

Geographical Understandings of Nature-Society Interactions 2009-2010

Honours Option in Geography (full course)

General Information

Course Organiser	Dr. Andrea Nightingale, Geography, Rm. 2.28 andrea.nightingale@ed.ac.uk 0131 650-2526 Semester two office hours Tuesdays 10.30-11.30
Course meeting time	winter term, weeks 1-11 Tuesdays 2-3:50 pm G10 Drummond Annex, Drummond St.
Assessment	One two hour examination (2 questions) 60% One degree essay (2,000 words) 40%

***Degree papers are due on Thursday, Week 8, Semester two,
March 4, 12 noon***

Class work	Student projects and verbal assignments Class participation attendance is expected at all class meetings as well as active participation in discussions and activities.
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Course aims

- to introduce students to current theoretical debates on the relationships between nature and society
- to explore the intersections of environmental issues with the social construction of difference including gender, race, class and caste
- to examine the relationships between socio-economic development and environmental change
- to critically examine mainstream environmentalism in a global context
- to understand the importance of theory in shaping human relationships with the environment
- to provide opportunities to enhance a range of academic and study skills

Course description

The global scale and complexity of current environmental issues has prompted a number of critiques of mainstream environmentalism. This course explores a range of different theoretical approaches to nature-society issues within Geography and related disciplines including: political and cultural ecology, social nature(s), environmental ethics and environmental feminisms. The ways in which environmental problems intersect with issues of social justice are a central focus of this course. In addition, the manner in which theory shapes our understanding of what counts as environmental issues will be emphasized.

Outline of class meetings (by week)

1. Introduction: key themes and key concepts; Wilderness and Nature
2. Property and the Commons
3. Political Ecology in the Third World (and essay topic development)
4. Political Ecology in the Third World: case studies
5. Political Ecology in the First World
6. Conservation
7. Social Nature
8. Relational Environments
9. Environmental Justice
10. TBA
11. Conclusion

*There is scope for students to include particular interests of their own. Please let me know by the end of Week 1.

Teaching Methods and Learning Styles

Weekly class meetings consist of lectures, discussion, small group work and student presentations. The discussions draw from the experiences and readings done by class participants thus positioning students as knowledge producers and offering opportunities for self-reflection on their own interactions with nature. Lectures and class discussion provide an overview of the key themes of the course but students are expected to read extensively beyond this to develop their own critical understanding on a range of environmental issues. Course participants are also expected to do 5 hours of independent fieldwork for their degree essays. Fieldwork can consist of a variety of activities to be discussed during the course.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the course students should have achieved the following:

1. Specific learning outcomes

- A good understanding of the range of approaches to nature-society relations within geography and related disciplines.
- An appreciation of the importance of theory in shaping nature-society issues.
- An understanding of the links between environmental issues and social justice.
- A recognition of the diversity of issues encompassed under 'environmental problems'.

2. Generic learning outcomes

- Experience of group discussion and oral presentation skills
- Development of analytical thinking skills
- Fieldwork experience
- Enhanced writing skills
- Experience of self and peer-assessment of written and oral work

Note to Disabled and Dyslexic Students

We welcome disabled students (including those with specific learning difficulties such as dyslexia) and are working to make all our courses accessible. If you wish to talk to a member of academic staff about the course requirements and your particular needs please contact your Director of Studies or the Disability Office, in the first instance, so that they can assess your situation and advise the course organiser accordingly. They will only pass on information with your consent.

You can also contact the Disability Office, 6 - 8 South College Street, telephone 650 6828 and an Advisor will be happy to meet with you. The Advisor can discuss possible adjustments and specific examination arrangements with you, assist you with an application for Disabled Students' Allowance, give you information about available technology and personal assistance such as note takers, proof readers or dyslexia tutors, and prepare a Learning Profile for your School which outlines recommended adjustments. You will be expected to provide the Disability Office with evidence of disability - either a letter from your GP or specialist, or evidence of specific learning difficulty. For dyslexia or dyspraxia this evidence must be a recent Chartered Educational Psychologist's assessment. If you do not have this, the Disability Office can put you in touch with an independent Educational Psychologist.'

Degree Assessment

Assessment consists of two elements

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|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. one degree examination | 60% |
| 2. one degree paper | 40% |

Course papers

Your degree paper should be focused around one of the topics in the course or can span two topics. You can either chose to do a case study with a component of original research or you can focus on a theoretical theme. In either case, you are strongly encouraged to incorporate an aspect of fieldwork or archival research into your project. **You need to submit a title and a 200 word abstract of your topic by week 4.** You are encouraged to decide on a topic and submit it to me sooner, however.

You need to come up with a topic and a working hypothesis on your own but you should not write your essay without confirming the question with me first.

Submission deadline: Thursday, Week 8, March 4, 12 noon

This deadline is final and absolute. Late work will only be accepted in very exceptional circumstances. Please consult your Director of Studies if you think you qualify.

Please include:

- Your matriculation number ONLY (no names or examination numbers)
- The title of the Option 'Geographies of Nature-Society Interactions'

Penalties for the Late Submission of Degree Work

Please note that degree work submitted late (with no agreed extension) will be penalised by a reduction of 5 marks if submitted within 24 hours of the deadline, with a progressive reduction of a further 5 marks for every subsequent 24 hours lateness, up to 5 working days. Work submitted after 5 working days is considered not submitted and will receive a zero mark. For example, an essay submitted 23 hours after the deadline and graded at 65% would be reduced to 60%. The same essay submitted after 4 working days and 23 hours would be reduced to 40%, and after 5 working days (i.e. one week) and 1 hour, to 0%. Work can only be submitted when the Geography building is open (weekdays 9.00-5.00 and not university holidays) but

penalties are only calculated on the basis of working days. Thus work due for 4.00pm Friday and not submitted until 10.00am Monday will only be subject to a 5 mark penalty.

You must contact your Director of Studies in advance of the deadline if you have special circumstances that prevent you from completing the work on time. Your Director of Studies must support any request for an extension.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the act of copying or including in one's own work, without adequate acknowledgement, intentionally or unintentionally, the work of another, for one's own benefit. Plagiarism is the antithesis of the university experience and will be punished to the full extent of University of Edinburgh regulations. For further guidance on the regulations and how to avoid plagiarism, please visit:
<http://www.aaps.ed.ac.uk/regulations/plagiarism/intro.htm>

Class work and feedback

During the course feedback will be provided on your written work and presentations in class. We will be doing short presentations in class as part of the course and you will receive feedback from both your peers and the course instructor.

Session one: Introduction

Human-environment geography is an extremely diverse area of the sub-discipline and indeed, in many ways is considered the central core of geography historically. The current diversity in the sub-discipline arose out of more generic human-environment concerns, regional studies, cultural ecology and the political economy of development. While readings are not expected for this session, the following sources help to provide the historical context for the work that follows. Students are therefore strongly encouraged to read from this list.

Additional readings

- Barrows, H. H. (1923). "Geography as human ecology." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 13: 1-14.
- ** Fitzsimmons, M. (1989). "The Matter of Nature." *Antipode* 21(2): 106-120.
- Glacken, C. (1967). *Traces on the Rhodian Shore*. Los Angeles and Berkeley, University of California Press.
- Glacken, C. J. (1956). *Changing Ideas of the Habitable World*. Man's Role in Changing the Face of the Earth. W. L. Thomas, C. O. Sauer, M. Bates and L. Mumford. Chicago, The University of Chicago Press: 70-92.
- ** Grossman, L. (1977). "Man-Environment Relationships in Anthropology and Geography." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 67(1): 126-144.
- Marsh, G. P. (1864). *Man and Nature: Or Physical Geography as Modified by Human Action*. Cambridge, The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press.
- Porter, P. W. (1965). "Environmental Potentials and Economic Opportunities: A Background for Cultural Adaptation." *American Anthropologist* 67: 409-420.
- Porter, P. W. (1978). "Geography as Human Ecology: A Decade of Progress in a Quarter Century." *American Behavioral Scientist* 22(1): 15-39.
- Sauer, Carl O. 1981[1956] *The agency of man on earth*. pp. 330-363 in Carl O. Sauer, *Selected Essays 1963-1975*. Berkeley: Turtle Island Press.
- Thomas, W. (1956). *Introductory: About the Symposium, About the People, About the Theme*. *Man's Role in Changing the Face of the Earth*. W. L. Thomas, C. O. Sauer, M. Bates and L. Mumford. Chicago, The University of Chicago Press: xxi-xxxviii.
- Turner, B.L. 1989. "The specialist-synthesis approach to the revival of geography: the case of cultural ecology." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 79(1):88-100.
- Turner, B. L. I. (1990). *Understanding Transformations: Editorial Introduction. The Earth as Transformed by Human Action: Global and Regional Changes in the Biosphere over the Past 300 Years*. B. L. I. Turner, W. C. Clark, R. W. Kates et al. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press: 655-657.

Session one: Wilderness and Nature

The environmental movement originated with concerns about so-called pristine or 'wild' places. This focus on wilderness or a pure nature has been questioned and indeed sets challenges for just what it is we are conserving. This week explores questions of nature and wilderness to examine what counts as 'nature' and the implications of this for environmental movements and action. This week introduces you to the idea of 'social construction of nature' and helps to lay a foundation for the remaining topics in the course.

Set readings

- Cronon, W. (1996). Introduction: In Search of Nature. *Uncommon Ground: Rethinking the Human Place in Nature*. W. Cronon. New York, W.W. Norton and Company: 23-56.
- Cronon, W. (1996). The Trouble with Wilderness; or, Getting Back to the Wrong Nature. *Uncommon Ground: Rethinking the Human Place in Nature*. W. Cronon. New York, W.W. Norton and Company: 69-90.
- (Demeritt, D. (2002) "What is the 'social construction of nature'? A typology and sympathetic critique", *Progress in Human Geography* 26:6, pp. 767-790.)

Additional readings

- Cronon, William, Samuel P. Hays, Michael P Cohen, and Thomas R. Dunlap.
"Forum: The Trouble with Wilderness." *Environmental History* 1 (1996): 7-55.
- Cronon, W. (1983). *Changes in the Land: Indians, Colonists, and the Ecology of New England*. New York, Hill and Wang.
- Denevan, W. (1992). "The Pristine Myth: The Landscape of the Americas in 1492." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 82(3): 369-385.
- Fitzsimmons, M. and D. Goodman (1998). *Incorporating nature: environmental narratives and the reproduction of food. Remaking Reality: Nature at the millennium*. B. Braun and N. Castree. London, Routledge.
- Katz, C. (1998). Whose Nature, whose culture?: private productions of space and the "preservation" of nature. *Remaking Reality: Nature at the millennium*. B. Braun and N. Castree. London, Routledge.
- MacDonald, F. (1998). "Viewing Highland Scotland: ideology, representation and the 'natural heritage'." *Area* 30(3): 237-244.
- Mackenzie, F. D. (1998). "The Cheviot, the Stag ... and the White, White Rock?" *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 16(509-532).
- Merchant, C. (1996). *Reinventing Eden: Western Culture as Recovery Narrative*. *Uncommon Ground: Rethinking the Human Place in Nature*. New York, W.W. Norton and Company: 132-170.
- O'Riordan, T. (1989). The Challenge for Environmentalism. *The New Models in Geography*. R. Peet and N. Thrift: 77-101.
- White, R. (1996). "Are you an Environmentalist or do you Work for a Living?": Work and Nature. *Uncommon Ground: Rethinking the Human Place in Nature*. W. Cronon. New York, W.W. Norton and Company: 171-185.
- Wisner, B. (1978). "Does Radical Geography Lack an Approach to Environmental Relations?" *Antipode* 10(1): 84-95.
- Worster, D. (1984). "History as Natural History: An Essay on Theory and Method." *Pacific Historical Review* LIII(1): 1-19.
- Zimmerer, K. (1994). "Human Geography and the 'New Ecology': The Prospect and Promise of Integration." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 84(1): 108-125.

Session two: Property and the Commons

Issues of property rights and access to communal resources are increasingly an issue in a world where environmental resources are finite and perceived to be declining. This week examines debates around the commons and the promotion of private property rights.

Set readings

- Agrawal, A. 2001, "Common Property Institutions and Sustainable Governance of Resources", *World Development*, 29:10 p. 1649-1672.
- Ostrom E, 1992, "The Rudiments of a Theory of the Origins, Survival, and Performance of Common-Property Institutions", in *Making the Commons Work: Theory, Practice, and Policy* Eds D Bromley, (ICS Press, San Francisco) pp 293-318.
- Ostrom, E., J. Burger, C. Field, R. Norgaard and D. Policansky, (1999) "Revisiting the Global Commons: Local Lessons, Global Challenges," *Science* 284:5412, pp. 278-282.

Additional readings

- See also the *International Journal of the Commons* (available on-line)
- Agrawal, A, 2007, "Forests, Governance, and Sustainability: Common Property Theory and its Contributions," *International Journal of the Commons* Vol 1, no 1 October 2007, pp. 111-136 (available on-line at <http://www.thecommonsjournal.org/index.php/ijc/article/view/10/2>)
- Arnold J E M, 1998, "Managing Forests as Common Property", (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome)
- Bromley D and Cernea M, 1989, "The Management of Common Property Natural Resources: Some Conceptual and Operational Fallacies", (The World Bank, Washington DC)
- Bromley D W, 1998, "Determinants of Cooperation and Management of Local Common Property Resources: Discussion" *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* 80 p. 665
- McAfee, K. (1999). "Selling Nature to save it? Biodiversity and green developmentalism." *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 17: 133-154.
- McCay B J and Acheson J M, 1996, "The Question of the Commons: The Culture and Ecology of Communal Resources". Tucson: University of Arizona Press
- McKean M A, 1992, "Success on the Commons: A Comparative Examination of Institutions for Common Property Resource Management" *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 43 247-281
- Nightingale, A. (2009) "Beyond Design Principles: subjectivity, emotion and the (ir)rational commons", *Society and Natural Resources* forthcoming.
- Ostrom, E. Burger, J, Field, C. B., Norgaard, R. B., and David Policansky. (1999) "Revisiting the Commons: Local Lessons, Global Challenges" *Science*, 28(5412): 278 – 282.
- Peluso N L, 1996, "Fruit Trees and Family Trees in an Anthropogenic Forest: Ethics of Access, Property Zones, and Environmental Change in Indonesia" *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 38 510-548
- Peluso, N. L. and P. Vandergeest. (2001) *Genealogies of the Political Forest and Customary Rights in Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand*. *The Journal of Asian Studies* 60 (3):761-812.
- Quiggin J, 1993, "Common Property, Equality, and Development" *World Development* 21 1123-1138

Session three and four: Political Ecology in the Third World

Political ecology arose out of cultural ecology and the political economy of development to examine how so called peripheral areas in the Third World are integrally connected to the global economy. Political ecology as a sub-discipline has proliferated since the early 1990s yet encompasses a wide range of theoretical and topical perspectives. The set readings this week are intended to give you an introduction to the key issues addressed by political ecology and provide one recent case study example. Blaikie and Brookfield are credited with the current interest in political ecology and it is strongly recommended that you read from their book Land Degradation and Society in addition to the set readings. You should choose several articles from the suggested readings or find others of your own to deepen your understanding of political ecology in the Third World.

Set readings—week 3

- Bryant R L, (1998) "Power, Knowledge and Political Ecology in the Third World: A Review" *Progress in Physical Geography* 22(1), 79-94.
- Freidberg, S. E. (2001) "Gardening on the Edge: The Social Conditions of Unsustainability on an African Periphery." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 91(2): 349-369.

Set readings—week 4

- Harris, L. (2009) "Contested sustainabilities: assessing narratives of environmental change in southeastern Turkey," *Local Environment* 14(8), 1-22
- Sundberg, (2004) J. Identities in the making: conservation, gender, and race in the Maya Biosphere reserve, Guatemala, *Gender, Place and Culture* 11 (1) (2004), pp. 43–66.

Additional readings

- Batterbury, S., T. Forsyth, et al. (1997). "Environmental Transformations in Developing Countries: Hybrid Research and Democratic Policy." *The Geographical Journal* 163(2): 126-132.
- Bassett, T. J. (1988). "The Political Ecology of Peasant-Herder Conflicts in the Northern Ivory Coast." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 78(3).
- Bebbington, A. (1996). *Movements, Modernizations, and Markets: Indigenous organizations and agrarian strategies in Ecuador. Liberation Ecologies: environment, development, social movements.* R. Peet and M. Watts. New York, Routledge: 86-109.
- Blaikie, P. and H. Brookfield (1987). *Land Degradation and Society.* London, Methuen.
- Carney, J. (2004) *Gender Conflict in Gambian Wetlands, in Liberation Ecologies: environment, development, social movements.* R. Peet and M. Watts. New York, Routledge: 316-336.
- Hecht, S. (1985). "Environment, Development and Politics: Capital Accumulation and the Livestock Sector in Eastern Amazonia." *World Development* 13(6): 663-684.
- Gururani, S. (2002). "Forests of Pleasure and Pain: gendered practices of labor and livelihood in the forests of Kumaon Himalayas, India." *Gender, Place and Culture* 9(3): 229-243.
- Jarosz, L. (1996). *Defining Deforestation in Madagascar. Liberation Ecologies: environment, development, social movements.* R. Peet and M. Watts. New York, Routledge Press: 188-204.

- Moore, D. S. (1996). *Marxism, Culture, and Political Ecology: Environmental struggles in Zimbabwe's Eastern Highlands. Liberation Ecologies: environment, development, social movements.* R. Peet and M. Watts. New York, Routledge Press: 188-204.
- Neumann, R.P. 2009. 'Political ecology: Theorizing scale' in *Progress in Human Geography* 33(3): 398-406.
- Nightingale, A. (2006) "The Nature of Gender: work, gender and environment", *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 24:2.
- Nygren, A. and Rikoon, S. 2008. 'Political ecology revisited: Integration of Politics and ecology does matter' in *Society and Natural Resources* 21: 767-82.
- Robbins, P. (2001). "Tracking Invasive Land Covers in India, or Why Our Landscapes Have Never Been Modern." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 91(4): 637-659.
- Turner, Matthew, 2003, "Environmental Science and Social Causation in the Analysis of Sahelian Pastoralism" in in Karl Zimmerer and Thomas Bassett (eds.) *Political Ecology: An Integrative Approach to Geography and Environment-Development Studies*, New York: The Guildford Press.

Session five: Political Ecology in the First World

Recently there have been calls to apply a political ecology analysis to the First World. There are only limited sources for this work since much of it has yet to be published. However, in many ways work done on agrarian and rural change in the USA and the UK can be considered 'political ecology' and thus many of the readings this week draw from these literatures. Some of the additional readings also draw from the political ecology literature more generally to provide some comparisons and additional sources to those of session two.

Set readings

- Castree, N. (2007) "Review Essay: Making first world political ecology,"
Environment and Planning A 29(6): 2030-2036.
McCarthy, J. (2005) "Guest Editorial" Environment and Planning A 37(6): 253-258.
St. Martin, K. (2005) "Mapping economic diversity in the First World: the case of
fisheries," Environment and Planning A 37(6):959-579.

Additional readings

- Allen, P., Fitzsimmons, et al. (2003). "Shifting plates in the agrifood landscape: the
tectonics of alternative agrifood initiatives in California." Journal of Rural
Studies 19: 61-75.
Bakker, K. J. (2003). "From public to private to...mutual? Restructuring water supply
governance in England and Wales." Geoforum 34: 359-374.
Bates, D. and T. K. Rudel (2000). "The Political Ecology of Conserving Tropical Rain
Forests: A Cross-National Analysis." Society and Natural Resources 13: 619-
634.
Goodman, D. and M. J. Watts, Eds. (1997). Globalising Food Agrarian Questions and
Global Restructuring. London, Routledge.
Gray, L. C. (2002). "Environmental policy, land rights, and conflict: rethinking
community natural resource management programs in Burkina Faso."
Environment and Planning D: Society and Space 20: 167-182.
Mackenzie, A. F. (2002). "Re-claiming place: the Millenium Forest, Borge, North
Sutherland, Scotland." Environment and Planning D: Society and Space 20:
535-560.
McGuire Thomas R. 1997 The Last Northern Cod J Political Ecology 4
http://www.library.arizona.edu/ej/jpe/volume_4/7MCGUIRE.PDF
Marsden, T., P. Milbourne, et al. (2003). "Communities in Nature: The Construction
and Understanding of Forest Natures." Sociologica Ruralis 43(3): 238-256.
McAfee, K. (1999). "Selling Nature to save it? Biodiversity and green
developmentalism." Environment and Planning D: Society and Space 17:
133-154.
Nesbitt, J. T. and D. Weiner (2001). "Conflicting Environmental Imaginaries and the
Politics of Nature in Central Appalachia." Geoforum 32: 333-349.
St. Martin, 2001 K. St. Martin, Making space for community resource management in
fisheries, Annals of the American Association of Geographers 91 (1) (2001),
pp. 122-142.
Woods, M. (2003). "Conflicting Environmental Visions of the Rural: Windfarm
Development in Mid Wales." Sociologica Ruralis 43: 271-288.

Session six: Conservation

Conservation is often a key aim of current environmental movements. Environments in the Third World have become an increasingly focus of conservation efforts as have marginalised places within the First World. Many of these conservation efforts fail to account for local cultural, economic and political antecedents and as such end up producing more social and environmental problems than they solve. The readings this week explore some of these issues.

Set readings

- Agrawal A (2002) Indigenous knowledge and the politics of classification. *International Social Science Journal*, 54 (3), 287-
Neumann, R. (2004) Nature-State-Territory: toward a critical theorization of conservation enclosures, in *Liberation Ecologies: environment, development, social movements*. R. Peet and M. Watts. New York, Routledge: 195-217.

Additional readings

- Agrawal A & Gibson CC (1999) Enchantment and Disenchantment: The Role of Community in Natural Resource Conservation. *World Development*, 27 (4), 629-649
Agrawal A (2002) Indigenous knowledge and the politics of classification. *International Social Science Journal*, 54 (3), 287-
Bebbington, A., C. Hiernan, et al. (1992). "Fragile Lands, fragile organizations: Indian organisations and the politics of sustainability in Ecuador." *Transaction of the Institute of British Geographers N.S.* 18: 179-196.
Berkes, F. and C. Folke (1998). *Linking Social and Ecological Systems for Resilience and Sustainability. Linking Social and Ecological Systems: Management Practices and Social Mechanisms for Building Resilience*. F. Berkes and C. Folke. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press: 1-26.
Gray, L. C. (2002). "Environmental policy, land rights, and conflict: rethinking community natural resource management programs in Burkina Faso." *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 20: 167-182.
"Indigenous Peoples: Contested Lands, Contested Identities," 2002 Special issue of *Historical Geography* 30, edited by Douglas E. Deur.
Keeley, J. and I. Scoones (2000). *Environmental Policymaking in Zimbabwe: Discourses, science and politics*. IDS Working paper 116, <http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/bookshop/wp.html>.
Leach M, Mearns R & Scoones I (1999) *Environmental Entitlements: Dynamics and Institutions in Community-Based Natural Resource Management*. *World Development*, 27 (2), 225-247
Loomis, T. M. (2000). "Indigenous Populations and Sustainable Development: Building on indigenous approaches to holistic, self-determined development." *World Development* 28(5): 893-910.
Neumann, Roderick, 2003, "The Production of Nature: Colonial Recasting of the African Landscape in Serengeti National Park" in Karl Zimmerer and Thomas Bassett (eds.) *Political Ecology: An Integrative Approach to Geography and Environment-Development Studies*, New York: The Guildford Press.
Nightingale A (2005) "The Experts Taught Us All We Know": Professionalisation and Knowledge in Nepalese Community Forestry, *Antipode*, 37, 581-604
Patterson, M. E. and D. R. Williams (1998). "Paradigms and Problems: The Practice of Social Science in Natural Resource Management." *Society and Natural Resources* 11: 279-295.
Peluso, N. (1993). "Coercing conservation?" *Global Environmental Change*(June): 199-217.

- Preston, D. (1998). "Post-peasant capitalist graziers: the 21st century in southern Bolivia." *Mountain Research and Development*.
- Sundberg, J. (1998). "NGO Landscapes in the Maya Biosphere Reserve, Guatemala." *Geographical Review* 88(3): 388-412.
- Yliskyla-Peuralahti, J. (2003). "Biodiversity - a new spatial challenge for Finnish agri-environmental policies." *Journal of Rural Studies* 19: 215-231.
- Blaike P (2006) Is Small Really Beautiful? Community-based Natural Resource Management in Malawi and Botswana. *World Development*, 34 (11), 1942-1957

Session seven: Social Nature

While much of political ecology has its roots in Marxist theory and the political economy of development, social nature has been inspired by the sociology of science and postmodern theories to examine questions about nature, society and social inequalities. Social nature, in particular insists on deconstructing the dualism between society and nature and seeks to examine 'socationature'. Similar to political ecology, however, a variety of theoretical perspectives and concerns are raised under the rubric of social nature. The readings this week are intended as an introduction and we will explore some of the overlaps with as well as departures from political ecology.

Set readings

- Castree, N. (2001). "Socializing Nature: Theory, Practice, and Politics." *Social Nature: Theory, Practice and Politics*. N. Castree and B. Braun. Oxford, Blackwell.
- Additional article TBA.

Additional readings

- Braun, B. and N. Castree, Eds. (1998). *Remaking Reality: Nature at the millennium*. London, Routledge.
- Castree, N. and B. Braun (1998). The Construction of Nature and the Nature of Construction: Analytical and Political Tools for Building Survivable Futures. *Remaking Reality: Nature at the Millennium*. B. Braun and N. Castree. New York, Routledge: 3-42.
- Demeritt, D. (2001). "The Construction of Global Warming and the Politics of Science." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 91(2): 307-337.
- Demeritt, D. (2001). "Scientific Forest Conservation and the Statistical Picturing of Nature's Limits in the Progressive-Era United States." *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 19: 431-459.
- Haraway, D. (1991). *Simians, Cyborgs and Women*. New York, Routledge.
- Harding, S. (1986). *The Science Question in Feminism*. Ithaca, Cornell University Press.
- Moeckli, J. and B. Braun (2001). Gendered Natures: Feminism, Politics, and Social Nature. *Social Nature: Theory, Practice and Politics*. N. Castree and B. Braun. Oxford, Blackwell: 112-132.
- Sluyter, A. (2003) "Material-Conceptual Landscape Transformation and the Emergence of the Pristine Myth in Early Colonial Mexico" in in Karl Zimmerer and Thomas Bassett (eds.) *Political Ecology: An Integrative Approach to Geography and Environment-Development Studies*, New York: The Guildford Press.
- Swyngedouw, E. (1999). "Modernity and hybridity: nature, regeneracionismo, and the production of Spanish waterscape, 1890–1930." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 89(3): 443–465.
- Warren, K. J. and J. Cheney (1991). "Ecological Feminism and Ecosystem Ecology." *Hypatia* 6(1): 179-197.
- Whatmore, S. and L. Thorne (1997). *Nourishing Networks: Alternative Geographies of Food*. *Globalising Food: Agrarian Questions and Global Restructuring*. D. Goodman and M. Watts. New York, Routledge.

Session eight: Relational Natures

Much of the Social Nature literature has been inspired by the work of Latour and Actor Network Theory. This week explores ANT and similar relational theories in a bit more depth.

Set readings

Articles TBA

Callon, M. (1986). Some elements of a sociology of translation: domestication of the scallops and the fisherman of Brieuric Bay. Power, Action and belief: a new sociology of knowledge. J. Law: 196-233.

Additional readings

- Castree, N. and T. MacMillan (2001). Dissolving Dualisms: Actor-networks and the Reimagining of Nature. *Social Nature: Theory, Practice and Politics*. N. Castree and B. Braun. Oxford, Blackwell.
- Davies, Gail (2000) "Virtual animals in electronic zoos: the changing geographies of animal capture and display," in Philo, Chris and Wilbert, Chris (eds) *Animal Spaces, Beastly Places: new geographies of human-animal relations*, London, Routledge, p243-267.
- Haraway, D. J. (1996). Universal Donors in a Vampire Culture: It's All in the Family: Biological Kinship Categories in the Twentieth-Century United States. *Uncommon Ground: Rethinking the Human Place in Nature*. W. Cronon. New York, W.W. Norton and Company.
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Session ten: Environmental Justice

Environmental justice refers to political movement(s), academic work and policies that specifically link increased risk from environmental pollution with social inequalities. As a political movement(s) environmental justice arose and has been most active in the United States although more recently such concerns are more visible in Europe. As a result, much of the academic literature on environmental justice is about the United States. The entire field, however, needs to be situated within the environmental movements in the USA and Europe as well as the politics of race in different places. These differences are then articulated with the different priorities of the environmental movements in different places to produce very different geographies of environmental justice. The links with feminism are very strong as many environmental justice activists have been women, although many of these women do not see themselves as feminists and thus one needs to be careful not to conflate the two.

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