

**FALL 2015
HISTORICAL ECOLOGY
ANG 6086
Section 1B48**

Lecturer: Dr. Augusto Oyuela-Caycedo
Lecture sessions: TUESDAY (PERIOD 3-5) TIME: 9:35 AM-12:35 PM
Location: TUR 2303
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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:

Books

Balee, William. *Cultural Forests of the Amazon: A Historical Ecology of People and their Landscapes*. 2013. University of Alabama Press.

Iannone, Gyles. 2014. *The Great Maya Droughts in Cultural Context*. University Press of Colorado.

Ford, Anabela And Ronald Nigh. 2015. *Maya Forest Garden: Eight Millennia of Sustainable Cultivation of the Tropical Woodlands (New Frontiers in Historical Ecology)*. Left Coast Press.

Chapters from edited books:

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.

Crosby, Alfred W. (any edition). *Ecological Imperialism*. Cambridge University Press.

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

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

Cooper, Jago and Payson Sheets (editors). 2012. *Surviving Sudden Environmental Change*. University of Colorado Press.

Håkansson, N Thomas and Mats Widgren (Editors). 2014. *Landesque Capital: The Historical Ecology of Enduring Landscape Modifications (New Frontiers in Historical Ecology)*. Left Coast 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.

EVALUATION:

Evaluation will be based on the accumulation of points up to 100 (100 points = 100 %).

Final research paper (30 %), presentation of the final research paper (10%), short presentations in class (20%) and class participation (40 %).

REMEMBER IT IS A RESEARCH PAPER, NOT A REVIEW PAPER. The paper should be 15 to 20 pages in length, double-spaced including bibliography. For the paper you should choose a region of the planet where you can study the impact of human activity on the environment as well as the impact of the environment on the population. The paper should follow the format guidelines of the journal *American Anthropologist*.

There is a large amount of literature to be covered in this class and each student must be able to discuss each of the articles. You are responsible for all of the readings. It always helps to write a review on each article or chapter that you read, and have notes on the topics that are relevant for the discussion, as well as questions on the aspects that you do not understand.

Disclaimer: Some adjustments may be made in the schedule and course requirements during the semester. All changes will be announced.

ATTENDANCE is required.

GRADE SYSTEM:

Grading Scale Grades will be awarded according to the following scale in effect by the university:

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	.67	0

A complete listing of university policy pertaining to grades may be found at <http://graduateschool.ufl.edu/files/handbook.pdf>

Classes and readings

Week 1, August 25: General presentation: What is historical ecology.

Week 2, September 1: Epistemology: Concepts and Research Program.

Crosby, Alfred W. (any edition). *Ecological Imperialism*. Cambridge University Press.

Crumley, Carole L. 1987. Historical ecology. In *Regional Dynamics: Burgundian landscapes in historical perspective*. Edited by Carole Crumley and William Marquardt Academic Press, Inc, New York.

Crumley, L. C., 2006. Archaeology in the new world order: what we can offer the planet. In *Space and Spatial analysis in Archaeology*. Robertson, C. E., Seibert, D. J., Fernandez, C. D., and Zender, U. M. (Eds.). University of Calgary Press. Canada.

Marquardt, William. The role of archaeology in Raising Environmental Consciousness. In *Historical Ecology*, edited by Carole Crumley. Pp. 203-221.

Marquardt, William. 1992. Dialectical Archaeology. In *Archaeological Methods and Theory*. Editor Michael Schiffer. The University of Arizona Press

Week 3, September 8, Epistemology: Concepts and Research Program.

Balee, William. 2006. The Research Program in Historical Ecology. *Annual Review of Anthropology*. 35:75-98.

Balee, William. Cultural Forests of The Amazon: A Historical Ecology of People and their Landscapes. 2013. University of Alabama Press. (selected chapters)

Stahl, Peter. 2008. The contributions of zooarchaeology to historical ecology in the neotropics. *Quaternary International*. 180:5–16.

Week 4, September 15: Historical ecology and climate change.

Oyuela-Caycedo, A. 1996. The Study of Collector Variability in the Transition to Sedentary Food Producers in Northern Colombia. *Journal of World Prehistory*, 10(1):49-93.

Kirch, Patric. 2005. Archaeology and Global Change. *Ann. Rev. Envir. Resour.* 30:409-40.

Dulla, Robert A. ; Richard J. Nevleb; William I. Woods; Dennis K. Birdd; Shiri Avnerye; William M. Denevan. 2010. The Columbian Encounter and the Little Ice Age: Abrupt Land Use Change, Fire, and Greenhouse Forcing. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. <http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t788352614>.

Sörlin, Sverker. The Global Warming That did Not Happen: Historicizing Glaciology and Climate Change. In *Nature's End, History and the Environment*, edited by S. Sörlin and Paul Warde. Pp. 23-49. Palgrave, New York.

Week 5, September 22: Historical Ecology and Environments.

Dean, Rebecca M. (ed.) 2010. *The Archaeology of Anthropogenic Environments*. No. 37. Center For Archaeological Investigations, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. Please read chapters 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13.

Week 6, September 29: Rapid climatic change and societies.

Cooper, Jago and Payson Sheets (editors). 2012. *Surviving Sudden Environmental Change*. University of Colorado Press. (selected chapters.)

Week 7, October 6: Climatic change and the case of the Maya.

Iannone, Gyles. 2014. *The Great Maya Droughts in Cultural Context*. University Press of Colorado. (Ch.1-7).

Week 8, October 13: Climatic change and the case of the Maya.

Iannone, Gyles. 2014. *The Great Maya Droughts in Cultural Context*. University Press of Colorado. (Ch.8-14).

Week 9, October 20: Anthropogenic landscapes and history.

Fairhead, James and Melissa Leach. 1996. *Misreading the African Landscape: Society and Ecology in a Forest-Savannah Mosaic*. Introduction, Ch1, Ch2 and Ch3. Cambridge University Press .

Sheridan, Michael J. 2008. The Dynamics of African Sacred Groves. Ecological, social and symbolic processes. In *African Sacred Groves*. Pp. 9-33. James Currey, Oxford.

Kirch, Patrick V. 2007. Three islands and an archipelago: reciprocal interactions between humans and island ecosystems in Polynesia. *Earth and Environmental Science Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh* 98: 85–99

Week 10, October 27: Landesque Capital.

Håkansson, N Thomas and Mats Widgren (Editors). 2014. *Landesque Capital: The Historical Ecology of Enduring Landscape Modifications* (New Frontiers in Historical Ecology). Left Coast Press. Ch. Introduction, 2, 4, 11, 12

Week 11, November 3: Climate change and Landesque Capital: The case of the forest Garden in the Maya.

Ford, Anabela And Ronald Nigh. 2015. *Maya Forest Garden: Eight Millennia of Sustainable Cultivation of the Tropical Woodlands* (New Frontiers in Historical Ecology). Left Coast Press.

Preparation of final paper proposal.

Week 12, November 10: Historical Ecology and Maritime Ecosystems,

Rick, Rorben and Jon M. Erlandson (ed.) 2008. *Human Impacts on Ancient Marine Ecosystems: A Global Perspective*. University of California Press. Please read chapters 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 10, 11, 13

Week 13, November 17: Historical Ecology and Maritime Ecosystems.

Habu Junko and Mark E. Hall. 2013. Climate Change, Human Impacts on the Landscape, and Subsistence Specialization: Historical Ecology and Changes in Jomon Hunter-Gatherers Lifeways. In *The Archaeology and Historical Ecology of Small Scale Economies*, edited by Victor D. Thomson and James C. Waggoner Jr. pp. 65-78. University of Florida.

Fish, Paul, Suzanne K. Fish, Paulo DeBlasis and Maria Dulce Gaspar. Monumental Shell Mounds as Persistent Places in Southern Coastal Brazil. In *The Archaeology and Historical Ecology of Small Scale Economies*, edited by Victor D. Thomson and James C. Waggoner Jr. pp. 120-140. University of Florida

Week 14, November 24: Holiday, thanksgiving.

Week 15, December 1: Social life of forest and historical ecologies.

Parte III, Historical ecologies. 2014. In: *The Social Life of Forest*, edited by Susan B. Hech, K. Morrison, and C. Padoch. Chicago.

Week 16, December 8: Case examples of Historical Ecology. Paper presentation.

Final paper due.

Week 15, December 15: reading days.

Optional Readings:

Mann, Charles C. (2002) 1491: before it became the New World, the Western Hemisphere was vastly more populous and sophisticated than has been thought ... the Amazon rain forest may be largely a human artifact. [*The Atlantic Monthly*](#) March 2002, 41-6, 48-53.

Crosby, Alfred (2004) *Ecological Imperialism*. Cambridge University Press.

- Crumley, C. L. 1993. Analyzing historic ecotonal shifts. *Ecological Applications*. 3:377-384.
- Dieffenbacher Krall, A. C. 1996. Paleo- and historical ecology of the Cutler grasslands, Cutler, Maine (USA): Implications for future management. *Natural Areas Journal* 16:3-13.
- Hammett, J. E. 1992. The shapes of adaptation – historical ecology of anthropogenic landscapes in the Southeastern United States. *Landscape Ecology* 7:121-135.
- Crumley, Carole. 2005. Remember How to Organize: Heterarchy Across Disciplines. In *Nonlinear Models for Archaeology and Anthropology*, edited by C. Beekman and W. W. Baden. Pp. 35-50. Ashgate. Aldershot.
- Beresford-Jones et al. 2009. Linking cultural and environmental change in Peruvian prehistory: Geomorphological survey of the Samaca Basin, Lower Ica Valley, Peru/ *Catena* 78 (2009) 234–249.
- 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.
- Dove Michael R. 2014. *The Anthropology of Climate Change: An Historical Reader*. Wiley-Blackwell.