

**Fall 2011
HISTORICAL ECOLOGY
ANG 6930 section 6130**

Lecturer: Dr. Augusto Oyuela-Caycedo

Lecture sessions: M (10:40-1:40 p.m.).

Location: TUR 2303

Office: TUR: B131

Phone: 392-2253 ext 257

Office hours: By appointment

Email: caycedo@ufl.edu

DESCRIPTION:

The objective of this course is to create a solid foundation in the study of the theories and methods in historical ecology today. This will be accomplished by evaluating the new trends that have driven historical ecology in the last ten years. This new approach demands an interdisciplinary view. The first part of the class will focus on the different epistemological approaches. We will look at the kinds of questions asked and the methodologies employed to answer them. The last part of the course will place emphasis on case studies where historical ecology has been employed to understand long-term regional dynamics of the relationship between humans and the environment. We will examine the theoretical and methodological relationship of historical ecology to biology, geography, and geology as well as to history. We will look at why historical ecology is a powerful approach to evaluating critical theories that range from biology to history. We will look at how the theories are evaluated and what factors favor their success or abandonment.

REQUIRED READINGS:

Costanza, Robert, Lisa J. Graumlich, and Will Steffen. 2007. *Sustainability or Collapse? An Integrated History and Future of People on Earth*. The MIT Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Dean, Rebecca M. (ed.) 2010. *The Archaeology of Anthropogenic Environments*. No. 37. Center For Archaeological Investigations, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale.

Rick, Rorben and Jon M. Erlandson (ed.) 2008. *Human Impacts on Ancient Marine Ecosystems: A Global Perspective*. University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles.

Fairhead, James and Melissa Leach. 1996. *Misreading the African Landscape: Society and Ecology in a Forest-Savanna Mosaic*. Cambridge University Press

Beinard, William and Lotte Hughes 2009. *Environment and Empire*. Oxford University Press.

There will be other assigned readings. Most of these can be downloaded as PDF files from the library service. Sometimes you will have to copy them from the library journals at the main library.