

POLI 3385 Politics of the Environment
Dalhousie University
3 credit hours
Fall 2021
Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:35 - 3:55 p.m.
Rowe 1011

Instructor: Anders Hayden
Office and Hours: Henry Hicks 358, Tuesdays 1:30 – 2:25 p.m., Wednesdays 4:05 – 5:00 p.m., or online meetings by appointment (please e-mail me to set up an online appointment).
E-mail: anders.hayden@dal.ca
Tel: 902-494-6602
Online materials: <https://dal.brightspace.com/d2l/home/186844>

The Political Science General Office on the third floor of the Henry Hicks Building will be open from 9.00-3.30, Monday to Friday, for the month of September.

This syllabus is based on the assumption that it will be possible to hold in-person classes throughout the fall 2021 semester. However, if *either* the university administration *or* the instructor determines that it is unsafe to meet in person, we will move the class online, with a mix of asynchronous lectures and a weekly synchronous meeting during the scheduled class time on Wednesdays. If we have to move online, other changes to the syllabus may be necessary (e.g. to the attendance and participation grade).

All students are required to comply with health and safety requirements on campus, and should be considerate of others' health concerns. Non-compliance may be reported under the Code of Student Conduct.

For at least the month of September, masks should be worn in classrooms and lecture halls. The University's mask directive may be extended further into the fall term.

Course Description

This course examines competing perspectives on two over-riding questions:

- What are the key political and socio-economic causes of environmental problems?
- What types of political and socio-economic change are needed to achieve ecological sustainability? In other words, do lasting environmental solutions require radical changes in our political and socio-economic structure and consciousness, or are minor reforms to current practices enough?

Topics include:

- the debate over the severity of ecological crisis
- competing perspectives on ideas of limits to growth and sustainable development
- the links between poverty, North-South inequality, and environmental degradation
- environmental justice and inequalities in the exposure to environmental hazards and relative contributions to environmental problems
- controversies over the impact of population growth and how to respond to it
- the promise and limits of technological solutions to environmental problems

- the role of consumerism in ecological degradation
- market-based environmentalism
- ecological modernization (in theory and practice) and the related idea of “green growth”
- ecological critiques of capitalism and the search for systemic alternatives
- the debate over a Green New Deal

Learning Outcomes

- Students will further develop their understanding of major global environmental challenges.
- Students will demonstrate understanding of major competing perspectives on the socio-economic and political causes of environmental degradation and corresponding proposals for how to address environmental challenges.
- Students will be able to apply concepts in political science to analysis of environmental issues.
- Students will further develop their communication skills (public speaking, writing, listening critically) through class discussions and written assignments.
- Students will further develop their skills in research, analysis, and synthesis of information through their research papers.

Course Format

The course will be combine lectures and class discussion, along with student presentations and the occasional use of videos and online materials.

Pre-requisites

Previous course in Political Science is recommended, but not required.

Expectations and Grading

Attendance & Participation	10%
Quizzes (2 x 5%)	10%
Midterm	25%
Research Paper	30%
Final Exam	25%

For information on how your percentage grade will be converted into a letter grade and grade point, see Dalhousie’s grade scale and definitions:

https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/grades-and-student-records/grade-scale-and-definitions.html

Attendance and Participation 10%

You are expected to attend *every* class (unless you are ill*) and, with the exception of the first class, to complete the assigned readings before class. You are also expected to participate actively and respectfully in group discussions—without dominating discussion in a way that prevents others from speaking. Due to the size of the class, this component of the grade will be based mainly on attendance; students who stand out for constructive contributions to discussions throughout the semester will gain additional points.

*If you are feeling ill – particularly if you have Covid symptoms – you should not come to class. In that case, let me know by email and submit a Student Declaration of Absence form (https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/academic-policies/student-absence.html) on brightspace within three days so that I can take it into account when determining your attendance and participation grade.

Quizzes 10%

There will be two short-quizzes (15 minutes) on September 27 and November 3 to assess your knowledge of key concepts covered in the readings and lectures.

Midterm 25%

A take-home midterm will be distributed by October 12 and will be due on October 21. Any midterms submitted after October 21 will be subjected to the late penalties discussed below—until October 28, *after which midterms will not be accepted and a grade of zero will be applied.*

Research Paper 30%

You will write a paper of 3,000 to 4,000 words. Papers are due on December 1.

A list of possible paper topics will be distributed in class. You are also free to propose your own topic, subject to approval of the instructor.

You have the *option* of submitting a 1-2 page proposal, plus an initial bibliography, by October 13 at the latest. You will not receive a grade for the proposal, but this is an opportunity to receive feedback as you develop your paper. This will also help to ensure that you begin work on your paper early in the semester. The research paper is the largest single component of your grade; you should treat it as an important project rather than a last-minute rush job.

Final Exam 25%

The final exam will cover material from the entire semester. You should be able to finish the exam within 2 hours, although you will have 3 hours to complete it. It will take place during the exam period from December 9 to 19. The final exam schedule, which the Registrar's Office determines, will be released by October 1. *Do not make travel plans until you know the date of the final exam.*

Late Penalties

Assignments received after the due date will be subject to a late penalty of 1% on the first day, an *additional* 2% on the second day, an *additional* 3% on the third day ... and an additional 5 % on the fifth and every subsequent day, unless appropriate written documentation such as a doctor's note is provided. (For example, a paper submitted six days late will receive a penalty of 20%, i.e. 1+2+3+4+5+5%). Please plan your work well ahead of time to avoid late penalties. The late penalties are phased in gradually to give you some extra flexibility. For example, if you need one more day to finish your paper, you may decide it is worth taking the small penalty to have a little extra time, but the penalties increase substantially as the delay grows longer.

Note that special provisions for late penalties apply for the midterm. See details above.

Recording

Lectures and discussions will *not* be recorded by the instructor. If you wish to audio record the lecture components of the class, you may do so, but please ask for permission first.

Deadlines for Withdrawal from Fall Courses

For Fall 2021 classes, the deadline by which a student may withdraw without a “W” appearing on the transcript is October 1. The last day to withdraw with a “W” is November 1.

Plagiarism

All students need to be familiar with the norms surrounding plagiarism and academic integrity.

To ensure that you understand what plagiarism is, see:

https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity/plagiarism-cheating.html.

I also suggest that you take the following online quiz: <https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/mcas/departments/political-science/undergraduate/academic-integrity/academic-integrity-quiz.html>. You might find some surprises.

N.B. I have often had to report students for academic integrity violations. In some cases, the violations appeared to be unintentional as the students did not understand the rules for the proper citation of others’ work. Don’t let it happen to you—or me (it’s no fun for anybody).

The instructor may use plagiarism detection software to review assignments.

If you have any questions about academic integrity and plagiarism, please ask. Also see the University Statement on “Academic Integrity” in section B near the end of this syllabus.

Required Book

Dryzek, John. 2013. *Politics of the Earth: Environmental Discourses* (3rd edition). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Weekly Themes and Readings

N.B. You can find the required readings in the required book or, for other articles or chapters not in the books, through links on the course website on Brightspace. Class schedule is subject to change.

If you have difficulties accessing any of the readings, whether required or recommended, please contact me.

September 8: Introduction

What are the main environmental challenges that humanity is facing?

What are the main competing explanations of the causes of these problems?

How do perceptions of those challenges differ depending on one’s social position, ideology or worldview, and other factors?

What are some of the main ways to examine these challenges through a political science lens?

Required:

Dryzek. “Making Sense of the Earth's Politics.” Chapter 1 in *Politics of the Earth*.

Guterres, António. 2020. “Secretary-General’s Address at Columbia University: ‘The State of the Planet.’” United Nations Secretary-General.

<https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/speeches/2020-12-02/address-columbia-university-the-state-of-the-planet>

Recommended:

- Carey, John. 2015. "The 9 limits of our planet ... and how we've raced past 4 of them." *TED*.
<http://ideas.ted.com/the-9-limits-of-our-planet-and-how-weve-raced-past-4-of-them/>
- Kolbert, Elizabeth. 2011. "Enter the Anthropocene—Age of Man." *National Geographic*, March.
<http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2011/03/age-of-man/kolbert-text>
- Raworth, Kate and Adam Simpson. 2017. "Kate Raworth on 'Doughnut Economics'." Next System Project Podcast.
<https://thenextsystem.org/learn/stories/episode-2-kate-raworth-doughnut-economics>
- Ripple, William J. et al. 2017. "World Scientists' Warning to Humanity: A Second Notice."
- Speth, James Gustave. 2012. "American passage: Towards a new economy and a new politics." *Ecological Economics* 84:181-186.
- Steffen, Will et al. 2015. "Planetary boundaries: Guiding human development on a changing planet." *Science* 347(6223):1259855.

September 13 and 15: The Politics of Global Limits

Is the expansion of human activity on a collision course with ecological limits?
Can markets and human ingenuity allow the global economy to grow indefinitely?

Required:

Dryzek. "Looming Tragedy: Limits, Boundaries, Survival." Chapter 2. "Growth Unlimited: The Promethean Response." Chapter 3.

Simon, Julian. 1995. "The State of Humanity: Steadily Improving." *Cato Policy Report* 17.5 (September / October): <http://www.cato.org/policy-report/septemberoctober-1995/state-humanity-steadily-improving> (N.B. In this article, focus on the key elements of the Promethean argument about how environmental challenges can be overcome.)

Tupy, Marian L. 2018. "Julian Simon Was Right: A Half-Century of Population Growth, Increasing Prosperity, and Falling Commodity Prices." *Economic Development Bulletin* (Cato Institute) 29:1-12. <https://www.cato.org/publications/economic-development-bulletin/julian-simon-was-right-half-century-population-growth>

Kallis, Giorgos. 2015. "The Degrowth Alternative." *The Great Transition Initiative*.
<http://www.greattransition.org/publication/the-degrowth-alternative>

Recommended:

- Assadourian, Erik. 2012. "The Path to Degrowth in Overdeveloped Countries." Pp. 22-37 in *Moving Toward Sustainable Prosperity: State of the World 2012*. Worldwatch Institute.
http://blogs.worldwatch.org/sustainableprosperity/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/SOW12_chap_2.pdf
- Costanza, Robert. 2013. "A Vision of a Successful Economy without Continuous Economic Growth."
<http://www.humansandnature.org/economy---robert-costanza-response-40.php>
- D'Alisa, Giacomo, Federico Demaria, and Giorgos Kallis. 2015. *Degrowth: A Vocabulary for a New Era*. New York: Routledge.
- O'Neill, Daniel W., Andrew L. Fanning, William F. Lamb, and Julia K. Steinberger. 2018. "A Good Life for All within Planetary Boundaries." *Nature Sustainability* 1(2):88-95.
- Pollin, Robert. 2018. "De-Growth vs a Green New Deal." *New Left Review* (112):5-25.
- Rees, Bill. 2017. "Staving Off the Coming Global Collapse." *The Tyee*, July 17.
<https://thetyee.ca/Opinion/2017/07/17/Coming-Global-Collapse/>

Turner, Graham. 2014. "Is Global Collapse Imminent?" Melbourne: Melbourne Sustainable Society Institute. http://sustainable.unimelb.edu.au/sites/default/files/docs/MSSI-ResearchPaper-4_Turner_2014.pdf

Victor, Peter A. and Tim Jackson. 2015. "The Trouble With Growth." Pp. 37–49 in *State of the World 2015: Confronting Hidden Threats to Sustainability*. Washington, D.C.: Worldwatch Institute / Island Press.

September 20: Sustainable Development

What does "sustainable development" mean?

What are its implications for politics and governance?

Does sustainable development represent a viable middle ground between the limits-to-growth and Promethean perspectives?

How does inequality between the global North and South complicate efforts to find political solutions to global environmental problems?

Required:

Dryzek. Chapter 7, "Greener Growth: Sustainable Development."

Chasek, Pamela S., David L. Downie, and Janet Welsh Brown. 2021. Pp. 23-30, 258-268, 277-285 in *Global Environmental Politics* (8th edition). New York: Routledge.

Highly recommended:

World Commission on Environment and Development. 1987. "Towards Sustainable Development." Excerpt from *Our Common Future*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, Pp. 211-221 in *Green Planet Blues*.

Recommended:

Brand, Ulrich. 2012. "Green Economy – the Next Oxymoron? No Lessons Learned from Failures of Implementing Sustainable Development. *GAIA* 21(1):28-32. http://www.openscience4sustainability.at/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/GAIA-2012_brand_green-economy.pdf

Hajer, Maarten et al. 2015. "Beyond Cockpit-ism: Four Insights to Enhance the Transformative Potential of the Sustainable Development Goals." *Sustainability* 7:1651-1660.

Haas, Peter. 2012. "Assessing Rio Plus 20." *e-International Relations*, August 6. <http://www.e-ir.info/2012/08/06/assessing-rio-plus-20/>

Holden, Erling, Kristin Linnerud, and David Banister. 2014. "Sustainable Development: Our Common Future Revisited." *Global Environmental Change* 26:130–39.

Khor, Martin. 2012. "Rio+20 Was Not All in Vain." *In-Depth News*, July 9. <http://www.indepthnews.info/index.php/global-issues/1039-rio20-was-not-all-in-vain>

Onestini, Maria. 2012. "Development to Green Economy Discourse: Latin America and the Winding Road to Rio+20 : From Sustainable." *The Journal of Environment Development* 2012 21(1):32-35.

Spash, Clive. 2012. "Green Economy, Red Herring." *Environmental Values* 21 (2012): 95–99.

United Nations Secretary-General High-Level Panel on Global Sustainability. 2012. *Resilient People, Resilient Planet: A Future Worth Choosing*. New York: United Nations.

Unmüßig, Barbara, Wolfgang Sachs and Thomas Fatheuer. 2012. "A Critique of the Green Economy. Toward Social and Environmental Equity." Berlin: Heinrich Böll Foundation. http://www.boell.org/downloads/Critique_of_the_Green_Economy.pdf (Chapters 2 and 3 especially relevant).

Victor, David G. 2006. "Recovering Sustainable Development." *Foreign Affairs* 85(1): 91-101.

September 22 and 27: Environmental Justice

N.B. There will be a short quiz in class on September 27.

How do inequalities related to race, class, and geographic location affect the exposure to environmental hazards and the relative contribution to environmental problems?

Agyeman, Julian, David Schlosberg, Luke Craven, and Caitlin Matthews. 2016. "Trends and Directions in Environmental Justice: From Inequity to Everyday Life, Community, and Just Sustainabilities." *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 41(1):321–40.

Powys Whyte, Kyle. 2020. "Environmental Justice, Indigenous Peoples and Consent." Pp. 35–49 in *Lessons in Environmental Justice: From Civil Rights to Black Lives Matter and Idle No More*, edited by M. Mascarenhas. Sage Publications.

Waldron, Ingrid R. G. 2020. "African Nova Scotians on the Frontlines: Narratives of Resistance in the Fight Against Environmental Racism." Pp. 250–268 in *Lessons in Environmental Justice: From Civil Rights to Black Lives Matter and Idle No More*, edited by M. Mascarenhas. Sage Publications.

Highly recommended:

Dryzek, John S. and Jonathan Pickering. 2019. "Planetary Justice." Pp. 58–81 in *The Politics of the Anthropocene*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Recommended:

Agyeman, Julian, Robert D. Bullard, and Bob Evans, eds. 2003. *Just Sustainabilities: Development in an Unequal World*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Faber, Daniel. 2017. "The Political Economy of Environmental Justice." Pp. 61–73 in *The Routledge Handbook of Environmental Justice*, edited by R. Holifield, J. Chakraborty, and G. Walker. London: Routledge.

Gaard, Greta. 2017. "Feminism and Environmental Justice." Pp. 74–88 in *The Routledge Handbook of Environmental Justice*, edited by R. Holifield, J. Chakraborty, and G. Walker. London: Routledge

Martinez-Alier, Joan. 2016. "Global Environmental Justice & the Environmentalisms of the Poor." Pp. 547–62 in *The Oxford Handbook of Environmental Political Theory, Oxford Handbooks*, edited by T. Gabrielson, C. Hall, J. M. Meyer, and D. Schlosberg. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Mascarenhas, Michael, ed. 2020. *Lessons in Environmental Justice: From Civil Rights to Black Lives Matter and Idle No More*. Sage Publications.

Vanderheiden, Steve. 2016. "Environmental and Climate Justice." Pp. 321–32 in *The Oxford Handbook of Environmental Political Theory, Oxford Handbooks*, edited by T. Gabrielson, C. Hall, J. M. Meyer, and D. Schlosberg. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Waldron, Ingrid R. G. 2018. *There's Something in the Water: Environmental Racism in Indigenous & Black Communities*. Halifax: Fernwood.

September 29 and October 4: Poverty and the Environment

N.B. October 1 is last day to drop fall term courses without a "W"

Is poverty a key cause of environmental degradation?

Can the poor afford to care about the earth? Do people need to become wealthy before they can turn their attention to the environment?

How does an "environmentalism of the poor" differ from environmental politics in wealthy nations?

Required:

Reilly, W.K. 1990. "The Green Thumb of Capitalism: The Environmental Benefits of Sustainable Growth." *Policy Review* Fall: 16–21. (N.B. Only pages 1–6 of the pdf file are required. Read this article mainly for the argument on the relationship between poverty and environment rather than for the facts and figures, some of which are outdated).

Popovich, Nadja, Blacki Migliozzi, Karthik Patanjali, Anjali Singhvi, and Jon Huang. 2019. "See How the World's Most Polluted Air Compares With Your City's." *The New York Times*, December 2. <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/12/02/climate/air-pollution-compare-ar-ul.html> (You can't select Halifax, but you can type in "Nova Scotia" and the names of several other Canadian cities and provinces).

Martinez-Alier, Joan. 2014. "The Environmentalism of the Poor." *Geoforum* 54:239-241.

Lewis, Tammy L. 2020. "Environmental Movements in the Global South." Pp. 348-364 in *Twenty Lessons in Environmental Sociology*, edited by K.A. Gould and T.L. Lewis. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Adler, David. 2016. "How Radical Ideas Turned Curitiba into Brazil's 'Green Capital.'" *The Guardian*, May 6. <https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2016/may/06/story-of-cities-37-mayor-jaimie-lerner-curitiba-brazil-green-capital-global-icon>

Kim, So Young and Yael Wolinsky-Nahmias. 2014. "Cross-National Public Opinion on Climate Change: The Effects of Affluence and Vulnerability." *Global Environmental Politics* 14(1):79–106. [N.B. Focus on pp. 79-89, 99-101; you can skim the pages in between.]

Maathai, Wangari. 2004. "Nobel Lecture." December 10. http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/2004/maathai-lecture-text.html

Jeffrey, Karen. 2016. "This Is the Most Efficient Economy in the World." London: New Economics Foundation. <https://neweconomics.org/2016/07/this-is-the-most-efficient-economy-in-the-world>.

Highly recommended:

Watch the two short videos on this web page: Banerji, Shilpa. 2017. "Local Communities Combat Climate Change in Bangladesh." *End Poverty in South Asia (World Bank)*. <https://blogs.worldbank.org/endpovertyinsouthasia/local-communities-combat-climate-change-bangladesh>

Recommended:

Agarwal, Anil and Sunita Narain. 2000. "Redressing Ecological Poverty Through Participatory Democracy: Case Studies from India." Political Economy Research Institute Working Paper #36. University of Massachusetts Amherst. http://www.peri.umass.edu/fileadmin/pdf/working_papers/working_papers_1-50/WP36.pdf

Brandes, Gratz. 2013. Three short articles on Curitiba, Brazil:
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/roberta-brandes-gratz/curitiba_b_3713953.html
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/roberta-brandes-gratz/a-favela-transformed_b_3777182.html
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/roberta-brandes-gratz/curitibas-jaimie-lerner_b_4179203.html

Brechin, Steven R. and Medani Bhandari. 2011. "Perceptions of climate change worldwide." *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Climate Change* 2(6):871-885.

Climate Adaptation UNDP. 2018. "Bracing for Climate Change in Bangladesh." *Exposure*. <https://undp-adaptation.exposure.co/bracing-for-climate-change-in-bangladesh>.

Dunlap, Riley E. and Richard York. 2008. "The Globalization of Environmental Concern and the Limits of the Post-Materialist Explanation: Evidence from Four Multinational Surveys." *Sociological Quarterly* 49:529-563.

Durning, Alan B. 1989. *Worldwatch Paper #92: Poverty and the Environment: Reversing the Downward Spiral*. World Watch Institute. Pp. 5-6, 40-54.

Guha, Ramachandra. 1997. Chapter 3, "Poverty and the Environment: A Critique of the Conventional Wisdom." Pp.46-76 in *Varieties of Environmentalism*, edited by R. Guha and J. Martinez-Alier. London: Earthscan.

- Hayden, Anders. 2015. "Bhutan: Blazing a Trail to a Postgrowth Future? Or Stepping on the Treadmill of Production?" *The Journal of Environment & Development* 24:161–86.
- Narain, Sunita. 2009. "A Million Mutinies." *New Internationalist*, January. <http://www.newint.org/features/2009/01/01/climate-justice-resistance/>
- National Geographic and Globescan. 2014. *Greendex 2014: Consumer Choice and the Environment – A Worldwide Tracking Survey*. http://images.nationalgeographic.com/wpf/media-content/file/NGS_2014_Greendex_Highlights_FINAL-cb1411689730.pdf
- Roberts, J. Timmons and Nikki Demetria Thanos. 2003. Chapter 4, "Hazards of an Urban Continent." *Trouble in Paradise: Globalization and Environmental Crises in Latin America*. New York: Routledge.
- Schroder, Randy and Kent Schroeder. 2014. "Happy Environments: Bhutan, Interdependence and the West." *Sustainability* 6(6), 3521-3533.
- Shwom, Rachel et al. 2015. "Public Opinion on Climate Change." Pp. 269-299 in *Climate Change and Society: Sociological Perspectives*, edited by R.E. Dunlap and R. J. Brulle. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Vidal, John. 2011. "Wangari Maathai obituary: Kenyan winner of the Nobel peace prize for environmental efforts to help the poorest." *The Guardian*, September 27, p. 40. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2011/sep/26/wangari-maathai>

October 6 and 13: The Politics of Population (No Class on October 11, Thanksgiving Day)

Are there too many of us? If so, what should be done?

What are the key demographic trends and projections for population growth?

What are the key criticisms of the focus on population growth?

Why is the population debate such a political minefield, internationally and domestically?

Required:

Hardin, Garrett. 1968. "The Tragedy of the Commons." *Science* 162(3859):1243-1248. (Abridged version in *Green Planet Blues*).

Bates, Diane C. 2020. "Population, Demography, and the Environment." Pp. 133-156 in *Twenty Lessons in Environmental Sociology*, edited by K.A. Gould and T.L. Lewis. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Bongaarts, John and Brian C. O'Neill. 2018. "Global Warming Policy: Is Population Left out in the Cold?" *Science* 361(6403):650–52.

Coole, Diana. 2020. "The Population Challenge." Pp. 254–65 in *Routledge Handbook of Global Sustainability Governance*, edited by A. Kalfagianni, D. Fuchs, and A. Hayden. Abingdon, UK: Routledge.

Roberts, David. 2017. "I'm an Environmental Journalist, but I Never Write about Overpopulation. Here's Why." *Vox*, September 26. <https://www.vox.com/energy-and-environment/2017/9/26/16356524/the-population-question>

Angus, Ian. 2012. "The return of the population bombers." *Climate and Capitalism*, July 20. <http://climateandcapitalism.com/2012/07/20/the-return-of-the-population-bombers/>

Monbiot, George. 2020. "Population Panic Lets Rich People off the Hook for the Climate Crisis They Are Causing." *The Guardian*, August 26. <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/aug/26/panic-overpopulation-climate-crisis-consumption-environment>

Maynard, Robin, Anders Sirén, and Martin Earl. 2020. “Population, Poverty, and the Climate Emergency.” *The Guardian*, August 28.
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/aug/28/population-poverty-and-the-climate-emergency>

Highly recommended:

Hunter, Lori M., and Aseem Prakash. 2019. “Hardin’s Oversimplification of Population Growth.” *Nature Sustainability* 2(2):78–79.

UN DESA. 2019. “World Population Prospects 2019: Highlights.” New York: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

https://population.un.org/wpp/Publications/Files/WPP2019_10KeyFindings.pdf

Listen to this four-minute news report to make sure you understand the “tragedy of the commons” metaphor: NPR. 2009. “Climate Change Is Victim of ‘Tragedy of the Commons.’” *Morning Edition*.
<https://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=120883813>

Recommended:

Alcott, Blake. 2012. “Population matters in ecological economics.” *Ecological Economics* 80:109-120.

Barot, Sneha. 2014. “Looking Back While Moving Forward: Marking 20 Years Since the International Conference on Population and Development.” *Guttman Policy Review* 17(3):22-28.
<https://www.guttman.org/pubs/gpr/17/3/gpr170322.pdf>

Coole, Diane. 2013. “Too many bodies? The return and disavowal of the population question.” *Environmental Politics* 22(2):195-215.

Coole, Diana. 2016. “Population, Environmental Discourse, and Sustainability.” Pp. 274–88 in *The Oxford Handbook of Environmental Political Theory*, edited by Gabrielson, Teena, C. Hall, J. M. Meyer, and D. Schlosberg. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

DeJong, Jocelyn. 2000. “The role and limitations of the Cairo International Conference on Population and Development.” *Social Science & Medicine* 51(2000):941-953.

Ehrlich, Paul R. and Anne H. Ehrlich. 2009. “The Population Bomb Revisited.” *The Electronic Journal of Sustainable Development* 1(3):5-13.

Friedman, Thomas L. 2008. “Our Carbon Copies (Or, Too Many Americans).” Pp. 53-76 in *Hot, Flat, and Crowded*. New York: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux.

Malthus, Thomas. 1798/1985. *An Essay on the Principle of Population*. New York: Penguin. Chapters 1 and 2. Pp. 63-79. These chapters are available online at: <http://www.edstephan.org/malthus/malthus.1.html>

<http://www.edstephan.org/malthus/malthus.2.html>

Magdoff, Fred. 2013. “Global Resource Depletion: Is Population the Problem?” *Monthly Review* 64(8):
<http://monthlyreview.org/2013/01/01/global-resource-depletion>

Monbiot, George. 2011. “Population is just a sidekick to the real big baddie – consumption.” *The Guardian*, October 27. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/georgemonbiot/2011/oct/27/population-consumption-threat-to-planet>

Sasser, Jade. 2013. “From Darkness Into Light: Race, Population and Environmental Advocacy.” *Antipode* 46(5):1240-1257.

Sen, Amartya. 2001. “Gender Equity and the Population Problem.” *International Journal of Health Services* 31(3):469–474.

Whitty, Julia. 2010. “The Last Taboo: What unites the Vatican, lefties, conservatives, environmentalists, and scientists in a conspiracy of silence?” *Mother Jones*, May-June, pp. 26-45.

<http://motherjones.com/environment/2010/05/population-growth-india-vatican>

October 18 and 20: Technology and Environmental Politics

N.B. Take-home midterm due on October 21.

Is technology at the root of our environmental problems or the main hope for solutions? Why is technology so central to mainstream environmental politics? Why are technological solutions so appealing? What are the limits of technological solutions? What key issues does the focus on technological solutions avoid? What are the competing perspectives on how to encourage greener technologies and a broader ecological transition?

Required:

Commoner, Barry. 1992. Chapter 1, “At War With the Planet.” *Making Peace with the Planet*. New York: New Press.

Ellen McArthur Foundation. 2015. “Towards a circular economy: Business rationale for an accelerated transition.” Cowes, Isle of Wight, UK: Ellen McArthur Foundation.
https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/assets/downloads/TCE_Ellen-MacArthur-Foundation_9-Dec-2015.pdf

As an alternative to the Ellen McArthur Foundation report, you have the option of looking at the Foundation’s website, “What is the Circular Economy”:

<https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/circular-economy/what-is-the-circular-economy>

Read the content and watch the video clips on that page, as well as these videos on their YouTube site:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCRKvDyyHmI>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cd_isKtGaf8

Geels, Frank W., Benjamin K. Sovacool, Tim Schwanen, and Steve Sorrell. 2017. “The Socio-Technical Dynamics of Low-Carbon Transitions.” *Joule* 1(3):463–79.

Mazzucato, Mariana. 2021. “Saving the Climate in a Triple Crisis.” *The New Republic*, March 15. <https://newrepublic.com/article/161579/moonshot-mariana-mazzucato-climate-capitalism-crisis>

Alexander, Samuel. 2020. “A Critique of Techno-Optimism: Efficiency without Sufficiency Is Lost.” Pp. 231–41 in *Routledge Handbook of Global Sustainability Governance*, edited by A. Kalfagianni, D. Fuchs, and A. Hayden. Abingdon, UK: Routledge.

Highly recommended:

Jänicke, Martin and Stefan Lindemann. 2010. “Governing environmental innovations.” *Environmental Politics* 19(1):127-141.

Meadowcroft, James. 2016. “Let’s Get This Transition Moving!” *Canadian Public Policy* S10-S17.

Recommended:

Alexander, Samuel. 2014. “A Critique of Techno-Optimism: Efficiency without Sufficiency Is Lost.” Melbourne Sustainable Society Institute. http://www.postcarbonpathways.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/1_Critique_of_Techno_Optimism-with-blurb.pdf

Asafu-Adjaye, John et al. 2015. *An Ecomodernist Manifesto*. Breakthrough Institute.
<http://static1.squarespace.com/static/5515d9f9e4b04d5c3198b7bb/t/552d37bbe4b07a7dd69fcdcb/1429026747046/An+Ecomodernist+Manifesto.pdf>

Commoner, Barry. *Making Peace with the Planet*. Chapter 2 and 3.

- Corporate Watch. 2008. "Techno-fixes: A Critical Guide to Climate Change Technologies." London: Corporate Watch.
- Cullen, Jonathan M. 2017. "Circular Economy: Theoretical Benchmark or Perpetual Motion Machine?" *Journal of Industrial Ecology* 21(3):483-486.
- Daly, Herman E. 2019. "A Journey of No Return, Not a Circular Economy." *Steady State Herald (Center for the Advancement of the Steady State Economy)*, April 23. <https://steadystate.org/a-journey-of-no-return-not-a-circular-economy/>
- Feenberg, Andrew. 1996. "The Commoner-Ehrlich Debate." Pp.257-283 in *Minding Nature: The Philosophers of Ecology*, edited by D. Macauley. New York: Guilford Press.
- Gould, Kenneth A. 2020. Chapter 7, "Technological Change and the Environment." In *Twenty Lessons in Environmental Sociology*, edited by K.A. Gould and T.L. Lewis. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Hawken, Paul, Amory Lovins and L. Hunter Lovins. 1999. *Natural Capitalism: Creating the Next Industrial Revolution*. Little, Brown & Co. Preface and Chapter 1 "The Next Industrial Revolution."
<http://www.natcap.org/sitepages/pid20.php>
- Hickel, Jason. 2019. "The Limits of Clean Energy." *Foreign Policy*. <https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/09/06/the-path-to-clean-energy-will-be-very-dirty-climate-change-renewables/>
- Hobson, Kersty. 2021. "The Limits of the Loops: Critical Environmental Politics and the Circular Economy." *Environmental Politics* 30(1-2):161-79.
- Lovins, Amory B. 2011. *Reinventing Fire: Bold Business Solutions for the New Energy Era*. White River Junction, VT: Chelsea Green.
- Lovins, Amory. 2012. "A Farewell to Fossil Fuels: Answering the Energy Challenge." *Foreign Affairs* 91(2):134-146. http://www.rmi.org/Knowledge-Center/Library/2012-01_FarewellToFossilFuels
- Lovins, L. Hunter, and Boyd Cohen. 2011. Chapter 3, "Both Are Better." Pp. 57-94 in *Climate Capitalism: Capitalism in the Age of Climate Change*. New York: Hill and Wang.
- Lynas, Mark. 2011. *The God Species*. London: Fourth Estate.
- McDonough, William and Michael Braungart. 2002. "The Extravagant Gesture: Nature, Design, and the Transformation of Human Industry." Pp. 13-32 in *Sustainable Planet: Solutions for the Twenty-first Century*, edited by Juliet B. Schor and Betsy Taylor. Boston: Beacon Press.
- McDonough, William and Michael Braungart. 2013. *The Upcycle: Beyond Sustainability--Designing for Abundance*. New York: North Point Press.
- Prabhu, Jaideep. 2017. "Frugal innovation: doing more with less for more." *Philosophical Transactions A* 375: 20160372.
- Schreurs, Miranda A. 2012. "The Politics of Phase-out." *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* 68(6):30-41.

October 25: Market-Based Environmentalism

Do market-based approaches represent the most effective and pragmatic response to environmental challenges?

What are the main challenges and limitations in applying market-based ideas to environmental problems such as climate change?

Is a carbon price the key to achieving greenhouse gas reduction goals or is the case for it overstated?

Does the political resistance to carbon pricing mean it is not worth the political cost? Can that resistance be overcome?

Required:

Dryzek, Chapter 6, "Leave it to the market: Economic Rationalism." Pp. 122-144. (You can skim pages 124-128 and focus on the rest of the chapter).

Globe and Mail. 2021. “Canada’s Carbon Pricing: How Much Is It and How Does It Work? What You Need to Know.” *The Globe and Mail*, March 26.

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-canada-carbon-tax-explained/>

Mildenberger, Matto and Leah C. Stokes. 2020. “The Trouble with Carbon Pricing.” *Boston Review*, September 23. <https://bostonreview.net/science-nature-politics/leah-c-stokes-matto-mildenberger-trouble-carbon-pricing>

Harrison, Kathryn. 2019. “Lessons from British Columbia’s Carbon Tax.” *Policy Options*, July 11. <https://policyoptions.irpp.org/magazines/july-2019/lessons-from-british-columbias-carbon-tax/>

Macneil, Robert. 2020. “Is Canadian Carbon Pricing Here to Stay? The Outlook after 14 Elections.” *Environmental Politics* 29(2):354–59.

For additional background on the economic logic behind market-based approaches, see:

Beugin, Dale et al. 2018. *Clearing the Air: How Carbon Pricing Helps Canada Fight Climate Change*. Montreal: Canada’s Ecofiscal Commission. Pp. 4-17, 30-31. <http://ecofiscal.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Ecofiscal-Commission-Carbon-Pricing-Report-Clearing-the-Air-April-4-2018.pdf>

Krugman, Paul. 2010. “Building a Green Economy.” *New York Times Magazine*, April 7. <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/11/magazine/11Economy-t.html>

Highly recommended:

Jaccard, Mark. 2020. “We Must Price Carbon Emissions.” Pp. 95-127 in *The Citizen’s Guide to Climate Success: Overcoming Myths That Hinder Progress*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press. <https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/citizens-guide-to-climate-success/we-must-price-carbon-emissions/66AEBB8BE9A7F7760DC1BCE3A9C50748/core-reader>

Recommended:

Anderson, Terry L. and Donald R. Leal. 2001. *Free Market Environmentalism*. New York: Palgrave. Chapter 1, “Visions of the Environment” and Chapter 2, “Rethinking the Way We Think.”

Beder, Sharon. 2001. “Neoliberal Think Tanks and Free Market Environmentalism.” *Environmental Politics* 10(2):128-33.

Blumm, Michael. 1992. “The Fallacies of Free Market Environmentalism.” *Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy* 15:371-389.

Boyce, James K. 2018. “Carbon Pricing: Effectiveness and Equity.” *Ecological Economics* 150:52–61.

Hawken, Paul, Amory Lovins and L. Hunter Lovins. *Natural Capitalism: Creating the Next Industrial Revolution*. Chapter 13. “Making Markets Work.” <http://www.natcap.org/images/other/NCchapter13.pdf>

Hillman, Mayer. 2004. “A Modest Proposal to Save the Planet.” *The Independent*, May 27. <http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/a-modest-proposal-to-save-the-planet-564794.html> .

Jaccard, Mark. 2018. “Divisive Carbon Prices Are Much Ado about Nothing.” *The Globe and Mail*, December 14. <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/article-divisive-carbon-prices-are-much-ado-about-nothing/>

Murray, Brian and Nicholas Rivers. 2015. “British Columbia’s Revenue-Neutral Carbon Tax: A Review of the Latest ‘Grand Experiment’ in Environmental Policy.” *Energy Policy* 86:674–83.

Olmstead, Sheila M. and Robert N. Stavins. 2012. “Three Key Elements of a Post-2012 International Climate Policy Architecture.” *Review of Environmental Economics and Policy* 6(2):1–22.

Roberts, David. 2016. “The Political Hurdles Facing a Carbon Tax — and How to Overcome Them.” *Vox*, April 26. <https://www.vox.com/2016/4/26/11470804/carbon-tax-political-constraints>

Schott, Stephan. 2013. “Carbon pricing options for Canada.” *Canadian Public Policy* XXXIX: S109-S124.

- Schwartz, John. 2018. “New Group, With Conservative Credentials, Plans Push for a Carbon Tax.” *The New York Times*, June 20. <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/19/climate/carbon-tax-climate-change.html>
- Sydee, Jasmin and Sharon Beder. 2006. “The Right Way to Go? Earth Sanctuaries and Market-based Conservation.” *Capitalism, Nature, Socialism* 17(1): 83-98. <http://www.uow.edu.au/~sharonb/SydeeBeder.pdf>
- Turner, Adair. 2017. “The Limits of Carbon Pricing.” *Project Syndicate*, November 29.
- Van Asselt, Harro. 2010. “Emissions trading: the enthusiastic adoption of an ‘alien’ instrument?” Pp. 125-144 in *Climate Change Policy in the European Union*, edited by A. Jordan, H. Van Asselt, T. Rayner, and F. Berkhout. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.
- Winter, Jennifer and Ian Urquhart. 2019. “Is a Carbon Tax the Best Way to Reduce GHG Emissions?” *Alberta Views*, July 1. <https://albertaviews.ca/carbon-tax-best-way-reduce-ghg-emissions/>

October 27 and November 1: Ecological Modernization and Green Growth

N.B. The last day to withdraw from fall courses with a “W” is November 1.

- Can modern society and capitalism be reformed to become ecologically sustainable?
 What are the key elements of an ecological modernization program that aims to reform capitalism?
 What are the key criticisms of ecological modernization and the pursuit of “green growth” as a political strategy?
 Is ecological modernization and its goal of “green growth” the only politically viable strategy to address our ecological problems?

Required:

- Dryzek, Chapter 8. “Industrial Society and Beyond: Ecological Modernization.” Pp.165-184.
- Jänicke, Martin. 2012. “‘Green Growth’: From a Growing Eco-Industry to Economic Sustainability.” *Energy Policy* 48:13–21.
- Hickel, Jason. 2021. Chapter 3, “Will Technology Save Us?” in *Less Is More: How Degrowth Will Save the World*. William Heinemann. (Required pp. 137-163 / pp. 7-20 of the pdf file, starting with “Green Growth?”; first part of chapter optional).
- Jänicke, Martin. 2020. “Ecological Modernization – a Paradise of Feasibility but No General Solution.” Pp. 13–23 in *The Ecological Modernization Capacity of Japan and Germany: Comparing Nuclear Energy, Renewables, Automobility and Rare Earth Policy*, edited by L. Mez, L. Okamura, and H. Weidner. Wiesbaden: Springer.

For other perspectives on green growth, see Pollin 2019 and other articles in the section below, “Time for a Green New Deal?”

Highly recommended

- Jackson, Tim. 2017. “The Myth of Decoupling.” Pp. 84-102 in *Prosperity Without Growth: Foundations for the Economy of Tomorrow*. 2nd Edition. London: Routledge.
- Asafu-Adjaye, John et al. 2015. *An Ecomodernist Manifesto*. Oakland, CA: Breakthrough Institute. <http://www.ecomodernism.org/manifesto-english/>
- Kallis, Giorgos. 2015. “An Ecomodernist Mishmash.” *Degrowth*, May 7. <https://www.degrowth.info/en/2015/05/an-ecomodernist-mishmash/>

Recommended:

- Curran, Giorel. 2015. “Ecological Modernisation: Promises and Prospects.” Pp. 45–68 in *Sustainability and Energy Politics: Ecological Modernisation and Corporate Social Responsibility*. Palgrave Macmillan.

- Foster, John Bellamy. 2012. "The Planetary Rift and the New Human Exemptionalism: A Political-Economic Critique of Ecological Modernization Theory." *Organization and Environment* 25(3) 211–237.
- Hayden, Anders. 2014. "Ecological Modernization in Britain" and "The Limits of Ecological Modernization in the UK" Pp. 199-278 in *When Green Growth is Not Enough: Climate Change, Ecological Modernization, and Sufficiency*. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press.
- Hickel, Jason, and Giorgos Kallis. 2019. "Is Green Growth Possible?" *New Political Economy* 25:469–86.
- Huber, Joseph. 2009. "Ecological Modernization: Beyond Scarcity and Bureaucracy." Pp. 42-55 in *The Ecological Modernisation Reader: Environmental Reform in Theory and Practice*, edited by A.P.J. Mol, D.A. Sonnenfeld, and G. Spaargaren. Abingdon, Oxon, UK: Routledge.
- Jänicke, Martin. 2008. "Ecological modernisation: new perspectives." *Journal of Cleaner Production* 16:557-565.
- Jorgenson, Andrew and Brett Clark. 2012. "Are the Economy and the Environment Decoupling? A Comparative International Study, 1960–2005." *American Journal of Sociology* 118(1):1-44.
- Lauber, Volkmar and Staffan Jacobsson. 2016. "The politics and economics of constructing, contesting and restricting socio-political space for renewables—The German Renewable Energy Act." *Environmental Innovation and Societal Transitions* 18:147-163.
- Mol, Arthur P.J., David A. Sonnenfeld, and Gert Spaargaren, eds. 2009. *The Ecological Modernisation Reader: Environmental Reform in Theory and Practice*. Abingdon, Oxon, UK: Routledge.
- Mol, Arthur P. J., Gert Spaargaren, and David A. Sonnenfeld. 2013. "Ecological Modernization Theory: Taking Stock, Moving Forward." Pp. 15-30 in *Handbook of Social and Environmental Change*, edited by S. Lockie, D.A. Sonnenfeld and D. Fisher. London: Routledge.
- Paterson, Matthew. 2001. "Climate Policy as Accumulation Strategy: The Failure of COP6 and Emerging Trends in Climate Politics." *Global Environmental Politics* 1(2):10-17.
- Strunz, Sebastian, Erik Gawel, and Paul Lehmann. 2016. "The political economy of renewable energy policies in Germany and the EU." *Utilities Policy* 42:33-41.
- York, Richard, Eugene A. Rosa, and Thomas Dietz. 2011. "Ecological Modernization Theory: Theoretical and Empirical Challenges." Pp. 77–90 in *International Handbook of Environmental Sociology*, edited by M. Redclift and G. Woodgate. London: Edward Elgar.
- Ward, James D., Paul C. Sutton, Adrian D. Werner, Robert Costanza, Steve H. Mohr, and Craig T. Simmons. 2016. "Is Decoupling GDP Growth from Environmental Impact Possible?" *PLOS ONE* 11(10):e0164733.

November 3 and 15: The Politics of Consumption (I) (No Classes on November 8 and 10, Study Break)

N.B. There will be a short quiz in class on November 3.

- Why is consumerism such a powerful social and political force? What are its attractions?
- What grounds are there to critique consumerism?
- What is the relationship between consumption and well-being?
- What is driving high and rising levels of consumption?
- What are the different visions of a politics of "sustainable consumption"?
- What role does power play in (un)sustainable consumption?
- Is individual action the key to reducing the impacts of consumption?

Required:

- Cross, Gary. 2000. Chapter 1 in *An All-Consuming Century: Why Commercialism Won in Modern America*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2000.
- Ehrhardt-Martinez, Karen et al. 2015. "Consumption and Climate Change." Pp. 93-126 in *Climate Change and Society: Sociological Perspectives*, edited by R.E. Dunlap and R.J. Brulle. New York: Oxford University Press.

Fuchs, Doris and Frederike Boll. 2018. "Sustainable Consumption." Pp. 83-102 in *Global Environmental Politics: Concepts, Theories, and Case Studies*. London: Routledge.

Maniates, Michael. 2001. "Individualization: Plant a Tree, Buy a Bike, Save the World?" *Global Environmental Politics* 1(3):31-52. (Pages 31-44 required; remainder optional).

Highly recommended:

Fuchs, Doris et al. 2016. "Power: the missing element in sustainable consumption and absolute reductions research and action." *Journal of Cleaner Production* 132:298-307.

Geels, Frank W., Andy McMeekin, Josephine Mylan, and Dale Southerton. 2015. "A Critical Appraisal of Sustainable Consumption and Production Research: The Reformist, Revolutionary and Reconfiguration Positions." *Global Environmental Change* 34:1-12.

Recommended:

Assadourian, Erik. 2010. "The Rise and Fall of Consumer Cultures." Pp. 3-20 in *State of the World 2010*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co.

Assadourian, Eric. 2013. "Re-engineering cultures to create a sustainable civilization." Pp. 113-125 in *State of the World 2013: Is Sustainability Still Possible?* Washington, D.C.: Island Press.

<http://blogs.worldwatch.org/sustainabilitypossible/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/SOW2013-10-Re-engineeringCultures.pdf>

Barros, Beatriz, and Richard Wilk. 2021. "Private Planes, Mansions and Superyachts: What Gives Billionaires like Musk and Abramovich Such a Massive Carbon Footprint." *The Conversation*, February 16.

<https://theconversation.com/private-planes-mansions-and-superyachts-what-gives-billionaires-like-musk-and-abramovich-such-a-massive-carbon-footprint-152514>

Brown, Halina Szejnwald and Philip J. Vergragt. 2017. "From growth to sustainability: cultural transition beyond consumerist lifestyles." Pp. 420-438 in *Handbook of Growth and Sustainability*, edited by P. Victor and B. Dolter. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar.

Hamilton, Clive. 2010. "Consumer Self." Pp. 66-94 in *Requiem for a Species*. London: Earthscan.

Jackson, Tim. 2005. "Live Better by Consuming Less?: Is There a 'Double Dividend' in Sustainable Consumption?" *Journal of Industrial Ecology* 9(1-2):19-36.

Maniates, Michael. 2020. "Beyond Magical Thinking." In *Routledge Handbook of Global Sustainability Governance*, edited by A. Kalfagianni, D. Fuchs, and A. Hayden. London: Routledge.

Royal Society. 2012. *People and the Planet*. London: Royal Society. <http://royalsociety.org/policy/projects/people-planet/report/>

Sahakian, Marlyne and Harold Wilhite. 2014. "Making practice theory practicable: Towards more sustainable forms of consumption." *Journal of Consumer Culture* 14(1) 25-44.

Shove, Elizabeth. 2012. "Putting practice into policy: Reconfiguring questions of consumption and climate change." *Contemporary Social Science* 1:1-15.

November 17: The Politics of Consumption (II)

What possibilities exist for a politics of sufficiency that aims to promote alternatives to high-consumption lifestyles in wealthy nations?

Is it possible to live well while consuming less?

Required:

Hayden, Anders. 2020. "Sufficiency." Pp. 151-164 in *Routledge Handbook of Global Sustainability Governance*, edited by A. Kalfagianni, D. Fuchs, and A. Hayden. London: Routledge.

Cohen, Maurie. 2020. "Social Innovation and Sustainability." Pp 97-122 in *Sustainability*. London: Polity.

Aronoff, Kate. 2021. "We Can Have Nice Things." Pp. 348-353 in *Overheated: How Capitalism Broke the Planet--And How We Fight Back*. New York: Bold Type Books. (Section on shorter work hours).

Recommended:

Andrews, Cecile and Wanda Urbanska. 2010. "Inspiring People to See That Less is More." Pp. 178-184 in *State of the World 2010*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co. <http://blogs.worldwatch.org/transformingcultures/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/Inspiring-People-to-See-That-Less-is-More-Andrews-and-Urbanska.pdf>

Cohen, Maurie J. 2016. *The Future of Consumer Society: Prospects for Sustainability in the New Economy*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Cox, Stan. 2013. *Any Way You Slice It the Past, Present, and Future of Rationing*. New York: New Press.

Day, Amber. 2016. "Culture Jamming and Media Activism." Pp. 503–17 in *A Companion to Popular Culture*, edited by G. Burns. Wiley.

Dauvergne, Peter. 2010. "The Problem of Consumption." *Global Environmental Politics* 10(2):1-10.

De Graaf, John. 2010. "Reducing Work Time as a Path to Sustainability." Pp. 173-177 in *State of the World 2010*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co. <http://blogs.worldwatch.org/transformingcultures/wp-content/uploads/2009/04/Reducing-World-Time-as-a-Path-to-Sustainability-de-Graaf.pdf>

Frenken, Koen and Juliet Schor. 2017. "Putting the Sharing Economy into Perspective." *Environmental Innovation and Societal Transitions* 23:3–10.

Fuchs, Doris A. and Sylvia Lorek. 2005. "Sustainable Consumption Governance: A History of Promises and Failures." *Journal of Consumer Policy* 28:261-288.

Fuchs, Doris, Marlyne Sahakian, Tobias Gumbert, Antonietta Di Giulio, Michael Maniates, Sylvia Lorek, and Antonia Graf. 2021. *Consumption Corridors: Living a Good Life within Sustainable Limits*. New York: Routledge.

Gardner, Gary and Erik Assadourian. 2004. "Rethinking the Good Life." Pp. 164-180 in *State of the World 2004: The Consumer Society*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co.

Government Offices of Sweden. 2016. *Strategy for Sustainable Consumption*. Stockholm: Ministry of Finance. <http://www.government.se/4a9932/globalassets/government/dokument/finansdepartementet/pdf/publikationer-infomtrl-rapporter/en-strategy-for-sustainable-consumption--tillganglighetsanpassadx.pdf>

Hindley, Jane. 2010. "Breaking the Consumerist Trance: The Reverend Billy and the Church of Stop Shopping." *Capitalism Nature Socialism* 21(4):118-126.

Hobson, Kersty. 2013. "'Weak' or 'strong' sustainable consumption? Efficiency, degrowth and the 10 year framework of programmes." *Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy* 31:1082-1098.

Isenhour, Cindy. 2015. "Sustainable consumption and its discontents." Pp. 131-153 in *Sustainability*, edited by H. Kopnina. New York: Routledge.

Kennedy, Emily Huddart, Harvey Krahn, and Naomi T. Krogman. 2013. "Downshifting: An Exploration of Motivations, Quality of Life, and Environmental Practices." *Sociological Forum* 28(4):764–83.

Leismann, Kristin, Martina Schmitt, Holger Rohn, and Carolin Baedeker. 2013. "Collaborative Consumption: Towards a Resource-Saving Consumption Culture." *Resources* 2(3):184–203.

Lorek, Sylvia and Doris Fuchs. 2013. "Strong Sustainable Consumption Governance – Precondition for a Degrowth Path?" *Journal of Cleaner Production* 38:36–43.

Maniates, Michael. 2002. "In Search of Consumptive Resistance: The Voluntary Simplicity Movement." Pp. 199-235 in *Confronting Consumption*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

McLaren, Duncan and Julian Agyeman. 2015. *Sharing Cities: The Case for Truly Smart and Sustainable Cities*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. <https://s3.amazonaws.com/arena-attachments/1000295/bb7cd4f83ed905bbc6d637552433aaed.pdf>

O'Rourke, Dara and Niklas Lollo. 2015. "Transforming Consumption: From Decoupling, to Behavior Change, to System Changes for Sustainable Consumption." *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 40:233–259.

Parsons, Adam. 2014. "The sharing economy: a short introduction to its political evolution." January 21. London: Share the World's Resources. <http://www.sharing.org/information-centre/articles/sharing-economy-short-introduction-its-political-evolution>

Schneidewind, Uwe and Angelika Zahrnt. 2014. "The institutional framework for a sufficiency driven economy." *Ökologisches Wirtschaften* 29(3):30–33.

Schor, Juliet B. 2001. "The Triple Imperative: Global Ecology, Poverty and Worktime Reduction." *Berkeley Journal of Sociology* XLV: 2-16.

Schor, Juliet B. 2010. Chapter 4, "Living Rich on a Troubled Planet." Pp. 99-143 in *Plenitude: The New Economics of True Wealth*. New York: Penguin Press.

Schor, Juliet. 2014. "Debating the Sharing Economy." *Great Transition Initiative*, October. http://www.greattransition.org/images/GTI_publications/Schor_Debating_the_Sharing_Economy.pdf

Seyfang, Gill. 2009. "Sustainable Consumption: A Mainstream Agenda." Chapter 2 in *The New Economics of Sustainable Consumption. Seeds of Change*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Seyfang, Gill. 2007. "Growing sustainable consumption communities: The case of local organic food networks." *International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy* 27(3/4):120-134.

November 22, 24, and 29: Is Capitalism Sustainable? Radical Critiques of Endless Growth & Accumulation and Post-Capitalist Visions

What are capitalism's distinguishing features?

Why do critics believe capitalism is an anti-ecological system?

What might a post-capitalist alternative look like?

What lessons can be learned from the experience of Soviet socialism? And from other cases of socialism in practice?

What types of reforms do critics of capitalism propose as interim steps that are possible today?

Are radical calls for systemic change a distraction from pragmatic actions that can work within the existing political-economic system?

Required:

Magdoff, Fred and John Bellamy Foster. 2010. "What Every Environmentalist Needs to Know About Capitalism." *Monthly Review* 61(10): <http://monthlyreview.org/100301magdoff-foster.php>

Klein, Naomi. 2018. "Capitalism Killed Our Climate Momentum, Not 'Human Nature'." *The Intercept*, August 3. <https://theintercept.com/2018/08/03/climate-change-new-york-times-magazine/>

Monbiot, George. 2019. "Dare to Declare Capitalism Dead – Before It Takes Us All Down with It." *The Guardian*, April 25. <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/apr/25/capitalism-economic-system-survival-earth>

Löwy, Michael. 2018. "Why Ecosocialism: For a Red-Green Future." *Great Transition Initiative*. <https://greattransition.org/publication/why-ecosocialism-red-green-future> (Recommended: read replies to Löwy's argument at <https://greattransition.org/publication/ecosocialism-roundtable>)

Rapid Transition Alliance. 2019. "The Post-Cold War Cuban Food Experiment." <https://www.rapidtransition.org/stories/the-post-cold-war-cuban-food-experiment/>

Benz, Andreas. 2020. "The Greening of the Revolution: Changing State Views on Nature and Development in Cuba's Transforming Socialism." *GAIA - Ecological Perspectives for Science and Society* 29(4):243–48.

Salazar, Juan Francisco. 2015. "Buen Vivir: South America's Rethinking of the Future We Want." *The Conversation*, July 23. <https://theconversation.com/buen-vivir-south-americas-rethinking-of-the-future-we-want-44507>

Speth, James Gustave. 2017. "The Joyful Economy." Next System Project. <https://thenextsystem.org/the-joyful-economy> (Required reading from bottom of p. 5 to top of p. 13, pp. 20-22; remainder recommended.)

Jaccard, Mark. 2020. "We Must Abolish Capitalism." Pp. 224-238 in *The Citizen's Guide to Climate Success: Overcoming Myths That Hinder Progress*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press. https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/aop-cambridge-core/content/view/3ABF802FB584CA50695EF29A53E20395/9781108479370c12_224-238.pdf/we_must_abolish_capitalism.pdf

Highly Recommended:

Gibson-Graham, J. K. and Community Economies Collective. 2017. "Cultivating Community Economies." Next System Project. <https://thenextsystem.org/cultivating-community-economies>

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December 1: Time for a Green New Deal?

Does a Green New Deal offer a viable path for radical climate reform within a still-capitalist economy?

Does it offer the best chance for sufficiently strong action to address climate change that is also politically feasible?

Roberts, David. 2019. "The Green New Deal, Explained." *Vox*, March 30. <https://www.vox.com/energy-and-environment/2018/12/21/18144138/green-new-deal-alexandria-ocasio-cortez>

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Pollin, Robert. 2019. “Advancing a Viable Global Climate Stabilization Project: Degrowth versus the Green New Deal.” *Review of Radical Political Economics* 51(2):311–19.

Schor, Juliet B. and Andrew K. Jorgenson. 2019. “Is It Too Late for Growth?” *Review of Radical Political Economics* 51(2):320–29.

If you’d like additional background on the Green New Deal, the texts of the American GND resolution and the Canadian Pact for a Green New Deal are available at:

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-resolution/109/text>

<https://greennewdealcanada.ca/>

Highly recommended:

Mastini, Riccardo, Giorgos Kallis, and Jason Hickel. 2021. “A Green New Deal without Growth?” *Ecological Economics* 179:106832.

Pollin, Robert. 2019. “Degrowth versus Green New Deal: Response to Juliet Schor and Andrew Jorgenson.” *Review of Radical Political Economics* 51(2):330–32.

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Recommended:

2015. “The Leap Manifesto: A Call for a Canada Based on Caring for the Earth and One Another.” <https://leapmanifesto.org/en/the-leap-manifesto/>

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Burton, Mark and Peter Somerville. 2019. “Degrowth: A Defence.” *New Left Review* 115(January–February).

Chomsky, Noam, and Robert Pollin. 2020. *Climate Crisis and the Global Green New Deal: The Political Economy of Saving the Planet*. London: Verso.

Kallis, Giorgos. 2019. “A Green New Deal Must Not Be Tied to Economic Growth.” *Truthout*, March 10. <https://truthout.org/articles/a-green-new-deal-must-not-be-tied-to-economic-growth/>

Kallis, Giorgis, Susan Paulson, Giacomo D’Alisa, and Federico Demaria. 2020. Chapter 4, “Path-Breaking Reforms.” *The Case for Degrowth*. Cambridge, UK: Polity.

Klein, Naomi. 2019. “The Battle Lines Have Been Drawn on the Green New Deal.” *The Intercept*, February 13. <https://theintercept.com/2019/02/13/green-new-deal-proposal/>

Pettifor, Ann. 2019. *The Case for the Green New Deal*. London: Verso Books.

Phillips-Fein, Kim. 2019. “Fear and Loathing of the Green New Deal.” *The New Republic*, May 29. <https://newrepublic.com/article/153966/fear-loathing-green-new-deal>

Pollin, Robert. 2018. "De-Growth vs a Green New Deal." *New Left Review* (112):5–25.

December 6: TBD

December 7: Review and Reflection

N.B. This class will take place on a Tuesday, the last day of classes for the semester.

Which perspectives that we have covered do you believe have the most to contribute to environmental politics?

Dryzek. Chapter 11. "Ecological Democracy."

Recommended:

Kingsolver, Barbara. 2008. "How to be Hopeful." <https://today.duke.edu/2008/05/kingsolver.html>

Section B: University Policies, Statements, Guidelines and Resources for Support

This course is governed by the academic rules and regulations set forth in the University Calendar and the Senate, available at <https://academiccalendar.dal.ca/Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx?pageid=viewcatalog&catalogid=81&chapterid=4424&loaduserredits=False>

University Statements

Territorial Acknowledgement:

Dalhousie University is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq. We are all Treaty people.

Internationalization

At Dalhousie, “thinking and acting globally” enhances the quality and impact of education, supporting learning that is “interdisciplinary, cross-cultural, global in reach, and orientated toward solving problems that extend across national borders.” <https://www.dal.ca/about-dal/internationalization.html>

Academic Integrity

At Dalhousie University, we are guided in all of our work by the values of academic integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, responsibility and respect. As a student, you are required to demonstrate these values in all of the work you do. The University provides policies and procedures that every member of the university community is required to follow to ensure academic integrity. (For more information, see: http://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity.html.)

Accessibility

The Student Accessibility Centre is Dalhousie's centre of expertise for matters related to student accessibility and accommodation.

If there are aspects of the design, instruction, and/or experiences within this course (online or in-person) that result in barriers to your inclusion please contact the Student Accessibility Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/accessibility.html.

Conduct in the Classroom – Culture of Respect

Substantial and constructive dialogue on challenging issues is an important part of academic inquiry and exchange. It requires willingness to listen and tolerance of opposing points of view. Consideration of individual differences and alternative viewpoints is required of all class members, towards each other, towards instructors, and towards guest speakers. While expressions of differing perspectives are welcome and encouraged, the words and language used should remain within acceptable bounds of civility and respect.

Diversity and Inclusion – Culture of Respect

Every person at Dalhousie has a right to be respected and safe. We believe inclusiveness is fundamental to education. We stand for equality. Dalhousie is strengthened in our diversity. We are a respectful and inclusive community. We are committed to being a place where everyone feels welcome and supported, which is why our Strategic Direction prioritizes fostering a culture

of diversity and inclusiveness (Strategic Priority 5.2). (For more information, see: <http://www.dal.ca/cultureofrespect.html>.)

Student Code of Conduct

Everyone at Dalhousie is expected to treat others with dignity and respect. The Code of Student Conduct allows Dalhousie to take disciplinary action if students don't follow this community expectation. When appropriate, violations of the code can be resolved in a reasonable and informal manner—perhaps through a restorative justice process. If an informal resolution can't be reached, or would be inappropriate, procedures exist for formal dispute resolution. (For more information, see: https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/student-life/code-of-student-conduct.html).

Fair Dealing policy

The Dalhousie University Fair Dealing Policy provides guidance for the limited use of copyright protected material without the risk of infringement and without having to seek the permission of copyright owners. It is intended to provide a balance between the rights of creators and the rights of users at Dalhousie. (For more information, see: https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/fair-dealing-policy-.html.)

Originality Checking Software

The course instructor may use Dalhousie's approved originality checking software and Google to check the originality of any work submitted for credit, in accordance with the Student Submission of Assignments and Use of Originality Checking Software Policy. Students are free, without penalty of grade, to choose an alternative method of attesting to the authenticity of their work, and must inform the instructor no later than the last day to add/drop classes of their intent to choose an alternate method. (For more information: https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/student-submission-of-assignments-and-use-of-originality-checking-software-policy-.html.)

Student Use of Course Materials

Course materials are designed for use as part of the POLI 3385 course at Dalhousie University and are the property of the instructor unless otherwise stated. Third party copyrighted materials (such as books, journal articles, music, videos, etc.) have either been licensed for use in this course or fall under an exception or limitation in Canadian Copyright law. Copying this course material for distribution (e.g. uploading to a commercial third-party website) may lead to a violation of Copyright law.

Section C: University Policies, Guidelines and Resources For Support

Dalhousie courses are governed by the academic rules and regulations set forth in the University Calendar and the Senate. (<https://academiccalendar.dal.ca/catalog/viewcatalog.aspx>)

Important student information, services and resources are available as follows:

University Policies and Programs

- Important Dates in the Academic Year (including add/drop dates)
http://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html

- Classroom Recording Protocol
https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/classroom-recording-protocol.html
- Dalhousie Grading Practices Policy
https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html
- Grade Appeal Process
https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/grades-and-student-records/appealing-a-grade.html
- Sexualized Violence Policy
https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/health-and-safety/sexualized-violence-policy.html
- Scent-Free Program
<https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/occupational-safety/scent-free.html>

Learning and Support Resources

- General Academic Support – Advising
https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/advising.html (Halifax)
<https://www.dal.ca/about-dal/agricultural-campus/ssc/academic-support/advising.html> (Truro)
- Student Health & Wellness Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness.html
- On Track (helps you transition into university, and supports you through your first year at Dalhousie and beyond) https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/On-track.html
- Indigenous Student Centre https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html
See also: Indigenous Connection: <https://www.dal.ca/about-dal/indigenous-connection.html>
- Elders-in-Residence (The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel and support. Visit the office in the Indigenous Student Centre or contact the program at elders@dal.ca or 902-494-6803.)
<https://cdn.dal.ca/content/dam/dalhousie/pdf/academics/UG/indigenous-studies/Elder-Protocol-July2018.pdf>
- Black Student Advising Centre https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/black-student-advising.html
- International Centre https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/international-centre.html
- South House Sexual and Gender Resource Centre <https://southhousehalifax.ca/about/>
- LGBTQ2SIA+ Collaborative - <https://www.dal.ca/dept/hres/education-campaigns/LGBTQ2SIA-collaborative.html>
- Dalhousie Libraries <http://libraries.dal.ca>
- Copyright Office <https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office.html>
- Dalhousie Student Advocacy Services <https://www.dsu.ca/student-advocacy-service>
- Dalhousie Ombudsperson https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/where-to-get-help/ombudsperson.html
- Human Rights and Equity Services <https://www.dal.ca/dept/hres.html>

- Writing Centre https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html
- Study Skills/Tutoring http://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/study-skills-and-tutoring.html

Safety

- Biosafety <http://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/biosafety.html>
- Chemical Safety <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/chemical-safety.html>
- Radiation Safety <http://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/radiation-safety.html>
- Laser Safety <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/radiation-safety/laser-safety.html>