

RSOC 6650

SOCIOLOGY OF NATURAL RESOURCES & THE ENVIRONMENT

Mondays, 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Summer 2005 (23 May – 2 August)

Course objectives: Based on a preliminary planning meeting, there was a consensus that we would spend the first few weeks critically examining the emergency and diversity of environmental concerns in the United States, and that by the second week of the summer term we would flesh out the remaining objectives. Among options to be considered are the role of science and bureaucratic power in natural resource management, and how natural resource and environmental issues are played out in non-industrialized nations. Two models for the final 5 weeks are presented on the final pages of this “syllabus version 1.0.” Once decisions are made, a revised course syllabus will be prepared.

INSTRUCTOR:

Dr. Conner Bailey
cbailey@ag.auburn.edu

313A Comer Hall

<http://www.ag.auburn.edu/~cbailey/>

844-5632

OFFICE HOURS:

By appointment or chance. Normally in office Monday-Friday by 8:00 a.m. Drop-ins welcome, but I recommend setting an appointment in advance. This especially important as I currently serve as Chair of the University Senate and spend approximately 20 hours a week in meetings unrelated to my teaching and research responsibilities.

TEXTS:

Gottlieb, Robert. 1993. *Forcing the Spring: The Transformation of the American Environmental Movement*. Washington, D.C.: Island Press. Paper.

Other text books may be assigned. No text book orders have been placed at any local book store. We can place an order as a group or let each individual purchase books on-line.

SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS:

Additional readings will be available either through EReserve (password: bailey), through photocopies made available in advance, or through the RBD library web-based databases. Readings from the journal *Society & Natural Resources*, for example, can be accessed through the *Find Articles and Databases* under EBSCO Academic Search Elite. Click on Title List, browse for *Society and Natural Resources*, click on year, volume, and number and locate the assigned reading. You will need Adobe Reader to access.

EXAMINATIONS:

At our preliminary planning meeting, it was decided that there would be at least one take-home essay exam. This will take the form of two essays written in response to three questions. As a general guideline, essays written by graduate students should require 1000-1200 words. These are to be typed and double-spaced, leaving ample margins for comments.

The question of additional essay exams is left open at this point, depending on how the course is to be structured after the initial course objective is reached.

RESEARCH PAPER:

Each student enrolled in this course is expected to prepare and present a solid research paper. Presentations will be limited to 15 minutes, which is a standard length for a presentation at an academic conference. Each presentation will be followed by a critique (constructive, please) identifying both strengths of the presentation (style, content) as well as areas where improvement can be made.

The topic is your choice; the only requirement I have is that it be related to the sociology of natural resources and the environment. I would expect a solid research paper would be in the 5000-8000 word range. Please use 1.5 or double spacing and allow adequate margins to write comments upon.

I ask that you submit a brief abstract of their proposed research along with a preliminary set of references no later than the 4th week of summer term (June 20th). You are strongly encouraged to set a time in advance of that date to discuss your topic with me. This preliminary material will not be graded. The purpose of developing a preliminary abstract is to make sure the research paper is developing in the right direction and not left to the last minute.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: The student academic honesty code of Auburn University will be enforced. This code is spelled out in the current issue of the Tiger Cub. Students are encouraged to share notes, insights and ideas while preparing to write their own essay exam answers. However, each student is required to write exams on their own.

I have zero tolerance for plagiarism on your research paper or your exam. If you have any question about what constitutes plagiarism, please come see me.

EVALUATION: Each take-home essay exam will be worth 100 points. The number of these exams remains to be determined. The research paper will be worth 200 points. An additional 10% of total points possible for written work can be earned on the basis of class participation. Criteria used in determining points for class participation include: (1) regular attendance; (2) active participation in discussions of assigned readings, including evidence of having read and understood these materials; and (3) creative contribution germane to class discussions which reflect ability to integrate assigned and outside readings, material raised in class discussions, as well as personal experience, (4) how prepared you are to lead seminar discussions when it is your turn to do so, and (5) how effective you were in presenting your research paper.

GRADING Course grades will be assigned as a percentage of total course points, where:

- A = 90% and above
- B = 80 to 89.9%
- C = 70 to 79.9%
- D = 60 to 69.9%
- F = 59.9% and below.

DISABILITIES: I will make every possible effort, in cooperation with the Program for Students With Disabilities, to provide students with disabilities an equal opportunity to pursue their education. I request that any student with a documented disability let me know what arrangements will best serve their needs as soon as possible.

READING ASSIGNMENTS
To be completed by date indicated

May 30

SOCIAL MEANINGS, ACADEMIC BOUNDARIES, AND EMOTIONS

- Schnaiberg, Alan. 1980. AThe Social Meaning of Environmental Problems.@ Pp. 9-57 in *The Environment: From Surplus to Scarcity*. New York: Oxford University Press. (Photocopy)
- Buttel, Frederick H. 1996. AEnvironmental and Resource Sociology: Theoretical Issues and Opportunities for Synthesis. *Rural Sociology* 61(1):56-76. (Photocopy)
- Buttel, Frederick H. 2002. AEnvironmental Sociology and the Sociology of Natural Resources: Institutional Histories and Intellectual Legacies. *Society and Natural Resources* 15(3):205-211. (RBD databases)
- Belsky, Jill M. 2002. ABeyond the Natural Resource and Environmental Sociology Divide: Insights from a Transdisciplinary Perspective.@ *Society and Natural Resources* 15(3):269-280. (RBD databases)
- Vining, Joanne and Herbert W. Schroeder. 1987. Emotions in Environmental Decision Making: Rational Planning Versus the Passionate Public. Pp. 181-192 in M. Miller, R. Gale, and P. Brown (eds.), *Social Science in Natural Resource Management Systems*. Boulder: Westview Press. (EReserve: Vining)

June 6

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES

- Gottlieb, *Forcing the Spring*
Chapter 1: Resources and Recreation: The Limits of the Traditional Debate (pp. 15-46)
Chapter 2: Urban and Industrial Roots: Seeking to Reform the System (pp. 47-80)
Chapter 3: The Sixties Rebellion: The Search for a New Politics (pp. 81-114)
Chapter 8: A Question of Class: The Workplace Experience (pp. 270-306)

June 13

MAINSTREAM AND GRASSROOTS

- Gottlieb, *Forcing the Spring*
Chapter 4: Professionalization and Institutionalization: The Mainstream Groups (pp. 117-161)
- Schlosberg, David and John S. Dryzek. 2002. Political Strategies of American Environmentalism: Inclusion and Beyond. *Society and Natural Resources* 15(9):787-804. (RBD databases)
- Alley, Kelly D., Charles E. Faupel, and Conner Bailey. 1995. The Historical Transformation of a Grassroots Environmental Group. *Human Organization* 54(4):410-416. (photocopy)
- Gottlieb, *Forcing the Spring*
Chapter 7: Ethnicity as a Factor: The Quest for Environmental Justice (pp. 235-269)
- Bailey, Conner, Charles E. Faupel, and James H. Gundlach. 1993. Environmental Politics in Alabama=s Blackbelt. Pp. 107-122 in Robert Bullard (ed.), *Confronting Environmental Racism: Voices from the Grassroots*. Boston: South End Press. (Photocopy)

Gottlieb, *Forcing the Spring*

Chapter 6: Gender and Place: Women and Environmentalism (pp. 207-234)

Krauss, Celene. 1994. "Women of Color on the Front Line." Pp. 256-271 in Robert Bullard (ed.), *Unequal Protection: Environmental Justice and Communities of Color*. San Francisco: Sierra Club Books. (EReserve: Krauss)

Grassroots Clearinghouse. www.ag.auburn.edu/grassroots (Web-based directory of community groups in Alabama focused on natural resource and environmental issues. Included here as a general resource and for your information.)

June 20

CHALLENGES TO THE MAINSTREAM MOVEMENT

Gottlieb, *Forcing the Spring*

Chapter 5: Grassroots and Direct Action: Alternative Movements (pp. 162-204)

Scarce, Rik. 1990. *Eco-Warriors: Understanding the Radical Environmental Movement*. Chicago: Noble Press.

Chapter 1: Gandhi Meets the Luddites (pp. 1-14) (EReserve: Scarce 1)

Chapter 2: A Question of Compromise (pp. 15-29) (EReserve Scarce 2)

Taylor, Bron. 1998. Religion, Violence and Radical Environmentalism: From Earth First! To the Unabomber to the Earth Liberation Front. *Terrorism & Political Violence* 10(4):1-42. (Available through AU libraries in .pdf format; search EBSCO databases.)

Service, Robert. 2001. Arson Strikes Research Labs and Tree Farm in Pacific Northwest. *Science* 2001. (Photocopy).

June 27

MORE CHALLENGES: DEEP ECOLOGY AND ECOFEMINISM

Sessions, George. 1995. Preface. Pp. ix-xxii in *Deep Ecology for the Twenty-First Century*. Boston & London: Shambhala. (Photocopy)

Naess, Arne. 1995. The Deep Ecological Movement; Some Philosophical Aspects. Pp. 65-84 in George Sessions (ed.), *Deep Ecology for the Twenty-First Century*. Boston & London: Shambhala. (Photocopy)

Birkeland, Janis. 1993. Ecofeminism: Linking Theory and Practice. Pp. 13-59 in Greta Gaard (ed.) *Ecofeminism: Women, Animals, Nature*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press. (EReserve: Birkeland)

Fox, Warwick. 1995. The Deep Ecology-Ecofeminism Debate and its Parallels. Pp. 269-289 in George Sessions (ed.), *Deep Ecology for the Twenty-First Century*. Boston & London: Shambhala. (Photocopy)

TAKE-HOME EXAM DISTRIBUTED MONDAY, JUNE 27TH
TAKE-HOME EXAM DUE FRIDAY, JULY 1ST

FROM THIS POINT FORWARD, THE DESIGN OF THE COURSE IS OPEN. BUT FOR PURPOSES OF OPENING THE DISCUSSION, HERE ARE 2 OPTIONS TO CONSIDER

OPTION 1

July 4

RESOURCES, RESOURCE DEPENDENCY, AND POVERTY

Rural Sociological Society. 1993. Theories in the Study of Natural Resource-Dependent Communities and Persistent Rural Poverty in the United States. Pp. 136-172, in Task Force on Persistent Rural Poverty, Rural Sociological Society, *Persistent Poverty in Rural America*. Boulder: Westview. (EReserve: RSS, parts 1, 2 & 3)

Peluso, Nancy, Craig Humphrey, and Louise Fortmann. 1994. The Rock, the Beach, and the Tidal Pool: People and Poverty in Natural Resource-Dependent Areas. *Society and Natural Resources* 7:23-38. (Photocopy)

Freudenburg, William R. 1992. Addictive Economies: Extractive Industries and Vulnerable Localities in a Changing World Economy. *Rural Sociology* 57(3):305-332. (Photocopy)

West, Patrick. 1994. Natural Resources and the Persistence of Rural Poverty in America: A Weberian Perspective on the Role of Power, Domination, and Natural Resource Dependency. *Society and Natural Resources* 7:415-427. (Photocopy)

July 11

ADDRESSING THE TRAGEDY OF THE COMMONS

Hardin, Garrett. 1968. The Tragedy of the Commons. *Science* 162:1243-1248 (Photocopy)

Dietz, Thomas, Elinor Ostrom, and Paul Stern. 2003. The Struggle to Govern the Commons. *Science* 302:1907-1912. (Photocopy)

Berkes, Fikret. 1985. Fishermen and >The Tragedy of the Commons.=
Environmental Conservation 12(3):199-206. (Photocopy)

Holling, C.S., Fikret Berkes, and Carl Folke. 1998. Science, Sustainability, and Resource Management. Pp. 342-362 in Fikret Birkes, Carl Folke, and Johan Colding (Eds.), *Linking Social and Ecological Systems; Management Practices for Building Resilience*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (Photocopy)

Jentoft, Svein, Bonnie .J. McCay, and Douglas Wilson. 1998. Social Theory and Fisheries Co-Management. *Marine Policy* 22(4-5):423-36. (Photocopy)

July 18

SCIENCE AND BUREAUCRACY, POWER AND UNCERTAINTY

Finlayson, *Fishing for Truth*

Chapter 1: Introduction (pp. 1-10)

Chapter 2: Theoretical Perspective (pp. 11-18)

Chapter 3: The Role of Science (pp. 19-32)

Chapter 4: Error, Uncertainty and Interpretive Flexibility (pp. 33-80)

Chapter 5: Irrational Dynamics in a Rational Context (pp. 81-100)

Chapter 6: Is There a Place for Fishermen in Fisheries Science? (Pp. 101-127)

Chapter 7: The Macro-Construction of Micro-Reality (pp. 128-149)

July 25

August 2

OPTION 2

PRESENTATIONS OF RESEARCH PAPERS & DISTRIBUTION OF FINAL ESSAY EXAM
COURSE WRAP-UP

July 4

RESOURCES, RESOURCE DEPENDENCY, AND POVERTY

Rural Sociological Society. 1993. Theories in the Study of Natural Resource-Dependent Communities and Persistent Rural Poverty in the United States. Pp. 136-172, in Task

Force on Persistent Rural Poverty, Rural Sociological Society, *Persistent Poverty in Rural America*. Boulder: Westview. (EReserve: RSS, parts 1, 2 & 3)

Peluso, Nancy, Craig Humphrey, and Louise Fortmann. 1994. The Rock, the Beach, and the Tidal Pool: People and Poverty in Natural Resource-Dependent Areas. *Society and Natural Resources* 7:23-38. (Photocopy)

Freudenburg, William R. 1992. Addictive Economies: Extractive Industries and Vulnerable Localities in a Changing World Economy. *Rural Sociology* 57(3):305-332. (Photocopy)

West, Patrick. 1994. Natural Resources and the Persistence of Rural Poverty in America: A Weberian Perspective on the Role of Power, Domination, and Natural Resource Dependency. *Society and Natural Resources* 7:415-427. (Photocopy)

July 11

POLITICAL ECOLOGY: CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK AND KEY ACTORS

Bryant and Bailey, *Third World Political Ecology*

Introduction (pp. 1-9)

Chapter 1: An Emerging Research Field (pp. 10-26)

Chapter 2: A Politicised Environment (pp. 27-47)

Chapter 3: The State (pp. 48-75)

Chapter 4: Multilateral Institutions (pp. 76-102)

Chapter 5: Business (pp. 103-129)

July 18

POLITICAL ECOLOGY: VOICES OF DISSENT

Bryant and Bailey, *Third World Political Ecology*

Chapter 6: Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations (pp. 130-157)

Chapter 7: Grassroots Actors (pp. 158-187)

Stonich, Susan and Conner Bailey. 2000. AResisting the Blue Revolution: Contending Coalitions Surrounding Industrial Shrimp Farming. @ *Human Organization* 59(1):23-36. (Photocopy)

Bryant, Raymond L. 2002. False Prophets? Mutant NGOs and Philippine Environmentalism. *Society and Natural Resources* 15(7):629-639. (RBD databases)

July 25

EXAM

August 2

PRESENTATIONS OF RESEARCH PAPERS & DISTRIBUTION OF FINAL ESSAY

COURSE WRAP-UP

MATTERS IN COMMON:

ESSAY EXAMS DUE FRIDAY, JULY 29TH

RESEARCH PAPERS DUE MONDAY, AUGUST 2ND