



CES/SOC/FWE 248 – Environment, Natural Resources, and Society
Spring 2018

Instructor: Ian Carrillo Email: icarrillo@wisc.edu
Office: 346C Agricultural Hall Office Hours: Thursdays 2:00–4:00 pm, or by appointment

Canvas Course URL: <https://canvas.wisc.edu/courses/87322>

Credits: 3 credits; For each hour (50 minutes) of classroom instruction, students are expected to spend a minimum of two hours of out of class work per week.

Course Designation: Elementary; Social Science

Meeting Time and Location: Mon/Wed/Fri 1:20–2:10 p.m. – Babcock 119

Instructional Mode: All face-to-face

Course Description: Introduces the concerns and principles of sociology through the examination of human interaction with the natural environment. Places environmental issues such as resource depletion, population growth, food production, environmental regulation, and sustainability in national and global perspectives.

Requisites: None

Learning Objectives: Upon completion of this course, I expect students to be able to:

- *Understand the theoretical and applied relationship between human society and the natural environment
- *Understand how social science arguments are constructed and evaluated
- *Have a command of concepts and general theories on basic social processes, especially those concerning relationships between society and the environment.
- *Use critical thinking skills to identify and discover solutions to environmental problems
- *Use their capacities for inquiry and analysis to interrogate real world challenges and socio-environmental problems

Note: This syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

Required Texts

Arlie Hochschild. 2016. *Strangers in Their Own Land*. The New Press.

This book is available for purchase at University Bookstore. Other required readings are available on Learn@UW at learnuw.wisc.edu.

Course Requirements

Attendance and Class Participation	12%
Office Check-In	3%
Exam #1	15%
Exam #2	15%
Exam #3	15%
Reading Summaries	30%
Final Paper	10%

Attendance and Class Participation (12%): The quality of our collective experience in this course depends on your participation. Participation means attending class, keeping up with the readings and being able to discuss them thoughtfully in class. The material covered in lecture is not the same as what you will find in the readings, and I will not post lecture notes on-line (although I will post power-point slides). I encourage debate based on careful readings of materials. We will work to cultivate an environment of respect for one another's views.

Attendance is mandatory in this course. Keep in mind that before you can earn points for discussion you must first be present! I will adjust your overall grade for attendance based on the following scale:

- Full attendance or missed two classes = No adjustment
- Missed three to five classes = grade calculated as: # of classes attended/# of total classes
- Missed six or more classes = adjusted to zero and reported to Dean of Students.

There are many ways to earn participation points, such as in-class discussions, in-class activities, and very short homework assignments. The easiest ways to lose participation points are to be physically absent from class and/or demonstrate an unwillingness to engage in class discussion and activities. Remember that *quality* of participation is as important as quantity for receiving credit.

Office Check-In (3%): You are required to visit my office hours once at the beginning of the semester. During this visit, you will have the opportunity to discuss with me ways to improve your reading summaries, strategies for studying and reading, or any other concerns you might have. February 23 is the final day for you to accomplish this task.

Exams (45%): There will be three exams during the semester. Each will count for 15% of your overall course grade and will cover any material from class, including lectures, discussions, readings and in-class films. There is no final exam for the course.

Reading Summaries (30%): Submit 10 reading summaries, using the Learn@UW dropbox.

Notice that these short writing exercises cumulatively make up 30% of your overall course grade. This is intentional. I want you to do the readings and come to class prepared to discuss them. If you do so, you will enjoy class much more, and you will learn much more. Each of the 10 prompts

will be worth 3% of your final course grade. Reading summaries will be no more than one single-spaced page and demonstrate your knowledge of the reading by:

- 1) Summarizing in five sentences (rarely, less) the main arguments of the reading
- 2) Explaining one finding or concept you found novel, challenging or poorly supported
- 3) Raising at least one thoughtful question prompted by your reading

Your written answers will follow this 3-part format, with each item number taking a separate paragraph. I will read these prompts the night before our discussion, to get an idea of what concepts and issues need to be clarified in lecture. Please come to discussion with your prompt in mind; I will call on individuals to summarize the reading, discuss a concept, or pose a question for the class. Being prepared with your prompt also benefits your class participation.

How to turn in your reading summaries:

- 1) Pick an asterisked reading on the syllabus
- 2) On the night before the reading is due, submit your reading summary by 6 p.m. in the corresponding Learn@UW dropbox folder (e.g. the title of the reading/assignment)
- 3) Please note that the Learn@UW dropbox will reject documents whose names have certain characters and symbols. It is recommended that you use simple file names (e.g. Reading summary #4 - First Name Last Name)

I will grade these on a 1 to 5 scale, with 5 being the highest score. A high quality summary will use concise and clear language, demonstrate a command of the reading, and show an ability to engage the reading in an inquisitive way. Reading summaries submitted late will receive a grade reduction.

Final Paper (10%): This final paper will be 1500-1700 words in length and due on **May 7**. In this paper, you are expected to ground *Strangers in Their Own Land* in two thematic areas (e.g. social construction of nature, environmental justice, markets and the environment) that we've previously covered in class. A high quality paper will demonstrate knowledge of theories, debates, and evidence. I will provide a detailed instruction sheet that outlines my expectations and methods for grading.

Course Information

Grading Scale

A: 93-100 AB: 87-92 B: 83-86 BC: 77-82 C: 70-76 D: 60-69 F: 0-59

Late Policy: If you submit your work after the due date, your score will be penalized by 10% for each day after the due date. Requests for extension may not be approved. No re-writes. The due date for the final paper is non-negotiable.

Exam Policy: A make-up exam will be given only if you provide the instructor, in writing, an acceptable excuse from an accredited professional regarding the situation. You should submit the written notice before the exam day. The make-up exam will be scheduled at a time that is convenient for all students that miss the exam, but no later than two weeks after the original exam. No re-takes.

Lecture Slides: I will post lecture slides on Learn@UW after class. These slides alone do not provide a sufficient basis for you to answer exam questions.

Classroom Etiquette: One of my responsibilities is to ensure that the environment in the classroom is conducive to learning. If you are late, you should find a seat near the entrance. If you need to leave early, please let me know in advance and sit where it will be easy to quietly leave the room. Please silence and put away phones before class begins. Please hold side conversations and discussions until after class. Although computers are a valuable tool for research and study, they are inimical to participation and collegiality in the classroom. The use of laptops or other electronic devices for note-taking or other purposes in class, therefore, will NOT be permitted.

Office Hours: Office hours are on Thursdays 2:00–4:00 p.m., or by appointment. My office is Room 346C in Agricultural Hall.

Readings: It is extremely important for you to keep up with the required readings for each session. I lecture with the assumption that you have read all pieces before class. I normally do not lecture from the readings, but try to build on them.

Communication: I will make an effort to announce in a timely fashion any changes to the syllabus via email, on Learn@UW, and in class. Please make sure you check your wisc.edu emails, and let me know if you have trouble receiving emails sent to the class list. You are welcome to communicate with me via email. Please expect a reply within 24 hours.

Academic Honesty: All work that you submit for this class must be your own. You must precisely and explicitly acknowledge the sources you used to prepare your work. Academic dishonesty is a serious matter, which may require reporting students to the University for punishment. If you are unsure about what constitutes plagiarism, come and talk with me or consult the Writing Center (www.writing.wisc.edu, 608-263-1992).

Cheating on the exam and/or writings will not be tolerated. Students caught cheating will receive a grade of F for the entire course, and the case will be reported to the Dean of Students. Familiarize yourself with academic dishonesty guidelines at: <http://students.wisc.edu/doso/acadintegrity.html>.

Accommodation: I wish to include fully any students with special needs in this course. Please let me know if you need any special accommodations in the curriculum, instruction, or evaluation procedures in order to enable you to participate fully. The McBurney Center (702 W. Johnson Street, www.mcburney.wisc.edu, 608-263-2741) can provide useful assistance and documentation.

If English is not your first language, you may have an additional thirty minutes for the exam. If this applies to you, please come and talk with me at your earliest convenience. The Great University Tutoring Service (GUTS, guts.studentorg.wisc.edu, 608-263-5666) can provide additional assistance with language and other academic skills.

Class Schedule

January 24	Introduction
January 26	Schor - Ch. 1 (pp. 1-23)***
January 29	Schor - Ch. 2 (pp. 25-65)***
January 31	Schor - Ch. 3 (pp. 67-97)***
February 2	Fullerton and Stavins - "How Economists See the Environment"***
February 5	Ostrom - "Reflections on the Commons"***
February 7	Carlsson and Johansson Stenman - "Behavioral Economics and Environmental Policy"***
February 9	Auyero and Swistun - "The Social Production of Toxic Uncertainty"***
February 12	No Reading - Exam Review
February 14	Exam 1
February 16	Rudel et al. - "Political Economy of the Environment"***
February 19	Bell and York - "Community Economic Identity"***
February 21	Mohai et al. - "Environmental Justice"***
February 23	Ashwood and MacTavish - "Tyranny of the Majority"***
February 26	No Readings
February 28	Shriver et al. - "Power, Quiescence, and Pollution"***
March 2	Bell and Braun - "Coal, Identity, and Gendering in Appalachia"***
March 5	No readings - Exam Review
March 7	Exam 2
March 9	No Readings
March 12	Taylor - "Ch. 1: Toxic Exposure"***
March 14	Taylor - "Ch. 2: Disproportionate Siting"***
March 16	Pellow - "Environmental Racism: Inequality in a Toxic World"***
March 19	Pulido - "Environmental Racism, Racial Capitalism, and State..."***
March 21	Pulido et al. - "State Regulation and Environmental Justice"***
March 23	Park and Pellow - "Introduction" in <i>The Slums of Aspen</i> ***
March 26	Spring Break
March 28	Spring Break
March 30	Spring Break
April 2	No readings - In-Class Film
April 4	No readings - In-Class Film
April 6	Watch - Bob Inglis Ted talk; Read - Listen to Jerry Taylor interview on WNYC*** (Choose one for the summary)
April 9	No Readings
April 11	No Readings - Exam Review
April 13	Exam 3
April 16	Hochschild - Ch. 1 & 2
April 18	Hochschild - Ch. 3 & 4
April 20	Hochschild - Ch. 5 & 6
April 23	Hochschild - Ch. 7 & 8

April 25	Hochschild - Ch. 9 & 10
April 27	Hochschild - Ch. 11 & 12
April 30	Hochschild - Ch. 13 & 14
May 2	Hochschild - Ch. 15 & 16
May 4	Last day of class
May 7	Final Paper - Due by 5 p.m. in Learn@UW Dropbox