

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Geography 339/IES 339

Fall, 2009

(Syllabus for the SECOND HALF of course)

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Course Description. The second half of the course is concerned with environmental issues in developing countries. Different perspectives on the nature of environmental change (magnitude and causes) and the politics of conservation solutions will be themes emphasized across a number of different biogeographic, historical, and socioeconomic contexts. Course webpage can be accessed through the Academics tab on your “My UW” account.

Readings. Required (REQ) readings for the second half of the course will come from assigned readings found within a course reader (one copy will be on reserve in Geography Library). The reader can be obtained at the Humanities Copy Shop (1650 Humanities Building). Recommended (RCM) readings will be placed on reserve in the Geography Library (required and recommended readings are also available through web page in digital form). You are expected to complete assigned readings before your discussion section each week. While reading, focus on the author’s main arguments and the evidence s/he uses to support his/her arguments. Environmental issues are often controversial, so read critically! You will be tested on the material covered in readings and lectures in the exam. Readers will be available by October 21. Assigned readings may be changed before that date without increasing the overall volume.

Grading. Grades for the second half of the course will be determined on the basis of the two exams (50 points each), and discussion section activities (75 points). Attendance is mandatory at discussion sections. Readings will be discussed and you will also be assigned written work.

COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS

Week 10 North-south linkages: The case of global warming (26 October)

- REQ Pacala, S. 2004. Stabilization wedges: Solving the climate problem for the next 50 years with current technologies. *Science* 305:968-972.
- REQ Baer, P. *et al.* 2000. Equity and greenhouse gas responsibility. *Science* 289:2287.
- REQ Putz, F.E., & Redford, K.H. 2009. Dangers of carbon-based conservation. *Global Environmental Change*, doi:10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2009.07.005.
- REQ Wysham, D. 2008. The waste-pickers of Delhi.
<http://www.motherjones.com/news/outfront/2008/07/outfront-wasted-potential.html> (accessed on August 24, 2008).
- RCM Paul, H. 2009. Biofuels 2.0. *The Ecologist*, 39, 14-21.
- RCM Agarwal and Narain. 1991. Global warming in an unequal world. *Earth Island Journal* Spg: 39-40.
- RCM Juniper, T. 2004. Presentation to the World Trade Organization Symposium. pgs 190-199 In *Green Planet Blues: Environmental Politics from Stockholm to Johannesburg*. K. Conca and G. D. Dabelko. Boulder, Colorado, Westview Press.

- RCM Burger, N., Ecola, L., Light, T., & Toman, M. (2009) In search of effective and viable policies to reduce greenhouse gases. *Environment*, 51.
- RCM Gardner, G.T., & Stern, P.C. (2008) The short list: The most effective actions U.S. households can take to curb climate change. *Environment* 50.

Week 11: Environmental ethics, population, ecological footprint, and assorted tragedies
(2 November)

- REQ Ehrlich and Ehrlich. 1990. Why isn't everyone as scared as we are? pgs 13-23 In *The Population Explosion*. New York: Simon and Schuster.
- REQ Lambin, E., 2007. The mechanisms for environmental degradation. pgs 49-77 in *The Middle Path: Avoiding Environmental Catastrophe*. University of Chicago Press, Chicago.
- REQ Guha, R. 2000. The southern challenge. Pgs 98-108 In *Environmentalism: A Global History*. Oxford, Oxford University Press.
- RCM Lambin, E., 2007. The acceleration of planetary change. pgs 11-28. In *The Middle Path: Avoiding Environmental Catastrophe*. University of Chicago Press, Chicago.
- RCM Ostrom *et al.* 1999. Revisiting the commons. *Science* 284: 278-282.

Week 12 Changing goals, threats, actors and approaches in international conservation
(9 November)

- REQ Guha, R. 2000. The southern challenge. Pgs 108-124 In *Environmentalism: A Global History*. Oxford, Oxford University Press.
- REQ Adams, W.M. 1995. Sustainable development? pgs 354-373 In *Geographies of Global Change*, edited by R. J. Johnston, P. J. Taylor and M. J. Watts. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers.
- REQ Western and Wright. 1994. The background to community-based conservation. pgs 1-11 In *Natural Connections*. Washington, D.C.: Island Press.
- RCM Kareiva, P. and M. Marvier 2003. Conserving biodiversity coldspots. *American Scientist* 91: 344-351.
- RCM Zimmerer, K. S., R. E. Galt and M. V. Buck 2004. Globalization and the multi-spatial trends in the coverage of protected-area conservation (1980-2000). *Ambio* 33(8): 520-529.

Monday, November 16: EXAM 3

Week 13 Tropical forest ecology and human impacts
(16 November)

- REQ Vandermeer, J., I. Perfecto and V. Shiva. 2005. Chapters 2-3, pgs 16-49 In *Breakfast of Biodiversity: The Political Ecology of Rain Forest Destruction*
- REQ Rice, R., R. Gullison and J.W. Reid. 1997. Can Sustainable Management Save Tropical Forests? *Scientific American* 276(4): 44-49.
- RCM Vandermeer, J., I. Perfecto and V. Shiva. 2005. Chapter 6, pgs 81-92 In *Breakfast of Biodiversity: The Political Ecology of Rain Forest Destruction*.
- RCM Cochrane, M.A., & Laurance, W.F. 2008 Synergisms among fire, land use and climate change in the Amazon. *Ambio* 37: 522-527.

Week 14 Conservation and development in the humid tropics
(23 November)

- REQ Redford, K. 1990. The ecologically noble savage. *Orion Nature Quarterly* 9:25-29.
- REQ Gomez-Pompa and Kaus. 1992. Taming the wilderness myth. *Bioscience* 42 (4):271-279.
- REQ Schwartzman, S. et al. 2000. Rethinking Tropical Forest Conservation: Perils in Parks. *Conservation Biology* 14: 1351-57.

- RCM Colchester, M. 2000. Self-determination or environmental determinism for indigenous peoples in tropical forest conservation. *Conservation Biology* 14(5): 1365-1367.
- RCM Hecht, S. 1993. The logic of livestock and deforestation in Amazonia, *BioScience*. 43 (10): 687-695.

Week 15 Desertification and scientific uncertainty
(30 November)

- REQ Jasanoff, S. 2004. Skinning scientific cats. pgs 179-182 In *Green Planet Blues: Environmental Politics from Stockholm to Johannesburg*. K. Conca and G. D. Dabelko. Boulder, Colorado, Westview Press.
- REQ Reynolds, J. F. and D. M. Stafford Smith 2002. Pgs 1-21 In Do humans cause deserts? *Global Desertification: Do Humans cause Deserts?* J. F. Reynolds and D. M. Stafford Smith. Berlin, Dahlem University Press.
- REQ Botkin, D.B. 1990. Why the elephants died pgs 15-25 In *Discordant Harmonies*. Oxford University Press.
- RCM Adams, W. M. 2003. Environment, degradation, and sustainability. pgs 175-214 In *Green Development: Environment and Sustainability in the Third World*. London, Routledge.
- RCM Franke and Chasin. 1981. Peasants, peanuts, profits, and pastoralists. *The Ecologist* 11:156-167
- RCM Grainger, A. 1990. Causes of desertification. pgs 65-106 In *The Threatening Desert*. Earthscan

Week 16 Sustainable development revisited: Local institutions, poverty and resource management (7 December)

- REQ Mwangi, E., & Ostrom, E. 2009. Top-down solutions: Looking up from East Africa's rangelands. *Environment*, 51.
- REQ Lohmann, L. (2004). Whose common future? *Green Planet Blues: Environmental Politics from Stockholm to Johannesburg*. K. Conca and G. D. Dabelko. Boulder, Colorado, Westview Press: 246-251.
- RCM Brosius, J. P., A. L. Tsing and C. Zerner 1998. Representing communities: histories and politics of community-based natural resource management. *Society and Natural Resources* 11(2): 157-168.
- RCM Baker, R. 1984. Protecting the environment against the poor. *The Ecologist* 14: 53-60.

Monday, December 14: EXAM 4