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ENST 231H.01: Nature and Society

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ENST231H Spring 2022 Schedule

Weeks 1 & 2: Where are we now?

Weeks 1 & 2

- 1/18 Tuesday Course overview and introduction
- 1/20 Thursday **Read:** *Journey of the Universe (JU)*(in entirety before class)
Watch: Wilson's The Future of Everything (video)
Write: 3 questions you have about the reading and the videos
Select: 2 passages/claims that provoke or surprise you
- 1/25 Tuesday **Read:** Wilson *Diversity*
Ehrlich *Extinction*
Write: 3 questions you have about the readings
Select: 2 passages/claims that provoke or surprise you
- 1/27 Thursday **Read:** Sachs *Anthropocene*
Steffen et al. *The Trajectory of the Anthropocene...*
(explains methodology/rationale of the materials in the IGBP Dashboard and Great Acceleration links)
Hettinger *Valuing Naturalness in the Anthropocene* (recommended)
Read/Review: Resources links especially
IGBP Planetary Dashboard
Great Acceleration (x3)
Write: 3 questions you have about the readings
Select: 2 passages/claims that provoke or surprise you
DUE Journal/Forum 1 12:30 p.m.
- Discussion:** *Where are we now? The statistics, the evidence, and the outlook.*

Weeks 3 – 9: How did we get here?

Week 3: Ishmael and Creation Stories

- 2/1 Tuesday **Read:** *Ishmael* (in entirety; completed before class)
DUE Journal/Forum 2 12:30 p.m.
Discussion: Fact and Fiction: Stories that resonate
- 2/3 Thursday **Read:** Creation Stories 01 - 06 (folder in Moodle)
*Hillel *The Natural History of the Bible--Appendix ONLY*" isn't a creation story but goes with Genesis reading
The Stories We Tell and Why We Tell them (URL)
Review: *Journey of the Universe* Chapters 8 & 9
Ishmael Chapter 9 (pp. 151-184)
Discussion: The power of the story; takers and leavers; creation stories
"Given a story to enact...": the power of the story; takers and leavers; the stories we tell ourselves about our beginnings...

Week 4: Human Evolution and Adaptation

- 2/8 Tuesday **Read** Rasmussen "Sweet Betsy and Her Avalanche"
Wilson "Riddle of the Human Species"
Poggie "Evolution of Human Adaptations"
Hillel "Environment and Culture" from *A Natural History of the Bible*
Poggie "Culture"
DUE Essay 1 working thesis 5:00 p.m.
- 2/10 Thursday **Read** *Diamond Guns, Germs, and Steel* (GGS) excerpts (x3)
Discussion: *What story does modern history and anthropology tell us of*

our beginnings?

DUE Final creative project ideas 5:00 p.m.
DUE Essay 1 working list of references 5:00 p.m.

Week 5a: Agriculture and Urbanization

2/15 Tuesday **Emergence of Agriculture & Rise of the City (5a)**
All readings in Moodle
Read Diamond *Guns, Germs, and Steel* (GGS) Chapters 4-6
Zeder *Agricultural Origins in the Ancient World* (pp. 171-173; 179-183)
Palen A & B *The Urban World (UW)* Chapter 2, pp. 21 – 36 (aka:74 – 90)
Review *Ishmael*, pp. 198 - 207 (Ch. 10, sections 6 - 8)
Watch *Guns, Germs, and Steel* NatGeo Pts 2 & 3 (videos)
DUE **Outline Essay 1 5:00 p.m.**

Week 5b: Ancient Greece and Rome

2/17 Thursday **Hellenistic Age and Rise & Fall of the Roman Empire (5b)**
Beliefs, culture, and land use
Read Palen B *The Urban World* Chapter 2, pp. 36 -42 (aka: 90 - 96)
Ferkiss "To Serve Man or to Serve Nature?" from
Nature, Technology and Society (NTS) **MD**
Marshall *Nature's Web (NW)* Early Greece: Gaia **MD**
Thommen *Environmental History of Greece* **MD**
Marshall *Nature's Web (NW)* Romans: Way of the Soldier **MD**
Thommen *Environmental History of Rome* **MD**
Folders (2) Original texts from Greek and Roman thinkers **MD**
DUE **Journal/Forum 3 12:30 p.m.**

Week 6: Med. Church and Sci Revo

2/22 Tuesday **The Medieval Church**
Read White "The Historical Roots..." MD
Gottlieb *TSE* "Bible Excerpts" (from bottom p. 80 - 89) MD
Mumford "Medieval Towns" MD
Palen B & C: *UW* "Emergence of Cities" Ch2, pp. 42 - 55 /96 – 109 MD
Original sources strongly recommended; at least read for "big ideas"
Open and Review Essay 2/Comparative Essay Instructions
DUE **Essay 1 5:00 p.m.**

2/24 Thursday *The Scientific Revolution*
Read Marshall *NW* "The Scientific Revolution" MD
Marshall *NW* "Philosophers of the Brave New World" MD
Original sources strongly recommended as per above
DUE **Journal/Forum 4 12:30 p.m.**

Week 7: Enlightenment and Ind. Revo

3/1 Tuesday *The Enlightenment*
Read Marshall *NW* "Enlightenment" MD
Locke "Of Property" MD
Rousseau "On Inequality" MD
Montesquieu "The Spirit of the Laws" (optional)MD
Hobbes "Leviathan" (optional)MD

3/3 Thursday *The Industrial Revolution*
Read Ferkiss *NTS* "Technology Triumphs: The Industrial Revolution" MD
Marx "The Commodity" MD
PalenC *UW* "Emergence of Cities" (pp. 55 - 57/109 - 111) MD
DUE **Journal/Forum 5 12:30 p.m.**

3/7 Monday **DUE Revised Essay 1 by 5:00 p.m.**

Week 8: A new theory and a new world

3/7 Monday DUE Revised Essay 1 by 5:00 p.m. (link in previous learning unit)

3/8 Tuesday **A New Theory**

Read All readings found in Darwin folder MD
Darwin, *Origin of Species* (Selections 1) MD
Worster, *Nature's Economy* "Scrambling for Place" MD
Kolbert, *Sixth Extinction* (selections) MD
Watch BBC Charles Darwin and the Tree of Life
The Making of a Theory: Darwin, Wallace, and Natural Selection
DUE Journal/Forum 6 12:30 p.m.

3/10 Thursday **The "New World"**

Read Nash, *Wilderness and the American Mind (WAMM)*, Preface, Introduction, Prologue, & Chapter 2 (textbook)[your edition may have different "prefatory" material; just read whatever is there and chapter 2]
DUE Journal/Forum 6 12:30 p.m.

Week 9: Romantic Nature, Thoreau, Muir

3/15 Tuesday **Read** **The "New World"**
Nash, *WAMM*, Ch.3 & Ch.5 (textbook)
Solnit, Emerson, Thoreau, Wordsworth in "Romantic Nature" file MD

3/17 Thursday **Read** Muir, Teale, in "Muir" file MD
Nash, *WAMM*, Ch. 8 (required); Ch. 10 (recommended) (textbook)
DUE Optional/Extra Credit Journal 1 12:30 p.m.

Weeks 10 – end: What then shall we do?

Week 11: Marshall and Leopold

3/29 Tuesday **Read** Nash, *WAMM*, Ch. 11 (textbook)
Leopold (x2) in "Leopold & Marshall" file MD

3/31 Thursday **Read** Nash, *WAMM*, Ch. 12 (textbook)
Marshall in "Leopold & Marshall" file MD
Wilderness Act of 1964 (in Organic Acts folder) MD
Watch A Dustbowl Chicken Coop
Jason Mark Satellites in the High Country
DUE Journal/Forum 7 12:30 p.m.

Week 12: Carson and the first Earth Day

4/5 Tuesday **Read** Carson, *Lost Woods*, Selections
Carson, *Silent Spring*, Introduction & Chapter 2
Carson, *Silent Spring (SS)*, Ch1 pp. 1-4 (Apologies--I couldn't "combine" the scans. It is actually just 2 short pages of reading.)
Strong, *Dreamers and Defenders*, Chapter 8

4/7 Thursday **Read** Shabecoff, *Fierce Green Fire*, Chapter 5
Shabecoff, *Fierce Green Fire*, Chapter 6
DUE Optional/Extra Credit Journal 2 12:30 p.m.

Week 13: Radical Ecologies

4/12 Tuesday

Deep Ecology

Read Devall & Sessions_ "Principles of Deep Ecology"
Naess_ "Ecology: The Shallow and the Deep"

Social Ecology

Read Commoner_ "The Closing Circle"
Ehrlich_ "The Population Bomb"
Hardin_ "Tragedy of the Commons"
Bookchin_ SE vs. DE

DUE **Essay 2 working thesis by 5:00 p.m.**

4/14 Thursday

Ecofeminism

Read Warren_ "Power and Promise of Ecofeminism"
Merchant_ *Radical Ecology*_ Ecofeminism (optional)
Shiva_ *Staying Alive*_ Ch.1 (optional)

DUE **Journal/Forum 8 12:30 p.m.**

DUE **Essay 2 working list of references (APA format) by 5:00 p.m.**

Weeks 14 - 15: EJ/UJ/SJ/CC

4/18 Monday DUE Essay 2 Outline by 5:00 p.m.

4/19 Tuesday

Readings found in "Environmental Justice_ Environmental Racism" folder MD

Read Mojai, et al._ "Environmental justice" (pp. 405 - 408, first column),
Geisler_ "A new kind of trouble: Evictions in Eden"
Bullard_ "Environmental racism and the environmental justice movement"
Wenz_ "Environmental justice" (Optional)
DiChiro_ "Nature as community: The convergence of environment and social justice"
(optional)

Watch NRDC_ "The Environmental Justice Movement" (weblink under Resources)

4/21 Thursday

Readings found in "Urban Environmentalism" folder MD

Read Gottlieb_ "Urban and Industrial..." in *Forcing the Spring*
Flint Water Advisory TF_ "Final Report" Executive Summary (pp. 1-5)
"Toxic Waste and Race at Twenty," Intro & Chapter 1
"The Missoulian," Toxic turmoil.... (optional)

Read/Watch 6 YouTube videos (links directly under the Urban Environmentalism folder) (or as many as you can)

DUE **Journal/Forum 9**

4/22 Friday DUE Essay 2 by 5:00 p.m.

4/26 Tuesday

TBD *Readings found in "Climate Change" folder MD*

Read Klein_ "Beyond Extractivism" (pp. 161 - top of 174)
Kolbert_ "Global Warming Science"

4/28 Thursday

TBD/Catch up

4/29 Friday DUE Essay 2 Revised by 5:00 p.m. MST

Week 16: Green Econ and Biomimicry

5/3 Tuesday

Green Economics

Read Hawken et al._ "Human Capitalism," *Natural Capitalism* MD
Hawken et al. _ "The Next Industrial Revolution," *Natural Capitalism* MD
Klein_ "Beyond Extractivism," *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. The Climate* MD (pp. 174 - end)

Watch "GE" videos in "Resources" section (as many as you can)

5/5 Thursday *Biomimicry*

Read Benyus_ *Biomimicry* (excerpt) MD

Read/Watch Biomimicry: A History OSU MD "Resources"

How Biomimicry is Inspiring...Smithsonian MD "Resources"

...and any of the other biomimicry/Benyus videos and resources

DUE **Journal/Forum 10 12:30 p.m.**

Week 17: Final Exam

Monday, May 9, 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.