

Senior Seminar: Sustainable Development in the Modern World System
GDS 346.01

Lecture: T/TH: 2:15-4:05
Fine Arts Rm 263

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Office Hours: M/W 2-4 and T/Thu 10-12 (excluding convo days). During office hours, anyone is welcome to stop by without an appointment. I will also be happy to schedule appointments during non-office hours. If you are having problems with course materials for any reason, I strongly encourage you to come see me. If you need to get in touch with me and are unable to do so by phone (or prefer not to), you can e-mail me. I check my e-mail regularly, though you should not assume that I have received your message until you receive a confirmation from me.

Note on the Syllabus: While I have mapped out a tentative schedule below, I am leaving the plan for this course somewhat flexible. While we will certainly address most of the topics listed below, much of this syllabus is tentative. I am likely to either add or subtract readings over the course of the semester. We may even add or eliminate entire topics. Some of this will depend on how the dynamics of the class fall into place, as well as what Rosenfield events are scheduled. We will discuss any possible changes in class.

Course Description and Goals: The Concept of “Sustainable Development” is a very broad and fairly vague. It has been used by economists, ecologists, grassroots organizations and major institutions of development, yet the meanings that each group applies to the term vary. Generally, sustainable development has been accepted to refer to issues of both social equity and environmental considerations in the process of “development”. We will focus primarily on the environmental considerations and issues that fall at the intersection of environment and social equity. We will consider what development is or should be, how and why the concept of sustainability became prevalent in the dominant discourse on development, some of the varying meanings applied to this concept, as well as some of the contradictions or inconsistencies in the concept. We will then explore a number of key issues and debates at the boundary of economic/social development, natural resource management, and environmental degradation. We are focusing on only a handful of issues and topics in this class out of a broad range of possibilities. We will primarily focus on these concerns within the so-called “third world” (developing, lesser developed, low income, etc.) countries. Finally, we will make an effort to address these issues at various levels, examining both the global and theoretical nature of certain debates as well as how the associated issues are experienced by communities and individuals in the developing world. As such, the course uses readings from a number of disciplines including political economy, international relations, ecological economics, and anthropology.

This class is a senior seminar. It is YOUR senior seminar. I am here to help provide you with a set of readings to stimulate discussion and to serve as a kind of in-class moderator and resident devil’s advocate. I may briefly lecture on particular topics or talk about my own experiences, but you should think of this class foremost as a kind of structured reading group. Your responsibility is to come to class prepared to discuss the readings, raise questions, argue for or against certain positions, and stimulate one-another to come up with fresh ideas. You should be able to build on past readings in your consideration of topics as well as bring in your own experiences. Many of you have done internships, taken other relevant classes, and traveled to “third world” countries, and you should bring these experiences to the discussion. It is your responsibility just as much as it is mine to make this class work. Everyone should feel free to participate openly in class. There are no taboo ideas or subjects, even if they may be labeled un-PC outside of the class. The classroom is a forum for open discussion and debate. Everyone should help to support an atmosphere where diverging and conflicting ideas from within the class can be heard and considered. There are few “right” answers or theories concerning the material that we are discussing. As

we will see, educated academics disagree on many of the underlying assumptions of development and environmental issues, not to mention more specific hot topics.

Required Texts:

None so far...

Reserved Readings

Reserved readings will be available in the student projects room on the 3rd floor of Goodnow Hall and (to the extent that is possible) in the library.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Reading Journal: (20% of grade) Each of you will keep an electronic written journal of comments and questions on, and responses to the readings that must include the following: Prior to **each** class period, students must prepare at least 3 questions concerning the readings (these may relate to disagreements that you have, arguments that you feel are unclear or poorly made, contradictions in the materials, or any other kind of question that occurs to you). In addition, **once per week** you must turn in a 1-2 page response to the readings for that day. This might include a summary of the readings, a response to the argument of the various authors, and/or how the articles relate or might be useful to your own experiences or primary interests. These must be turned into me by e-mail before class, or presented to me in class with an e-mail to follow. Journal entries should be well constructed, but will be assessed primarily on the basis of content.
2. Final Paper : (25% of grade) Each of you will write a research paper that examines an issue in sustainable development. The paper should include theory and a detailed case study (or multiple case studies), and build off of and/or incorporate materials from the course.
3. Debate: (15% of grade) We will have three debates in this class. Each will serve as a structured discussion of a contentious issue, with a focus on a particular case study. Each student will participate in one of these.
4. Leading Discussion: (10% of grade) There will be four days on which the discussion will be led by a prearranged panel. Each student will serve on one panel.
5. Participation: (25% of grade) (See discussion of participation in course description and goals above.)
6. Self-assessment: (5% of grade) Each student will write a final self assessment/journal entry that considers what has been learned over the course of the semester, and assesses participation and personal development through the course.

Course Outline (Subject to Modification)

Jan 20 Course Overview. The players and the issues.

PART I: DEVELOPMENT PARADIGMS AND PRACTICE

Jan 22 A Need for Development? And Common Measures.

- Simon Kuznets 1993[1955] "Economic Growth and Income Inequality." In M. Seligson and J. Passé-Smith (eds.), *Development & Underdevelopment: The Political Economy of Inequality*
- J. Passé-Smith 1993 "The Persistence of the Gap: Taking Stock of Economic Growth in the Post-World War II Era." In M. Seligson and J. Passé-Smith (eds.), *Development & Underdevelopment: The Political Economy of Inequality*

- John Isbister 1998 *“Promises Not Kept: The Betrayal of Social Change in the Third World”*, Ch 1: “Introduction” & Ch 2: “A World of Poverty”
- Andy Storey 2003 “Measuring Development”. In G. McCann and S. McCloskey (eds.), *From the Local to the Global Key Issues in Development Studies*.

Jan 27 Understanding and Addressing Poverty. The Orthodox View: From Modernization to Neoliberalism.

- Talcott Parsons 2000[1964] “Evolutionary Universals in Society. In J. Timmons Roberts and Amy Hite, *From Modernization to Globalization: Perspectives on Development and Social Change*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers.
- W.W. Rostow 2000 [1960] “The Stages of Economic Growth: A Non-Communist Manifesto. In J. Timmons Roberts and Amy Hite, 2000 *From Modernization to Globalization: Perspectives on Development and Social Change*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers.
- Oscar Lewis 2000 [1968] “A Study of Slum Culture: Backgrounds for La Vida.” In J. Timmons Roberts and Amy Hite, *From Modernization to Globalization: Perspectives on Development and Social Change*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers.
- Robert H. Bates 1993[1988] “Governments and Agricultural Markets in Africa.” In M. Seligson and J. Passé-Smith (eds.), *Development & Underdevelopment: The Political Economy of Inequality*. Pp:333-346.

Jan 29 Dependency and World Systems Theory Respond

- David Korten, *When Corporations Rule the World*. Ch. 3: The Growth Illusion.
- A.G. Frank, "The Development of Underdevelopment." In J. Timmons Roberts and Amy Hite, 2000 *From Modernization to Globalization: Perspectives on Development and Social Change*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers. Pp: 159-168.
- T. dos Santos, “The Structure of Dependence” In M. Seligson and J. Passé-Smith (eds.), *Development & Underdevelopment: The Political Economy of Inequality*. Pp: 193-202.
- Bruce Rich 1996 “World Bank/IMF: 50 Years is Enough.” In C.R. Goddard, J.T. Passé-Smith, and J.G. Conklin (eds.), *International Political Economy: State-Market Relations in the Changing Global Order*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers. Pp:305-313.

Feb 3 Linking Development and the Environment: The Rise of Sustainable Development

- World Commission on Environment and Development, *Our Common Future*. Ch 1 (A Threatened Future) & Ch 2 (Towards Sustainable Development)
- H. Roseland, (Ch1) “The Context for Sustainable Communities” (From: Toward Sustainable Communities: Resources for Citizens and their Governments)
- UN Human Development Report Ch. 1, “The Concept and Measurement of Human Development”.

Feb 5 The Local Context of Unsustainable Development

- John Bodley 1988 *Tribal Peoples and Contemporary Development Policy*. In, *Tribal Peoples & Development Issues: A Global Overview*.
- Colin De’Ath and Gregory Mchalenko. 1988[1981] *High Technology and Original Peoples: The Case of Deforestation in Papua New Guinea and Canada*. In John Bodley (ed.) *Tribal Peoples & Development Issues: A Global Overview*.
- David Stea, Silvia Elguea, and Camilo Perez Bustillo 1997 “Environment, Development, and Indigenous Revolution in Chiapas” In, B.R. Johnston (ed.), *Life and Death Matters: Human Rights and the Environment at the End of the Millennium*.
- Barbara Rose Johnston and Daniel Jorgensen 1994 “Chapter 9. Mineral Development, Environmental Degradation, and Human Rights: The OK Tedi Mine, Papua New Guinea” In, B.R. Johnston (ed.), *Who Pays the Price: The Sociocultural Context of Environmental Crisis*.

Feb 10-12 Sustainable Development: Contested Meanings and Contradictions

- M. Douglas 1975 "Environments at Risk" In, M. Douglas *Implicit Meanings: Essays in Anthropology*
- Robert Solow 1993[1991] "Sustainability: An Economist's Perspective" In, R. Dorfman and N. Dorfman (eds.), *Economics of the Environment*.
- Stephen R. Dovers 1993 "Contradictions in Sustainability." *Environmental Conservation* 20(3):217-222.
- Vernon W. Ruttan "Sustainability is Not Enough." In C. Eicher and J. Staatz (eds.) *Agricultural Development in the Third World*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press. Pp: 400-404.
- Arturo Escobar 1995 *Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World*. Ch. 5 (Power and Visibility: Tales of Peasants, Women and the Environment) Pp: 192-211.
- Bob Sutcliffe 1995 "Development After Ecology." In J. Timmons Roberts and Amy Hite, 2000 *From Modernization to Globalization: Perspectives on Development and Social Change*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers. Pp:328-339.
- Bill DeVall 2001 The Deep, Long-Range Ecology Movement. 1960-2000 A Review. *Ethics & The Environment* 6(1):18-41. ISSN: 1085-6633.
- Richard Peet and Michael Watts 1996 *Liberation Ecology: Development, sustainability, and environment in an age of market triumphalism*. In R. Peet and M. Watts (eds.), *Liberation Ecologies: Environment, Development, Social Movements*.

Development as Freedom

- United Nations Development Programme 2000 *Human Development Report 2000*. Overview and Ch.1 (Human Rights and Human Development)

Feb 17-19: Power, Policy and the Environment – Political Ecology (and its critics)

- Blaikie, Piers, and Harold Brookfield 1987 *Land Degradation and Society*. New York: Methuen. (Introduction)
- Stonich, Susan 1993 *I am Destroying the Land. The Political Ecology of Poverty and Environmental Destruction in Honduras*. Boulder: Westview Press.
- Bates, Robert 1990 The Political Framework for Agricultural Policy Decisions. In C. Eicher and J. Staatz (eds.), *Agricultural Development in the Third World*. Baltimore, MD: The Johns Hopkins University Press. Pp. 154-159.
- Chapman, M.D. 1989 "The Political Ecology of Fisheries Depletion in Amazonia." *Environmental Conservation* 16(4):331-337.
- Arturo Escobar. 1996 "Constructing Nature: Elements for a poststructural political ecology" In, R. Peet and M. Watts (eds.) *Liberation Ecologies: environment, development, social movements*.
- Marinne Schmink and Charles Wood. 1987 The Political Ecology of Amazonia. In P. Little, M. Horowitz, with A.E. Nyerges (eds.), *Lands at Risk in the Third World: Local-Level Perspectives*. Property Regimes

PART II: MAJOR ISSUES IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Feb 21-26 Commons - Global and Local – and their Management

- Hardin, G. 1968 The Tragedy of the Commons. *Science* V. 162, Dec. 13, 68. PP. 1243-1248.
- Hillary French 2000 *Vanishing Borders: Protecting the Planet in the Age of Globalization*
- McCabe, J. Terrence 1990 Turkana Pastoralism: A Case Against the Tragedy of the Commons. *Human Ecology* 18(1):81-103.
- Bromley, Daniel W. 1989 Property Relations and Economic Development: The Other Land Reform. *World Development* 17(6):867-877.

- McCay, Bonnie J., and James Acheson (eds.), 1987 *The Question of the Commons: The Culture and Ecology of Communal Resources*. Tucson, AZ: University of Arizona Press.
- Ostrom, Elinor 1990 *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- McCay, B. 1992 Everyone's Concern, Whose Responsibility? The Problem of the Commons. In S. Ortiz and S. Lees (eds.) *Understanding Economic Process*. Monographs in Economic Anthropology, #10.
- Bromley, Daniel W. 1992 *Making the Commons Work: Theory, Practice, and Policy*. San Francisco: Institute for Contemporary Studies.

March 3-5 Agrarian reform

- Ghose, Ajit Kumar 1983 *Agrarian Reform in Developing Countries: Issues of Theory and Problems of Practice*. In A. K. Ghose (ed.), *Agrarian Reform in Contemporary Developing Countries*. Pp:3-28.
- Thiesenhusen, William (ed) 1989 *Searching for Agrarian Reform in Latin America*. Boston: Unwin Hyman. (Introduction)
- Findley, S. 1988 *Colonist Constraints, Strategies, and Mobility: Recent Trends in Latin American Frontier Zones*. In A.S. Oberai (ed.), *Land Settlement Policies and population Redistribution in Developing Countries*. New York, NY: Praeger. Pp. 271-316.
- Lipton, Michael 1993 *Land Reform as Commenced Business: The Evidence Against Stopping*. *World Development* 21(4):641-657.
- Bromley, R.J. 1981 *The Colonization of Humid Tropical Areas in Ecuador*. *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography* (2):15-26.

March 10 DEBATE 1 – Property Regimes/Agrarian Reform

Globalization, Food Systems, and Sustainable Development

(This Section of the course will be arranged around the Rosenfield/Prairie Studies symposium: What we Eat: Industrialization, Concentration, Globalization, Food Safety, Biodiversity and Agrarianism)

March 12: Globalization Overview

March 31- April 2 Prairie Studies/Rosenfield Symposium...

April 7 DEBATE – Globalization and Sustainable Development

April 9 International Governance and Oversight

- SOW Chapter 8. Hilary French “Reshaping Global Governance”.
- SOW Chapter 2. Seth Dunn and Christopher Flavin “Moving the Climate Change Agenda Forward”.
- UN Conference on Environment and Development 2000 “Rio Declaration on Environment and Development” In, F. Lechner and J. Boli (eds.), *The Globalization Reader*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers. Pp:381-384.
- Paul Wapner 2000 “Greenpeace and Political Globalism.” In, F. Lechner and J. Boli (eds.), *The Globalization Reader*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers. Pp:385-391.
- Margaret Keck and Kathryn Sikkink 2000 “Environmental Advocacy Networks.” In, F. Lechner and J. Boli (eds.), *The Globalization Reader*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers. Pp:392-399.

- Jackie Smith 2000 "Building Political Will after UNCED: EarthAction International." In, F. Lechner and J. Boli (eds.), *The Globalization Reader*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers. Pp:400-405.
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April 14-16 Population, Social Change and Carrying Capacity

- John Bennett "The Ecological Transition: From Equilibrium to Disequilibrium."
- Meggers, B.J. 1974 Environment and culture in Amazonia. In Charles Wagley (ed.), *Man in the Amazon*. Gainesville: University of Florida Press. Pp. 91-110.
- Ester Boserup "Environment, Population and Technology in Primitive Societies."
- Fred Hoyle "A Contradiction in the Argument of Malthus"
- Norman Myers and Julian Simon 1994 *Scarcity or Abundance: A Debate on the Environment*. Ch.2. Simon: Population Growth is Not Bad for Humanity; and Ch3 Myers: The Population Factor.
- SOW Chapter 6. B. Enelman, B. Halweil and D. Nierenberg. "Rethinking Population, Improving Lives"
- G. Daily and P. Ehrlich, "Population, Sustainability, and Earth's Carrying Capacity"
- R. Ridker, "Population Issue"

April 21 Debate 3 Population/Consumption

Local Knowledge, Participation and Grassroots Development

April 23 Local People and Participation

- C. Kottak, "When People Don't Come First: Some Sociological Lessons from Completed Projects"
- A. Bebbington, "Modernization from Below"
- K. Rao and C. Geisler, "The Social Consequences of Protected Areas Development for Resident Populations"

April 28-30 Alternative Models of Sustainable Development: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment and Development

- Leslie E. Sponsel 1995 "Relationships Among the World System, Indigenous Peoples, and Ecological Anthropology in the Endangered Amazon." In L. Sponsel (ed.), *Indigenous Peoples and the Future of Amazonia*. Tucson: The University of Arizona Press. Pp:263-293.
- F. Pichón, J. Uquillas, and J. Frechione (eds.) 1999 *Traditional and Modern Natural Resource Management in Latin America*
- Stan Stevens (ed) 1997 *Conservation Through Cultural Survival*
- Posey, D., John Frechione, John Eddins, Luiz Francelino da Silva, with Debbie Myers, & Diane Case, and Peter MacBeath 1984 "Ethnoecology as Applied Anthropology in Amazonian Development," *Human Organization* 43(2):95-107.
- DeWalt, Billie R. 1994 Using Indigenous Knowledge to Improve Agriculture and Natural Resource Management. *Human Organization* 53(2):123-131.
- Fisher, W. H. 1994 "Megadevelopment, Environmentalism, and Resistance: The Institutional Context of Kayapó Indigenous Politics in Central Brazil," *Human Organization* 53(3):220-232.

May 3- 5 Applied Anthropology and Sustainable Development

- Burton, Michael, G. Mark Schoepfle, and Marc L. Miller 1986 Natural Resource Anthropology. *Human Organization* 45(3):261-269.

- Read: A. Escobar, “Anthropology and the Development Encounter: the Making and Marketing of Development Anthropology”
- Read: B.R. DeWalt, “Halfway There: Social Science in Agricultural Development and the Social Science of Agricultural Development”
- Barlett, Peggy (ed.) 1980 *Agricultural decision making: Anthropological contributions to rural development*. New York: Academic Press.
- Bennett, John W. 1996 *Human Ecology as Human Behavior: Essays in environmental and development anthropology*. New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Publishers. (This is a very good "life's work" collection).