

**San José State University**  
**CoSS/Environmental Studies Department**  
**ENVS 117, Human Ecology, Section 02, Fall, 2015**

**Course and Contact Information**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Kathryn Davis
<b>Office Location:</b>	WSQ 118
<b>Telephone:</b>	(408) 924-5485
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:Kathryn.Davis@sjsu.edu">Kathryn.Davis@sjsu.edu</a>
<b>Office Hours:</b>	Tuesdays 2-5:00; Thursdays 10-11:00; <b>Online sign up required for Tuesday/Thurs office hours (see below for instructions).</b> I am also available by appointment on some Wednesdays if you are unable to attend my regular office hours because of other classes or work commitments.
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	Tuesday/Thursday 12-1:15
<b>Classroom:</b>	CL 224
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	<b>ENVS 01, 10, and 100W</b> or instructor consent

**Canvas and MYSJSU Messaging**

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on the Canvas learning management system course website. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor) to learn of any updates. I will communicate with you (outside of class hours) via the Canvas messaging system and appreciate your use of the same system to communicate with me. If you contact me via email ([Kathryn.davis@sjsu.edu](mailto:Kathryn.davis@sjsu.edu)) put ENVS 117-02 and your full name in the subject line. Emails without this information may not receive a response. Please do not leave voicemails on my office phone – the quickest way to reach me and receive a quick response is via Canvas or email.

**Office Hour Appointments**

Go here: [Dr. Davis's Office Hours](#) to schedule a time to see me during office hours. The system only allows booking 3 weeks in advance. Scroll down the page to find open times. If you cannot meet with me during my scheduled days/times, then contact me via email for a different appointment time. I will not normally be on campus on Monday and Friday.

## Course Description

Diversity and similarity of human adaptation, cultural evolution, cultural change, and environmental modification in African, Asiatic, Oceanic, and Latin American cultural groups. Emphasis: Traditional non-western conservation practices and their lessons for the modern-day resource manager.

**Definition of Human Ecology:** Human Ecology is the *interdisciplinary* study of the relationships between the human community and its environment. It *crosses traditional academic and scientific boundaries* and represents attempts to integrate scientific, behavioral, sociological, political, economic, and ethical functions in human relationship to the environment.

## Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. CLO 1 demonstrate understanding of the field of human ecology by looking at a local region that they are familiar with – the San Francisco Bay Area (Part I of course: Book Analysis)
2. CLO 2 demonstrate understanding of the way professional human ecologists conduct their studies in African, Asiatic, Oceanic, Latin American cultural areas and show the ability to analyze the types of research done, methodologies used, and conservation lessons learned (Part II of course: Journal Article Analysis)
3. CLO 3 demonstrate the ability to explore, investigate, photograph, and write a report about a field site that they have studied as a human ecologist (Part III of course: Field Site Analysis)

## Required Texts/Readings

### Textbook

1. Okamoto, Ariel Rubissow and Kathleen M. Wong. 2011. *Natural History of San Francisco Bay*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
2. Palumbi, Stephen R. and Carolyn Sotka. 2011. *The Death and Life of Monterey Bay*. Washington: Island Press.
3. Stewart, George. 2006/1949. *Earth Abides*. New York: Del Rey Books.
4. Turabian, Kate. 2007. 8<sup>th</sup> Edition. *A Manual for Writers*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

### Other Readings

Additional readings and course materials may be available on the Canvas website or Instructor Reserve at the MLK Library.

### Other requirements

*This course includes a required field trip that will cost approximately \$50 per person. The cost will be paid directly to the vendor, and not to Dr. Davis.*

### Library Liaison

Peggy Cabrera, [peggy.cabrera@sjsu.edu](mailto:peggy.cabrera@sjsu.edu). (408) 924-2034

## Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in [University Policy S12-3](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

This means, students are expected to spend at least two hours outside of class for every one hour of in-person class time. Because this is a 3-unit course, **you can expect to spend a minimum of 6 hours per week** completing class-related assignments in addition to the in-person class meeting. Assignments include analysis of three books; library and field research, site photography, and local interviews; two written assignments; three power-point presentations, participation in a class debate, and daily class engagement. These assignments may require work beyond the minimum 6-hours of work outside the classroom. **Careful time management is required** to keep up and succeed.

**Course Evaluation:** This course will run as an undergraduate seminar, wherein there are no exams but rather daily “engaging” with the instructor and fellow students regarding the subject matter, oral reports, written papers, and a **required field trip**. **Field Trip Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ (TBA). **A missed field trip = 1 letter grade off of what your term grade would have been (e.g., your term grade of “B” now becomes a “C” as a result of missing this very important (and extremely fun) field trip.**

**Other Important Factors:** The points for the above are first subtotaled. Then, I may (or may not) raise or lower the original points based on the following: evaluation of such important intangibles as your *attitude, improvement over the semester, initiative, motivation, dependability, and ability to work with colleagues in the class.*

I’m always asking myself 3 important questions:

1. Would I want to work with you as a colleague?
2. Would I write you a letter of recommendation if requested?
3. Would I offer you a job if I had a chance?

NOTE that [University policy F69-24](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf> states that “Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading.”

## ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Your participation is required for the entire session of each class. While attendance is not used as a criterion for grading, it is impossible to participate if you are not present – both physically and mentally. Participation in this course accounts for 40% of your total grade. It is vital that you do the readings in advance and come to class with questions, opinions, and analyses (agreements and disagreements) – in other words, be prepared to participate in an intellectual debate and discussion.

## Grading Policy

### Grading information:

You will be evaluated in three major categories:

<b>Seminar Performance</b> (includes daily engagement, several formal presentations, attendance and feedback for classmate's presentations)	<b>40%</b>
<b>Written Article Analysis</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Written Field Site Analysis</b>	<b>50%</b>

### Written Work:

My firm expectations for written work are that your work reflects the fact that you are advanced students at a top university. At this stage in your education you should have the skills to write upper division university level papers. Please be sure your effort is equal to the task. I do expect correct format, spelling, grammar, punctuation, and citations. Proofread your work carefully – writing errors can affect your grade up to 10% on each written assignment. All written assignments will be submitted both on Canvas (and automatically submitted to turnitin.com) and, in the case of the Article Analysis and Field Site Analysis, as hard copy within the first 5 minutes of class on the due date. Written work submitted in class up to 15 minutes late will have a 10% deduction. I do not accept work more than 15 minutes late.

- Grades are determined on the following scale: 100 points total for the course

100% = A+	87-89% = B+	77-79% = C+	65-69% = D
95-99% = A	84-86% = B	74-76% = C	60-64% = D-
90-94% = A-	80-83% = B-	70-73% = C-	59% and below = F

- **Extra credit** is available for attending a talk on a topic related to Human Ecology. This may be talks on campus or elsewhere. A one-page summary and evaluation of the talk is required. Each worth 1 point, up to 5 points total (for attending 5 talks!). You must turn in all other coursework in order to be eligible for extra credit points. It is not intended nor will it be used to replace unsubmitted coursework.
- **Late Work:** All assignments are due as stated on the Course Schedule and late work will NOT be accepted. The one exception for written work is in the case of students with a documented serious medical condition or family problems. You must talk to me about this in advance of the due date. This is a seminar course so participation is imperative and cannot be “made up” for any reason – this includes presentations.

### GRADE APPEALS

If you believe your work has been graded wrongly, you can appeal the grade in writing only if you do so before the next class meeting. Comparisons to other students' graded assignments will not be accepted as evidence for the complaint. The written statement must provide the *specific reasons* for reconsidering the grade and your assessment of the particular grade the assignment deserves. The original copy of the graded assignment must be submitted with the written request. When the appeal has been made according to these guidelines, the assignment will be re-graded. The new grade may be the same, higher, or lower than the original grade. It will

be final. *Keep all work in this course until after semester grades have been posted.* If you have questions about your final grade, you can bring in past work, and if necessary, corrections can be made.

## **Classroom Protocol**

- Assigned readings must be completed prior to class for active participation in class discussions.
- All assignments are due as stated on the course schedule and late work will NOT be accepted.
- Be civil and courteous to one another. While we may not always agree with other perspectives and opinions, classroom respect is expected and mandatory.
- Silence all mobile devices (phones and tablets) and keep them out of reach and view.
- Arriving late or leaving early – please don't unless it is a true emergency. If you are late, enter the room quietly and take the first available seat. Get your materials out quietly. If you are habitually late be aware that it will have a negative effect on your seminar performance grade.

## **University Policies**

### **General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student**

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU's policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See University Policy S90-5 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf>. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the SJSU catalog, at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html>. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

### **Dropping and Adding**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's Catalog Policies section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at [http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic\\_calendars/](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/). The Late Drop Policy is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

### **Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material**

University Policy S12-7, <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”

- If you have a valid reason for wanting to record in this class, you must receive permission in advance, in writing, and that permission must indicate whether it is for the entire semester or on a class-by-class basis.
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

### **Academic integrity**

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> 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 [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

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

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD\\_1997-03.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

### **Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays**

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See [University Policy S14-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf>.

### **Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the [Academic Success Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/> located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab 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. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

## **SJSU Peer Connections**

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit [Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

## **SJSU Writing Center**

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook. (Note: You need to have a QR Reader to



scan this code.)

## **SJSU Counseling Services**

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit [Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.

# ENVS 117, Human Ecology, Fall 2015, Course Schedule

This schedule is subject to change with notice to be posted on Canvas and conveyed in class when possible..

## Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Thurs 8/20	Course introduction, logistics, etc.
2	Tues 8/25	Discuss research projects in some detail Assign seminar leaders for Okamoto and Wong Read: Palumbi and Sotka Ch. 1 & 2
2	Thurs 8/27	Read: Okamoto and Wong, "Taking the Plunge" Seminar Leader: Davis
3	Tues 9/1	Read: Okamoto and Wong, "Beneath the Surface" Seminar Leaders: _____, _____, _____
3	Thurs 9/3	Read: Palumbi and Sotka, Ch. 3 &4 <b>DUE:</b> <i>Journal Article Choice via Canvas email – 3 choices in order of preference with full citations. I will approve one.</i>
4	Tues 9/8	Read: Okamoto and Wong, "Visible and Invisible Life: Fish, Birds, and Other Wildlife" Seminar Leaders: _____, _____, _____
4	Thurs 9/10	Read: Palumbi and Sotka, Ch. 5 &6 <b>DUE:</b> <i>Field Site Choice via Canvas email – 3 choices in order of preference. I will approve one. Numbers from list of approved sites only!</i>
5	Tues 9/15	Read: Okamoto and Wong, "History of Human Changes: 1800s – 1960s" Seminar Leaders: _____, _____, _____
5	Thurs 9/17	Read: Palumbi and Sotka, Ch. 7 & 8
6	Tues 9/22	Read: Okamoto and Wong, "The Environmental Backlash: 1960s – Present" Seminar Leaders: _____, _____, _____
6	Thurs 9/24	Read: Palumbi and Sotka, Ch. 9
7	Tues 9/29	Read: Okamoto and Wong, "Restoration Frontiers: The Watershed" Seminar Leaders: _____, _____, _____
7	Thurs 10/1	Read: Palumbi and Sotka, Ch. 10
8	Tues 10/6	Read: Okamoto and Wong, "Restoration Frontiers: The Bay" Seminar Leaders: _____, _____, _____
8	Thurs 10/8	Read: Palumbi and Sotka, Ch. 11

9	Tues 10/13	Read: Okamoto and Wong, "Climate Change and the Bay's Future" Seminar Leaders: _____, _____
9	Thurs 10/15	Read: Palumbi and Sotka, Ch. 12
10	Tues 10/20	<b>Journal Analysis Paper is due within the first 5 minutes of class.</b> Presentation dates will be assigned. Final instructions for presentations will be given.
10	Thurs 10/22	<b>PART II INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH, METHODOLOGIES, AND PERSPECTIVES IN HUMAN ECOLOGY (Journal Article Analysis)</b>  Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____
11	Tues 10/27	Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____
11	Thurs 10/29	Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____
12	Tues 11/3	Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____
12	Thurs 11/5	Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____

13	Tues 11/10	<b>Research Field Projects Due within the First 5 Minutes of Class. Presentation Dates Assigned.</b>
13	Thurs 11/12	<p><b>PART III: STUDENT FIELD PROJECT PRESENTATIONS (Field Site Analysis)</b></p> <p>Student Presenter: _____</p> <p>Student Presenter: _____</p> <p>Student Presenter: _____</p> <p>Student Presenter: _____</p> <p>Student Presenter: _____</p> <p><i>Start reading <b>Earth Abides</b>. Pace yourself – you don't have to read it all in one night.</i></p>
14	Tues 11/17	<p>Student Presenter: _____</p> <p>Student Presenter: _____</p> <p>Student Presenter: _____</p> <p>Student Presenter: _____</p> <p>Student Presenter: _____</p>
14	Thurs 11/19	<p>Student Presenter: _____</p> <p>Student Presenter: _____</p> <p>Student Presenter: _____</p> <p>Student Presenter: _____</p> <p>Student Presenter: _____</p>
15	Tues 11/24	<p>Student Presenter: _____</p> <p>Student Presenter: _____</p> <p>Student Presenter: _____</p> <p>Student Presenter: _____</p> <p>Student Presenter: _____</p>
15	Thurs 11/26	<b>Thanksgiving Break – No class</b>

16	Tues 12/1	Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____ Student Presenter: _____
16	Thurs 12/3	Discuss <i>Earth Abides</i> (2 extra credit points for answering <i>Earth Abides</i> questions in writing. Must be turned in today – word processed not hand written).
17	Tues 12/8	Conversation about the semester, your work, my work, human ecology, environmental studies, environmental history, why we should care.....
Final Exam	Friday 12/11	CL 224 9:45-12:00 Presentation of Failed Technology projects – participation required