

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY™

Graduate Programs—NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

UGPC APPROVAL _____
 UFS APPROVAL _____
 SCNS SUBMITTAL _____
 CONFIRMED _____
 BANNER POSTED _____
 CATALOG _____

DEPARTMENT NAME: SOCIOLOGY

COLLEGE OF: DOROTHY F. SCHMIDT COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS

RECOMMENDED COURSE IDENTIFICATION:

PREFIX SYD COURSE NUMBER 6517 LAB CODE (L or C)

(TO OBTAIN A COURSE NUMBER, CONTACT MJENNING@FAU.EDU)

COMPLETE COURSE TITLE SEMINAR IN GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL PERSPECTIVES

EFFECTIVE DATE

(first term course will be offered)

 FALL 2012

CREDITS: 3

TEXTBOOK INFORMATION:

Faber, Daniel. 2008. *Capitalizing on Environmental Injustice: Polluter-Industrial Complex in the Age of Globalization*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.

Hannigan, John. 2006, 2nd edition. *Environmental Sociology: A Social Constructionist Perspective*. NY: Routledge.

Nikiforuk, Andrew. 2008/09. *Tar Sands: Dirty Oil and the Future of a Continent*. Vancouver: Greystone Books.

Peet, Richard and Michael Watts, eds. 2004, 2nd edition. *Liberation Ecologies*. Routledge.

Pellow, David N. 2007. *Resisting Global Toxics: Transnational Movements for Environmental Justice*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Roberts, J. Timmons and Bradley C. Parks. 2007. *A Climate of Injustice: Global Inequality, North-South Politics, and Climate Policy*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

GRADING (SELECT ONLY ONE GRADING OPTION) REGULAR X PASS/FAIL SATISFACTORY/UNSATISFACTORY

COURSE DESCRIPTION, NO MORE THAN 3 LINES:

This seminar examines the connections between society and the environment and between local experiences and global dynamics. Global environmental perspectives, disputes, politics and movements will be analyzed.

PREREQUISITES: ADMISSION IN THE

COREQUISITES:

OTHER REGISTRATION CONTROLS (MAJOR, COLLEGE, LEVEL):

SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT'S
GRADUATE PROGRAM OR BY
PERMISSION OF PROFESSOR

PREREQUISITES, COREQUISITES & REGISTRATION CONTROLS SHOWN ABOVE WILL BE ENFORCED FOR ALL COURSE SECTIONS.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS NEEDED TO TEACH THIS COURSE: PhD IN SOCIOLOGY

Other departments, colleges that might be affected by the new course must be consulted. List entities that have been consulted and attach written comments from each.

 Patricia Widener, pwidener@fau.edu, 954-236-1079

Faculty Contact, Email, Complete Phone Number

SIGNATURES

F.A.U. Inverse Grad—Revised May 2010

SUPPORTING MATERIALS

Seminar in Global Environmental Perspectives Graduate 6000-level Course, Sociology

Patricia Widener, PhD
Department of Sociology
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Office: DW 408 (Davie)
Office hours:
Office phone: 954-236-1079

Course description

This seminar examines the connections between society and the environment and between local experiences and global dynamics. Global environmental perspectives, disputes, politics and movements will be analyzed.

Course overview

There are three components to this seminar. First, this seminar begins with a broad overview of environmental sociology and the rise of environmental sociology as a discipline. This overview will be followed by a comparison of multiple perspectives to assist in understanding, analyzing and questioning environmental and societal conflict. These perspectives or lenses include, but are not limited to, the environmental movement, environmental justice, political ecology and political economy, globalization and development, and transnational advocacy networks. We will use these frames to better understand specific and current global environmental struggles and inequalities, and to link local and micro-level experiences to global and macro-level explanations. Throughout, we will discuss distinctions between research and advocacy. Finally, students will spend the semester developing a mini-research project, or case study, on a current environmental conflict, which will lead to student presentations to conclude the semester.

Course objectives

- To read critically, to think critically, to discuss critically and to write critically on the environment and society.
- To acquire knowledge on global environmental perspectives, to process knowledge on global environmental perspectives, and to begin to consider producing or sharing knowledge on global environmental perspectives.
- To adopt a sociological lens on environmental struggles, disputes and inequalities.
- To practice researching a contemporary environmental conflict.

Assignments

Paper 1: This is a 10-page paper assignment (excluding title, abstract, tables/figures and reference pages) based on each of the assigned readings and an environmental case study. It should be double-spaced, 12pt font, Times New Roman, and pages numbered. This paper is worth 20% of your final grade. Specific guidelines will be available on Blackboard. Provide both an e-copy and a printed copy.

Paper 2: This is a 15-page paper assignment (excluding title, abstract, tables/figures and reference pages) based on each of the assigned readings and an environmental case study. It should be double-spaced, 12pt font, Times New Roman, and pages numbered. This paper is worth 20% of your final grade. This paper is building on paper one. You can incorporate parts of your first paper, or start over, but continue with a dialogue on the readings up to this point. Provide both an e-copy and a printed copy.

Paper 3: This is a 20 page paper assignment (excluding title, abstract, tables/figures and reference pages) based on each of the assigned readings and an environmental case study. It should be double-spaced, 12pt font, Times New Roman, and pages numbered. This paper is worth 30% of your final grade. This paper is building on papers one and two. You can incorporate parts of your first and second papers, or start over, but continue with a dialogue on the readings up to this point. Provide both an e-copy and a printed copy.

Thought papers: Provide four 2-3 page thought papers, or summaries and analyses, of each of the first five assigned books. Thought papers should summarize the key points or arguments of the book as well as analyze how it speaks to other works and to your particular case study. This assignment is worth 20 percent of your grade. [Four out of four equals a grade of 100%; three out of four equals 75%; two out of four equals 50%, etc.] Provide an e-copy 24 hours before class.

Presentation: This is a 10-15-minute PowerPoint presentation based on your final paper and your environmental case study. This presentation is worth 10% of your final grade.

Attendance & participation: Attend. Participate. If you miss more than three classes, you will forfeit an ‘A’ grade. Participation indicates a thoughtful and critical engagement of the readings.

Assignments

Paper 1 (10 pages)	Due: Week 6	20%
Paper 2 (15 pages)	Due: Week 11	20%
Paper 3 (20 pages)	Due: Week 15	30%
Presentation	Due: Week 15 & 16	10%
Four book summaries		20%
		<hr/>
		100%

Grading Scale

A = 93-100%	B- = 80-82%	D+ = 67-69%
A- = 90-92%	C+ = 79-77%	D = 63-66%
B+ = 87-89%	C = 73-76%	D- = 60-62%
B = 83-86%	C- = 70-72%	F = 0-59%

Prerequisite

The prerequisite to be admitted into this graduate seminar is either admission in the Sociology graduate program or permission of the professor.

FAU Honor Code

Taken from FAU's Honor Code Policy: "Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see University Regulation 4.001 at http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001_Honor_Code.pdf."

Disability Policy

Taken from FAU's Disability Policy: "In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodation due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) -- in Boca Raton, SU 133 (561-297-3880); in Davie, MOD 1 (954-236-1222); in Jupiter, SR 117 (561-799-8585); or at the Treasure Coast, CO 128 (772-873-3305) – and follow all OSD procedures."

Blackboard

Additional readings may be posted on Blackboard (<http://blackboard.fau.edu>).

Recommendation

Sign up for weekly reports from <http://www.grist.org> and/or environmental <http://www.ens-newswire.com/>- online environmental news providers.

Required books*

Faber, Daniel. 2008. *Capitalizing on Environmental Injustice: Polluter-Industrial Complex in the Age of Globalization*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.

Hannigan, John. 2006, 2nd edition. *Environmental Sociology: A Social Constructionist Perspective*. NY: Routledge.

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Roberts, J. Timmons and Bradley C. Parks. 2007. *A Climate of Injustice: Global Inequality, North-South Politics, and Climate Policy*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

*Journal articles will supplement these works.

Semester in Review

Week 1:

Overview

Environmental Sociology as a Discipline

Week 2:

Hannigan. Chs. 1-5, pp. 1-78.

Freudenburg, William R. 2008. "Thirty Years of Scholarship and Science on Environment-Society Relationships," *Organization & Environment* 21(4): 449-459.

Week 3:

Hannigan. Chs. 6-10, pp. 79-153.

Brown, Phil. 2002. "Popular Epidemiology and Toxic Waste Contamination: Lay and Professional Ways of Knowing." *Journal of Health & Social Behavior* 33(3): 267-281.

Environmental Justice & Globalization

Week 4:

Faber. Intro, Chs. 1-2, pp. 1-118.

Week 5:

Faber. Chs. 4-5, Conclusion, pp. 171-273. Skim Ch. 3.

Political Ecology & Globalization

Week 6: -- **Paper 1 due**

Peet & Watts. Chs. 1, 2, 5 & 6.

Week 7:

Peet & Watts. Chs. 9, 10 & 15.

Buttel, Frederick. 2003. "Environmental Sociology and the Explanation of Environmental Reform." *Organization & Environment* 16(3): 306-344.

Social Movements & Community Activism

Week 8:

Pellow. Appendix, Chs. 1-3, pp. 1-95.

Cantzler, Julia Miller. 2007. "Environmental Justice and Social Power Rhetoric in the Moral Battle over Whaling." *Sociological Inquiry* 77(3): 483-512.

Week 9:

Pellow. Chs. 4, 5 & 7, pp. 97-184, 225-243.

Robinson, Erin E. 2009. "Competing Frames of Environmental Contamination: Influences on Grassroots Community Mobilization." *Sociological Spectrum* 29: 3-27.

Climate Change & Society

Week 10:

Roberts & Parks. Chs. 1-3, pp. 1-102.

Lever-Tracy, Constance. 2008. "Global Warming and Sociology." *Current Sociology* 56(3): 445-466.

Week 11: -- **Paper 2 due**

Roberts & Parks. Chs. 5-7, pp. 133-242.

Oil Border Conflicts

Week 12:

Nikiforuk. Chs. 1-7, pp. 1-102.

Jacques, P. J., R. E. Dunlap and M. Freeman. 2008. "The Organisation of Denial: Conservative Think Tanks and Environmental Scepticism." *Environmental Politics* 17(3): 349-385

Week 13:

Nikiforuk. Chs. 8-14, pp. 103-185.

Applied Environmental Sociology

Week 14:

Gramling, B. and B. Freudenburg. 17 June 2009 & 30 April 2010. "Pay, Baby, Pay." *Miller-McCune*. <http://www.miller-mccune.com>

Student Presentations

Week 15: -- **Paper 3 due **Attendance is required****

Student Presentations

Week 16: -- **Attendance is required**