ARTS2240

Environment, Sustainability and Development

Semester One // 2018

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Paul Munro	paul.munro@unsw.edu.au	Tuesdays 11am to 1pm (or by appointment)	Room 351, Morven Brown Building	9385 8043

Tutors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Nandita Das	Nandita.das@unsw.edu.au			

School Contact Information

School of Humanities and Languages

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, 258

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 4:45pm

Phone: +61 2 9385 1681

Fax: +61 2 9385 8705

Email: hal@unsw.edu.au

Attendance Requirements

A student is expected to attend all class contact hours for a face-to-face (F2F) or blended course and complete all activities for a blended or fully online course.

A student who arrives more than 15 minutes late may be penalised for non-attendance. If such a penalty is imposed, the student must be informed verbally at the end of class and advised in writing within 24 hours.

If a student experiences illness, misadventure or other occurrence that makes absence from a class/activity unavoidable, or expects to be absent from a forthcoming class/activity, they should seek permission from the Course Authority, and where applicable, their request should be accompanied by an original or certified copy of a medical certificate or other form of appropriate evidence.

A Course Authority may excuse a student from classes or activities for up to one month. However, they may assign additional and/or alternative tasks to ensure compliance. A Course Authority considering the granting of absence must be satisfied a student will still be able to meet the course's learning outcomes and/or volume of learning. A student seeking approval to be absent for more than one month must apply in writing to the Dean and provide all original or certified supporting documentation.

For more information about the attendance protocols in the Faculty of Arts and Social

Sciences: https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to: requests for extension; review of marks; occupational health and safety; examination procedures; special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure; student equity and disability; and other essential academic information,
see https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/

Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

Subject Area: *Environmental Humanities*

This course can also be studied in the following specialisation: *Development Studies*

Human society has experienced remarkable change as technological innovation, economic growth and population have produced rapidly changing social and environmental landscapes over the past current centuries. Such development is often seen a synonym of progress; however, over the past few decades it has been increasingly recognised that such rapid change has produced an uneven social geography – marginalising significant populations – while also intensively degrading and polluting different environments. We will discuss how the idea of sustainable development has emerged as a response to this conundrum – an effort to redirect economic growth to produced more socially just and environmentally benign outcomes. The path to a sustainable future, however, is not straightforward, as environmental, social and economic issues are ultimately situated in contested political realms. In this course, you will study how human-environment interconnections, across different scales and in different contexts, come together to demonstrate how environmental issues are situated in, and shaped by political and economic contexts. This will include engaging with a number of key sustainability debates as well as the in-depth study of different examples from around the world.

At the conclusion of this course the student will be able to

1. Explain how environmental issues are shaped both materially and discursively
2. Identify the range of environmental challenges facing developing countries
3. Apply conceptual and analytical knowledge of environmental issues and development to case studies
4. Evaluate different perspectives on environment and development

Teaching Strategies

This course will use a blended learning approach, with instruction occurring in the classroom (lecture and tutorials), aided with online engagement through assignments, discussions and activities. The online environment (through Moodle) is a natural extension of traditional classroom learning. The tutorials will have a strong focus on group activities, providing an interactive environment for students to discuss ideas and issues with their peers.

Assessment

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Writing Advocacy Piece	30%	30/03/2018 04:00 PM	1,4
Literature Review	30%	27/04/2018 04:00 PM	2,4
Final Essay*	40%	01/06/2018 04:00 PM	1,2,3,4

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Writing Advocacy Piece

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 1,500

Details: 1,500 words written paperindividual feedback given to students

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 2: Literature Review

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 1,500 words

Details: 1,500 words literature review paper on tutorial readingsindividual feedback given to students

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 3: Final Essay*

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 2,000 words

Details: 2,000 words literature review paper on tutorial readingsindividual feedback given to studentsThis is the final assessment for attendance purposes

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Students are expected to put their names and student numbers on every page of their assignments.

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au. Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

Late Assessment Penalties

An assessed task is deemed late if it is submitted after the specified time and date as set out in the course Learning Management System (LMS).

The late penalty is the loss of 5% of the total possible marks for the task for each day or part thereof the work is late. Lateness will include weekends and public holidays. This does not apply to a task that is assessed but no mark is awarded.

Work submitted fourteen (14) days after the due date will be marked and feedback provided but no mark will be recorded. If the work would have received a pass mark but for the lateness and the work is a compulsory course component, a student will be deemed to have met that requirement. This does not apply to a task that is assessed but no mark is awarded.

Work submitted twenty-one (21) days after the due date will not be accepted for marking or feedback and will receive no mark or grade. If the assessment task is a compulsory component of the course a student will automatically fail the course.

Special Consideration Applications

You can apply for special consideration when illness or other circumstances interfere with your assessment performance.

Sickness, misadventure or other circumstances beyond your control may:

* Prevent you from completing a course requirement,

* Keep you from attending an assessable activity,

* Stop you submitting assessable work for a course,

* Significantly affect your performance in assessable work, be it a formal end-of-semester examination, a class test, a laboratory test, a seminar presentation or any other form of assessment.

For further details in relation to Special Consideration including "When to Apply", "How to Apply" and "Supporting Documentation" please refer to the Special Consideration webstie:
https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit. It also applies to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without referencing and a student's own analysis to bring the material together.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose

- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW. (http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise)

Course Schedule

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 26 February - 4 March	Lecture	*Note: additional information, including each weeks' readings, can be found on the course's Moodle website.* **Introduction** This Lecture we will go through the course's objectives, along with some of the key concepts that we will encounter through the semester.
Week 2: 5 March - 11 March	Lecture	**Political Ecology** This Lecture will explore the basic premises and history of the political ecology framework, and how it will help us to interrogate and understand environmental dilemmas in a way that challenges simplistic (and problematic) assumptions.
Week 3: 12 March - 18 March	Lecture	**Environmental Values** This Lecture explores the awkward terrain of environmental values, developing an understanding of how environmental attitudes form, and how they might differ across different groups, geographies and epochs. We explore the implications of such values for understanding and address environment and development issues around the world.
Week 4: 19 March - 25 March	Lecture	**The Population Debate** This Lecture explores the dimensions of the, sometimes acrimonious, population debate. It will engage with questions such: Are there too many people living on Earth? What is the evidence? Is overpopulation environmentally destructive phenomenon? The purpose of the lecture being not to provide students with a normative position in regards to the debate, but rather the analytical skills, and some empirical evidence, to help them to form their own critical opinion
Week 5: 26 March - 1 April	Lecture	**Armed Conflict and the Environment**

		This Lecture explores how the physical environment is entangled with conflicts in many parts of the developing world. It will critically examine different theses, ranging from the environmental deterministic approaches to political economy frameworks.
Break: 2 April - 8 April		
Week 6: 9 April - 15 April	Lecture	**International Trade and the Environment:** Guest Lecture by Shanil Samarakoon. More details to be provided on Moodle during the semester
Week 7: 16 April - 22 April	Online Activity	**Knowledge and Deforestation in West Africa** Instead of a lecture, this week will involve a number of online interactive activities. More information will be available on Moodle.
Week 8: 23 April - 29 April	Lecture	**Political Ecologies of Energy** Using a case study approach, this Lecture examines different energy and development issues around the world: how the production, transportation and use of energy are linked to a range of different environmental and social injustices
Week 9: 30 April - 6 May	Lecture	**Political Ecologies of Water** Using a case study approach, this Lecture examines different water dilemmas around the world: how the use, exploitation, commodification and social construction of water is threaded through a range of different environment and development issues.
Week 10: 7 May - 13 May	Lecture	**Political Ecologies of the Underground** Using a case study approach, this Lecture critically examines how the use and imagination of different 'undergrounds' shape societal action. It looks at how the emergence of capitalisation and industrialisation – two major driving forces of epochal change – were both predicated on new technologies that redefined the underground as an epistemological space for economic, social, and political calculation.
Week 11: 14 May - 20 May	Lecture	**Political Ecologies of Disaster** Using a case study approach, this Lecture will look at the 'natural' disasters are the product of entangled environmental and social process, and

		ultimately how a political ecology lens offers new perspectives for addressing disaster impacts.
Week 12: 21 May - 27 May	Lecture	**Conclusion** This Lecture will provide an overall conclusion for the course.
Week 13: 28 May - 3 June	Lecture	No Lectures this week, but there will be tutorials that will focus on the course's final assessment

Resources

Prescribed Resources

There is no textbook for this subject. Course readings are accessible via Moodle.

Recommended Resources

Recommended Journals

Annual Review of Environment and Resources
Antipode
Ambio
Area
Capitalism, Nature, Socialism
Conservation Biology
Cultural Anthropology
Ecology and Society
Economic Geography
Energy Policy
Energy for Sustainable Development
Energy Research and Social Science
Environmental Conservation
Environment, Developmentand Sustainability
Environment and History
Environment and Planning D: Society and Space
Environmental History
Environmental Humanities
Environmental Policy and Governance
Environmental Values
Geoforum

Geographical Research

Global Environmental Change
Global Environmental Politics
Journal of Development Studies
Journal of Political Ecology
Land Degradation and Development
Land Use Policy
Population Space and Place
Progress in Development Studies
Progress in Human Geography
Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography
Society and Natural Resources
Sustainability Science
Third World Quarterly
Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers
World Development
Water Alternatives

Websites

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) – www.unep.org
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – www.undp.org
International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) – www.ictsd.org
Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) – www.fao.org
World Trade Organization (WTO) – www.wto.int
International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) – www.iucn.org
Third World Network (TWN) - http://www.twnside.org.sg/
Genetic Resources Action International (GRAIN) – www.grain.org

Course Evaluation and Development

Courses are periodically reviewed and students' feedback is used to improve them. Feedback is gathered from students using myExperience. It is encouraged students complete their surveys by accessing the personalised web link via the Moodle course site.

During the mid-point of the course: UNIT 7 (Week 7-8) will be a virtual online week for lectures and tutorials, which will include, among other things, a chance for students to provide anonymous feedback on how the course is progressing.

Image Credit

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chittagong_Ship_Breaking_Yard#/media/File:Chittagong-Ship-Breaking-Yard-Sunset.jpg

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