Course Description
This course traces the history of ecology and environmentalism from Charles Darwin to current affairs. The global history of ecological concern stays at the center of this course, which discusses environmental worries in the British, German, Scandinavian, African and American contexts in subsequent centuries. The chief focus will be on U.S. experience in trying to deal with organizing nature, environmental preservation and conservation, population growth, environmental design and global warming, among other issues. Various ecological understandings of human philosophy, race, gender, religion, architecture, politics, and economy will be subject to critical discussion.

Papers and assignments
There will be a 12 page midterm paper due October 13 and a 12 page final paper due December 15. Both papers must focus on at least one of the primary sources discussed in class.

All students are expected to maintain the highest standard of academic integrity. Cheating and plagiarism are serious matters and will result in disciplinary action and course failure.

Grading and attendance
Mandatory attendance
20% Course participation
40% Midterm paper
40 % Final paper

Books to borrow or buy:


**Course Outline**

**Week 1: Introduction**

Sept. 3: Introduction

No readings

**Week 2: Institutions of Ecology**

Sept. 8: The New York Botanical Garden


Sept. 10: Visit to the American Museum of Natural History


Theodor Roosevelt, mural quotes at the American Museum of Natural History.


**Week 3: Constructing the Wild**

Sept. 15: Henry David Thoreau


Sept. 17: John Muir


**Week 4: The British Empire**

Sept. 22: British Ecology


Sept. 24: South African Ecology


**Week 5: German Ecology**

Sept. 29: Bauhaus of Nature


Anker, *From Bauhaus to Ecohouse*, 1-36.

Oct. 1.: Nazi Germany

Albert Ebner, *German Forests: Treasures of a Nation* (New York: German Library Information, 1940), entire.

Week 6: Preservation/Conservation

Oct. 6: Preservation: Ansel Adams


Film


Oct. 8: Conservation: Nature’s New Deal


Week 7: Cold War Ecology

Oct. 13: No class. Legislative day

*Midterm papers due!*

Oct. 15: Oak Ridge


Week 8: Ecology of Dissent

Oct. 20: Capturing Rachel Carson

Carson, *Silent Spring*, entire.


Oct. 22: Richard Buckminster Fuller

Richard Buckminster Fuller, any available book of your choice
Anker, *From Bauhaus to Ecohouse*, 68-82.

**Week 9: Learning from the Astronauts**

Oct 27: Space Ecology

Stewart Brand (ed.), *Space Colonies*, (San Fransico: Waller Press, 1977)


Anker, *From Bauhaus to Ecohouse*, 83-95.

Oct. 29: Design with Nature


Anker, *From Bauhaus to Ecohouse*, 96-131.

**Week 10: The Whole Earth**

Nov. 3: The Whole Earth


Nov. 5.: Limits to Growth

Week 11: The Ethics of Ecology

Nov. 10: Paul Ehrlich/Garret Hardin


Nov. 12: Eco-religion


Week 12: United Nations

Nov. 17: Only One Earth


Nov. 19: Our Common Future


Week 13: Machines of Loving Grace

Nov. 25: Film


Nov. 27: No class: Thanksgiving
**Week 14: Nasty Ecologies**

Dec. 1: Ecological Aliens


Dec. 3: A Global History of Ecology in Norway

Arne Næss as “The shallow and the deep, long-range ecology movements: A summary,” *Inquiry*, 16 (1973), 95-100.

**Week 15: Responding to Global Warming**

Dec. 10: Climate Change


Dec. 12: Elsewhere Envisioned?


**Week 16: The End of Ecology**

Dec. 15: The End of Ecology


**Monday Dec. 15: Final paper due!**