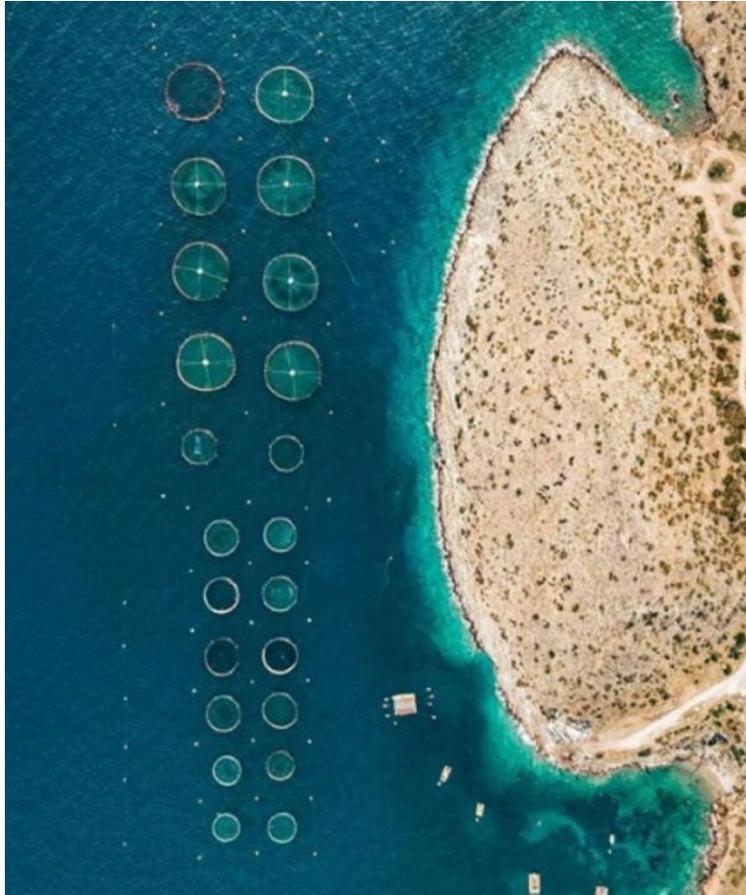


Syllabus as of February 10, 2021
This syllabus may be modified on a weekly basis

The People Versus the Sea

ANST-GA 2500.002



Professor: Paul Greenberg

Syllabus as of January 1, 2021

Class Hours: Thursdays, 2:00-4:30

Classes will be conducted virtually until further notice

Office Hours: Wednesdays 12:00-2:00

Office hours will be conducted virtually until further notice

Instructor Contact Email: pg472@nyu.edu

(please use only this email address for correspondence)

I Overview: during this course we will look at humanity's relationship with the sea through the lens of a number of different types of ocean life. With each organism we will examine a different kind of human/ocean interaction and discuss relevant developmental points in that interaction. Our conversation on cod for example will bring us into larger questions of fisheries management and whether any wild fishery can be "sustainable". Our session on whales will examine sentience in captivity and the movement to free cetaceans from the edu-tainment industry.

II Assignments, expectations and grading: while there will be some academic reading in the course, students are encouraged to produce work aimed at communicating ideas and information about the sea to a general interest audience. The number one rule I would like you to follow is:

Strive to produce work that you yourself would want to read or see

In all there will be three written assignments and two in-class presentations which will be as follows:

A. Written Assignments

1. **Book Review.** On the first day of class each I will ask each of you to choose a book to review. You will write a 1000-1500 word essay in the style of something you might find in the New York Times Book Review. See an example review [here](#)
Reviews will be due in rolling fashion with one or two reviews due each week coupled with an in-class presentation (see Presentation Assignments below).
Note depending upon class enrollment this assignment may be assigned to teams.
Grade percentage: 10%

2. **Mid-term short form piece.** At mid-term you will write a 1000 word short profile of a person or creature connected to the sea. A sample can be found [here](#)
Grade percentage: 10%

3. **Final Single Species Research Paper.** You will choose a single species (or basket of similar species) and write a reported research paper about that species' particular struggle with humankind. The paper should be at least 2000 words in length and be similar to something you might read in The New Yorker, or any other long-format nonfiction platform. An example [here](#)
This will be due the final day of class coupled with an in-class presentation
(see Presentation Assignments below)

Note: the species you choose must be outside of the 12 we are focusing on in the curriculum
Grade percentage: 40%

B. Oral Assignments

1. **Book Review Presentation:** based on your book review you are to create a 10-15 minute oral presentation coupled with appropriate slides.

Grade percentage: 10%

2. **Guest Speaker Interview:** Each of you will be assigned to be the lead interviewer of our guest speaker of the week.

Grade percentage: 10%

3. **Single Species Presentation:** based on your single species research paper you are to create a 5 minute oral presentation coupled with appropriate slides.

Grade percentage: 10%

4. **Daily attendance and class participation:** Attendance is mandatory and participation will be taken into account in determining an overall class participation grade.

Grade percentage for attendance and participation: 10%

Note: Failure to attend 2 or more classes will result in the loss of the 10% participation grade.

C. Reading/Viewing Assignments

I will try to keep weekly reading under 100 pages and any video viewing to under an hour.

Readings/viewing assignments for each week will be posted on NYU Classes a week in advance.

Viewing assignments will be put on hold at the media room of the Bobst Library and/or made available via web link if possible.

III Policies

A. Late Papers/Extensions/Incompletes:

Late papers will lose 1/3 letter grade for each day late. Extensions and incompletes will be granted only in exceptional circumstances. If you want to request either, please do so in advance.

B. Academic Dishonesty:

Plagiarism results in failure in the class and referral to an academic dean. Plagiarism includes: copying sentences or fragments from any source without quotes or references; not citing every source used in your papers; citing internet information without proper citation; presenting someone else's work as your own; or copying verbatim from any source. You are subject to the CAS guidelines on plagiarism: cas.nyu.edu/page/ug.academicintegrity

C. Academic Accommodations:

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

212-998-4980.

NYU Henry and Lucy Moses Center for Students with Disabilities

726 Broadway, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10003-6675
Voice/TTY Fax: 212-995-4114
Web site: <http://www.nyu.edu/csd>

IV Virtual Field Trips

I hope to organize a few virtual field trips. Dates and times of those are TBD but will be included during normal class hours.

V Guest Speakers

Since this is a graduate seminar my assumption is that many of you are in the midst of choosing a professional direction. For this reason, I've invited guest speakers from a range of different fields to talk about both the subject we're covering that week and their careers. Nonprofit activists, academics, and folks from the commercial fishing community are currently on the list.

VI Class format

Class runs from 2:00-4:30 on Thursdays. Format will vary week to week but the basic plan is this:

2:00-2:30 Discussion of readings
2:30-2:50 Student book review presentations
2:50-3:00 Break
3:00-4:00 Guest lecture with student investigator
4:00-4:30 Workshop on writing/wrap up discussion

VII Office Hours

Office hours will be held on Wednesdays 12:00-2:00 on Zoom only.
Students wishing to attend office hours should sign up for zoom slots which I'll post Tuesday.

VIII Schedule

January 28 Introduction to people vs. the sea

Please come to class prepared to answer these three questions:

- 1. What are your professional career goals?**
- 2. What is your relationship to the sea?**
- 3. What is your strongest form of communication: nonfiction writing, fiction writing, spoken presentation, studio art, media (audio video) or other.**

Readings (to be completed in advance of class):

**- [Covering the Seas, an Ocean Reporting Guide](#)
(a general reporting guide that will help you in your research for this class)**

**- [New York Times Book Review of Eels](#)
(meant as a work sample to guide your own book reviews)**

**- [New Yorker Talk of the Town on Genetically Engineered Salmon](#)
(meant as a work sample to guide your own short profile)**

**- [New York Times essay "A Catfish by Any Other Name"](#)
(meant as a work sample to guide your own final term paper)**

During this opening session we will discuss class goals, your personal professional goals, interview techniques, and other background you'll need to know before the next session.

February 4 Beginnings: Whales and how ocean activism began

Guest Speaker: Carl Safina (confirmed)

Alexa Tsugranes reads [Trying Leviathan](#)

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

February 11 Wet Markets, Disease Transmission and the Global Fish Trade

Guest Speaker: Susan Lieberman Wildlife Conservation Society (confirmed)

**Laurie Sellars [Fishing: How the Sea Fed Civilization](#) by Brian Fagan
Book is accessible via NYU Bobst Library [here](#):**

Available

Regular loan

Main Collection SH421 .F34 2017

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

February 18 Legislative Day – No Class

NOTE THERE WILL BE NO OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK

**February 25 The groundfish conundrum
(or, can fishing be good?)**

Guest Speaker: Sean Barrett (confirmed)

**Henry Freundlich reads From Abundance to Scarcity
Book is accessible via NYU Bobst Library here:**

NYU Bobst

Check Availability , Main Collection ; (SH221 .G74 2014)

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

March 4 Marine Protected Areas pros, cons and questions

Guest Speaker: Mary Gleason (confirmed)

Ciara Scully reads: Beyond Polarization by Stephen Lewis Yaffee

Available for purchase at:

<https://www.amazon.com/Beyond-Polarization-Unlikely-Californias-Protected/dp/1642830828>

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/import/downloads/mpanetworksmakingithappen_en.pdf

March 11 Oysters: savior of the coast or "attractive nuisance"

Guest Speaker: Kate Orff (confirmed)

Julietta Cardenas reads Gateway by Kate Orff

Book is accessible via NYU Bobst Library here:

NYU Bobst

Available , Main Collection ; (F128.65.G38 G38 2011)

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

March 18 Other Minds – Do Fish Feel Pain and Other Things?

Guest Speaker: TBD

**Katie Berness reads What a Fish Knows by Jonathan Balcombe
Book is accessible via NYU Bobst Library here:**

NYU Bobst

Check Availability , Main Collection (QL639.3 .B35 2016)

02/10/21 10:30 PM

Regular loan

Main Collection QL639.3 .B35 2016

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

March 25

MIDTERM SHORT PROFILES DUE

April 1 Tuna and the management of highly migratory species

Guest Lecturer: Shana Miller (confirmed)

Matt Maraynes Reads: Red Gold by Jennifer Telesca

NYU Ph.D. dissertation accessible here:

<https://www-proquest-com.proxy.library.nyu.edu/docview/1512229648>

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

April 8 The Many Struggles of Salmon

Guest Speaker: Elizabeth Herendeen of Salmon State (confirmed)

Eliza Milio Reads: Running Silver

Book is accessible via NYU Bobst Library here:

NYU Bobst

Available , Main Collection (SH348 .L53 1999)

Available

Regular loan

Main Collection SH348 .L53 1999

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

April 15 Final Paper Pitch Session

Students pitch of final papers together with

Guest Speaker Jennifer Schuessler from the New York Times (confirmed)

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

April 22 Toothed whales and dolphins, intelligence and captivity

Guest Lecturer: Lori Marino (confirmed)

Laura Alvear Roa reads Death at Sea World by David Kirby

Book is accessible via NYU Bobst Library here:

NYU Bobst

Available , Main Collection (QL737.C432 K577 2012)

Available

Regular loan

Main Collection QL737.C432 K577 2012

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

April 29 How Can We Fix It?

Guest Lecturer: Boris Worm (confirmed)

Megan Luff reads Sea Sick by Alanna Mitchell

<https://www.amazon.com/Sea-Sick-Global-Ocean-Crisis/dp/0771061161>

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

May 6 Final Student Presentations

FINAL SINGLES SPECIES RESEARCH PAPER DUE
