Environmental Politics

PUP 3203
Summer 2012 D Term
Instructor: Peter Jacques

THIS IS A SERVICE LEARNING CLASS

Contacting the Professor		Contacting the Class	
Office Hrs:	Wed 8-10am	**Class E-mail:**	**Coursemail Only** for regular issues; use my office email for urgent messages only.
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CAVEAT DISCIPULI ---- Read the whole syllabus before you ask any questions. Further, the Course Protocols in webcourses are part of this syllabus, and they contain my rules for the courses, e.g., when I round up to a higher final semester grade.

Also, know that this is a condensed course, and even in the normal semester it is intense, so if you see the work schedule and don't think you can do it (e.g., maybe you work full –time?), take another semester, and avoid the stress.

Course Description
In this class we will survey several topics in (mostly U.S.) environmental politics and policy. This includes social concepts of nature, ideas and influences regarding nature, environmental political economy, and a survey of some specific environmental concerns such as pollution, resource extraction, environmental justice and sustainability. We will discuss environmental and anti-environmental movements and ideologies in addition to the role of government, civil society, and political economy in relation to human ecology (which is how human groups and society relates to nature and other groups).

Course Objectives:
In this course you will do more than learn material, though there is lot to learn! The course objectives here work on several levels.

Broader objectives: To hone the skills of clear and effective writing, and foster critical thinking.

Academic: Students will come to understand a broad history of U.S. environmentalism, anti-environmentalism, and thinking. Students will learn about environmental ethics and policy, common pool and collective action problems in the environment, environmental justice, and the general institutional environment within which environmental policies are made (or ignored).

Civic: Students will evaluate, synthesize and apply models of civic theory to environmental problems. We will confront and interrogate what it means to be a citizen of a community, and how ecology interacts with our expectations of civic responsibility.

Personal: In addition to learning, students of this course will reflect upon the notion of service, and consider their own expectations for environmental citizenship in a changing Earth system. Students will devote time and energy with others working on environmental challenges to think about what kind of life they want to live.

Required Texts

Textbooks

- *Environmental Policy Paradox*, 6th edition by Zachary Smith, Prentice Hall.--- **(referred to as EPP here).**
- *The Environmental Case*, **2ND** edition by Judith Layzer, CQ Press—**(referred to as TEC).** Note there is a 3rd edition that has needlessly been written, in my view, so I am sticking with the 2nd which works very well. If you want to purchase the more expensive new version, it will still work, but the chapters assigned here are based on the older version.

Additional Required Material

- *The Monkeywrench Gang*, Edward Abbey
- *New York Times* every day **(NYT) You may get this FREE (YES FREE) at almost any library. OR, pay for student home delivery call** *NYT at 1-800 NYTIMES.* Make sure you say you want a student subscription, they are cheaper.
- *Fish Game-- $0.99 Fee to play the game.* http://es.earthednet.org/catalog/31

Grade Categories	Description of the requirements	Weight toward final grade (1000pnts)
Peer Review Essays	8 informal essays and reviews of other student's essays (25 points each)	200
Portfolio	4 projects with revision in one Final Portfolio	400

4 Exams	Based on readings and modules, 100 points each	400

Learning Modules:
Within the course are detailed modules that replace my lectures from a face-to-face course, and will require time for you to go through them as if you were sitting in lecture. I have loaded in a lot of videos, etc...—these links are not necessary for you to follow, unless they are in the syllabus. Otherwise links within the modules are there for the curious of mind only.

Exams
Exams will open at the end of each session (there are 4 primary modules): Environmentalism, The Commons, Environmental Justice, and Environmental Policy Regulatory Framework. The exams will cover reading and module content, and will be 50 questions each, with 75 minutes to take the exam. Save your answers as you go to minimize computer problems! The last exam – on the Environmental Policy Regulatory Framework will be during finals week, and will be your final exam, but will not be cumulative. It will be just like every other exam. You may take exams as often as you wish, but only the first attempt will count for your grade.

Peer-review essays.
You will write 2 informal essays per module, and then you will read other student's essays and provide them with feedback, guided by questions in the assignment directions. These essays are meant to engage you with the concepts, prepare for the larger essays, and do well on the exams; and, these essays will help you think about things differently as you work with other people's ideas.

Portfolio Drafts and Final

Each assignment will build into a larger portfolio that will accumulate into a body of environmental work you will do. You will submit the first three of these works as drafts, and you will receive feedback from us, with the expectation that you will revisit, re-think, and revise your work for the final portfolio grade which also includes your service learning field report. The assignments begin with smaller points at stake and end with a lot more, to acknowledge that both learning and writing is a process that takes practice.

- Save the Peaks Analysis: 50 points total
- Fish Game Response: 75 Points total
  The fish game can be accessed here:http://es.earthednet.org/fg-playgame
  Activation Code for this class: YH31-403A-CD1G-RWNV
- Monkey Wrench Gang Book Review: 100 points total
- Service Learning Project and 20 hours of service work in the community: 100 points
  PLEASE do the survey on your experience afterward at:
  http://www.explearning.ucf.edu/categories/For%20Students/Service-Learning/210_143.aspx
- Final Portfolio Submission, 75 points.

Module 1: Introduction to Environmental Politics and Environmentalism

Assignments all due at 6pm in webcourses:

- Peer-review Essays 1 and 2 due 5/22, reviews due by 5/24 at 6pm
- San Francisco Peaks Analysis Due 5/25 6pm.
- Exam 1: 5/23 at 6 am to 5/26 at 6pm

Introduction

- Begin Reading *The Monkey Wrench Gang, review due during module 3*
- Chapts 1 and 2 in EPP
- Chapter 1 in The Environmental Case (TEC)
- Muir, "Save the Redwoods"
- Vanderheiden: "Radical environmentalism in an age of antiterrorism" (this should help a lot in understanding/contextualizing Abbey's novel and with your book review).
- Final Environmental Impact Statement for Snowbowl Expansion in the San Francisco Peaks

Environmental Theory: Civics and Philosophy

CIVICS

- Dobson: "Ecological Citizenship"
- Nash: "Island Civilization: A Vision for Human Occupancy of the Earth in the Fourth Millenium"
- Dagger: "Stopping Sprawl for the Good of All: The Case for a Civic Environmentalism"

ETHICS

- Jenni, "Western Environmental Ethics, An Overview

Supplemental (supplemental readings are NOT required and are not on exams unless I cover these readings in modules):

- Jacques, "Power and Death of the Sea"—ontology as power
- Taylor, "Place" as Prepolitical Grounds of Democracy"

Environmental History

- Part One of *American Environmentalism* (Nash)
- Dunlap, Xiao and McCright "Politics and Environment in America"
- Chapt 13, The Environmental Case

Supplemental

- Jacques, et al "Organization of Denial"
- Turner: "The Specter of Environmentalism: Wilderness, Environmental Politics, and the Evolution of the New Right"

Module 2: The Commons

Assignments- all due at 6 p.m.

- Peer-review essays 3 & 4 due June 5, reviews due June 7
- Synthetic Essay: Fish Game due 6/8
- Exam 2: Open from 6am 6/6 to 6pm 6/9

The Tragedy of the Commons

- Hardin: "The Tragedy of the Commons"
- TEC, chpt 10 and 11
- Oreskes, on the Climate Consensus
- Watch Oreskes' 1 hour lecture on "The American Denial of Global Warming" here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2T4UF_Rmlio

Hardin's Errors

- Buck: "No Tragedy of the Commons"
- Ostrom, et al "Revisiting the Commons"
- Chpt 12 TEC
- Eagle and Thomson, "Answering Lord Petty's Question: Dissecting Regulatory Overfishing."

The Risk Society and Inverted Quarantines

- Szasz: "The Dangerous Delusions of 'Inverted Quarantine'"
- Moanna Jackson, "Indigenous Law and the Sea"
- Scharper and Cunningham, "The Genetic Commons and the Neoliberal Enclosure of Life"

Module 3: Ecology, Justice and Democracy

Assignments- all due 6 p.m.

- Peer-review essays 5 and 6 due 6/19, reviews due 6/21
- Book Review of *The Monkey Wrench Gang* due 6/22
- Exam 3: Open 6/20 at 6 am- 6/23 at 6pm.

Environmental Justice: the reality on the ground

- Rindquist, "Equity and the Distribution of Environmental Risk" and
- CHPT 4 and 5 in the TEC
- Pollock and Vittes, "Who Bears the Burdens of Environmental Pollution? Race, Ethnicity, and Environmental Equity in Florida"
- Edward Abbey, *The Monkey Wrench Gang* (all)

The Reasons

- Raquel Pinderhughes "The Impact of Race on Environmental Quality"
- David Schlosberg: "Reconceiving Environmental Justice: Global Movements and Political Theories,"
- Antonio Regalado, "The Ukukus Wonder Why a Sacred Glacier Melts in Peru's Andes," (in the global warming reader)

American Indian Environmental Justice Problems

- *Lone Wolf v. Hitchcock*
- Churchill "Radioactive Colonialism"

Module 4: The US Regulatory Framework

Assignments- all due 6p.m.

- Peer-review essays 7 and 8 due 7/3, reviews due 7/5
- Service Learning Field Report 7/6
- Final Portfolio due 7/13
- Final Exam open 7/10 at 6.a.m – 7/13 6pm.

The Structure of US Government and Environmental Policy

- Chpts 3 and 4 in EPP
- Chpt 15 TEC
- Davis and Forrester , " Past and Present Environmental Health Challenges in Southwestern Pennsylvania: Some Comments on the Right to a Clean Environment"
- Dobson, "Ecological Citizenship" from Module 1, used in the Service Learning essay.

Political Economy and Regulation

- Chpt 5 and 6 EPP
- Chpts 7, 8 and 14 TEC
- Gifford Pinchot: "The Use of the National Forests"

  Supplemental
- Foley et al "Global Consequences of Land Use

Science and Society

- Dunlap and McCright, "Widening Gap: Republican and Democratic Views on Climate" (climate change reader)

  Supplemental:
- Boykoff, M.T., "*Lost in translation? United States television news coverage of anthropogenic climate change, 1995–2004" (climate change reader)*
- Jasonoff, "Skinning Scientific Cats"
- Chpt 18 TEC
- Oreskes, "What's Proof Got to Do with it?"
- Vitousek, et al "Human Domination of Earth's Ecosystems"
- Lahsen, Climate Skepticism and the Risk Society (climate change reader)