

**ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES 3  
INTRODUCTION TO THE SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT  
SPRING 2007**

G.R. Graves, instructor

Office Hours: 1-3 Mon., HSSB 3238, x3636  
1-2 Thurs., Bren 4007, x2939 and by appointment

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Welcome to Environmental Studies 3. This is the third in the series of core courses for the Environmental Studies major. A principal objective of the course is to assess the relationship of human societies and cultures with the environment from their beginnings to the present day. Particular emphasis will be placed on contrasting various cultures with regard to their practices of environmental manipulation.

Through a chronological approach to environmental studies, the course will encompass archeology, literature, art, science, anthropology, philosophy, social science, and political economy. The course also attempts to develop Western capitalism, trace its evolution to modern times, and assess its impact on the environment. Two central themes (the evolution of technological superiority in pre-Columbian Eurasia, and the emergence of environmentalism during the last four centuries) will connect the course from beginning to end. An important sub-theme in the second half will be the environmental impact of global warfare.

**BOOKS**

Please purchase the following paperback books:

Jared Diamond, *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies*

Thomas Easton, ed., *Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial Environmental Issues* (Expanded 11<sup>th</sup> ed.)

ES 3 Course Reader available through Grafikart (6550 Pardall Road, Isla Vista 968-3575).

**EXAMS AND PAPER**

There will be an in-class midterm and final. Both exams will contain a major identification section and an essay section.

Tuesday, May 29, your course papers are due in class. The source material for the papers is Goldfarb's *Taking Sides*. The book is divided into five parts. Issues in the first two parts will be used in lectures. The last three parts are broadly defined into Energy and the Environment, Food Production, and Toxics and the Environment. Your assignment will be to choose one of those broad categories, choose three issues within the broad category, and write a summary analysis. Specific guidelines will be distributed after the midterm. Unexcused late papers lose one letter grade for the first week, and two letter grades thereafter.

Guidelines for this assignment will be distributed after the midterm.

## DISCUSSION SECTIONS

Discussion sections are an important part of the course. Twenty percent of the course grade will be determined by the section grade. You must pass section to pass the course. The overall percentage breakdown for the final grade is:

Midterm	20 percent
Section	20 percent
Paper	25 percent
Final	35 percent

## SCHEDULE

### PART ONE: The Masters of Technology: How Eurasia Came To America

#### WEEK ONE

INTRODUCTION (April 3)

DIAMOND'S HAVES (April 5)

READING: Reader: Section 1; Diamond, Prologue-Ch. 2

#### WEEK TWO

DIAMOND'S EARLY EURASIA (April 10)

THE POWER SOCIETIES OF EURASIA (April 12)

READING: Reader: Section 2; Diamond, Chs. 3-10

#### WEEK THREE

TOWARD THE MIDDLE AGES (April 17)

THE AGE OF DISCOVERY AND THE EURASIAN ENVIRONMENT (April 19)

READING: Reader: Section 3; Diamond, Chs. 11-14

#### WEEK FOUR

AMERICAN OVERVIEW (April 24)

A CLASH OF CULTURES IN AMERICA (April 26)

READING: Reader, Section 4; Diamond, complete

#### WEEK FIVE

MIDTERM (Tuesday, May 1, in class)

READING: Reader: Section 5

### PART TWO: From Cosmography to Environmentalism: A World Movement Emerges

#### WEEK FIVE

EUROPEAN AMERICA (May 3)

READING: begin Reader, Section 6

#### WEEK SIX

ENGLAND: LABORATORY OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORLD (May 8)

POLITICAL ECONOMY AND THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT (May 10)

READING: Reader, Section 6

#### WEEK SEVEN

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSES TO INDUSTRIALIZATION (I) (May 15)

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSES TO INDUSTRIALIZATION (II) (May 17)

READING: Reader, Section 7; Easton, Issues 2, 3, 4

WEEK EIGHT

THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF GLOBAL WARFARE (I) (May 22)  
THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF GLOBAL WARFARE (II) (May 24)  
READING: Reader, Section 8

WEEK NINE

DISASTERS THAT SHOCKED THE WORLD (May 29)  
POLLUTION, POPULATION, AND MODERN CAPITALISM (May 31)  
READING: Reader, Section 9 begin; Easton, Issue 6

WEEK TEN

THE ENVIRONMENTAL PHILOSOPHERS (June 5)  
DEFINING ENVIRONMENTALISM (June 7)  
READING: Section 9, conclude; Easton, Issues 1 and 7

FINAL IN CLASS: TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 8-11AM

Please turn cell phones off during class.