San José State University
College of Social Sciences / Environmental Studies Department
ENVS 150, Introduction to Environmental Thought and Philosophy
Summer 2015

Instructor: Dr. Will Russell
Office Location: Washington Square Hall 115B
Email: will.russell@sjsu.edu
Class Days/Time: Monday & Wednesdays
Online: 06/03/13 - 07/05/13
Library Liaison: Peggy Cabrera (peggy.cabrera@sjsu.edu)

Course Description
An introduction to significant works in the field of environmental studies. Topics covered include preservation, conservation, biocentrism, environmental justice, eco-feminism, deep ecology, and environmental activism.

Course Overview and Organization
This course is designed to provide upper division students with an opportunity to investigate the historic and cultural context of environmental thought, history, and philosophy. The evolution of our society has direct and profound influence on our attitudes toward nature. These attitudes are reflected in science, literature, government, religion, art, and our management of natural resources.

Department Program Learning Outcomes
The Department Program Learning Outcomes for all Environmental Studies undergraduates and graduate students are found at http://www.sjsu.edu/depts/EnvStudies/assessment/. This course will be used to promote undergraduate student learning for the following outcomes:

SLO 1 - Qualitative Environmental Literacy: Students are able to write a logical analytical paper using good writing style and construction supported by appropriate research.

SLO 3 - Content Environmental Literacy: Students will develop proficiency in the interdisciplinary sustainability principles that are the foundation of environmental studies; they will know the key environmental challenges facing the planet, know relevant interdisciplinary information about these challenges, and be able to develop/identify feasible solutions.
Required Texts

Supplemental Texts
Atwood, Margaret. 2003. Oryx and Crake

Dropping and Adding
You are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. Information on add/drops is available at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-298.html. Late drop information is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/policies/latedrops. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.

Assignments and Grading Policy
Please read the following assignment descriptions carefully. Failing to comply with the specific directions given below will result in a loss of credit points for each assignment. Please note that all assignments will be due by 11:59pm (PST) on the date due, and no late work will be accepted under any circumstances.

Personal Introduction
On the first day of class post a 300–word personal biography that includes your academic major, year, and a brief description of the people and experiences that have shaped your world-view.

Reaction and Response
Every class day you will post a 500-600 word ‘Reaction’ to the day’s readings to the ‘Discussions’ section in Canvas. The Reaction should address the discussion question posted by the instructor for that day. In addition, each student must post two 100-word ‘Responses’ to other students’ posted Reactions. The Reaction must be received by 11:59pm on the day that the reading is due; the response will be due by 11:59 pm on the following class day.

Personal Environmental Philosophy
A 1000-1200 word personal environmental philosophy will be required from each student. This should not be a reiteration of the ‘Personal Introduction’. The essay should include
references to the materials discussed in the readings as well as the student’s personal journey. See course schedule for date due.

*Book Review*
Choose one of the books from the supplemental book list and write a 2500-3000 word essay that includes a summary of the book, an analysis of topics addressed by the author, and a brief review of literature related to these topics. A minimum of five literature references (in addition to the chosen book) will accompany the paper and will be cited in the text in the parenthetical APA style.
**Grading**

Your grade in this course will be based on your essays and discussion postings as follows, with 90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 60-69=D; and less than 60 = F:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points for Each</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal Introduction</td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reaction Papers (8)</td>
<td>5 each</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responses (16)</td>
<td>1 each</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Philosophy</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
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**University Policies**

**Academic Integrity**

Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San José State University, and the University’s Academic Integrity Policy requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The policy on academic integrity can be found at http://sa.sjsu.edu/student_conduct.

**Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with DRC to establish a record of their disability.

**Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/3</td>
<td>Personal Introduction</td>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction Statement</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/5</td>
<td>Early Environmentalists</td>
<td>Thoreau 1-2; 26-36 Marsh 71-80</td>
<td>Reaction paper 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/10</td>
<td>Preservation vs. Conservation</td>
<td>Muir 84-85; 104-112 Pinchot 172-180</td>
<td>Reaction paper 2</td>
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<td>6/12</td>
<td>The Land Ethic</td>
<td>Leopold 266-294</td>
<td>Reaction paper 3</td>
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<td>6/17</td>
<td>Beginning of the Modern Environmental Movement</td>
<td>Carson 365-376 Ehrlich 434-437</td>
<td>Reaction paper 4 Environmental Philosophy Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/19</td>
<td>Privatization and the Commons</td>
<td>Hardin 438-450 Water Privitization – by Public Citizen</td>
<td>Reaction paper 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/24</td>
<td>Changes in the Land in Words and Pictures</td>
<td>Crumb 590-594; Cronon 632-658</td>
<td>Reaction paper 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/26</td>
<td>Environmental Justice and EcoFeminism</td>
<td>Chavez 690-695 <a href="http://www.thegreenfuse.org/ecofem.htm">http://www.thegreenfuse.org/ecofem.htm</a></td>
<td>Reaction paper 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/1</td>
<td>The New Agricultural Revolution</td>
<td>Pollan 948-969 Urban Agriculture in San Jose</td>
<td>Reaction paper 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/3</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Book Review Due</td>
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