DEPARTMENT: Sociology

COLLEGE: Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

RECOMMENDED COURSE IDENTIFICATION: 6617
PREFIX: SYD
COURSE NUMBER: 6000-6999
LAB CODE: (L or C)

(EFFECTIVE DATE)
(FIRST TERM COURSE WILL BE OFFERED)

COMPLETE COURSE TITLE: SEMINAR IN GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL PERSPECTIVES

CREDITS: 3

TEXTBOOK INFORMATION:


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 SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT’S GRADUATE PROGRAM OR BY PERMISSION OF PROFESSOR

COREQUISITES:

OTHER REGISTRATION CONTROLS (MAJOR, COLLEGE, LEVEL):

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

Patricia Widener, PhD  
Department of Sociology  
Email: pwidener@fau.edu  
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

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<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Due:</th>
<th>Percent</th>
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<tr>
<td>Paper 1 (10 pages)</td>
<td>Week 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper 2 (15 pages)</td>
<td>Week 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper 3 (20 pages)</td>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>Week 15 &amp; 16</td>
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<td>Four book summaries</td>
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Grading Scale

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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*


*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.


**Week 3:**
Hannigan. Chs. 6-10, pp. 79-153.


**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.


**Social Movements & Community Activism**

**Week 8:**


**Week 9:**


**Climate Change & Society**

**Week 10:**


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

**Oil Border Conflicts**

**Week 12:**


**Week 13:**
Nikiforuk. Chs. 8-14, pp. 103-185.

**Applied Environmental Sociology**

**Week 14:**

**Student Presentations**

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

**Student Presentations**

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