

ENVS 291 Political Ecology Working Group, Fall 2004

Discourse, Space, and Scale: The Political Ecology of Environmental Governance

Time: Wednesday 12-2pm

Place: 417 ISB

Faculty Sponsor: Ravi Rajan

Course ID: 00000

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This seminar focuses on the representations and uses of space and scale in cultural and political geography/sociology. The collection of readings is motivated by an interest to bring these units of analysis into the political ecology rubric, where interventions and analyses seek to understand environmental processes and empower environmental politics by focusing on the labor process, social power, institutional & discursive struggles. By interrogating the rich literature on space and scale, political ecology methods may offer analytical discipline regarding how the multiple layers of environmental and social processes are shaped by events, discourses and structures. Likewise, understanding the strategic uses and representations of space and scale may help to identify new governable spaces and empower social praxis.

Course Requirements: Registered participants will facilitate 1 to 2 discussions.

Oct 6th WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL ECOLOGY

Peet and Watts. 1996. Liberation Ecology: Development, Sustainability and Environment in an Age of Market Triumphalism." In Peet and Watts (eds.) Liberation Ecologies, 1st Edition. London: Routledge: 1-39.

Watts and Peet. 2004. "Liberating Political Ecology." in Peet and Watts (eds.) Liberation Ecologies, 2nd Edition. London: Routledge: 1-30.

Taylor, P. 1997. "Notwithstanding Appearances, we are all doing something like Political Ecology." Social Epistemology 11(1): 111-127.

Oct 13th WEEK 2: DISCOURSE ANALYSIS THEORY

Phillips, N. and C. Hardy (2002). Discourse Analysis: Investigating Processes of Social Construction. Thousand Oaks, CA, Sage. 1-28.

Hajer, M. (1995). The Politics of Environmental Discourse: Ecological modernization and the policy process. Oxford, Oxford University Press. Chapter 2 & 6.

*Johnstone, B. (2002). Discourse Analysis. Oxford, Blackwell.

*Mills, S. (1997). Discourse: The New Idiom. London, Routledge.

Oct 20th WEEK 3: REPRESENTATIONS & EXPERIENCES OF SPACE

Harvey, D. (1989). Part III: The Experience of Space and Time. The Condition of Postmodernity. Oxford, Basil Blackwell. 201-240.

Smith, N. (1984). The Production of Space. Uneven Development: Nature, Capital and the Production of Space. Oxford, Basil Blackwell: 66-95.

Watts, M. (1992). "Space for Everything (a commentary)." Cultural Anthropology 7(1): 115-129.

Massey, D. (1992). "Politics and space/time." New Left Review 196: 65-84.

*Marston, S. A. (2004). "Space, culture, state: uneven developments in political geography." Political Geography 23: 1-16.

Oct 27th WEEK 4: ONTOLOGIES OF SCALE

Smith, N. (2000). Scale. The Dictionary of Human Geography. R. J. Johnstone. Oxford, Blackwell.

Delaney, D. and H. Leitner (1997). "The political construction of scale." Political Geography 16(2): 93-97.

Marston, S. (2000). "The Social Construction of Scale." Progress in Human Geography 25: 615-619.

Howitt, R. (2003). Scale. A Companion to Political Geography. J. Agnew, K. Mitchell and G. Toal. Oxford, Blackwell.

Latham, A. (2002). Rethorizing the Scale of Globalization: Topologies, Actor-networks, and Cosmopolitanism. Geographies of Power. A. Herod and M. Wright. Oxford, Blackwell: 115-153.

Nov 3rd WEEK 5: SPACE, SCALE AND METHODOLOGY

Sayer, A. (1992). Method in Social Science: A Realist Approach. London, Routledge: 138-151.

Gregory, D. (2000). Realism. Dictionary of Human Geography. Oxford, Blackwell.

Herod, A. and M. Wright (2002). Placing Scale: An Introduction. Geographies of Power: Placing Scale. A. Herod and M. Wright. Oxford, Blackwell: 1-14.

Brenner, N. (2001). "The limits to scale? Methodological reflections on scalar structuration." Progress in Human Geography 25(4): 591-614.

*Paasi, A. (2004). "Place and region: looking through the prism of scale." Progress in Human Geography 28(4): 536-546.

*Purcell, M. (2003). "Islands of practice and the Marston/Brenner debate: toward a more synthetic critical human geography." Progress in Human Geography 27(3): 317-332.

Nov 10th WEEK 6: SPATIAL POLITICS

Richardson, T. and O. B. Jensen (2003). "Linking Discourse and Space: Towards a Cultural Sociology of Space in Analysing Spatial Policy Discourses." Urban Studies 40(1): 7-22.

Smith, M. P. (1998). "Looking for the global spaces in local politics." Political Geography 17(1): 35-40.

Smith, N. (1993). Homeless/global: scaling places. Mapping the Futures: Local Cultures, Global Change. J. Doherty, E. Graham and M. Malek. London, Routledge.

Murdoch, J. and T. Marsden (1995). "The spatialization of politics: local and national actor spaces in environmental conflict." Transaction of the Institute of British Geographers **20**: 368-380.

Gibson-Graham, J. K. (2002). Beyond Global vs. Local: Economic Politics Outside the Binary Frame. Geographies of Power: Placing Scale. A. Herod and M. Wright. Oxford, Blackwell: 25-60.

Nov 17th WEEK 7: SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

Routledge, P. (2003). "Convergence space: process geographies of grassroots globalization networks." Transaction of the Institute of British Geographers **28**: 333-349.

Featherstone, D. (2003). "Spatialities of transnational resistance to globalization: the maps of grievance of the Inter-Continental Caravan." Transaction of the Institute of British Geographers **28**: 404-421.

Mitchell, D. (1998). The Scales of Justice: Localist Ideology, Large-Scale Production and Agricultural Labor's Geography of Resistance in the 1930s California. Organizing the Landscape: Geographical Perspective on Labor Unionism. A. Herod.

Rankin, K. N. (2003). "Anthropologies and Geographies of Globalization." Progress in Human Geography **27**(6): 708-734.

Nov 24th WEEK 8: POLITICS OF SCALE

Swyngedouw, E. (1997). Excluding the other: the production of scale and scaled politics. Geographies of Economies. R. Lee and J. Wills. London, Arnold Press.

Cox, K. R. (1998). "Spaces of dependence, spaces of engagement and the politics of scale, or: looking for local politics." Political Geography **17**(1): 1-23.

Smith, N. (1996). "Spaces of Vulnerability- The Space of Flows and the Politics of Scale." Critique of Anthropology **16**(1): 63-77.

Kurtz, H. E. (2003). "Scale frames and counter-scale frames: constructing the problem of environmental injustice." Political Geography **22**: 887-916.

*Gough, J. (2004). "Changing scale as changing class relations: variety and contradiction in the politics of scale." Political Geography **23**: 185-211.

*Swyngedouw, E. and N. C. Heynen (2003). "Urban Political Ecology, Justice and the Politics of Scale." Antipode **35**(5): 898-918.

*Williams, R. W. (1999). "Environmental Injustice in America and its politics of scale." Political Geography **18**: 49-73

*Smith, C. M. and H. E. Kurtz (2003). "Community Gardens and Politics of Scale in New York City." The Geographical Review **93**(2): 193-212.

Nov 31st WEEK 9:

Harrison, Jill (2004): Draft Paper on “Multiple Locals? Discursive Representations of Scale in California’s Pesticide Drift Debates”

Dec 7th WEEK 10

Mulvaney, Dustin (2004): Draft Paper on “Engendering Crises of Jurisdiction: Linking the material and discursive through space and scale in GMO politics.”