacts on subsequent generations and societies globally; and how human values, behaviors and institutions impact multifaceted potential solutions across time.
 - 3.1 Describe elements of the fundamental dependence of humans on Earth and environmental systems, and on the resilience of these systems.
 - 3.2 Describe, analyze and critique the roles and impacts of human activity and technology on both human society and the natural world, in the past, present and future.
 - 3.3 Devise informed and meaningful responses to problems and arguments in the area of sustainability based on the interpretation of appropriate evidence and an explicit statement of values.

As reflected in the Course Description and Course Goals, political ecology is a unique and inherently synthetic approach to sustainability. It starts from the premise that nature and society are intertwined and it explicitly incorporates values of equality, justice, and an environmental ethic. You will be learning to describe and analyze these socionatural dynamics, and to understand how they function in the context of real socio-environmental problems.

The course content builds from your basic literacy across the GE foundations by teaching political ecology concepts and methods, and how they are different from other approaches. This teaches and requires advanced skills in critical thinking and interpretive analysis.

You will learn to apply these to understanding real-world situations in assignments, including a project on a place and topic that is meaningful to you for which you will produce both a visual and written product.

As noted in the Course Description above, the course engages all six dimensions of Sustainability as defined at OSU. While “sustainable development” is the explicit topic of one week of the course (see the Course Schedule), *sustainability* as a phenomenon and goal is core to the course from the first day to the last.

Course requirements

Required course materials

There are 2-3 readings (or films) most weeks, divided between general readings, “current events” readings, and “academic articles” readings. There are assignments associated with each. A [full list of readings](#) is provided at the end of the syllabus. **Course materials are available at no cost in Carmen.**

Assignment overview (see the Course Schedule for due dates)

<u>Category</u>	<u>Item percent</u>	<u>Category percent</u>
Readings and reflections	~1.25% each	15%
Academic article write-ups	3@5% each	15%
Current events write-ups	4@10% each	40%
Semester project		30%
Topic	5%	
Update	5%	
Visual/presentation	12%	
Written	8%	

Readings and reflections (12 x 1.25% each):

There are twelve: one per set of readings and/or films. I grade these for completion and the lowest score will be dropped. Short, low-stakes responses improve learning by providing accountability and requiring you to think about course material. Academic integrity: You may discuss the assignment with other students in the class before writing your response, but you must do your own, unique write-up.

Academic article write-ups (3 x 5% each):

There are three, one per unit of the course except the Introduction. All articles will be topical, case-based political ecology articles by geographers, published in the last year. Each write-up is 500-600 words a) identifying the topic, argument, and key evidence, b) identifying political ecology theories and methods and how they matter in the analysis, c) identifying the contribution to geographic scholarship, and d) providing evaluation and personal reaction. Academic article write-ups teach you to read and evaluate academic literature, improve your understanding of PE theories and methods, improve your understanding of the development of geographic thought, and prepare you to conduct research. Academic integrity: You may discuss the assignment with other students in the class before writing your response, but you must do your own, unique write-up.

Current events write-ups (4 x 10% each):

There are four, one per unit of the course. These will be news stories from reputable newspapers and magazines, published within a few months of when they are assigned. Each write-up is 500-600 words a) succinctly describing the issue at hand, b) identifying how PE *is* applied and/or suggesting how it *might be* applied and with what effect, and c) providing evaluation and personal reaction. These assignments take the place of quizzes and exams; they are designed to evaluate your knowledge of each unit’s material. Current events write-ups give you practice applying course material to real-world events and prepare you to conduct research. Academic integrity: You may discuss the assignment with other students in the class before writing your response, but you must do your own, unique write-up.

Project (30% divided over 4-part assignment):

Students apply concepts and methods covered in the course to develop a political ecological account of a place that is meaningful to them. The project unfolds over the course of the semester, and we devote class time to the project throughout the semester. Early in the semester you will identify the place and a specific angle about it. For example, previous students' projects included: identification of the historical political economic processes that created the suburban subdivision they lived in as a kid, the factors that enabled Copenhagen to become one of the world's most sustainable cities, controversy over removal of a dam in a favorite park in their hometown, factors influencing water quality in the Chesapeake Bay, and the role of Māori conceptions of nature in New Zealand. The project can be based on library/internet research of existing knowledge or can include original research such as interviews or map analysis.

There are two scaffold assignments due in the second half of the semester in which you report on progress and receive feedback (5% each). The final project is to produce a visual and/or experiential product that you will present to the class, such as a photo essay, video, map, poster, artwork, performance, or even a fieldtrip (12%). You will also produce a written document that is complementary, providing context for the visual presentation (8%). This could be a short, research-based explanatory essay but could also take other formats, such as a personal essay or letter to a Congressperson. *Instead of the written project being primary with the visual illustrating it, here the visual/experiential is primary with the writing providing context.*

This assignment consolidates your knowledge about PE concepts and methods, gives you practice representing PE ideas in different formats, and requires you to apply PE not only beyond the classroom but to something meaningful in your own life.

Academic integrity: You are encouraged to talk about your project with others throughout the semester. You can propose a collaboration for the visual component of the project, but you must do your own, unique written document.

Grading

I grade all assignments on a 5-point scale: 5=excellent; 4=good; 3=passable; 0=missing or completely misses the mark. Rarely will I give a grade of 1 or 2. I limit my use of half points.

Final grade scale (lower cut-off): 93=A, 90=A-, 87=B+, 83=B, 80=B-, 77=C+, 73=C, 70=C-, 67=D+, 55=D

Course schedule (subject to change)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>What's due (see Carmen)</u>
<u>Unit 1: Introduction to Political Ecology (2 weeks)</u>		
Tu 8/23:	Introduction to the course, political ecology, sustainability, and each other	
Th 8/25:	Power, nature, difference, and knowledge	Read: Robbins Excerpt 1
Tu 8/30:	Why Political Ecology? History of the field	Read: Robbins Excerpt 2
Th 9/1:	History, cont.	Current events write-up 1
<u>Unit 2: Political ecology of environmental <i>degradation</i> (3 weeks)</u>		
Tu 9/6:	Colonialism and marginalization	Read: Robbins Excerpt 3
Th 9/8:	Colonialism and marginalization, cont.	No assignments
Tu 9/13:	Development	Read: Adger et al.
Th 9/15:	Development, cont.	Academic article write-up 1
Tu 9/20:	Population	Read: Sasser Ch 2, 4
Th 9/22:	Population, cont.	Current events write-up 2
<u>Unit 3: Political ecology of environmental <i>governance</i> (3 weeks)</u>		
Tu 9/27:	Protected areas, violence, and control	Read: Robbins Excerpt 4
Th 9/29:	Protected areas, cont.	No assignments
Tu 10/4:	Sustainable Development	Read: Mansfield; Watch: Suits and Savages (30 min)
Th 10/6:	Sustainable Development, cont.	Academic article write-up 2
Tu 10/11:	Market environmentalism	Read: Dempsey excerpt, Goldstein excerpt
Th 10/13:	NO CLASS, AUTUMN BREAK	
Tu 10/18:	Market environmentalism, cont.	Current events write-up 3
<u>Unit 4: Political ecology of <i>socionatures</i>: chemicals/environmental health (4 weeks)</u>		
Th 10/20:	21st Century Socionatures	Watch: My Louisiana Love (60 min)
Tu 10/25:	Socionatures, cont.	Project topic
Th 10/27:	Chemical geographies / toxic landscapes	Read: Lerner
Tu 11/1:	Governing through risk	Read: Suryanaraynan and Kleinmen, Intro, Ch 4
Th 11/3:	Risk, continued	No assignments
Tu 11/8:	Green consumerism	Read: McKendrick Excerpts
Th 11/10:	Green consumerism, continued	No assignments

Tu 11/15: Contesting toxicity	Project Update
Th 11/17: Contesting toxicity, cont.	Academic article write-up 3
<u>Unit 5: Semester projects (3 weeks)</u>	
Tu 11/22: Research time	Current events write-up 4
Th 11/24: NO CLASS, THANKSGIVING	
Tu 11/29: Catch-up and course conclusions	No assignments
Th 12/1: Project presentations	Visual product
Tu 12/6: Project presentations	Visual product
Finals week	Written product

Inclusion Statements

Disability Services

The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. SLDS contact information: slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307; slds.osu.edu; 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue.

Mental health

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. If you or someone you know are suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Office of Student Life's Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) by visiting ccs.osu.edu or calling 614- 292-5766. CCS is

located on the 4th Floor of the Younkin Success Center and 10th Floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on-call counselor when CCS is closed at 614-292-5766 and 24 hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273- TALK or at suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

[Sexual misconduct/ relationship violence](#)

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories (e.g., race). If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you can find resources at <http://titleix.osu.edu> or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator, Kellie Brennan, at titleix@osu.edu.

[Diversity](#)

The Ohio State University affirms the importance and value of diversity in the student body. Our programs and curricula reflect our multicultural society and global economy and seek to provide opportunities for students to learn more about persons who are different from them. We are committed to maintaining a community that recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among each member of our community; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her own potential. Discrimination against any individual based upon protected status, which is defined as age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, is prohibited.

[Statement on Academic Misconduct](#)

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct <http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/>.

[Full list of readings](#)

[“Current events” articles](#)

These will be from articles in reputable newspapers and magazines, published not earlier than 2 months before they are assigned.

To provide a sense of what these might be, the articles assigned in Autumn 2021 were:

- “The Fisherwomen, Chevron, and the Leaking Pipe” (New York Times, July 25, 2021)
- “Report: Climate change could see 200 million move by 2050” (Associated Press, Sept 13, 2021)
- “The world’s biggest plant to capture CO2 from the air just opened in Iceland” (Washington Post, Sept 8, 2021)

- “Beware: Gaia may destroy humans before we destroy the Earth” (The Guardian, Nov 2, 2021) compared with “Indigenous leaders to push for land tenure rights as climate solution at COP26” (Mongabay, Oct 27, 2021)

“Academic” articles

These will be topical, case-based political ecology articles by geographers published within the last year.

To provide a sense of what these might be, the articles assigned in Autumn 2021 were:

- Thomas, Kimberley Anh. 2020. “The Problem with Solutions: Development Failures in Bangladesh and the Interests They Obscure.” *Annals of the American Association of Geographers* 110 (5): 1631–51.
- Song, Andrew M., Wolfram H. Dressler, Paula Satizábal, and Michael Fabinyi. “From Conversion to Conservation to Carbon: The Changing Policy Discourse on Mangrove Governance and Use in the Philippines.” *Journal of Rural Studies* 82: 184–95.
- Wright, Willie Jamaal. 2020. “The Morphology of Marronage.” *The Annals of the American Association of Geographers* 110: 1134-1149.

General reading assignments

These either provide overview of key concepts or are case studies, mainly drawn from academic books. Number pages assigned from each book or articles is listed.

- Robbins, P. *Political Ecology: A Critical Introduction* (3rd edition) (4 assignments, 10 pages each)
- Adger, W et al. 2001. Advancing a political ecology of global environmental discourses. In *Development and Change* (10 pages)
- Dempsey, Jessica. 2016. *Enterprising Nature: Economics, Markets, and Finance in Global Biodiversity Politics* (9 pages)
- Goldstein, J. 2018. *Planetary Improvement: Cleantech Entrepreneurship and the Contradictions of Green Capitalism* (15 pages)
- Lerner, S. 2021. The department of yes: how pesticide companies corrupted the EPA and poisoned America. In *The Intercept* (15 pages)
- Mansfield B. 2009. Sustainability. In *The Companion to Environmental Geography* (12 pages)
- McKendrick, Norah. 2018. *Better Safe than Sorry: How Consumers Navigate Exposure to Everyday Toxics* (30 pages)
- Sasser, Jade. 2018. *On Infertile Ground: Population Control and Women's Rights in the Era of Climate Change* (29 pages)
- Suryanarayanan, Sainath, and Daniel Kleinman. 2016. *Vanishing Bees: Science, Politics, and Honeybee Health* (31 pages)

GE THEME COURSES

Overview

Courses that are accepted into the General Education (GE) Themes must meet two sets of Expected Learning Outcomes (ELOs): those common for all GE Themes and one set specific to the content of the Theme. This form begins with the criteria common to all themes and has expandable sections relating to each specific theme.

A course may be accepted into more than one Theme if the ELOs for each theme are met. Courses seeing approval for multiple Themes will complete a submission document for each theme. Courses seeking approval as a 4-credit, Integrative Practices course need to complete a similar submission form for the chosen practice. It may be helpful to consult your Director of Undergraduate Studies or appropriate support staff person as you develop and submit your course.

Please enter text in the boxes to describe how your class will meet the ELOs of the Theme to which it applies. Please use language that is clear and concise and that colleagues outside of your discipline will be able to follow. You are encouraged to refer specifically to the syllabus submitted for the course, since the reviewers will also have that document. Because this document will be used in the course review and approval process, you should be as specific as possible, listing concrete activities, specific theories, names of scholars, titles of textbooks etc.

Course subject & number

General Expectations of All Themes

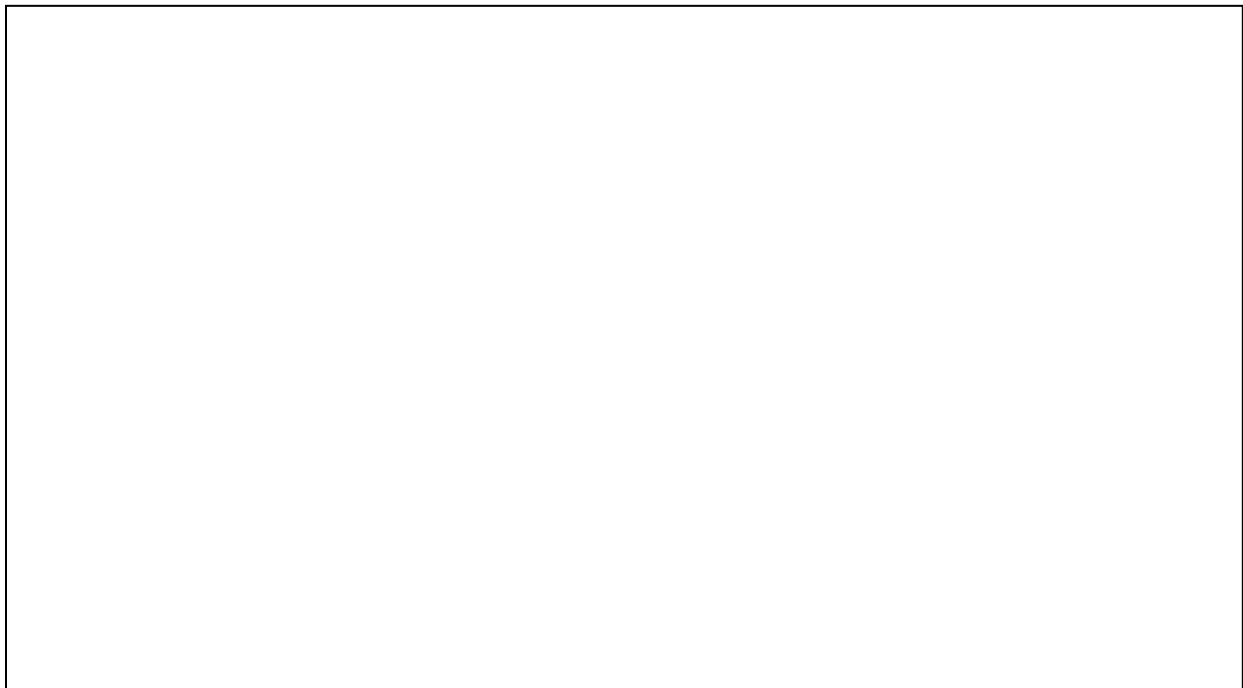
GOAL 1: Successful students will analyze an important topic or idea at a more advanced and in-depth level than the foundations.

Please briefly identify the ways in which this course represents an advanced study of the focal theme. In this context, “advanced” refers to courses that are e.g., synthetic, rely on research or cutting-edge findings, or deeply engage with the subject matter, among other possibilities. *(50-500 words)*

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ELO 1.1 Engage in critical and logical thinking about the topic or idea of the theme. Please link this ELO to the course goals and topics and indicate *specific* activities/assignments through which it will be met. (50-700 words)

ELO 1.2 Engage in an advanced, in-depth, scholarly exploration of the topic or idea of the theme. Please link this ELO to the course goals and topics and indicate *specific* activities/assignments through which it will be met. (50-700 words)

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the student to write their response to the ELOs. It occupies the lower half of the page.

Course subject & number

GOAL 2: Successful students will integrate approaches to the theme by making connections to out-of-classroom experiences with academic knowledge or across disciplines and/or to work they have done in previous classes and that they anticipate doing in future.

ELO 2.1 Identify, describe, and synthesize approaches or experiences as they apply to the theme.

Please link this ELO to the course goals and topics and indicate *specific* activities/assignments through which it will be met. (50-700 words)

ELO 2.2 Demonstrate a developing sense of self as a learner through reflection, self-assessment, and creative work, building on prior experiences to respond to new and challenging contexts.

Please link this ELO to the course goals and topics and indicate *specific* activities/assignments through which it will be met. (50-700 words)

Course subject & number

Specific Expectations of Courses in Sustainability

GOAL 1: Students analyze and explain how social and natural systems function, interact, and evolve over time; how human wellbeing depends on these interactions; how actions have impacts on subsequent generations and societies globally; and how human values, behaviors, and institutions impact multi-faceted, potential solutions across time.

1.1 Describe elements of the fundamental dependence of humans on Earth and environmental systems and on the resilience of these systems. Please link this ELO to the course goals and topics and indicate *specific* activities/assignments through which it will be met. (50-700 words)

Course subject & number

1.2 Describe, analyze and critique the roles and impacts of human activity and technology on both human society and the natural world, in the past, currently, and in the future. Please link this ELO to the course goals and topics and indicate *specific* activities/assignments through which it will be met. (50-700 words)

1.3 Devise informed and meaningful responses to problems and arguments in the area of sustainability based on the interpretation of appropriate evidence and an explicit statement of values. Please link this ELO to the course goals and topics and indicate *specific* activities/assignments through which it will be met. (50-700 words)