

Fall 2019

PJS 594-10

Environmental Peace & Justice

KROC SCHOOL OF PEACE STUDIES

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

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Thursdays, 9:15-12:05

Room IPJ 247

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Course Description and Rationale

Evidence is mounting that unprecedented economic growth experienced by human societies has induced a state of crisis for the Earth's ecological systems. Many of the public goods provided by them – fresh water, clean air, abundant fisheries, nutritious soils, low sea levels, and moderate weather, to name a few – are increasingly at risk. Their failure poses existential threats to the societies humans have collectively built over millennia, and heightens the risk of violent conflict. This course will critically examine the three legs of the proverbial sustainable development stool: environment, economy, and peace. We will explore specific issues in an applied, place-based framework, focusing on ways of understanding larger challenges as they manifest themselves in the San Diego region. We will also ask fundamental questions about environmental sustainability: How do current development paradigms create environmental conflicts? What role can we expect technology to play in offsetting our ecological impact or solving our conflicts over scarce resources? What does environmental justice look like? And ultimately, what are our prospects for peace and progress in the face of environmental peril?

This course will be ambitious in its themes, teaching modality, and course elements. The latter will include a community partnership with the Montgomery Middle School's Community Garden. Another course element is that of my ongoing book project, tentatively entitled *The Fifth World: Prospects for Peace and Progress in an Age of Environmental Devastation*, which will both structure and benefit from the content of this course and student reflections.

Class time will be spent on a combination of exploratory field trips, discussions, debates, and participatory community engagement. Students will be asked to monitor, diagnose, and prescribe solutions for an environmental problem of their choosing. Deliverables will include reflective journal-keeping, an issue brief, a policy memo, and a final project.

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

1. Develop a place-based awareness of their relationship with the natural world;
2. Interrogate their own senses of environmental anxiety and responsibility in the context of existing scientific evidence and theories of human progress;
3. Understand the basic ideas and histories of conservationist and environmental justice approaches to natural resource governance;
4. Analyze environmental conflicts from multiple theoretical points of view, including structuralism and constructivism;
5. Interpret peace and conflict dynamics in environmental and developmental terms, and vice versa;
6. Apply the principles of effective writing and organization in policy memos and grant applications; and
7. Develop both a theoretical and practical appreciation for the dynamics of community-based sustainability initiatives.

Course Requirement and Grading

Please Note: This syllabus is a road map to get us started, not a final contract carved in stone! The instructor reserves the right to alter requirements and/or course content throughout the semester based on his assessment of student needs and attainment of learning objectives.

All required readings will be uploaded to the course Blackboard site. I will also use the Blackboard announcement function to share notable news stories and host discussion forums.

We will meet once per week. The structure of each session will differ depending on the material being presented, but most sessions will involve some sort of off-site visit, walking discussion, or community engagement. Our course will attempt to generate several bridges to other, similarly oriented initiatives, including the community garden project at Montgomery Middle School, my current book project entitled *The Fifth World: Prospects for Peace and Progress in an Age of Environmental Devastation*, and Prof. Andrew Tirrell's concomitant undergraduate course on "Politics and the Environment".

The following components will make up your final grade:

- **Class Participation.** Discussion-heavy classes depend for their effectiveness on the active engagement of all participants. That's you. Please come prepared to discuss the reading, to wrestle with the ideas out loud (< 80 db, please), and to use the richness of your own experience to gauge how convincing the ideas are.
- **Journaling.** You will be asked to keep a weekly journal. Each week, you will be expected to provide at least 2 written pages of reflection on a personal experience of the natural world you have had, tying it to (and illuminating, grounding, and enriching) the themes that we are exploring in that week's readings and discussions.
- **Two 5-page current events memos:**
 - **Environmental Issue Brief.** You will be required to write one brief on a current situation in which the use, degradation, or (re)distribution of environmental resources is either a major factor in, or outcome of, an ongoing conflict.
 - **Environmental Policy Memo.** You will write a policy memo, which will briefly summarize your chosen environmental conflict, its drivers, 2-5 possible policy solutions (with their attendant pros and cons), and (optionally) your suggested course of action and rationale.
- **Group Project.** We will be working together to promote the sustainability of and efficacy of the Montgomery Middle School's Community Garden. This project is still in flux and will take shape in conversation with our class.

Grades will be calculated out of the point maximums below:

Assignment	Due Date	Points
Class discussion / exercises / debates	Throughout	30
Journal entries	Throughout (2 pts x 14)	24
Environmental Issue Brief	10 October	10
Grant Writing Project	14 November	26
Environmental Policy Memo	13 December	10

All deliverables must be uploaded to Blackboard by the corresponding deadlines listed herein and on the course website. The format of the brief, memo, and final project should be in Microsoft Word format to facilitate redlining by the instructor (not a PDF or Google docs link). All deliverables, including the final project, turned in after the deadline will be docked by 1 point per day. Journal entries should be scanned or photographed and uploaded before class time the following week (e.g., Week 1's journal entry should be scanned and uploaded before 9:15 AM on the day of the Week 2 session).

Conduct

There is a zero-tolerance policy for breaches of academic integrity in this class. Serious instances of plagiarism will result, at minimum, in a zero for that assignment – and possibly for the course. It is incumbent upon you, the student, to familiarize yourself with [university policy](#) and abide by it.

This is a professional degree program, and you are expected to treat your classmates and professors professionally – after all, they will shortly be your colleagues in the Peace & Conflict field. Nowhere will this be more important than in our discussions. The latter are intended to be daring, honest, creative, both to follow and to forge paths of critical and creative inquiry. As fellow travellers on these roads, we will want to develop trust amongst us. That process must begin by giving each other the benefit of the doubt; if someone’s word or phrase or expressed idea leaves open its interpretation, please assume the best intentions.

Timeline

Wk	Date	Issue	Guest / Host	Location
01	09-05	Introduction		USD Campus and Tecolote Canyon Park
02	09-12	The Anthropocene, Conservation, and the State of “Nature”	Jamie Harris	Old Mission Dam, Lake Kumeyaay, and the Sycamore Landfill
03	09-19	Ecological Overshoot and Cornucopianism	Diana Bentley, Sarah Trueblood	Montgomery Middle School Emalyn Leppard Community Garden
04	09-26	Solastalgia and Modern Environmental Anxiety		KIPJ 247
05	10-03	Markets, Market Failures, and Collectivism	TBD	KIPJ 247
06	10-10	The Notion of Environmental Justice		
07	10-17	Rewilding and Re-Creativity	James T. Hubbell	Ilan-Lael Foundation, Wynola, CA
08	10-24	The Resource Curse and the Geography of Resource Conflicts		KIPJ 247
09	10-31	Climate Change and Climate Justice	Ruth Buffalo (Mandan / Hidatsa / Arikara)	KIPJ 247
10	11-07	Sustainable Energy	Tammy Bauer	San Onofre Nuclear Station (arrive by 8:30am)
11	11-14	Indigenous Resurgence and Resource Stewardship	Steve Newcomb (Shawnee / Lenape)	Sycuan Cultural Center
12	11-21	Land Sovereignty, Food Sovereignty		
	11-28	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY - NO CLASS		
13	12-05	Collective Action	Diana Bentley	Montgomery Middle School Emalyn Leppard Community Garden
14	12-12	Alternative Visions for a Sustainable Economy	Diana Bentley	Montgomery Middle School Emalyn Leppard Community Garden

Weekly Readings

Week 1: Introduction

Poem: William Butler Yeats' "[The Lake Isle of Innisfree](#)"

Perambulation: USD Campus and Tecolote Canyon

Assembly Point: [KIPJ 247](#)

Required Readings

- McDougal, Topher. "[Preface](#)." In *The Fifth World: Prospects for Peace and Progress in an Age of Environmental Devastation*.
- Jabr, Ferris (2014). "[Why Walking Helps Us Think](#)." *New Yorker*, 3 September.

Week 2: The Anthropocene, Conservation, and the State of "Nature"

Poem: Gary Snyder's "[In the Santa Clarita Valley](#)"

Perambulation: Lake Kumeyaay area (see the [Mission Trails map](#)) and Sycamore Landfill

Assembly Point: Lake Kumeyaay parking lot ([pin](#))

Required Readings

- Wilson, Edward O. (1993) "Biophilia and the Conservation Ethic." In *The Biophilia Hypothesis*, Kellert, Stephen R. and Edward O. Wilson, eds. Washington, D.C.: Island Press.
- Bonner, Raymond (1994). *At the Hand of Man: Peril and Hope for Africa's Wildlife*. New York: Vintage Books, Ch 2 (pp. 39-159).
- Leopold, Aldo (1966 [1949]), "Part IV: The Upshot". In *A Sand County Almanac*, New York: Ballantine Books, pp. 236-295.
- The Economist (2011). "[A Man-Made World: Science is Recognizing Humans as a Geological Force to Be Reckoned With](#)". 26 May.

Recommended Readings (Skim)

- Christian, David (2005). "Introduction: A Modern Creation Myth?" In *Maps of Time: An Introduction to Big History*. Los Angeles: University of California Press, pp. 1-16.
- Weisman, Alan (2007). "Prelude: A Monkey Koan," "A Lingering Scent of Eden", "Unbuilding Our Home," and "The City Without Us". In *The World Without Us*. New York: St. Martin's Press, pp. 1-38.

Week 3: Ecological Overshoot and Cornucopianism

Poem: Joy Harjo's "[A Map to the Next World](#)"

Perambulation: N/A

Assembly Point: Montgomery Middle School Emalyn Leppard Community Garden ([pin](#))

Required Readings

- McDougal, Topher. "[Chapter 1: A Map to the Next World](#)." In *The Fifth World: Prospects for Peace and Progress in an Age of Environmental Devastation*.
- McDougal, Topher. "[Chapter 2: An Enterprise for Zealots](#)." In *The Fifth World: Prospects for Peace and Progress in an Age of Environmental Devastation*.
- Kingsnorth, Paul and Dougald Hine (2009). [Uncivilisation: The Dark Mountain Manifesto](#).
- Linkola, Pentti (2004). "The Intolerable Misfortune of Technology," "The Decline of the World Knows No Mercy," "The World at the Turn of the Millennium," "Can We Survive? A Model of a Controlled Future." In *Can Life Prevail? A Revolutionary Approach to the Environmental Crisis*. Arktos Publishing.
- Ashford, Nicholas A. and Ralph P. Hall (2011). "Section 1.3: Living beyond Our Ecological Means: The Technology Debate." In *Technology, Globalization, and Sustainable Development: Transforming the Industrial State*.
- Diamond, Jared (2004). "Prologue: A Tale of Two Farms" and "Chapter 5: The Maya Collapses." In *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*. New York: Viking Press.

Week 4: Solastalgia and Modern Environmental Anxiety

Poem: Charlotte Mew's "[Hurt Not the Trees](#)"

Perambulation: San Diego River

Assembly Point: KIPJ 247

Required Readings

- McDougal, Topher. "[Chapter 3: The First Four Worlds](#)." In *The Fifth World: Prospects for Peace and Progress in an Age of Environmental Devastation*.
- McDougal, Topher. "[Chapter 4: To Good Malignant](#)." In *The Fifth World: Prospects for Peace and Progress in an Age of Environmental Devastation*.
- Schlanger, Zoe (2017). "[We need to talk about 'eco-anxiety': Climate change is causing PTSD, anxiety, and depression on a mass scale](#)." Quartz, 3 April.
- Albrecht, Glenn A. (2019), "Preface," "Introduction," "Ch. 1: A Sumbiography," "Ch. 2: Solastalgia", and "Ch. 3: The Psychoterratic in the Anthropocene". In *Earth Emotions: New Words for a New World*.
- Powers, Richard (2018). "Patricia Westerford." In *The Overstory: A Novel*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co., pp. 113-44.

Week 5: Markets, Market Failures, and Collectivism

Poem: Robert Frost's "[Mending Wall](#)"

Perambulation: N/A

Assembly Point: KIPJ 247

Key Questions

- What are externalities, and how do they help explain when individual and group welfare might be at odds?
- What are transactions costs, and why do they make institutions necessary to coordinate group welfare?
- What do transactions costs have to do with institutions?

Required Readings

- McDougal, Topher. "Chapter 5: The Rationale for Collectivism." In *The Fifth World: Prospects for Peace and Progress in an Age of Environmental Devastation*.
- Coase, Ronald (1960). The Problem of Social Cost. *Journal of Law and Economics* 3(1): 1-44.
- Hardin, Garrett (1968). The Tragedy of the Commons. *Science* 162: 1243-1248.
- White, Rob (2008). "Toxic Cities: Globalizing the Problem of Waste." *Social Justice* 35(3).

Recommended Readings

- Friedman, Milton (2002 [1962]). "The Role of Government in a Free Society." In *Capitalism and Freedom*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, Chapter 2.

Week 6: The Notion of Environmental Justice

Poem: Margaret Walker's "[Sorrow Home](#)"

Perambulation:

Assembly Point: KIPJ 247

Required Readings

- Cole, Luke W. and Sheila R. Foster (2001), "[A History of the Environmental Justice Movement](#)." In *From the Ground Up: Environmental Racism and the Rise of the Environmental Justice Movement*, New York: New York University Press.
- National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit (1991). "[17 Principles of Environmental Justice](#)".
- Lorber, Ben (2012). "[Keren Kayemet Le Yisrael and Environmental Racism in Palestine](#)." *Earth First!*
- Junsay, Eddie (2019). "[The Environmental Justice Movement Is Rooted in Black History](#)." 350.org.
- Robert D. Bullard (1993). "[Race and Environmental Justice in the United States](#)." *Yale Journal of International Law* 18.

Week 7: Rewilding and Re-Creativity

Poem: James T. Hubbell's "[From Trees, From Mountains](#)"

Perambulation: Ilan-Lael Foundation, Wynola, CA

Assembly Point: Garden of the Sun Fountain, Kroc School of Peace Studies

Required Readings

- Regan, Shawn (2019). "[Is American Prairie Reserve Taking the West Back to the Future?](#)" *Mountain Journal*, 25 March.
- Weisman, Alan (2007). "The World Without War." In *The World Without Us*, New York: St. Martin's Press, pp. 183-190.
- Hubbell, James (2001). *The Architecture of Jubilation: The Poetry of Our Lives and What We May Choose to Build*.

Recommended Readings (not uploaded -- consult the Copley Library if interested)

- Kunstler, James Howard (2008). *World Made by Hand: A Novel*. New York: Atlantic Monthly Press.

Week 8: The Resource Curse and the Geography of Resource Conflicts

Poem: Mahmoud Darwash's "[To our land](#)"

Perambulation: N/A

Assembly Point: KIPJ 247

Required Readings

- Hammer, Joshua. 2013. "[Is a Lack of Water to Blame for the Conflict in Syria?](#)" *Smithsonian Magazine*, June.
- Carbonnier, Gilles and Natascha Wagner (2012). "Oil, Gas and Minerals: The Impact of Resource-Dependence and Governance on Sustainable Development". Manuscript.
- Homer-Dixon, Thomas (1994). "Environmental Scarcities and Violent Conflict: Evidence from Cases." *International Security* 19(1): 4-40.
- Le Billon, Philippe (2001). "The Political Ecology of War: Natural Resources and Armed Conflicts". *Political Geography* 20: 561-584.
- Hsiang, Solomon M., Marshall Burke, and Edward Miguel (2013). "Quantifying the Influence of Climate on Human Conflict." *Science*, DOI: 10.1126/science.1235367.

Recommended Readings

- Gleditsch, Nils Petter and Henrik Urdal. 2002. "Ecoviolence? Links Between Population Growth, Environmental Scarcity and Violent Conflict in Thomas Homer-Dixon's Work," *Journal of International Affairs* 56:1: 283-302.

Week 9: Climate Change and Climate Justice

Poem: Eliza Griswold's "[Ovid on Climate Change](#)"

Perambulation: N/A

Assembly Point: N/A

Required Readings

- Wells, David Wallace (2017). "Uninhabitable Earth." *New York Magazine*, July. Available at: <http://nymag.com/intelligencer/2017/07/climate-change-earth-too-hot-for-humans.html>

- Esty, Daniel C. (2008). Rethinking Global Environmental Governance to Deal with Climate Change: The Multiple Logics of Global Collective Action. *The American Economic Review* 98(2): 116-121.
- Martinez, Cecilia and Shalini Gupta (2013). "[Climate Inequality: Forgotten History.](#)" Center for Earth, Energy, and Democracy.
- Amor, Bani (2016). "[The Least Convenient Truth: Part I -- Climate Change and White Supremacy.](#)" *Bitch Media*, 16 December.
- Hsiang, Solomon M., Marshall Burke, and Edward Miguel (2013). "Quantifying the Influence of Climate on Human Conflict." *Science*, DOI: 10.1126/science.1235367.

Recommended Readings

- The Guardian (2013). "[Carbon tax v cap-and-trade: which is better?](#)"
- Rathi, Akshat (2017). "[The world's first "negative emissions" plant has begun operation—turning carbon dioxide into stone.](#)" *Quartz*, 12 October.
- IPCC (2019). [Climate Change and the Land](#). Geneva: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.
- IPCC (2019). [Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate](#). Geneva: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Week 10: Sustainable Energy

Poem: John Dickson's "[Fossil Fuel](#)"
Perambulation: San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station
Assembly Point: Garden of the Sun Fountain, Kroc School @ 7am

Required Readings

- Barro, Maimouna, Joanna Choumert, and Pascal Combes Motel (2018). "[Electrification and Deforestation.](#)" Conference paper. Aix-en-Provence, France: French Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Annual Conference.
- MacKay, David J.C. (2009). "1: Motivations," "2: The Balance Sheet," "18: Can We Live On Renewables?" and "19: Every BIG Helps." In [Sustainable Energy – Without the Hot Air](#). Cambridge: UIT.
- Calthorpe, Peter (2010). "Urbanism and Climate Change" and "The Fifty-Year Experiment." *Urbanism in the Age of Climate Change*. Washington, D.C.: Island Press.

Week 11: Indigenous Resurgence and Resource Stewardship

Poem: Layli Long Soldier's "[Resolution \(6\)](#)"
Perambulation: Sycuan Cultural Center
Assembly Point: Sycuan Cultural Center @ 9:15am

Required Readings

- Simpson, Leanne Betasamosake (2017). "Introduction: My Radical Resurgent Present," "Chapter 1: Nishnaabeg Brilliance as Radical Resurgence Theory," "Kwe as Resurgent Method." In *As We Have Always Done: Indigenous Freedom Through Radical Resistance*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

- Scott, James C. (2009) "Hills, Valleys, and States: An Introduction to Zomia" In *The Art of Not Being Governed: An Anarchist History of Upland Southeast Asia*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Cantzler, Julia and Megan Huynh (2015). "Native American Environmental Justice as Decolonization". *American Behavioral Scientist*, DOI: 10.1177/0002764215607578.
- Goodyear-Ka'ōpua, Noelani (2017), "Protectors of the Future, Not Protestors of the Past: Indigenous Pacific Activism and Mauna a Wākea," *South Atlantic Quarterly*, 116 (1): 184-194. <https://doi.org/10.1215/00382876-3749603>
- [To watch]: Pihana, Leonie (2017), Keynote Address to the World Women Conference 2017. Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DfVI06fH2Kc>.

Week 12: Land Sovereignty, Food Sovereignty

Poem:

Perambulation: N/A

Assembly Point: N/A

Required Readings

- Alkon, Allison Hope (2011). "Resisting Spatial Injustice Through Sustainable Agriculture: Some Examples From Latin America". In *Environmental Inequalities Beyond Borders*. Julian Agyeman and JoAnn Carmin (eds). MIT Press. 2011.
- Clausen, Rebecca (2007). "Healing the Rift: Metabolic Restoration in Cuban Agriculture." In *Environmental Sociology: From Analysis to Action*, King, Leslie and Deborah McCarthy, eds. New York: Rowman and Littlefield.
- Williams, Orrin (2005). "Food and Justice: The Critical Link to Health Communities." In *Power, Justice, and the Environment: A Critical Appraisal of the Environmental Justice Movement*, Pellow, David Naguib and Robert J. Bulle, eds. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.

Recommended Readings

- Pollan, Michael (2001). "Desire: Control Plant: The Potato." In *The Botany of Desire: A Plant's-Eye View of the World*. New York: Random House.
- Winne, Mark (2010). "The Industrial Food System: Ministry of Plenty or Department of Destruction?" In *Food Rebels, Guerrilla Gardeners, and Smart-Cookin' Mamas: Fighting Back in an Age of Industrial Agriculture*. Boston: Beacon Press.

Week 13: Collective Action

Required Readings

- Joshi, Anuradha (2000). "Chapter 1: The Origins of Joint Forest Policy Reform." In *Roots of Change: Front Line Workers and Forest Policy Reform in West Bengal*.
- Ostrom, Elinor (1990). "Analyzing long-enduring CPRs [Common-Pool Resource Institutions]." In *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

- O'Rourke, Dana (2002). "Community-Driven Regulation: Toward an Improved Model of Environmental Regulation in Vietnam". In *Liveable Cities? Urban Struggles for Livelihood and Sustainability*. Evans, Peter, ed. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Week 14: Alternative Visions for a Sustainable Economy

Required Readings

- Schor, Juliet (2010). "Chapter 5: The Economics of Plenitude". In *Plenitude: The Economics of True Wealth*.
- Daly, Herman (1999). "Consumption and welfare: Two views of value added." In *Ecological Economics and Sustainable Development, Selected Essays of Herman Daly*. Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar. Available at: http://library.uniteddiversity.coop/Measuring_Progress_and_Eco_Footprinting/Ecological_Economics_and_Sustainable_Development-Selected_Essays_of_Herman_Daly.pdf
- Korten, David (1996). [Sustainable Development: Conventional Versus Emergent Alternative Wisdom](#). New York: The People Centered Development Forum.
- Santa Barbara, Jack, Fred Dubee and Johan Galtung (2009). *Peace Business: Humans and Nature above Markets and Capital*. Transcend University Press, 11-40.
- [Explore] "Jubilee Year" (2019), Economics of Compassion. Available at: <https://www.econofcompassion.org/jubilee-year>