

Political Ecology Working Group, Spring 2005
ENVS 291-15

Foundations in Environmental Sociology

Time: Mondays 10:30am - noon

Place: 411 Natural Sciences 2

Faculty Sponsor: Margaret FitzSimmons

Course #: 64567

Contacts: Jill Harrison (jlh@ucsc.edu); 443 ISB

This course is designed to provide an overview of foundational literature in environmental sociology. The first half of the course surveys some of the foundational debates in environmental sociology. The second half of the course then focuses on the sociology of knowledge and, in particular, contestations of knowledge in environmental social movements.

Week 1 (March 28): Housekeeping, Syllabus-Setting

Week 2 (April 4): Political Ecology and the Sociology of Development

Paul Robbins. (2004) "The Hatchet and the Seed" Chapter 1 in *Political Ecology: A Critical Introduction*. Blackwell, Oxford.

Ravi Rajan. [Article on political ecology]

Raymond Bryant. 1998. Power, Knowledge, and Political Ecology in the Third World: A Review. *Progress in Human Geography* 22 (1): 79-94. [Max, please verify this is the article which you recommend.]

UCSC Political Ecology Working Group. 2002. "An Introduction to Political Ecology". [to be circulated by email]

Week 3 (April 11): Political Ecology and the Sociology of Development (cont.)

E. Melanie DuPuis and Peter Vandergeest. 1996. Introduction from *Creating the Countryside: The Politics of Rural and Environmental Discourse*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press.

Peter Walker. "Political Ecology: Where is the Ecology?" *Progress in Human Geography* 29 (1): 73-82.

Paulson, Gezon, and Michael Watts. 2003. "Locating the Political in Political Ecology: An Introduction" [journal?] 62 (3): 205-214.

Carney, Judith. 2001. Selected chapter(s) from *Black Rice*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Other recommended/optional texts:

Richard Peet and Michael Watts, eds. (1996) *Liberation Ecologies: Environment, Development, Social Movements*. Routledge, London

Piers Blakie and Hal Brookfield. 1987. *Land Degradation and Society*. London: Methuen. [or make part of this required? Or move Carney readings to another week? YES LETS MOVE CARNEY...IT IS HUGE & VERY HISTORICAL SO MAYBE OF LESS INTEREST TO FOLKS]

Week 4 (April 18): Social Constructions of Nature

Donna Haraway (1991) "The Contest for Primate Nature: Daughters of Man-the-Hunter in the Field, 1960-80," pp. 81-108 in *Simians, Cyborgs and Women: The Reinvention of Nature*. Routledge.

Elizabeth A.R. Bird (1987) "The Social Construction of Nature: Theoretical Approaches to the History of Environmental Problems." *Environmental Review* 11(4): 255-264.

Michel Callon. 1999. "Actor-network theory-the market test" in *Actor Network Theory and After*, edited by John Law and John Hassard. Oxford: Blackwell/Sociological Review.

Other recommended/optional texts (for those who haven't yet read them):

William Cronon, ed. 1995. "Introduction: In Search of Nature" and "The Trouble with Wilderness; or, Getting Back to the Wrong Nature" by William Cronon in *Uncommon Ground: Toward Reinventing Nature*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co..

Donald Worster. 1990. "Seeing Beyond Culture". *Journal of American History*, vol. 76: 1142-47.

For some other perspectives on the Cronon-Worster debate, see:
<http://trumpeter.athabascau.ca/content/v13.1/10-sessions.html>.

Raymond Williams. "Ideas of Nature" [full citation?]

Week 5 (April 25): Ecological Modernization and the Technology Treadmill

Gert Spaargaren and Arthur P. J. Mol (1992) "Sociology, environment, and modernity: ecological modernization as a theory of social change." *Society & Natural Resources* 5(4): 323-344.

John Bellamy Foster (1999) "Marx's theory of metabolic rift: classical foundations for environmental sociology." *American Journal of Sociology*. 105: 366-405.

James O'Connor 1998. *Natural Causes: Essay in Ecological Marxism*. Guilford. [Dustin to select chapter(s); I NEED TO BE IN THE OFFICE TO PICK THEM, LEAVE THIS FOR NOW]

Frederick H. Buttel (2000) "Ecological modernization as social theory." *Geoforum* 31(1): 57-65.

Recommended/optional text:

Allan Schnaiberg (1994) "The Political Economy of Environmental Problems and Policies: Consciousness, Conflict and Control Capacity." *Advances in Human Ecology* 3: 23-64.

Week 6 (May 2): Environmental Policy and Society

Nancy Peluso and Michael Watts. 2001. Introduction from *Violent Environments*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

The Angry Earth [full citation?] [Anna to select chapter]

Homer-Dixon exchange with Watts and Peluso? [Dustin to provide citations; WAITING FOR MARISA ON THIS, THE FOLLOWING MAY BE BETTER ANYWAY]

Hartman, B. 2001. Chapter 2 from *Violent Environments*

Recommended/optional

John Dryzek. 1997. *Politics of the Earth: Environmental Discourses*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. [or select a chapter from this?]

Week 7 (May 9): Environmental Policy and Society (cont.)

Andrew Szasz. 1994. *Ecopopulism: Toxic Waste and the Movement for Environmental Justice*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota. Introduction (and also other chapter[s]?).

Phil Brown, Steve Kroll-Smith, and Valerie J. Gunter. 2000. "Introduction: Environments and Diseases in a Postnatural World" in *Illness and the Environment: A Reader in Contested Medicine*, ed. Steve Kroll-Smith, Phil Brown, and Valerie J. Gunter.

Stephen Kroll-Smith. 1997. *Bodies in Protest*. New York: New York University Press.

Weeks 8-10 (May 16, 23, 30): Sociology of Environmental Social Movements (May 30 meeting time/day/place TBA)

Please augment/refine these suggested ideas:

Schurman, R. "Fighting Frankenfoods: Industry Structures and the Efficacy of the Anti-Biotech Movement in Western Europe." 2004. *Social Problems*, 51(2): 243-268.

Michael Goldman and Rachel A. Schurman (2000) "Closing the 'Great Divide': New Social Theory on Society and Nature." *Annual Review of Sociology* 26: 563-584.

Frances Fox Piven and Richard A. Cloward. 1977. Introduction [and other chapters? NO Intro is enough, I can't find my copy!] from *Poor People's Movements: Why they Succeed, How they Fail*. New York: Pantheon Books.

See the Special Issue of *Science as Culture* which David Hess edited (Dec 2004; vol. 13, no. 4): "Health, the Environment, and Social Movements".

McAdam: overview of social movement literature.

Epstein, S. 1996. "Controversy, credibility, and the public character of AIDS research" in *Impure science: AIDS, activism and the politics of knowledge*. California: UC Press.

James McCarthy. 2002. "First World Political Ecology: lessons from the Wise Use Movement." *Environment and Planning A* 34: 1281-1302

Ideas:

Power in Movement: Social Movements and Contentious Politics, Second Edition by Sidney Tarrow. Cambridge University Press, 1998.

Comparative Perspectives on Social Movements ed. by Doug McAdam, John D. McCarthy, and Mayer N. Zald. Cambridge University Press, 1996.

Doug McAdam has clearly done a ton of work on social movements; here is his CV for other ideas:

<http://www.stanford.edu/dept/soc/people/faculty/mcadam/Doug%20McAdam%20CV.pdf>

Rik Scarce. 2000. *Fishy Business: Salmon Biology and the Social Construction of Nature*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press. (selected chapters)

Robert Gottlieb. 2001. *Environmentalism Unbound: Exploring New Pathways for Change*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. (selected chapters)

Optional Reading: Common Property (for those who haven't read these yet)

Garrett Hardin (1968) "The Tragedy of the Commons." *Science* 162(3859): 1243-1248. Dec. 13.

John Vandermeer (1996) "Tragedy of the Commons: The Meaning of the Metaphor." *Science and Society* 60(3): 290-306.

Ostrom. Institutional economist on common property.

Next Quarter: Sociology of Knowledge, Science, and Technology (Please start adding your suggestions for Fall 2005 PEWG!)

Andrew Jamison. 2001. *The Making of Green Knowledge: Environmental Politics and Cultural Transformation*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Wynne, B. (1996). Misunderstood misunderstandings: social identities and public uptake of science. Misunderstanding Science? the public reconstruction of science and technology. A. Irwin and B. Wynne. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

Wynne, B. (2002). "Risk and Environment as Legitimatory Discourses of Technology: Reflexivity Inside Out?" Current Sociology **50**(3): 459-477.

Jasanoff, S. (1998). "The Political Science of Risk Perception." Reliability Engineering and System Safety **59**: 91-99.

Knorr-Cetina, K. (1999). Epistemic Cultures: How the Sciences Make Knowledge. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press.

Abir-Am, P. (1982). "The discourse of physical power and biological knowledge in the 1930s: A reappraisal of the Rockefeller Foundation's "policy" in molecular biology." Social Studies of Science **12**: 341-382.

Beck, U. (1992). Risk Society: Towards a New Modernity. London, Sage Publications.

Brockway, L. (1979). Science and Colonial Expansion: The Role of the British Royal Botanical Gardens. New York, Academic Press.

Buttel, F. and J. Belsky (1987). "Biotechnology, Plant Breeding, and Intellectual Property: Social and Ethical Dimensions." Science, Technology, and Human Values **12**: 31-49.

Kleinman, D. L. (1998). "Untagling Context: Understanding a University Laboratory in the Commercial World." Science, Technology and Human Values **23**(3): 285-303.

Latour, B. (1987). Science in action: how to follow scientists and engineers through society. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press.

Mills, L. N. (2002). Science and Social Context: The Regulation of Recombinant Bovine Growth Hormone in North America. Montreal, McGill-Queen's University Press.

Pickering, A. (1995). The Mangle of Practice: Time, Agency, and Science. Chicago, University of Chicago Press.

Robbins, P. (2001). "Fixed categories in a portable landscape: the causes and consequences of land-cover categorization." Environment and Planning A **33**: 161-179.

Phil Brown: chapter in *Smoke and Mirrors*.

Langon Winner. "Do Artifacts have Politics?" or *The Whale and the Reactor*.

(other PE folks in particular should play a role in developing this section...)

