

SOCI 360: SOCIOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Winter Term 2, 2014-15

Tuesday & Thursday 11am-12:30am; ANSO 207

Instructor: Georgia Piggot

Office hours: Tuesday 1-2pm; Location TBA

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Course Description: This course will focus on the relationship between human societies and natural resources. Classes will emphasise different theoretical approaches that sociologists have developed to understand the interaction between society and the natural environment, and will apply these theories to contemporary natural resources issues.

Course Schedule & Readings: There is no required textbook for this course. We will read and discuss the articles listed in the syllabus below. Links to electronic copies of these articles will be posted on the course website at: <http://elearning.ubc.ca/connect/>

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
1	Jan 6	Introduction	No required reading
	Jan 8	Society and natural resources	Steffen, W., Persson, Å., Deutsch, L., Zalasiewicz, J., Williams, M., Richardson, K., ... Svedin, U. (2011). The Anthropocene: From global change to planetary stewardship. <i>AMBIO</i> , 40(7), 739-761. Caton W., & Dunlap, R. (1978). Environmental sociology: A new paradigm. <i>The American Sociologist</i> , 13(1), 41-49.
Human Drivers of Resource Use: A Critical Look			
2	Jan 13	Population	De Sherbinin, A., Carr, D., Cassels, S., & Jiang, L. (2007). Population and environment. <i>Annual Review of Environment and Resources</i> , 32, 345-373. Bell, M. (2011). Population and development. Pages 95-122 in M. Bell, <i>An Invitation to Environmental Sociology (4th Edition)</i> . Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
	Jan 15	Development	McClaren, D. (2003). Environmental space, equity and the ecological debt. Pages 19-37 in J. Agyeman, R.D. Bullard, and B. Evans (Eds.), <i>Just Sustainabilities: Development in an Unequal World</i> . Cambridge, MA: MIT Press Dietz, T., & Jorgenson, A. K. (2014). Towards a new view of sustainable development: human well-being and environmental stress. <i>Environmental Research Letters</i> , 9(3), 031001.
3	Jan 20	Consumption	Shove, E. & Warde, A. (2002). Inconspicuous consumption: The sociology of consumption, lifestyles, and the environment. Pages 230-251 in R. Dunlap et al. (Eds.), <i>Sociological Theory and the Environment</i> . Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield. <i>Please calculate your environmental footprint prior to class at www.myfootprint.org (Note for the calculation: BC Hydro produces 88% of its electricity from renewable sources)</i>

	Jan 22	Management	Hardin, G. (1968). The tragedy of the commons. <i>Science</i> , 162,1243-1248. Dietz, T., Ostrom, E., & Stern, P. (2003). The struggle to govern the commons. <i>Science</i> , 302, 1907-1912.
<i>Sociological Perspectives on Natural Resources</i>			
4	Jan 27	Social construction of nature	Hannigan, J. (2006). Social construction of environmental issues and problems. Pages 63-78 in J. Hannigan, <i>Environmental Sociology (2nd Edition)</i> . New York, NY: Routledge. Greider, T., & Garkovich, L. (1994). Landscapes: The social construction of nature and the environment. <i>Rural Sociology</i> , 59, 1-24.
	Jan 29	Metabolic rift	Foster, J.B. (1999). Marx's theory of the metabolic rift: Classical foundation for environmental sociology. <i>American Journal of Sociology</i> , 105, 366-405. Magdoff, F. (2011). Ecological civilization. <i>Monthly Review</i> , 62(8), 1-25. ASSIGNMENT 1 (POLICY BRIEF) DUE 4PM
5	Feb 3	Treadmill of production	Gould, K., Pellow, D., & Schnaiberg, A. (2004). Interrogating the treadmill of production: Everything you wanted to know about the treadmill but were afraid to ask. <i>Organization & Environment</i> , 17(3), 296-316.
	Feb 5	Ecological modernisation	Young, S. (2000). Introduction: The origins and evolving nature of ecological modernization. Pages 1-40 in S. Young (Ed.), <i>The Emergence of Ecological Modernisation: Integrating the Environment and the Economy?</i> New York, NY: Routledge.
6	Feb 10	Risk	Perrow, C. (2011). Introduction. Pages 3-14 in C. Perrow, <i>Normal Accidents: Living with High Risk Technologies</i> . Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. Beck, U. (1992). From industrial society to the risk society: Questions of survival, social structure and ecological enlightenment. <i>Theory, Culture and Society</i> , 9, 97-123.
	Feb 12	Mid-term exam	No required reading
<i>Feb 16-20: Reading Break</i>			
7	Feb 24	World systems & Ecologically unequal exchange	Rice, J. (2007). Ecological unequal exchange: Consumption, equity, and unsustainable structural relationships within the global economy. <i>International Journal of Comparative Sociology</i> , 48(1), 43-72.
	Feb 26	Environmental justice	Mohai, P., Pellow, D., & Roberts, J. T. (2009). Environmental justice. <i>Annual Review of Environment and Resources</i> , 34, 405-430.
8	Mar 3	Resource dependence	Stedman, R. C., Parkins, J. R., & Beckley, T. M. (2004). Resource dependence and community well-being in rural Canada. <i>Rural Sociology</i> , 69(2), 213-234.
	Mar 5	Gender & Eco-feminism	Banerjee, D., & Bell, M. M. (2007). Ecogender: Locating gender in environmental social science. <i>Society & Natural Resources</i> , 20(1), 3-19. Arora-Jonsson, S. (2011). Virtue and vulnerability: Discourses on women, gender and climate change. <i>Global Environmental Change</i> , 21(2), 744-751.

9	Mar 10	Values & Ideologies	Dietz, T., Fitzgerald, A., & Shwom, R. (2005). Environmental values. <i>Annual Review of Environment and Resources</i> , 30(1), 335–372. Hulme, M. (2009). The things we believe. Pages 142-177 in M. Hulme, <i>Why We Disagree About Climate Change</i> . Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.
	Mar 12	Attitudes & Behaviours	Kollmuss, A., & Agyeman, J. (2002). Mind the Gap: Why do people act environmentally and what are the barriers to pro-environmental behavior? <i>Environmental Education Research</i> , 8(3), 239–260.
10	Mar 17	Environmental movements	Rootes, C., & Brulle, B. (2013). Environmental movements. In D. Snow, D. Della Porta, B. Klandermans, & D. McAdam, <i>Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Social and Political Movements</i> . New York, NY: John Wiley and Sons Ltd.
	Applications: Major Natural Resource Issues		
	Mar 19	Climate & Energy	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2014). <i>Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) –Synthesis Report Summary For Policy-Makers</i> . *Will be available online in October at: http://www.ipcc-syr.nl/ McKibben, B. (2012). Global warming's terrifying new math. <i>Rolling Stone</i> , July 19, 2012. ASSIGNMENT 2 (ESSAY) DUE 4PM
11	Mar 24	Water	Hoekstra, A. Y., & Mekonnen, M. M. (2012). The water footprint of humanity. <i>Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America</i> , 109(9), 3232–3237.
	Mar 26	Soils & Food	Godfray, H. C. J., Beddington, J. R., Crute, I. R., Haddad, L., Lawrence, D., Muir, J. F., ... Toulmin, C. (2010). Food security: The challenge of feeding 9 billion people. <i>Science</i> , 327(5967), 812–818. Wittman, H. (2011). Food sovereignty: A new rights framework for food and nature? <i>Environment and Society: Advances in Research</i> , 2, 87-105.
12	Mar 31	Waste & Pollution	Hird, M.J. (2013). Waste, landfills, and an environmental ethics of vulnerability. <i>Ethics and the Environment</i> , 18, 105-124.
	Apr 2	Biodiversity & Forests	Díaz, S., Fargione, J., Chapin III, F. S., & Tilman, D. (2006). Biodiversity loss threatens human well-being. <i>PLoS Biology</i> , 4(8), 1300-1305. Hagerman, S. H., Dowlatabadi, H., & Satterfield, T. (2010). Observations on drivers and dynamics of environmental policy change: Insights from 150 years of forest management in British Columbia. <i>Ecology and Society</i> , 15(1), 2.
13	Apr 7	Oceans & Fisheries	Young, N., & Matthews, R. (2011). Introduction. Pages 1-17 in N. Young & R. Matthews, <i>The Aquaculture Controversy in Canada: Activism, Policy, and Contested Science</i> . Vancouver, BC: UBC Press. Poe, M. R., Norman, K. C., & Levin, P. S. (2014). Cultural dimensions of socioecological systems: Key connections and guiding principles for conservation in coastal environments. <i>Conservation Letters</i> , 7(3), 166–175.
	Apr 9	Review	No required reading
<i>April 14-29: Final Exam Period</i>			

Course Assessment: Assessment for this course will consist of two assignments, an in-class midterm, and a final exam:

Assignment 1: Policy brief	(10%)	Due 4pm Thursday January 29
Mid-term exam	(25%)	In-class Thursday February 12
Assignment 2: Essay	(25%)	Due 4pm Thursday March 19
Final Exam	(40%)	Date TBA (Final Exam Period: April 14-29)

Assignments: The first assignment will be a short policy brief (2 pages) describing a driver of natural resource consumption. The second assignment will be an essay (6-8 pages) that applies sociological theories to a natural resource issue of your choice. Assignment instructions will be posted on the course website.

Assignments must be submitted to www.turnitin.com by 4pm on the due date. Instructions and passwords for submitting assignments will be posted on the course website. Failure to submit an assignment by the due date will result in a grade of 0 (zero) for the assignment. Extensions will only be granted for medical and other excused absences (documentation will be required).

Exams: The mid-term exam will be a one-hour in-class exam, and will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. This exam will cover material from the first six weeks of the course.

The final exam will be a two-hour exam, and will consist of multiple choice, short answer and long answer questions. This exam will cover material from the entire course.

You will receive a grade of 0 (zero) on a missed exam unless you have an excused absence (documentation will be required). If you miss the mid-term exam, please contact me as soon as possible to arrange a make-up exam. If you miss the final exam, contact the appropriate administrative officer in your faculty. Further details on UBC exam policies can be found at: www.students.ubc.ca/enrolment/courses-registration/exams

Grading Guidelines: (see www.students.ubc.ca/enrolment/grades)

90-100% = A+	76-79% = B+	64-67% = C+	50-54% = D
85-89% = A	72-75% = B	60-63% = C	00-49% = F
80-84% = A-	68-71% = B-	55-59% = C-	

Faculties, departments and schools reserve the right to scale grades in order to maintain equity among sections and conformity to University, faculty, department, or school norms. Students should therefore note that an unofficial grade given by an instructor might be changed by the faculty, department or school. Grades are not official until they appear on a student's academic record.

Academic Integrity: Students are expected to exhibit academic honesty in every class at UBC. Students should be familiar with the "Academic regulations" section of the UBC Calendar for university policy on cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic misconduct: www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,54,111,959