

**POLI 3385 Politics of the Environment**  
Dalhousie University, Fall 2015  
Wednesday, 4:35-7:25 pm, Sir James Dunn 135

Instructor: Anders Hayden  
Office and Hours: Henry Hicks 352, Wednesday 3:00-4:00 pm, Thursday 2:30-3:30 pm,  
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**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
- 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
- global environmental regimes
- market-based environmentalism
- ecological modernization in theory and practice
- ecological critiques of capitalism and radical environmental perspectives

**Course Format**

The course will combine lectures and class discussion, along with student presentations and the occasional use of multimedia clips.

**Expectations and Grading**

You will have a choice of two grading options, depending on whether you choose to do a class presentation. See details below.

Option A (with presentation)		Option B (without presentation)	
Attendance	10%	Attendance	10%
Midterm	25%	Midterm	25%
Research Paper	30%	Research Paper	30%
Presentation	10%		
Final Exam	25%	Final Exam	35%
Total	100%	Total	100%

### Attendance 10%

You are expected to attend *every* class (we only meet 11 times this semester, so each time you miss a class, you lose out on almost 10 percent of the total class time.) You are expected to complete the assigned readings before class. Due to the size of the class, you will not be graded on participation. However, you are expected to participate actively and respectfully in group discussions—without dominating discussion in a way that prevents others from speaking.

### Midterm 25%

A take-home midterm will be distributed on October 21 and will be due on October 28. Any midterms submitted after October 28 will be subjected to the late penalties discussed below—until November 4, *after which midterms will not be accepted and a grade of zero will be applied.*

### Presentations 10%

You have the option of doing a presentation on an environmental *politics* issue of your choice. Some suggested presentation and paper topics will also be provided. Presentations will be ten minutes in length (no more) and will be followed by questions and comments from the class. Be sure to practice and time your presentation beforehand – ten minutes is not a lot of time, so you will have to get straight to your key points.

Why would you choose to do a presentation if it is not required? It will be a good opportunity to gain practice with presentations and public speaking, which are valuable skills. It will also give more components to your total grade, so there will be less at stake on your final exam. Above all, it will be a good opportunity to develop ideas for your research paper and receive feedback that can strengthen your paper and improve your mark.

### Research Paper 30%

You will write a paper of 3,000 to 4,000 words. Papers are due on November 27.

A list of possible paper topics will be distributed in class. These will include comparing Canada and the European Union (or an EU member state) on their political/policy approaches toward *one* of the themes of the course. 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 21 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 and avoid a last-minute rush.

### Final Exam 25% or 35%

The final exam will cover material from the entire semester. It will take place during the exam period from December 10 to 20. The final exam schedule, which is determined by the Registrar's Office, will be released in October. *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.

### **Deadlines for Withdrawal from Course**

For Fall-term classes, the deadline by which a student may withdraw is November 6. October 9 is the last date by which a student may drop a fall-term class without a "W" appearing on the transcript.

### **Plagiarism and 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 (The Center for Academic Integrity, Duke University, 1999). As a student, you are required to demonstrate these values in all of the work you do.

*What does academic integrity mean?*

At university we advance knowledge by building on the work of other people. Academic integrity means that we are honest and accurate in creating and communicating all academic products. Acknowledgement of other people's work must be done in a way that does not leave the reader in any doubt as to whose work it is. Academic integrity means trustworthy conduct such as not cheating on examinations and not misrepresenting information. It is the student's responsibility to seek assistance to ensure that these standards are met.

*How can you achieve academic integrity?*

We must all work together to prevent academic dishonesty because it is unfair to honest students. The following are some ways that you can achieve academic integrity; some may not be applicable in all circumstances.

- make sure you understand Dalhousie's policies on academic integrity (see <http://academicintegrity.dal.ca/Policies/>)
- do not cheat in examinations or write an exam or test for someone else
- do not falsify data or lab results

Be sure not to plagiarize, intentionally or unintentionally, for example...

- clearly indicate the sources used in your written or oral work. This includes computer codes/programs, artistic or architectural works, scientific projects, performances, web page designs, graphical representations, diagrams, videos, and images
- do not use the work of another from the Internet or any other source and submit it as your own
- when you use the ideas of other people (paraphrasing), make sure to acknowledge the source
- do not submit work that has been completed through collaboration or previously submitted for another assignment without permission from your instructor (These examples should be considered only as a guide and not an exhaustive list.)

*Where can you turn for help?*

If you are ever unsure about any aspect of your academic work, contact me (or the TA). See also:

- Academic Integrity website (see <http://academicintegrity.dal.ca/>) - Links to policies, definitions, online tutorials, tips on citing and paraphrasing
- Writing Centre (see <http://writingcentre.dal.ca/>) - Assistance with learning to write academic documents, reviewing papers for discipline-specific writing standards, organization, argument, transitions, writing styles, and citations
- Dalhousie Libraries (see <http://www.library.dal.ca/>) - Workshops, online tutorials, citation guides, Assignment Calculator, RefWorks
- Dalhousie Student Advocacy Service (see <http://www.dsu.ca/services/advocacy>) - Assists students with academic appeals and student discipline procedures.
- Senate Office ([www.senate.dal.ca](http://www.senate.dal.ca)) - List of Academic Integrity Officers, discipline flowchart, Senate Discipline Committee

*What will happen if an allegation of an academic offence is made against you?*

As your instructor, I am required to report every suspected offence. The full process is outlined in the Faculty Discipline Flow Chart (see

[http://senate.dal.ca/Files/AIO\\_/AcademicDisciplineProcess\\_Flowchart\\_updated\\_July\\_2011.pdf](http://senate.dal.ca/Files/AIO_/AcademicDisciplineProcess_Flowchart_updated_July_2011.pdf))

and includes the following:

- Each Faculty has an Academic Integrity Officer (AIO) who receives allegations from instructors
- Based on the evidence provided, the AIO decides if there is evidence to proceed with the allegation and you will be notified of the process
- If the case proceeds, you will receive a PENDING grade until the matter is resolved
- If you are found guilty of an offence, a penalty will be assigned ranging from a warning, to failure of the assignment or failure of the class, to expulsion from the University. Penalties may also include a notation on your transcript showing that you have committed an academic offence.

To ensure that you understand what plagiarism is, in addition to reviewing Dalhousie's resources on the issue, I suggest you take the following online quiz:

<http://http://www.bc.edu/schools/cas/polisci/integrity/quiz.html>. You might find some surprises.

**N.B. Although the vast majority of students do not plagiarize, I have had to penalize at least one student for plagiarism almost every year.** 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).

### **Statement on Accommodation**

Students may request accommodation as a result of barriers experienced related to disability, religious obligation, or any characteristic protected under Canadian human rights legislation.

Students who require academic accommodation for either classroom participation or the writing of tests and exams should make their request to the Advising and Access Services Center (AASC) prior to or at the outset of the regular academic year. Please visit [www.dal.ca/access](http://www.dal.ca/access) for more information and to obtain the Request for Accommodation form.

A note taker may be required as part of a student's accommodation. There is an honorarium of \$75/course/term (with some exceptions). If you are interested, please contact AASC at 494-2836 for more information or send an email to [notetaking@dal.ca](mailto:notetaking@dal.ca)

Please note that your classroom may contain specialized accessible furniture and equipment. It is important that these items remain in the classroom, untouched, so that students who require their usage will be able to fully participate in the class.

### **Required Books and Coursepack**

Chasek, Pamela S., David L. Downie, and Janet Welsh Brown. 2013. *Global Environmental Politics* (6<sup>th</sup> edition). Boulder, CO: Westview Press.

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

A coursepack will also be available from the Dalhousie bookstore. It may arrive after the class begins, but it will not be needed until the week of September 30.

### **Weekly Themes and Readings**

*N.B. You can find the required readings in the required books, through links on the course website, or in the coursepack. Class schedule is subject to change.*

*If you have difficulties accessing any of the recommended readings, please contact me.*

#### **September 16: Introduction**

What do the data show about the main global environmental trends?

What are the political implications and the range of possible political responses?

*Required:*

UNEP. 2013. "Key Environmental Indicators." Pp. 53-63 in *UNEP Year Book 2013: Emerging Issues in Our Global Environment*. Nairobi: United Nations Environment Programme.  
[http://www.unep.org/yearbook/2013/pdf/Environmental\\_indicators.pdf](http://www.unep.org/yearbook/2013/pdf/Environmental_indicators.pdf)

Chasek, Downie, and Brown. "The Emergence of Global Environmental Politics." Pp. 1-19 in *Global Environmental Politics*.

Raworth, Kate. 2012. "Doughnut Economics: Creating a safe and just space for humanity." Presentation to Royal Society for Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce. London, October 18. Watch 17-minute video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CqJL-cM8gb4>

Speth, James Gustave. 2012. "American passage: Towards a new economy and a new politics." *Ecological Economics* 84:181-186.

*Recommended:*

Dryzek, Chapter 1, "Making Sense of the Earth's Politics."

Kolbert, Elizabeth. 2011. "Enter the Anthropocene—Age of Man." *National Geographic*, March.  
<http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2011/03/age-of-man/kolbert-text>

McKibben, Bill. 2012. "Global Warming's Terrifying New Math." *Rolling Stone*, August 2. <http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/news/global-warmings-terrifying-new-math-20120719>

Steffen, Will et al. 2015. "Planetary boundaries: Guiding human development on a changing planet." *Science* 347(6223):1259855.

### **September 23: The Politics of Global Limits and the Project of Sustainable Development**

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?

Does sustainable development represent a viable middle ground between the survivalist and Promethean perspectives?

#### *Required:*

Dryzek. Chapter 2, "Looming Tragedy: Limits, Boundaries, Survival."

Chapter 3, "Growth Unlimited: The Promethean Response."

Chapter 7, "Greener Growth: Sustainable Development."

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.)

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*.

#### *Highly Recommended:*

Chasek, Downie, and Brown. "Paradigm Shifts and Environmental Politics." Pp. 30-48.

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

#### *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](http://blogs.worldwatch.org/sustainableprosperity/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/SOW12_chap_2.pdf)

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](http://www.openscience4sustainability.at/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/GAIA-2012_brand_green-economy.pdf)

Chasek, Downie, and Brown. "Trade and Environment." Pp. 342-364 in *Global Environmental Politics*.

Costanza, Robert. 2013. "A Vision of a Successful Economy without Continuous Economic Growth." <http://www.humansandnature.org/economy---robert-costanza-response-40.php>

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

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* 21(1):32-35.

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

Toner, Glen and James Meadowcroft, eds.. 2009. *Innovation, Science, Environment: Charting Sustainable Development in Canada, 1987-2007*. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press.

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](http://sustainable.unimelb.edu.au/sites/default/files/docs/MSSI-ResearchPaper-4_Turner_2014.pdf)

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](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.

Victor, Peter. 2010. "Questioning economic growth." *Nature* 468(7322):370-371.

### **September 30: Poverty, North-South Inequality, and the Environment**

Is poverty a key cause of environmental degradation?

Can the poor afford to care about the earth?

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

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

#### *Required:*

Chasek, Downie, and Brown. "North-South Relations and Sustainable Development" and "The Social Pillar of Sustainable Development." Pp. 284-301 in *Global Environmental Politics*.

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).

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/curitiba_b_3713953.html)

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/roberta-brandes-gratz/a-favela-transformed\\_b\\_3777182.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](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/roberta-brandes-gratz/curitibas-jaimie-lerner_b_4179203.html)

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

Lewis, Tammy L. 2014. Chapter 18, "Environmental Movements in the Global South." Pp. 300-314 in *Twenty Lessons in Environmental Sociology*, edited by K.A. Gould and T.L. Lewis. Oxford: Oxford University Press. [Coursepack]

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

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.  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/sep/26/wangari-maathai/print>

Vidal, John. 2012. "'We have seen the enemy': Bangladesh's war against climate change." *The Guardian*, May 9. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2012/may/09/bangladesh-war-against-climate-change/print>

*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](http://www.peri.umass.edu/fileadmin/pdf/working_papers/working_papers_1-50/WP36.pdf)

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.

Maathai, Wangari. 2004. "Nobel Lecture." December 10.  
[http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel\\_prizes/peace/laureates/2004/maathai-lecture-text.html](http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/2004/maathai-lecture-text.html)

Narain, Sunita. 2009. "A Million Mutinies." *New Internationalist*, January.  
<http://www.newint.org/features/2009/01/01/climate-justice-resistance/>

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.

Swinton, Scott M et al. 2003. "Poverty and Environment in Latin America: Concepts, Evidence and Policy Implications." *World Development* 31(11):1865-1872.

## **October 7: The Politics of Population**

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

How important is population relative to other drivers of environmental degradation?

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

Whose interests and ideologies are served/threatened by a focus on population?

*Required:*

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

UN DESA. 2015. "Summary and Key Findings." Pp. 1-7 in *World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision*. New York: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.  
[http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/Publications/Files/Key\\_Findings\\_WPP\\_2015.pdf](http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/Publications/Files/Key_Findings_WPP_2015.pdf)

Bates, Diane C. 2014. Chapter 8, "Population, Demography, and the Environment." Pp. 118-136 in *Twenty Lessons in Environmental Sociology*, edited by K.A. Gould and T.L. Lewis. Oxford: Oxford University Press. [Coursepack]

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



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

McDougall, Rosamund. 2010. "Too many people: Earth's population problem." London: Optimum Population Trust. [http://populationmatters.org/wp-content/uploads/population\\_problem.pdf](http://populationmatters.org/wp-content/uploads/population_problem.pdf)

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>

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/>

*Recommended:*

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>

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

UNFPA. 2012. *By Choice, Not by Chance: Family Planning, Human Rights and Development (State of World Population 2012)*. New York: United Nations Population Fund. Pp. iv-v, 1-15. [http://www.unfpa.org/webdav/site/global/shared/swp/2012/EN\\_SWOP2012\\_Report.pdf](http://www.unfpa.org/webdav/site/global/shared/swp/2012/EN_SWOP2012_Report.pdf)

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 14: Technology and Environmental Politics**

Is technology at the root of our environmental problems or the main hope for solutions?

Why is technology so central to mainstream environmental politics?

Who controls most key technological decisions?

How can governments influence future technological innovation?

What key issues does the focus on technological solutions sidestep or avoid?

*Required:*

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

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](http://www.rmi.org/Knowledge-Center/Library/2012-01_FarewellToFossilFuels)

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. (Optional: for more on their vision see the excerpt from their 2013 book at <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/soil-to-replace-oil-for-energy-upcycle-excerpt/>, or see recommended readings below).

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

Corporate Watch. 2008. Summary, Chapter 1, and Chapter 2, pp. 2-14. "Techno-fixes: A Critical Guide to Climate Change Technologies." London: Corporate Watch. <http://www.corporatewatch.org/download.php?id=88>

*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](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/552d37bbe4b07a7dd69fcd9bb/1429026747046/An+Ecomodernist+Manifesto.pdf>

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

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. 2014. Chapter 7, "Technological Change and the Environment." Pp. 105-117 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>

Lovins, Amory B. 2011. *Reinventing Fire: Bold Business Solutions for the New Energy Era*. White River Junction, VT: Chelsea Green.

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. 2013. *The Upcycle: Beyond Sustainability--Designing for Abundance*. New York: North Point Press.

Schreurs, Miranda A. 2012. "The Politics of Phase-out." *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* 68(6):30-41.

## **October 21: The Politics of Consumption**

What are the implications of the spread of consumerist lifestyles around the globe?

Why is consumerism such a powerful social and political force?

What are the key driving forces behind high levels of consumption?

Are there politically viable alternatives to high-consumption lifestyles in wealthy nations?

### *Required:*

Cross, Gary. 2000. Chapter 1 in *An All-Consuming Century: Why Commercialism Won in Modern America*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2000.

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>

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. 2001. "Individualization: Plant a Tree, Buy a Bike, Save the World?" *Global Environmental Politics* 1(3):31-52.

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. [Coursepack]

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. [Coursepack]

In-class video, if time permits: "Visualizing a Plenitude Economy." Center for a New American Dream. (Based on Juliet Schor's *Plenitude: The New Economics of True Wealth*.)

### *Highly Recommended:*

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>

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.

Schor, Juliet. 2014. "Debating the Sharing Economy." *Great Transition Initiative*, October. [http://www.greattransition.org/images/GTI\\_publications/Schor\\_Debating\\_the\\_Sharing\\_Economy.pdf](http://www.greattransition.org/images/GTI_publications/Schor_Debating_the_Sharing_Economy.pdf)

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

### *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.

Beavan, Colin. 2010. *No Impact Man*. Picador.

Bordwell, Marilyn. 2002. "Jamming Culture: Adbusters Hip Media Campaign against Consumerism." Pp. 237-253 in *Confronting Consumption*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Botsman, Rachel, and Roo Rogers. 2010. *What's Mine Is Yours: The Rise of Collaborative Consumption*. New York: Harper Business.

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

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

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

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

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.

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

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.

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

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

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.

## **October 28: Global Environmental Regimes**

What are the key political challenges in establishing global regimes to address ecological problems?

What are the key ingredients of an effective environmental regime?

### *Required:*

Chasek, Downie, and Brown: Pp. 101-131, 177-188 in Chapters 3 and 4, "The Development of Environmental Regimes..."

Chasek, Downie, and Brown. Chapter 5, "Effective Environmental Regimes," Pp. 237-282.

### *Highly Recommended:*

Chasek, Downie, and Brown. Pp. 151-170 on "Climate Change" and/or remaining cases of environmental regimes in chapters 3-4 that are of particular interest to you.

*Recommended:*

Clapp, Jennifer and Peter Dauvergne. 2011. "The Globalization of Environmentalism." Pp. 47-86 in *Paths to a Green World: The Political Economy of the Global Environment*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Falk, Richard. 1971/2015. "State Sovereignty Endangers the Planet." Pp. 144-149 in *Global Environmental Politics: From Person to Planet*, edited by Simon Nicholson and Paul Wapner. Boulder, CO: Paradigm Publishers.

**November 4: Ecological Modernization**

Is modern society adapting to the environmental challenge?

Is further modernization of industrial capitalism the solution?

How are some governments trying to link environmental policies to their economic-growth strategy?

What are the limits of ecological modernization and the pursuit of "green growth" as a political strategy?

*Required:*

Dryzek, Chapter 8. "Industrial Society and Beyond: Ecological Modernization." Pp.165-184.

Mol, Arthur P.J. and Martin Jänicke. 2009. "The Origins and Theoretical Foundations of Ecological Modernisation Theory." Pp. 17-27 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.

Hayden, Anders. 2014. "Ecological Modernization in Britain." *When Green Growth is Not Enough: Climate Change, Ecological Modernization, and Sufficiency*. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press. (The following pages are required: Pp. 199-206, 212-223, 231-237. The remaining pages are recommended, but optional.)

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.

Jänicke, Martin. 2008. "Ecological modernisation: new perspectives." *Journal of Cleaner Production* 16:557-565.

*Highly Recommended:*

Jackson, Tim. 2009. "The Myth of Decoupling." Pp. 47-57 in *Prosperity without growth? The transition to a sustainable economy*. London: Sustainable Development Commission. [http://www.sd-commission.org.uk/publications/downloads/prosperity\\_without\\_growth\\_report.pdf](http://www.sd-commission.org.uk/publications/downloads/prosperity_without_growth_report.pdf)

*Recommended:*

Remaining chapters 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.

Cox, Stan. 2004. "From Here to Economy." *Grist Magazine*, April 27. <http://www.alternet.org/story/18518/>

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.

Gonzalez, George. 2005. "Urban Sprawl, Global Warming and the Limits of Ecological Modernisation." *Environmental Politics* 14(3):344-362.

Hayden, Anders. 2014. "The Limits of Ecological Modernization in the UK." Pp. 238-278 in *When Green Growth is Not Enough: Climate Change, Ecological Modernization, & Sufficiency*. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press.

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.

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.

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.

York, Richard. 2008. "De-Carbonization in Former Soviet Republics, 1992–2000: The Ecological Consequences of De-Modernization." *Social Problems* 55:370-390.

### **November 11: Remembrance Day – No Class**

### **November 18: Is Capitalism Sustainable? Radical Critiques of Endless Growth & Accumulation**

Why do critics believe capitalism is inherently anti-ecological, and that global equity and ecological sustainability require a transformation of our political-economic system?

Do eco-socialists and other critics of capitalism propose viable alternatives for long-term change and more immediate reforms?

What can we learn from existing examples that reflect eco-socialist ideas?

#### *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>

Foster, John Bellamy, Brett Clark, and Richard York. 2010. "Capitalism and the Curse of Energy Efficiency: The Return of the Jevons Paradox." *Monthly Review* 62(6): <http://monthlyreview.org/2010/11/01/capitalism-and-the-curse-of-energy-efficiency>

Löwy, Michael. 2015. *Ecosocialism: A Radical Alternative to Capitalist Catastrophe*. Chicago: Haymarket Books. (Required: Chapter 1, "What is Ecosocialism?" and Chapter 5, "Ecosocial Struggles of Indigenous Peoples.")

Murphy, Pat and Faith Morgan. 2013. "Cuba: Lessons from a Forced Decline." Pp. 332-342 in *State of the World 2013: Is Sustainability Still Possible?* Washington, D.C. Worldwatch Institute. <http://blogs.worldwatch.org/sustainabilitypossible/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/SOW2013-30-Murphy-and-Morgan-.pdf>

Editors. 2015. "Though Still Repressive, Cuba Slowly Improving Human Rights Record." *World Politics Review*, April 8. <http://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/trend-lines/15484/though-still-repressive-cuba-slowly-improving-human-rights-record>

*Highly Recommended:*

Klein, Naomi. 2013. "Why Unions Need to Join the Climate Fight." Speech to Founding Convention of Unifor, September 1. <http://www.naomiklein.org/articles/2013/09/why-unions-need-join-climate-fight>

McKibben, Bill. 1996. "Enigma of Kerala." *Utne Reader* March-April:103-112.  
<http://www.utne.com/print.aspx?id={F11AF25B-BA6D-4E18-8B6C-79E5CC4CD242}#axzz3BudTDro2>

*Recommended:*

Altieri, Miguel A. and Fernando R. Funes-Monzote. 2012. "The Paradox of Cuban Agriculture." *Monthly Review* 63(8):23-33. <http://monthlyreview.org/2012/01/01/the-paradox-of-cuban-agriculture>

Alvarez, Mavis, Martin Bourque, Fernando Funes, Lucy Martin, Armando Nova, and Peter Rosset. 2006. "Surviving Crisis in Cuba: The Second Agrarian Reform and Sustainable Agriculture." Pp. 225-248 in *Promised Land: Competing Visions of Agrarian Reform*, edited by Peter Rosset, Raj Patel, and Michael Courville. Institute for Food and Development Policy. <http://www.foodfirst.org/files/bookstore/pdf/promisedland/12.pdf>

Angus, Ian. 2011. "How to make an ecosocialist revolution." *Climate and Capitalism*, <http://climateandcapitalism.com/2011/10/07/how-to-make-an-ecosocialist-revolution/>.

Chattopadhyay, Srikumar and Richard W. Franke. 2006. Pp. 286-308 in *Striving for Sustainability: Environmental Stress and Democratic Initiatives in Kerala*. New Delhi: Concept Publishing Company.

Foster, John Bellamy and Brett Clark. 2012. "The Planetary Emergency." *Monthly Review* 64(7):  
<http://monthlyreview.org/2012/12/01/the-planetary-emergency>

French, Hilary F. 1991. "Restoring the East European and Soviet Environments." Pp. 93-112 in *State of the World 1991*, edited by Lester R. Brown et al. New York: W.W. Norton & Co.

Gonick, Cy. 2010. "Exploring Ecosocialism as a System of Thought." *Canadian Dimension*, August 26.  
<http://canadiandimension.com/articles/3268>

Kovel, Joel. 2007. *The Enemy of Nature: The End of Capitalism or the End of the World?* London: Zed Books.

Magdoff, Fred. 2014. "An Ecologically Sound and Socially Just Economy." *Monthly Review* 66(4):  
<http://monthlyreview.org/2014/09/01/an-ecologically-sound-and-socially-just-economy/>

McKibben, Bill. 2005. "The Cuba Diet: What will you be eating when the revolution comes?" *Harper's*, April.

O'Connor, James. 1994. "Is Sustainable Capitalism Possible?" Pp. 152-175 in *Is Capitalism Sustainable?*, edited by M. O'Connor. New York: Guilford.

Swift, Richard. 2014. *S.O.S. Alternatives to Capitalism*. Ottawa: New Internationalist.

Wall, Derek. 2010. *The Rise of the Green Left: Inside the Worldwide Ecosocialist Movement*. Pluto Press.

Williams, Chris. 2010. *Ecology and Socialism*. Chicago: Haymarket Books.

## **November 25: Other Radical Green Perspectives / Market-Based Environmentalism**

### Part 1 of class: Other Radical Green Perspectives

*Required:*

Dryzek, Chapter 9, "Changing People: Green Consciousness." Pp. 187-206.

Dryzek, Chapter 10, "New Society: Green Politics." Pp. 207-229.

*Recommended:*

Bookchin, Murray. 1991. "Libertarian Municipalism: An Overview." <http://www.social-ecology.org/1991/04/libertarian-municipalism-an-overview/>

Bookchin, Murray. 1986. "Municipalization: Community Ownership of the Economy." *Green Perspectives* 2 (February). <http://libcom.org/library/municipalization-murray-bookchin>

Bookchin, Murray. 1980. "Open Letter to the Ecology Movement." [BbLearn]

King, Ynestra. 1983. "Toward an Ecological Feminism and a Feminist Ecology." Excerpt (pp. 118-28) from *Machina Ex Dea: Feminist Perspectives on Technology* New York: Pergammon Press.

Shiva, Vandana. 2005. *Earth Democracy: Justice, Sustainability, and Peace*. Cambridge, Mass: South End Press

Part 2 of the class: Market-Based Environmentalism

Do market-based approaches represent a pragmatic response to core environmental challenges? What are the main challenges and limitations in applying market-based ideas to environmental problems such as climate change?

*Required:*

Dryzek, Chapter 6, "Leave it to the market: Economic Rationalism." Pp. 122-144.

Elgie, Stewart, and Jessica McClay. 2013. "BC's Carbon Tax Shift Is Working Well after Four Years (Attention Ottawa)." *Canadian Public Policy* 39(2S):S1-S10.

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

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

*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.

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> .

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.

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

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>



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.

## **December 2: Review and Reflection**

Dryzek, Chapter 11. "Ecological Democracy." Pp. 233-240.

Chasek, Downie, and Brown. Chapter 7, "The Future of Global Environmental Politics."

### *Recommended:*

Hawken, Paul. 2009. "You Are Brilliant, and the Earth is Hiring." *Yes Magazine*.  
<http://www.yesmagazine.org/issues/columns/you-are-brilliant-and-the-earth-is-hiring>

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

McKibben, Bill. 2012. "It's Time to Fight the Status Quo." *Solutions*, May-June, 44-46.  
<http://www.thesolutionsjournal.com/node/1095>