

**San José State University
Department of Environmental Studies
ENVS 117, Human Ecology, Spring 2019**

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Ted Grudin

Office Location: Washington Square Hall (WSQ)

Email: theodore.grudin@sjsu.edu

Office Hours: M, 3-4:30p/by appointment

Class Days/Time: M, 4:30-7:15p

Classroom: WSQ 111

Prerequisites: ENVS 001, ENVS 010 and ENVS 100W

GE/SJSU Studies Category:

Library Liaison: Peggy Cabrera (peggy.cabrera@sjsu.edu)

Course Description

This is a required course in the major which covers the diversity and similarity of human adaptation, cultural evolution, cultural change and environmental modification in African, Asiatic, Oceanic and Latin American cultural groups. The emphasis is on traditional non-Western conservation practices and their lessons for the modern-day resource manager. ENVS 117 is a core requirement for majors. Students interested in other cultures and world regions, and in particular international development, will find this course not only interesting, but useful.

Learning Outcomes

The course is designed to

- Give the student an introduction to 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**)
- Expand upon that local regional study to see how professional human ecologists conduct their studies in African, Asiatic, Oceanic, and Latin American cultural areas--to analyze the types of research done, the methodologies used, and the conservation lessons learned (**Part II of course: Case studies**). ^[1]_[SEP]
- Give the student an opportunity to explore, investigate, photograph, and report back about a piece of land that they have now seen as a budding human ecologist (**Part III of course: Field site analysis**).

Required Texts/Readings Textbook

All Materials on Canvas.

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 [sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf).

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."

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.

Grading Policy Class Participation

1. Attendance – You are required to attend every class meeting unless you are ill or have an emergency. If you need to miss class for either of these reasons e-mail me as promptly as possible especially if you are expected to present that week.
2. Participation in discussions – Participation does not mean being verbose. In many cases allowing or encouraging others to speak is more valuable to the group dynamic. Providing the group your insights in an engaging and respectful manner. Statements are always more interesting if they are backed up by logic and evidence.
3. Presentations – As a presenter it is your job to make your subject informative and entertaining. Please be professional and creative!
4. **Respect and decorum – All class participants will behave in a manner that provides a positive and comfortable learning environment for everybody.**

Grading

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 and written essays.

Your grade in the class will be evaluated in the following ways:

- Seminar Performance.....30%**
(leading class discussion, participation, attendance/engagement)
- Critical Book Review.....15%**
- Presentation.....25%**
- Final Paper.....30%**

Note that “All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades.” See [University Policy F13-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1) for more details.

Grading Rubric for Writing Assignments: See additional Reaction rubric above. An “A” paper will include all of the elements listed in the assignment in an integrated, compelling, and readable format with minimal grammatical and stylistic errors. A “B” paper will include all of the elements listed in the assignment, but may lack some integration and can include a few grammatical and stylistic errors. A “C” paper will include the essential elements listed in the assignment but might include significant stylistic and grammatical errors. A “D” paper may include some of the elements listed in the assignment but will may have serious issues with regard to style, organization, and grammar. “F” papers will be those where the basic elements of the assignment were not met.

Course Grade: Your grade in this course will be based on your written work, presentations, and your participation in online as well as in-class discussions.

| Assignment | Percent of Grade |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Reaction and Responses | 20 |
| In-class Assignments | 20 |
| Environmental Philosophy | 20 |
| Midterm Exam | 20 |
| Final Exam | 20 |
| <i>TOTAL</i> | <i>100</i> |

| Points Acquired | Letter Grade |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 980-100 | A+ |
| 900-979 | A |
| 880-899 | B+ |
| 800-879 | B |
| 780-799 | C+ |

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|---------|----|
| 700-779 | C |
| 680-699 | D+ |

ENVS 150, Introduction to Environmental Thought, Spring 2019 Page 4 of 7

| | |
|---------|---|
| 600-679 | D |
| 0-600 | F |

Classroom Protocol

All use of cell phones and smart phones during class time is strictly prohibited. Computers may be used during class time at the instructors discretion exclusively for tasks directly related to class activities. Students should be in class prepared to work at the beginning of each class session. Disruption of the class by students arriving late will not be tolerated. Failure to meet the expectations of classroom protocol will result in a loss of participation points.

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 sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the [SJSU catalog](http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbggen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html), at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbggen/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](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) 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](http://sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars) at sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars.

Last Day to Drop: February 5, 2019

Last Day to Add (without additional fees): February 12, 2019

The [Late Drop Policy](http://sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy) is available at 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](http://sjsu.edu/advising) at sjsu.edu/advising.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

[University Policy S12-7](https://sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf), sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course:

- 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,

All assignments will be turned in during class time by the due. Assignments turned in after the due date will be dropped a full letter grade for each class meeting that they are late.

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](https://sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) at 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](https://sjsu.edu/studentconduct) is available at 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](https://sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) at sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](https://sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at sjsu.edu/aec to establish a record of their disability.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the [Academic Success Center](https://sjsu.edu/at/asc) at 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.

ENVS 117, Human Ecology, Spring 2019 Course Schedule

| Date | Topics | Readings | Assignments Due |
|------|---|--|--|
| 1/28 | Introductions | | |
| 2/4 | Context: Global Apocalypse | Monbiot: http://www.monbiot.com/2017/11/24/everything-must-go/#.WhmaDxIgM3M.twitter , Wallace-Wells: http://nymag.com/daily/intelligencer/2017/07/climate-change-earth-too-hot-for-humans.html | |
| 2/11 | Excavating American Pasts | Zitkala-Sa, "American Indian Stories" (pdf) | |
| 2/18 | Science, Objectivity & Nature | Haraway (pdf) | |
| 2/25 | Preservation v. Conservation | John Muir, <i>My First Summer in the Sierra</i> | |
| 3/4 | Theories of Wilderness | Cronon (pdf) | |
| 3/11 | Individual Progress Meetings | | Due online: Initial Thesis & Synopsis |
| 3/18 | Library Day | | Due online: Critical Book Review |
| 3/25 | Strong Objectivity | Harding (pdf) | |
| 4/1 | No Class – Cesar Chavez Day (Observed) | | |
| 4/8 | Natures | Latour (pdf) | Due online: Rough draft Research Paper |
| 4/15 | TEK | Anderson (pdf) | |
| 4/22 | Individual Presentations | | |
| 4/29 | Individual Presentations | | |

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| 5/6 | Individual Presentations | | |
| 5/1 3 | Individual Presentations <i>Last day of class</i> | | |
| 5/1 7 | Due Online: Research Paper Final Draft | | |