

ANT 4403 (Sec. 214A) Environment and Cultural Behavior
Spring 2016 Syllabus
Tuesday (Period 9: 4:05-4:55pm) & Thursday (Periods 9-10: 4:05 - 6:00 pm)
Location: Flint Hall 105

Professor: Dr. Catherine Tucker
Office: Grinter 309
Phone: 352-392-0690
Email: tuckerc@ufl.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday 2:00-3:00 pm
Thursday 1:30-3:00 pm
& By Appointment

Abstract:

How do humans understand and shape the natural environment? How does the natural environment influence culture and society? Anthropologists have long been interested in these questions, and the theoretical perspectives for understanding human-environment interactions have been diverse and dynamic through time. This class will explore historical and current approaches for examining how humans perceive and interact with the world in which they live, and how culture shapes behaviors, beliefs and values that influence processes of environmental transformation.

Objectives:

- Assess historical and current theoretical approaches to understanding human-environment interactions.
- Examine key concepts and current challenges for human-environment interactions and change processes.
- Explore how western and nonwestern cultures vary in their understandings of the natural world and the implications for local and global environmental transformations.
- Consider consumer behavior and globalization, and how consumer behavior can exacerbate or mitigate environmental degradation.
- Evaluate approaches and opportunities for moving toward a sustainable global social-ecological system.

Required Texts:

Ehrenfeld, J. R. and A. J. Hoffman. 2013. *Flourishing: A Frank Conversation about Sustainability*. Stanford, CA: Stanford Business Books.

Haenn, N. and R. Wilk. 2006. *The Environment in Anthropology: A Reader in Ecology, Culture, and Sustainable Living*. New York and London: New York University Press.

Required and Supplementary Readings:

Additional required and supplementary readings will be posted to Canvas: Files/Readings.

NOTE: All readings must be completed in advance of the class time for which they are assigned.
Evaluation:

Course Evaluation and Grading:

- Detailed instructions for each written assignment will be discussed in class and posted to Canvas.
- Come to class with questions and comments on readings for discussion.

Pre-course and Post-course Learning Assessments: 20 points

Participation: Discussion, Written Responses & Questions: 100 points

Cultural Ecology Commentary (Due Jan 7): 20 points

Analysis of Netting's Alpine Peasants in light of Ostrom's Design Principles (Due Jan 28): 20 points

Quiz (Feb 2): 50 points

Midterm Project on Water Consumption (Due Feb 25): 100 points

Final Team Research Presentation: 50 points

Final Research Project Report (Due April 25): 100 points (Choice of individual or team report)

Grading Policy: The course will be graded by standard percentages; the grade will not be curved.

A = 93- 100%	A- = 90- 92.9%	B+ = 87-89.9%,
B = 83-86.9%	B- = 80-82.9%	C+ = 77-79.9%
C = 73-76.9%	C- = 70-72.9%	D+ = 67-69.9%
D= 63-66.9%	D- = 60-62.9%	F = below 60%

Late Submissions: Late submissions of assignments will be discounted 10% per day. This is simply fair to those in the class who meet deadlines, otherwise they would be disadvantaged relative to those who took more time.

Policy on Plagiarism / Cheating: Plagiarism in written assignments (i.e. the copying of material without citation of the source) is unacceptable. It will lead to a zero on the assignment or paper if it is of a minor degree (less than a paragraph), and to a failing grade in the course in cases of extensive copying without citation. If you have doubts about when and how to cite sources, Dr Tucker will be glad to answer your questions.

Emergencies: If you have a medical or family emergency that prevents you from attending class, completing an assignment on time, or results in extended absence, bring it to the attention of professor as soon as possible. Reasonable accommodations can be made with proper documentation. Medical conditions must be documented by a doctor's note. Other emergencies must be documented by an appropriate authority (check with Dr. Tucker).

CLASS SCHEDULE

Adjustments in the schedule, activities and readings may be made to meet class needs. It is your responsibility to read email and check Canvas announcements daily.

Jan 5	Introduction to Environment & Cultural Behavior
Jan 7	<p>Cultural Ecology & Ontologies of Human-Environment Relationships</p> <p><u>Assignment:</u> One paragraph (maximum 1 double-spaced page) that summarizes Steward's discussion of cultural ecology as a theory and a method, and raises at least one question or critical assessment. (20 pts)</p> <p><i>The Environment in Anthropology</i>, Ch.1: Steward, J. The Concept and Method of Cultural Ecology</p>
Jan 12	<p>Ecosystem Ecology</p> <p><i>The Environment in Anthropology</i> Ch 3: Moran, E. Ecosystem Ecology in Biology and Anthropology. Pp. 15-26.</p> <p>Rappaport, R. 1971. Energy Flow in an Agricultural Society. <i>Scientific American</i> 225 (September): 116-132.</p>
Jan 14	<p>Ethnoecology: How does western science understand indigenous and traditional environmental knowledge?</p> <p><i>The Environment in Anthropology</i> Ch 5: Nazarea, V. A View from a Point: Ethnoecology as Situated Knowledge. Pp. 34-39.</p> <p>Nadasdy, P. 2007 The Gift in the Animal. <i>American Ethnologist</i> 34(1): 25-43.</p> <p>Brightman, R. 1987 Conservation and Resource Depletion: The Case of the Boreal Forest Algonquians. In <i>The Question of the Commons: The Culture and Ecology of Communal Resources</i>. B. J. McCay and J. M. Acheson. Tucson: University of Arizona Press. Pp. 121-141.</p> <p><u>Supplementary Reading:</u></p> <p>Baleé, W. and J. Nolan. Forthcoming. Freelisting as a Tool for Assessing Cognitive Realities of Landscape Transformation: A Case Study from Amazonia. In <i>The Oxford Handbook of Historical Ecology and Applied Archaeology</i>.</p>
Jan 19	<p>Indigenous & Traditional Knowledge and Sustainable Agriculture: How do cultural values and traditions matter for environmental behavior?</p> <p>Nabhan, G. 1989. A Spirit Earthly Enough: Locally Adapted Crops and Persistent Cultures. In <i>Enduring Seeds</i>. San Francisco: North Point. Pp. 66-85.</p> <p><i>The Environment in Anthropology</i> Ch. 2 Netting, R. Smallholders, Householders.</p> <p><u>Supplementary Readings:</u></p> <p>Rappaport, R. 1967 Ritual Regulation of Environmental Relations Among a New Guinea People. <i>Ethnology</i> 6(1): 17-30.</p>

Jan 21	<p>Ethnoecology of Forest Change Guest Speaker Professor Heckenberger: Forest Change in Ancient Amazonian Civilizations (Reading Pending) <u>Assignment:</u> Bring one written question about the readings to class (10 points)</p> <p>Fairhead, J. and M. Leach 1995 False Forest History, Complicit Social Analysis: Rethinking Some West African Environmental Narratives. <i>World Development</i> 23(6):1023-1035. <i>The Environment in Anthropology</i> Ch.34 Brosius, J. P. Endangered Forest, Endangered People: Environmentalist Representations of Indigenous Knowledge</p>
Jan 26	<p>Understanding Common-Pool Resources</p> <p><i>The Environment in Anthropology</i> Ch. 32 Berkes, F. et al. Benefits of the Commons. Pp. 355-360. Netting, R. 1976 What Alpine Peasants Have in Common. <i>Human Ecology</i> 4(2):135-146. Handout (online): Ostrom's Design Principles for Long-Enduring Common Property Regimes</p> <p><u>Supplementary Reading:</u> Dietz, T., E. Ostrom, and P. Stern. 2003 The Struggle to Govern the Commons. <i>Science</i> 302: 1907-1912. Dietz, T., E. Ostrom, and P. Stern. 2003 Online Supplement to The Struggle to Govern the Commons. <i>Science</i> 302.</p>
Jan 28	<p>Management of the Commons: Two Case Studies (Alpine Peasants and Maine's Lobster Fiefs) <u>Assignment:</u> Analysis & Discussion of Netting's Alpine Peasants with Ostrom's Design Principles (20 pts)</p> <p>Acheson, J. 1987 The Lobster Fiefs Revisited. In <i>The Question of the Commons: The Culture and Ecology of Communal Resources</i>. B. J. McCay and J. M. Acheson. Tucson: University of Arizona Press. Pp. 37-65. Brewer, J. 2012 Revisiting Maine's Lobster Commons: Rescaling political subjects. <i>International Journal of the Commons</i> 6(2):319-343. A Maine Thing. A Lobstering Life – Meet the Coombs. Online: http://mainequarterly.com/lobster/2/</p>
Feb 2	Theoretical Concepts Review & Quiz
Feb 4	<p>Population, Development and the Environment: How does population matter? <u>Instructions & Discussion on Midterm Project on Water Consumption</u></p> <p>Bloom, D. Seven Billion and Counting. Forthcoming in <i>The Environment in Anthropology</i>, 2nd Edition. Grigg, D. Ester Boserup's Theory of Agrarian Change: A Critical Review. Forthcoming in <i>The Environment in Anthropology</i>, 2nd Edition. <i>The Environment in Anthropology</i> Ch. 11: Ethelston, S. Gender, Population, Environment. Pp. 113-117.</p>

	<p><u>Feb 4 Continued:</u> <i>The Environment in Anthropology</i> Ch. 28: Gupta, A. Peasants and Global Environmentalism. Pp. 302 – 307 (Optional: pp. 308-324)</p>
Feb 9	<p>Population, Environment, and Society: What is the relationship between population, environmental degradation and societal instability?</p> <p><i>The Environment in Anthropology</i> Ch 12: Dalby, S. The Environment as Geopolitical Threat: Reading Robert Kaplan's <i>The Coming Anarchy</i>. Pp. 118-135. <i>The Environment in Anthropology</i> Ch.14: Redman, C. The Growth of World Urbanism. Pp. 145-162.</p> <p><u>Supplementary Reading:</u> Kaplan, R. 1994 <i>The Coming Anarchy</i>. <i>The Atlantic</i>.</p>
Feb 11	<p>Population, Environment and Societal Crisis: Does the case of Rwandan Genocide support Kaplan's vision of coming anarchy? Film: Ghosts of Rwanda</p> <p>Diamond, J. 2005 Malthus in Africa: Rwanda's Genocide. In <i>Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed</i>. Pp. 311-328. New York: Penguin. Taylor, C. C. 2010 Rwandan Genocide: Toward an Explanation in Which History and Culture Matter. In <i>Questioning Collapse: Human Resilience, Ecological Vulnerability, and the Aftermath of Empire</i>. McAnany, P. and N. Yoffee, eds. Pp. 239-268. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.</p>
Feb 16	<p>Social-Ecological Systems, Institutional Arrangements and Environmental Change: How can we study complex human-environment systems?</p> <p>Ostrom, E. 2007 A Diagnostic Approach for Going Beyond Panaceas. <i>PNAS</i> 104(39):15181-15187. TBA: Case study of water use from a social-ecological systems perspective</p>
Feb 18	<p>Consumer Behavior, Marketing, and Environmental Implications of Bottled Water Film: Tapped</p> <p>Wilk, R. 2006. Bottled Water: The pure commodity in the age of branding. <i>Journal of Consumer Culture</i> 6(3):303-325.</p>
Feb 23	<p>Challenges for Water Management and Consumption</p> <p>Frederick, K. 1995. America's Water Supply: Status and Prospects for the Future. <i>Consequences</i> 1(1). Online Journal. Speigel, A. 2011 Why Cleaned Wastewater Stays Dirty in Our Minds. NPR, August 16. http://www.npr.org/2011/08/16/139642271/why-cleaned-wastewater-stays-dirty-in-our-minds Water Systems Council. 2003 Who Owns the Water? www.watersystemscouncil.org.</p>

Feb 25	<p>Water Use, Waste and Conservation: What are the implications of ongoing social-environmental changes for Gainesville's water consumption and provision?</p> <p><u>Midterm Project Presentations</u> <u>Midterm Individual Reports and Team Summaries Due</u></p>
SPRING BREAK	
Mar 8	<p>Political Ecology: How do political economic relationships and power impact social-environmental processes?</p> <p>Greenberg, J. and T. Park. 1994 Political Ecology. <i>Journal of Political Ecology</i> 1: 1-12. <i>The Environment in Anthropology</i> Ch. 4: Rocheleau, D. Gender and the Environment: A Feminist Political Ecology. Pp. 27-33. Escobar, A. Differences and Conflict in the Struggle over Natural Resources: A Political Ecology Framework. Forthcoming in <i>The Environment in Anthropology</i>, 2nd Edition.</p>
Mar 10	<p>The Science, Politics and Research Methods of Social-Ecological Conundrums: How do we know we have environmental problems?</p> <p><u>Assignment:</u> Gainesville's human-environmental interactions and challenges- bring one example in hard copy (newspaper article or personal observation) of a current challenge for the UF campus and/or the city of Gainesville</p> <p><u>In class Team Discussion: Possible Research Projects on a Local Environmental Issue</u></p> <p><i>The Environment in Anthropology</i> Ch 37 Taylor, P. & F. Buttel. How do We Know We Have Global Environmental Problems? Science and the Globalization of Environmental Discourse. Pp. 407-417 Checker, M. "But I Know It's True." Environmental Risk Assessment, Justice, and Anthropology. Forthcoming in <i>The Environment in Anthropology</i>, 2nd Edition.</p>
Mar 15	<p>Globalization and the Environment: How do global connections influence cultural-environmental processes and biodiversity conservation?</p> <p><i>The Environment in Anthropology</i> Ch. 38 Wilk, R. The Ecology of Global Consumer Culture. Pp. 418-429. Kneen, B. 2009 The Invisible Giant: Cargill and Its Transnational Strategies. <i>The Ecologist</i> 25(5). Forthcoming in <i>The Environment in Anthropology</i>, 2nd Edition. See www.ramshorn.ca</p>
Mar 17	<p>Conserving Resources: Can biodiversity be conserved?</p> <p><u>In class activity: Team Research Project Topics & Research Methods</u></p> <p>Stiles, et al. 2013 Stolen Apes: The Illicit Trade in Chimpanzees, Gorillas, Bonobos, and Orangutans. A Rapid Response Assessment. United Nations. www.grida.no</p>

Mar 22	<p>Current Research on Biodiversity Conservation</p> <p>Honey, M. Treading Lightly? Ecotourism's Impact on the Environment. Forthcoming in <i>The Environment in Anthropology</i>, 2nd Edition.</p>
Mar 24	<p>Confronting Environmental Degradation: Is Green Consumerism the Answer? Guest speaker (last half of class): Prof Rick Stepp.</p> <p><i>The Environment in Anthropology</i> Ch 30: Shrader-Frechette, K. Individualism, Holism, and Environmental Ethics. Pp. 336-348.</p> <p>Carrier, J. 2010 Protecting the Environment the Natural Way: Ethical Consumption and Commodity Fetishism. <i>Antipode</i> 42(3): 672–689.</p> <p>Honey, M. Treading Lightly? Ecotourism's Impact on the Environment. Forthcoming in <i>The Environment in Anthropology</i>, 2nd Edition.</p>
Mar 29	<p>Perspectives on Sustainability: What cultural factors create challenges for sustainability?</p> <p><i>Flourishing</i>. Ch. 1 Introduction; Ch. 2 Sustainability Means Nothing Without An End in Sight; Ch. 3 Myths of Our Modern Culture; Ch. 4 The Wrong-headed Solutions of Corporate Sustainability; Ch. 5 More is Not Better. Pp. 1-66.</p> <p><u>Supplementary Reading:</u> Norgaard, K. M. 2006 "People want to protect themselves a little bit" Emotions, Denial and Social Movement Nonparticipation: The Case of Global Climate Change. <i>Sociological Inquiry</i> 76(3): 347-470</p>
Mar 31	<p>Team Research Project Work Tucker Away at Professional Conference</p>
Apr 5	<p>Exploring Options for Sustainability: Degrowth Guest Lecturer: Prof. Susan Paulson</p> <p>Demaria, F. et al. 2013 What is Degrowth? From an Activist Slogan to a Social Movement. <i>Environmental Values</i> 22(2): 191–215</p> <p><i>Flourishing</i> Ch 5 More is Not Better. Pp. 67-80.</p>
Apr 7	<p>Critical and Constructive Assessments of Sustainability: How can we move toward sustainable futures?</p> <p><i>Flourishing</i>. Ch.6 Reexamining What It Means to Be Human; Ch. 7 Returning to Our Place in the Whole; Ch. 8 Reasons to be Hopeful Pp. 81-136.</p> <p>Durrenberger, P. 2014. Living Up to Our Words. <i>Human Organization</i>, vol. 73, no. 4 (2014): 299-304.</p>
Apr 12	Team Presentations
Apr 14	Team Presentations

Apr 19	Human-Environment Futures: What can we do now? Discussion & Class Learning Assessment
FINALS Week	
Monday, April 25: Final Research Reports Due On Canvas with Email pdf to tuckerc@ufl.edu	