Instructor: Prof. Peder Anker  
E-mail: peder.anker@nyu.edu  
Office hours: Tuesdays, 9:30-11:30  
Office: 1 Washington pl. room 425

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. For information on NYU's policy on academic integrity, visit: http://cas.nyu.edu/page/academicintegrity

Grading and attendance

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

Books to borrow or buy:


**Disability Disclosure Statement**

Academic accommodations are available to any student with a chronic, psychological, visual, mobility, learning disability, or who is deaf or hard of hearing. Students should please register with the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities at 212-998-4980.

NYU's Henry and Lucy Moses Center for Students with Disabilities
726 Broadway, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10003-6675
Telephone: 212-998-4980
Voice/TTY Fax: 212-995-4114
Web site: [http://www.nyu.edu/csd](http://www.nyu.edu/csd)

**Course Outline**

**Sept. 6**  
**Tuesday: Introductory meeting**

No readings

**Sept. 8**  
**Thursday: The New York Botanical Garden**


**Sept. 13**  
**Tuesday: The American Museum of Natural History**


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


Sept. 15  Thursday: Henry David Thoreau


Sept. 20  Tuesday: John Muir


Sept. 22  Thursday: British Ecology


Sept. 27  Tuesday: South African Ecology


Sept. 29  Thursday: Bauhaus of Nature


Anker, From Bauhaus to Ecohouse, 1-36.

Oct. 4  Tuesday: Nazi Ecology?

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


Oct. 6  Thursday: Preservation: Ansel Adams


Oct. 11  Tuesday: Conservation: Nature’s New Deal

Anker, From Bauhaus to Ecohouse, 37-67.

Midterm papers due!

Oct. 13  Thursday: Cold War Ecology


Oct. 18  Tuesday: Capturing Rachel Carson
Carson, Silent Spring, entire.
Naomi Oreskes and Erik M. Conway, Merchants of Doubt, (New York: Bloomsbury, 2010), 216-239.

Oct. 20  Thursday: Richard Buckminster Fuller
Buckminster Fuller, Operating Manual for Spaceship Earth, entire.
Anker, From Bauhaus to Ecohouse, 68-82.

Oct. 25  Tuesday: Space Ecology
Stewart Brand (ed.), Space Colonies, (San Fransico: Waller Press, 1977)
Anker, From Bauhaus to Ecohouse, 83-95.

Oct. 27  Thursday: Design with Nature
Anker, From Bauhaus to Ecohouse, 96-131.

Nov. 1  Tuesday: The Whole Earth
Andrew G. Kirk, Counterculture Green: The Whole Earth Catalog and American Environmentalism, (Lawrence: University Of Kansas Press, 2007), 1-42.
Nov. 3  Thursday: Limits to Growth


Nov. 8  Tuesday: Paul Ehrlich/Garret Hardin


Nov. 10  Thursday: Worldly Environmentalism


Nov. 15  Tuesday: Fearing the State


Nov. 17  Thursday: The Love Canal


Guest lecturer: Jeffrey Sachs, Sachs Policy Group

Nov. 22  Tuesday: Machines of Loving Grace: Film

Nov. 24  Thursday: Thanksgiving recess! No class.

Nov. 29  Tuesday: Ecological Aliens

Dec. 1  Thursday: 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.

Dec. 6  Tuesday: Responding to Global Warming

Dec. 8  Thursday: Capitalism vs. Climate
Mike Hulme, “Why fossil fuel divestment is a misguided tactic,” The Guardian, April 17, 2015.

Dec. 13  Tuesday: Legislative day (no class)

Dec. 15  Thursday: The End of Ecology


*Final paper due*