

Course Information

Number:	SC201
Name:	Environmentalism: Philosophy, Ethics, and History
Description:	This examines how our senses of being a part of (rather than apart from) our environment and of our responsibility to the environment have arisen, in part through readings among the foundation documents of the "Green Ethic." It emphasizes that the "Green Ethic" is only in part a matter of ethics; it is also a matter of humanity's self-preservation.
Credit(s):	3
Offered (DAY schedule):	
Instructor Permission Required:	N
Pre-Requisite(s):	

Course Objectives

After completing this course, students will be able to: 1.Explain why humans cannot be considered to be independent of the natural world 2.Explain why the environment matters to individuals, businesses, and society 3.Describe the philosophical roots of environmental problems 4.Outline the history of the environmental movement 5.Describe main threads in environmentalist thinking 6.Explain how understanding the past may help humanity solve present problems.

SC201 Environmental Philosophy

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Course Description and Objectives

This course examines how our senses of being a part of (rather than apart from) our environment and of our responsibility to the environment have arisen. It emphasizes that the "green ethic" is only in part a matter of ethics; it is also a matter of humanity's self-preservation.

Upon completion of this course, a student will be able to:

- Explain why humans should not be considered to be independent of the natural world.
- Explain why the environment matters to individuals, businesses, and society.
- Describe the philosophical roots of environmental problems.
- Outline the history of the environmental movement.
- Describe main threads in environmentalist thinking both conservative and liberal.
- Explain how understanding the past may help humanity solve present problems.

Course Texts and Readings

Required Texts

Taking Sides. Thomas Easton. McGraw-Hill, 2016. **ISBN:** 9781259343254

Silent Spring. Carson, Rachel. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1962. **ISBN:** 978-0618249060

Open For Business. Judith Layzer. MIT Press, 2012. **ISBN;** 9780262018272

Online Resources

<https://geog405.wordpress.com/2011/01/26/notes-on-first-along-the-river/>

Moodle postings

Session-By-Session Outline

Class	Topic	Assignment
1	<p>Introduction to the Course</p> <p>Introduction to Environmental Philosophy</p> <p>History of the Environmental Movement</p>	<p>Easton,</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Layzer pp. 31-45 & 60-65</p>
2	The Precautionary Principle	<p>Easton,</p> <p>Issues 1.1 and 1.2 and</p> <p><i>Silent Spring</i></p>
3	Pricing and Designating Ecosystem Services	<p>Easton,</p> <p>Issues 1.3 and 2.1 and</p> <p>Provided Reading</p>
4	Politics and the Environment	<p>Easton,</p> <p>Issues 2.2 and 2.3 and</p> <p>Layzer pp. 350-360</p> <p>Case Study due</p>
5	Global Warming	<p>Easton,</p> <p>Issue 3.1 and</p> <p>Layzer pp. 238-249 and</p> <p>Provided Reading</p>
6	Fossil Fuels	<p>Easton,</p> <p>Issues 3.3 and 3.4 and</p> <p>Case study due</p>
7	Renewable Energy (Columbus Day on Tuesday)	<p>Easton,</p> <p>Issue 3.5</p>
8	Renewable Energy (cont'd)	<p>Easton,</p> <p>Issues 3.6 and 3.7</p>
9	Population & Water	<p>Easton,</p> <p>Issue 4.1 and Provided Reading</p>

10	Population & Water (cont'd)	
11	Agriculture	Easton, Issue 4.3 and 4.4 and Case study due
12	Hazardous Materials and Waste	Easton, Issue 5.2 and 5.3
13	Sustainable growth and CSR (Thanksgiving on Thursday)	Online readings
14	Class Presentations	
15	Class Presentations	Final paper

Course Evaluation Procedures

Student Evaluation Criteria (percentages are approximate)	
	Percentage of final grade
Assignments (3 Case Studies)	45%
Final Paper (online)	40%
Attendance/Participation	15%
TOTAL	100%

Attendance

To realize the full potential of this course, students are encouraged to attend all scheduled classes and to participate in class activities. Students who miss a class are responsible for researching the missing information on their own. Students who miss more than two classes will be reported to the academic and financial aid administrators. For weeks that require attendance, attendance is always taken and submitted to the Registrar's Office.

Research studies clearly demonstrate that the use of any electronics interfere with attention and learning. Therefore, please turn off all cell phones and lap tops before the start of class (includes

electronic devices not mentioned above). If students need to use an electronic device, they may leave the room and then use those electronic devices out in the hall (so others are not distracted).

Case Studies

The three case studies will be spaced out throughout the semester and are designed for the student to interpret an environmental scenario and compare their thoughts on the topic to what an opposite minded individual might think. I will include with the cases a rubric that can be analyzed to help structure the paper. The case analysis should be between 3 and 4 pages in length.

Final Paper

The class paper will focus on an environmental topic that is of interest to the student during the course of the semester and the assignment will be formally discussed and posted during the sixth week of the semester.

Grading Policy

Grades will be assigned based on the total points possible in the course. The final grade in the course will be assigned according to the following percentages:

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

F = below 60%

Class Policies

- You are responsible for completing class assignments by the expected due date. All assignments are due in class by the date listed IN THE COURSE OUTLINE. **Late assignments will not be accepted.** Students must make arrangements to turn in an assignment before any absences, whether excused or unexcused. Copies of all assignments should be made and the originals retained for future use.
- All class assignments must be neatly typed and double-spaced unless otherwise noted. Margins should be 1 inch at the top, bottom, left, and right of the paper. **Font**

should be 12-point, Times New Roman, with references in APA format. Grammatical errors should be absent.

- You are expected to attend all class sessions and actively participate in class activities. Make-up assignments are not offered for missed in-class assignments due to unexcused absences. There are two situations that constitute an excused absence from class:
 - Participation in a documented university-sanctioned event. In accordance with university policy, students who will be participating in university-sanctioned events must provide the instructor with a copy of the scheduled events and which classes will be missed. This documentation must be on university letterhead, signed by the instructor or coach, and given to this instructor within the first two weeks of the quarter.
 - A documented death in the family.
- You will utilize electronic resources to access class materials on Moodle and communicate with the instructor and other students enrolled in the course via Moodle and e-mail.
- Any evidence of academic misconduct (e.g., cheating on an exam, plagiarism, turning in the work of another student as your own) will be treated in accordance with the academic misconduct policy as stated in the student handbook. Be aware . . . plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full or clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Course consequences for acts of plagiarism and/or academic misconduct should be specified in the syllabus. These can vary from failing an assignment to failing a class. Reference should be made to the section on Academic Honesty in the Student Handbook:

“ACADEMIC HONESTY

Students are expected to do assigned work themselves, to write papers in their own words (extensive quoting suggests a failure to master the material), and to cite sources appropriately and accurately.

Taking credit for work not one’s own is a serious offense. It can take several forms:

1. **Plagiarizing.** According to the 1999 *MLA Handbook*, “To use another person’s ideas or expression in your writing without acknowledging the source is to plagiarize” (30). The *Handbook* continues, “Forms of plagiarism include the failure to give appropriate acknowledgement when repeating another’s wording or particularly apt phrase, when paraphrasing another’s argument, or when presenting another’s line of reasoning” (30). A student’s failure to properly cite and document sources may constitute plagiarism, even if there is no deliberate attempt or intent to misrepresent the work in question.
2. **Aiding and abetting plagiarism.** Permitting others to use your work.
3. **Recycling your own work.** Submitting, without permission, in one course work originally done for another.
4. **Cheating.** Copying from another student’s exam paper; permitting others to copy one’s work; bringing unauthorized material to exams; accepting or giving unauthorized assistance on coursework and/or assignments.
5. **Subbing.** Replacing another student, or asking another student to replace you, for the purpose of taking a quiz or exam.
6. **Altering.** Changing grades or marks on papers or exams; unauthorized use or alteration of College add/drop or other forms.

7. Falsifying. Falsification or fabrication of research results, quotations, facts, and/or references.

Penalties

First offenses of academic misconduct in the context of a course will be dealt with by the course's instructor. Instructors are expected to inform the Academic Affairs Office of any instance of alleged academic misconduct.

Once a faculty member has made a determination of academic misconduct, students will be informed as soon as reasonably possible of the offense and

penalty in writing and may appeal in writing to the instructor within 72 hours. Penalties for the first offense may range from failing the particular assignment at issue to failing the course. A student normally will not be allowed to withdraw from a course to avoid the consequences of a finding of academic misconduct.

Should the student wish to appeal the instructor's finding of academic misconduct, he or she may file a written appeal with the department chair within one calendar week of the decision of the instructor. After consultation with the instructor and the student, the department chair may deny the appeal (in which case the decision of the faculty member stands) or accept the appeal and recommend an appropriate course of action. (If the faculty member in question is the department chair, the other department chair will function in his or her capacity during the appeals process. Should the alleged misconduct be reported in a CED or Graduate course, appeals would be referred to the Director of Graduate and Continuing Education.)

Should the faculty member or the student wish to appeal the decision of the department chair (or that of the Director of Graduate and Continuing Education), that appeal should be made in writing to the Chief Academic Officer within one calendar week of the department chair's decision. The decision of the Chief Academic Officer is final.

Students who are reported to the Academic Affairs Office for an alleged second offense (or any alleged subsequent offense) will have their cases automatically referred to the Academic Affairs Committee for review. In cases where the Chief Academic Officer has

been involved in a formal appeal of the incident in question, he or she will be replaced on the committee by the Chief Student Affairs Officer. The Academic Affairs Committee may choose to recommend an additional penalty to include academic disciplinary probation or dismissal.

Decisions of the Academic Affairs Committee may be appealed to the Appeals Board within one calendar week of the decision of the Academic Affairs Committee. Appeals must be based on the basis of new information or when there is reason to believe that proper procedure has been violated, but may not be appealed solely on the basis of dissatisfaction with the sanction. There is no further appeal beyond the Appeals Board.