

**SOCIOLOGY 6963 (special topics) — Environmental Sociology
(Fall Semester, 2014) Mondays, 3:00 to 6:00 PM, Beh Sci 315**

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Office Hours: By appointment

Course Summary and Objectives

This graduate-level seminar provides an overview of theoretical and empirical works in environmental sociology. After providing a brief introduction to the origins of the field, the seminar will cover substantive topics that are likely to be of interest for students in either of the two “areas” of the sociology PhD program. Significant attention will be given to current and emerging lines of inquiry in environmental sociology as well as multidisciplinary approaches to sustainability studies and integrated research on coupled human and natural systems.

Topic Covered Include (****this is a partial list!****):

- *Origins of and reflections on the field*
- *Environmental justice and environmental inequality in the US*
- *Environment and development*
- *Political economy of global environmental change*
- *Sociology of risk*
- *Migration and the environment*
- *Population growth and the environment, IPAT, STIRPAT*
- *World society and the environment*
- *World-systems and the environment*
- *Ecologically unequal exchange*
- *Militarization, warfare, and the environment*
- *Environmental attitudes and environmental concern*
- *Climate denial*
- *Organizational approaches to environmental change and environmental governance*
- *Disproportionality*
- *Environment and health*
- *Coupled human and natural systems*
- *Integrated sustainability studies*

Course Requirements and Grading

- Students are required to submit weekly critical summaries of the assigned readings (3 pages in length each). The weekly summaries are worth 35% of your final grade. The summaries are due via canvas email (as an attachment) 24 hours prior to the start of seminar each week (no exceptions!). Late papers will NOT be accepted.
- Students are also required to take turns in teams facilitating the weekly discussions. These facilitating exercises are worth 20% of your final grade. We will schedule these group facilitations for the entire semester on the first day of seminar.
- Attendance and general participation in seminar discussions is worth 15% of your final grade.
- Students are required to write and submit a term paper (15 pages maximum length, not including references) on a topic of relevance for the seminar. I am willing to be flexible on paper topics, but

they must somehow be relevant for the field of environmental sociology. Students are not allowed to use term papers from other seminars, MA thesis sections, or PhD dissertation sections for the term paper for this seminar. Additional specifics on the term papers will be provided on the first day of class. The term papers are worth 30% of your final grade.

Course Policies and Student Responsibilities

Students and faculty at the University of Utah are obligated to behave in accordance with the ordinances of the University. The Student Code (or Students' Rights and Responsibilities) is located on the Web at: <http://www.admin.utah.edu/ppmanual/8/8-10.html>

You are encouraged to review this document. All of the rights and responsibilities applicable to both the student and the faculty member will be observed during the semester.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic misconduct, including plagiarism, is a serious offense. The following regarding academic integrity and plagiarism is taken from the University of Utah's Student Code:

“Academic misconduct” includes, but is not limited to, cheating, misrepresenting one's work, inappropriately collaborating, plagiarism, and fabrication or falsification of information, as defined further below. It also includes facilitating academic misconduct by intentionally helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic misconduct.

a. “Cheating” involves the unauthorized possession or use of information, materials, notes, study aids, or other devices in any academic exercise, or the unauthorized communication with another person during such an exercise. Common examples of cheating include, but are not limited to, copying from another student's examination, submitting work for an in-class exam that has been prepared in advance, violating rules governing the administration of exams, having another person take an exam, altering one's work after the work has been returned and before resubmitting it, or violating any rules relating to academic conduct of a course or program.

b. Misrepresenting one's work includes, but is not limited to, representing material prepared by another as one's own work, or submitting the same work in more than one course without prior permission of both faculty members.

c. “Plagiarism” means the intentional unacknowledged use or incorporation of any other person's work in, or as a basis for, one's own work offered for academic consideration or credit or for public presentation. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, representing as one's own, without attribution, any other individual's words, phrasing, ideas, sequence of ideas, information or any other mode or content of expression.

The Student Code states that academic misconduct can be sanctioned in the following ways:

“Academic sanction” means a sanction imposed on a student for engaging in academic or professional misconduct. It may include, but is not limited to, requiring a student to retake an exam(s) or rewrite a paper(s), a grade reduction, a failing grade, probation, suspension or dismissal from a program or the University, or revocation of a student's degree or certificate. It may also include community service, a written reprimand, and/or a written statement of misconduct that can be put into an appropriate record maintained for purposes of the profession or discipline for which the student is preparing.

Faculty Responsibilities

As the instructor for the course, I will:

- Convene classes unless valid reason and notice given
- Perform and return evaluations in a timely manner
- Inform you of:
 1. General course content
 2. Course activities
 3. Course evaluation methods
 4. Course grading scale
 5. Course schedule of meetings, topics, and due dates.
- Ensure that the class environment is conducive to learning. This includes limiting student use of cell phones, reading newspapers during class, talking during class, arriving late and leaving early and other disruptive behavior.

Other faculty rights and responsibilities are further detailed online:

<http://www.admin.utah.edu/ppmanual/8/8-12-4.html>

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.

All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

Assigned Readings

***All assigned readings are available as pdf files via canvas. ***

TOPIC AND REQUIRED READING SCHEDULE — *subject to change!*****

- **August 25, Week 1 – Introductions**
- **September 8, Week 2 – Origins of and Reflections on the Field**
 1. Catton, William, and Riley Dunlap. 1978. "Environmental Sociology: A New Paradigm." *American Sociologist* 13:41-49.
 2. Buttel, Frederick. 1978. "Environmental Sociology: A New Paradigm?" *American Sociologist* 13:252-256.
 3. Dunlap, Riley, and William Catton. 1979. "Environmental Sociology." *Annual Review of Sociology* 5:243-273.
 4. Buttel, Frederick. 1987. "New Directions in Environmental Sociology." *Annual Review of Sociology* 13: 465-488.

5. Freudenburg, William, Scott Frickel, and Robert Gramling. 1995. "Beyond the Nature/Society Divide: Learning to Think about a Mountain." *Sociological Forum* 10:361-392.
6. Dunlap, Riley. 2002. "Environmental Sociology: A Personal Perspective on Its First Quarter Century." *Organization and Environment* 15:10-29.
7. Pellow, David, and Hollie Brehm. 2013. "An Environmental Sociology for the Twenty-First Century." *Annual Review of Sociology* 39:229-250.

- **September 15, Week 3 – Early Environmental Justice Studies, Contemporary Environmental Inequality Research (US)**

1. Bullard, Robert. 1983. "Solid Waste Sites and the Black Houston Community." *Sociological Inquiry* 53:273-288.
2. Anderton, D. L., A. B. Anderson, J. M. Oakes, and M. R. Fraser. 1994. "Environmental Equity: The Demographics of Dumping." *Demography* 31:229-248.
3. Mohai, Paul, David Pellow, and Timmons Roberts. 2009. "Environmental Justice." *Annual Review of Environmental Resources* 34:404-430.
4. Downey, Liam, Summer Dubois, Brian Harkins, and Michelle Walker. 2008. "Environmental Inequality in Metropolitan America." *Organization & Environment* 21:270-294.
5. Crowder, Kyle and Liam Downey. 2010. "Inter-Neighborhood Migration, Race, and Environmental Hazards: Modeling Microlevel Processes of Environmental Inequality." *The American Journal of Sociology* 115:1110-1149
6. Pais, Jeremy, Kyle Crowder, and Liam Downey. 2014 "Unequal Trajectories: Racial and Class Differences in Residential Exposure to Industrial Hazard" *Social Forces* 92:1189-1215.
7. Grant, Don, Mary Trautner, Liam Downey, and Lisa Thiebaud. 2010. "Bringing the Polluters Back In: Environmental Inequality and the Organization of Chemical Production." *American Sociological Review* 75:479-504.
8. Elliott, James, and Scott Frickel. 2013. "The Historical Nature of Cities: A Study of Urbanization and Hazardous Waste Accumulation." *American Sociological Review* 78:521-543.

- **September 22, Week 4 – Environment and Development Perspectives**

1. Mol, Arthur. 1997. "Ecological Modernization: Industrial Transformations and Environmental Reform." Pp. 138-149 in *The International Handbook of Environmental Sociology*, edited by Michael Redclift and Graham Woodgate. Edward Elgar.
2. Spaargaren, Gert, and Arthur Mol. 2009. "Sociology, Environment, and Modernity: Ecological Modernization as a Theory of Social Change." Pp. 56-79 in *The Ecological Modernization Reader*, edited by Arthur Mol, David Sonnenfeld, and Gert Spaargaren. Routledge Press.
3. Mol, Arthur, Gert Spaargaren, and David Sonnenfeld. 2014. "Ecological Modernization Theory: Taking Stock, Moving Forward." Pp. 15-30 in *Routledge International Handbook of Social and Environmental Change*, edited by Stuart Lockie, David Sonnenfeld, and Dana Fisher. Routledge Press.

4. Gould, Kenneth, David Pellow, and Allan Schnaiberg. 2004. "Interrogating the Treadmill of Production: Everything You Wanted to Know about the Treadmill but Were Afraid to Ask." *Organization & Environment* 17:296-316.
5. Buttel, Frederick. 2004. "The Treadmill of Production: An Appreciation, Assessment, and Agenda for Research." *Organization & Environment* 17:323-336.
6. Clark, Brett and Richard York. 2005. "Carbon Metabolism: Global Capitalism, Climate Change, and the Biospheric Rift." *Theory and Society* 34:391-428.
7. Foster, John Bellamy, and Hannah Holleman. 2012. "Weber and the Environment: Classical Foundations for a Post-Exemptionalist Sociology." *American Journal of Sociology* 117: 1625-1673.
8. Rudel, Thomas, JoAnn Carmin, and Timmons Roberts. 2011. "The Political Economy of the Environment." *Annual Review of Sociology* 37:221-237.

- **September 29, Week 5 – Environment and Development Empirical Approaches**

1. Grossman, Gene and Alan Krueger. 1995. "Economic Growth and the Environment." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 110:353-377.
2. Ehrhardt-Martinez, Karen. 1998. "Social Determinants of Deforestation in Developing Countries: A Cross-National Study." *Social Forces* 77:567-86.
3. Fisher, Dana and William Freudenburg. 2004. "Post-Industrialization and Environmental Quality: An Empirical Analysis of the Environmental State." *Social Forces* 83:157-188.
4. Jorgenson, Andrew, and Brett Clark. 2012. "Are the Economy and the Environment Decoupling? A Comparative International Study, 1960-2005." *American Journal of Sociology* 118:1-44.
5. York, Richard. 2012. "Asymmetric Effects of Economic Growth and Decline on CO₂ Emissions." *Nature Climate Change* 2:762-764.
6. Jorgenson, Andrew K., James Rice, and Brett Clark. 2010. "Cities, Slums, and Energy Consumption in Less-Developed Countries, 1990-2005." *Organization & Environment* 23:189-204.
7. Rudel, Thomas. 2009. "How Do People Transform Landscapes? A Sociological Perspective on Suburban Sprawl and Tropical Deforestation." *American Journal of Sociology* 115:129-154.
8. Schaffartzik, Anke, Andreas Mayer, Simone Gingrich, Nina Eisenmenger, Christian Loy, and Fridolin Krausmann. 2014. "The Global Metabolic Transition: Regional Patterns and Trends of Global Material Flows, 1950-2010." *Global Environmental Change* 26:87-97.

- **October 6, Week 6 – Sociology of Risk, Migration and Environment, IPAT, STIRPAT**

1. Rosa, Eugene. 1998. "Metatheoretical Foundations for a Post-Normal Risk." *Journal of Risk Research* 1:15-44.
2. Cable, Sherry, Thomas Shriver, and Tamara Mix. 2008 "Risk Society and Contested Illness: The Case of Oak Ridge Nuclear Workers." *American Sociological Review* 73:380-401.
3. Hunter, Lori. 2005. "Migration and Environmental Hazards." *Population and Environment* 26:273-302.

4. Obokata, Reiko, Luisa Vernis, and Robert McLeman. 2014. "Empirical Research on International Environmental Migration: A Systematic Review." *Population and Environment* doi:10.1007/s11111-014-0210-7.
5. Massey, Douglas, William Axinn, and Dirgha Ghimire. 2010. "Environmental Change and Out-Migration: Evidence from Nepal." *Population and Environment* 32:109-136.
6. Dietz, Thomas and Eugene A. Rosa. 1994. "Rethinking the Environmental Impacts of Population, Affluence and Technology." *Human Ecology Review* 1:277-300.
7. Rosa, Eugene, Richard York, and Tom Dietz. 2004. "Tracking the Anthropogenic Drivers of Ecological Impacts." *Ambio* 33:509-512.
8. York, Richard and Eugene Rosa. 2012. "Choking on Modernity: A Human Ecology of Air Pollution." *Social Problems* 59:282-300.

- **October 20, Week 7 – World Society and the Environment, World-Systems and the Environment, FDI and the Environment**

1. Frank, David John, Ann Hironaka, and Evan Schofer. 2000. "The Nation-State and the Natural Environment over the Twentieth Century." *American Sociological Review* 65:96-116.
2. Longhofer, Wesley, and Evan Schofer. 2010. "National and Global Origins of Environmental Association." *American Sociological Review* 75:505-533.
3. Shandra, John. 2007. "The World Polity and Deforestation: A Cross-National Analysis." *International Journal of Comparative Sociology* 48:5-28.
4. Burns, Tom, Ed Kick, and Byron Davis. 2003. "Theorizing and Rethinking Linkages between the Natural Environment and the Modern World-System: Deforestation in the Late 20th Century." *Journal of World-Systems Research* 9:357-92.
5. Roberts, Timmons, Peter Grimes, and Jodie Manale. 2003. "Social Roots of Global Environmental Change: A World-Systems Analysis of Carbon Dioxide Emissions." *Journal of World-Systems Research* 9:277-315.
6. Prell, Christina et al. 2014. "The Economic Gains and Environmental Losses of US Consumption: A World-Systems and Input-Output Approach." *Social Forces*, doi: 10.1093/sf/sou048.
7. Jorgenson, Andrew, Christopher Dick, and John Shandra. 2011. "World Economy, World Society, and Environmental Harms in Less-Developed Countries." *Sociological Inquiry* 81:53-87.
8. Shorette, Kristen. 2012. "Outcomes of Global Environmentalism: Longitudinal and Cross-National Trends in Chemical Fertilizer and Pesticide Use." *Social Forces* 91:299-325.

- **November 3, Week 8 – Ecologically Unequal Exchange, Militarization and the Environment**

1. Bunker, Stephen. 1984. "Modes of Extraction, Unequal Exchange, and the Progressive Underdevelopment of an Extreme Periphery: The Brazilian Amazon, 1600-1980." *American Journal of Sociology* 89:1017-64.
2. Hornborg, Alf. 1998. "Towards and Ecological Theory of Unequal Exchange: Articulating World System Theory and Ecological Economics." *Ecological Economics* 25:127-136.

3. Jorgenson, Andrew. 2006. "Unequal Ecological Exchange and Environmental Degradation: A Theoretical Proposition and Cross-National Study of Deforestation, 1990-2000." *Rural Sociology* 71:685-712.
4. Rice, James. 2007. "Ecological Unequal Exchange: International Trade and Uneven Utilization of Environmental Space in the World System." *Social Forces* 85:1369-1392.
5. Hooks, Gregory and Chad Smith. 2004. "The Treadmill of Destruction: National Sacrifice Areas and Native Americans." *American Sociological Review* 69:558-575.
6. Hooks, Gregory and Chad Smith. 2012. "The Treadmill of Destruction Goes Global: Anticipating the Environmental Impacts of Militarism in the 21st Century." Pp. 60-83 in *The Marketing of War in the Age of Neo-Militarism*, edited by Kostas Gouliamos and Christos Kassimeris. Routledge Press.
7. Jorgenson, Andrew, Brett Clark, and Jeffrey Kentor. 2010. "Militarization and the Environment: A Panel Study of Carbon Dioxide Emissions and the Ecological Footprints of Nations, 1970-2000." *Global Environmental Politics* 10:7-29.
8. Jorgenson, Andrew, and Brett Clark. 2009. "The Economy, Military, and Ecologically Unequal Relationships in Comparative Perspective: A Panel Study of the Ecological Footprints of Nations, 1975-2000." *Social Problems* 56:621-646.

- **November 10, Week 9 – Environmental Values, Environmental Concern, Climate Denial**

1. Dietz, Thomas, Amy Fitzgerald, and Rachael Schwom. 2005. "Environmental Values." *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 30:335-372.
2. Dunlap, Riley, and Richard York. 2008. "The Globalization of Environmental Concern and the Limits of the Postmaterialist Values Explanation: Evidence from Four Multinational Surveys." *The Sociological Quarterly* 49:529-563.
3. Marquart-Pyatt, Sandra. 2012. "Contextual Influences on Environmental Concern Cross-Nationally: A Multilevel Investigation." *Social Science Research* 41:1085-99.
4. Givens, Jennifer, and Andrew Jorgenson. 2013. "Individual Environmental Concern in the World Polity: A Multilevel Analysis." *Social Science Research* 42:418-431.
5. McCright, Aaron, and Riley Dunlap. 2011. "Cool Dudes: The Denial of Climate Change Among Conservative White Males in the United States." *Global Environmental Change* 21:1163-1172.
6. Running, Katrina. 2013. "World Citizenship and Concern for Global Warming: Building the Case for a Strong International Civil Society." *Social Forces* 92:377-399.
7. Pampel, Fred, and Lori Hunter. 2012. "Cohort Change, Diffusion, and Support for Environmental Spending in the United States." *American Journal of Sociology* 118:420-448.
8. Hamilton, Larry, and Mary Lemcke-Stampone. 2013. "Arctic Warming and Your Weather: Public Belief in the Connection." *International Journal of Climatology* 34:1723-1728.

- **November 17, Week 10 – Organizational Approaches, Disproportionality**

1. Grant, Don, Andrew Jones, and Albert Bergesen. 2002. "Organizational Size and Pollution: The Case of the U.S. Chemical Industry." *American Sociological Review* 67:389-408.

2. Grant, Don, Andrew Jones, and Mary Trautner. 2004. "Do facilities with Distant Headquarters Pollute More?: How Civic Engagement Conditions the Environmental performance of Absentee Managed Plants." *Social Forces* 83:189-214.
3. Prechel, Harland, and Lu Zheng. 2012. "Corporate Characteristics, Political Embeddedness, and Environmental Pollution by Large U.S. Corporations." *Social Forces* 90:947-970.
4. Shwom, Rachael. 2009. "Strengthening Sociological Perspectives on Organizations and the Environment." *Organization & Environment* 22:271-292.
5. Pulver, Simone, and Tabitha Benney. 2013. "Private-Sector Responses to Climate Change in the Global South." *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Climate Change* 4:479-496.
6. Freudenburg, William. 2005. Privileged Access, Privileged Accounts: Toward a Socially Structured Theory of Resources and Discourses. *Social Forces* 84:89-114.
7. Grant, Don, Andrew Jorgenson, and Wesley Longhofer. 2013. "Targeting Electricity's Extreme Polluters to Reduce Energy-Related CO₂ Emissions." *Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences* 3:376-380.
8. Brulle, Robert. 2014. "Institutionalizing Delay: Foundation Funding and the Creation of a U.S. Climate Change Counter-Movement." *Climatic Change* 122:681-694.

- **November 24, Week 11 – Environment & Health, Coupled Human and Natural Systems, Integrated Sustainability Approaches**

1. Evans G.W., and E. Kantrowitz. 2002. "Socioeconomic Status and Health: The Potential Role of Environmental Risk Exposure." *Annual Review of Public Health* 23:303-31.
2. Morello-Frosch, Rachel, et al. 2011. "Understanding the Cumulative Impacts of Inequalities in Environmental Health: Implications for Policy" *Health Affairs* 30:879-887.
3. Mayer, Brian. 2012. "Relax and Take a Deep Breath': Print Media Coverage of Asthma and Air Pollution in the United States." *Social Science & Medicine* 75:892-900.
4. Liu, Jianguo, et al. 2007. "Complexity of Coupled Human and Natural Systems." *Science* 317:1513-1516.
5. Liu, Jianguo, et al. 2013. "Framing Sustainability in a Telecoupled World." *Ecology and Society* 18(2): 26. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5751/ES-05873-180226>
6. Dietz, Thomas, Eugene Rosa, and Richard York. 2012. "Environmentally Efficient Well-Being: Is There a Kuznets Curve?" *Applied Geography* 32:21-28.
7. Steinberger, Julia, Timmons Roberts, Glen Peters, and Giovanni Baiocchi. 2012. "Pathways of Human Development and Carbon Emissions Embodied in Trade." *Nature Climate Change* 2:81-85.
8. Jorgenson, Andrew K. 2014. "Economic Development and the Carbon Intensity of Human Well-Being." *Nature Climate Change* 4:186-189.

- **December 1, Week 12 – Emerging Areas of Inquiry (TBD)**

- **December 8, Week 13 – Wrap Up**

- **TERM PAPERS DUE DECEMBER 15 AT 5 PM, MST**