This syllabus may be modified on a weekly basis

The People Versus the Sea
ANST-GA 2500.002

Professor: Paul Greenberg

Syllabus as of February 12, 2020

Class Hours: Thursdays, 2:00-4:30
SILV 403 = Silver Center for Arts & Science, 100 Washington Sq East, Room 403

Office Hours: Wednesdays 10:00-12:00
LOCATION OF OFFICE HOURS: PRET A MANGER, 1 ASTOR PLACE

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 10 different types of ocean life: plankton, oysters, cod, "bass", snappers/groupers, coral, salmon, sharks, tuna, toothed whales/dolphins. With each type of ocean life we will look at 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 edutainment 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 of you will get a book from my library. I will ask each of you to write a review of your assigned book in 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 2 reviews due each week coupled with an in class presentation (see Presentation Assignments below).
Grade percentage: 10%

2. Mid-term Opinion Essay. On a topic I will give you at mid-term you will write a 1000-1500 word opinion essay in the style of something you might find in a publication like The Guardian, Wall Street Journal or The New York Times. See an example 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 4000-5000 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. Presentation 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. **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: 20%

3. **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 Field Trips**

We will be making three field trips that will occupy the entirety of class time on the days of the field trips. The field trips will be:
February 13: Governors Island/Billion Oyster Project
(We will meet at 2:00 at the Governor's Island Ferry terminal which is just off the East River bikeway at Battery Park).

March 12: The Lobster Place fish market
(We will meet at our usual classroom and then walk-and-talk to The Lobster Place which is located at 75 9th Avenue)

April 16: Shark exhibit at the New York Aquarium in Coney Island
(We will meet at our usual classroom and then walk to the F subway at Broadway Lafayette. We'll then take the subway to Coney Island where we'll do our class discussion of readings and then get a one hour tour of the exhibit with the lead shark scientist at the Aquarium)

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 come in and talk about both the subject we're covering that week and their careers. Seafood farmers, 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:
2:00-2:15 Opening short lecture from Paul Greenberg
2:15-2:30 Discussion of readings
2:30-2:50 Student book review presentations
2:50-3:00 Break
3:00-4:00 Guest lecture
4:00-4:30 Wrap up/outstanding questions

VII Office Hours
Office hours will be held on Wednesdays 10:00-12:00 at Pret a Manger, 1 Astor Place

Note: there will be no office hours the week of spring break
VII Schedule

January 30 Introduction to people vs. the sea

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 York Times Opinion essay "Cat Got Your Fish"**
  (meant as a work sample to guide your own opinion essay)

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

February 6 Beginnings: How the ocean works and how ocean activism began

**Guest Speaker: TBD**

**Student Book Reviews:**
Katie Eng reviews *Trying Leviathan* by D. Graham Burnett
Hannah Clare Davis reviews *The Wreck of the Whaleship Essex* by Owen Chase

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

February 13 Oysters: savior of the coast or "attractive nuisance"

**Field Trip to Governor's Island/The Harbor School/Billion Oyster Project (confirmed)**

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

February 20 Cod: The groundfish conundrum Part I
(an introduction to fisheries management)

Jennifer Jacquet (confirmed) guest teaching

Paul Greenberg will be away this week

**Guest Speaker: Jennifer Jacquet**
Student Book Reviews:
Natascha Adams reviews Cod by Mark Kurlansky
Aakanksha Ahuja reviews What a Fish Knows by Jonathan Balcombe

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

February
27 Monkish: The groundfish conundrum Part II
(or, can fishing be good?)

Guest Speaker: Sean Barrett of Dock to Dish community supported fishery (confirmed)

Student Book Reviews
Kim Bernotas reviews Eat Like a Fish by Bren Smith
Fiona Lee Beu reviews: Fishing by Brian Fagan

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

March
5 Snappers and Groupers and Grunts Oh My: Marine Protected Areas pros, cons and questions

Guest Speaker: TBD

Student Book Reviews:
Annika Gacnik reviews Vanishing Fish by Daniel Pauly
Oliver Lazarus reviews Half Earth by E.O. Wilson

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

March 12 The fish market of New York

Field Trip: The Lobster Place fish market (confirmed)
Meet at our classroom as per usual for a short presentation by Robert LaValva (confirmed) of the New Amsterdam Market. We will walk over to the Lobster Place at 2:45.
In case you are late the Lobster Place is located in the Chelsea Market at 75 9th Avenue

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

March 19 No Class

NO CLASS, SPRING BREAK
MIDTERM OPINION ESSAYS ASSIGNMENT:

Please write a 1000-1500 word essay on topic TBD

March 26 Coral Reefs

Guest Speaker: Callum Roberts via skype (confirmed)

Student Book Reviews:
Serena Morales reviews Seasick by Alanna Mitchell
MacKenna Neuroth reviews Reef Life by Callum Roberts

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

MIDTERM OPINION ESSAYS DUE

April 2 Diadromy, dams, and salmon

Guest Speaker #1: Steve Gephard on dams 2:00-3:00 (confirmed)

Student Book Reviews:
Maia Reeb reviews Salmon Fever by Aslak Berge

Students pitch of final papers together with Guest Speaker Jennifer Schuessler from the New York Times

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

April 9 Tuna and the management of highly migratory species

Guest Lecturer: Shana Miller (confirmed)

Student Book Review:
Eliot Schrefer reviews The Outlaw Ocean by Ian Urbina
Jessie Scofield reviews Tuna a Love Story by Richard Ellis

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class

April 16 Sharks

Field Trip to the New York Aquarium:
We will meet in the usual class room at 2:00 then walk to the subway and take the F subway to the New York Aquarium. The first part of class will be on the subway out to Coney Island. The second part of class will be a guided tour of the shark exhibit.

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class.

April 23 Toothed whales and dolphins, intelligence and captivity

Guest Lecturer: Lori Marino (confirmed)

Student Book Review:
Kathy Wong reviews Vaquita by Brooke Bressesen
Emmea Schectman reviews Other Minds by Peter Smith

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class.

April 30 Changing Seas

Guest Lecturer: TBD

Student Book Review:
Kirsten Howe reviews Shadows on the Gulf by Rowan Jacobsen
Cady Drell reviews Toms River by Dan Fagin

Readings will be posted a week in advance of class.

May 7

FINAL SINGLES SPECIES RESEARCH PAPER DUE