

SYLLABUS CORRECTED VERSION

PHIL 4140/5140: PHILOSOPHY OF NATURE: GLOBALIZATION AND SUSTAINABILITY
Office hours: M-F 8 am - 5 pm, COH 2025

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Course Description: Like all buzzwords, ‘sustainability’ is popular in part because its meaning is flexible. In this course, we investigate sustainability by looking for its roots in classic sources of environmentalism and environmental ethics – the land ethic, deep ecology, and various ‘respect for nature’ movements. We then analyze the concept of sustainability itself. Topics covered include land degradation, consumer waste, ecofeminism and environmental justice, population growth, development, wilderness protection, and food production.

REQUIRED BOOKS

Clowney and Mosto (eds.) *Earthcare: An Anthology in Environmental Ethics* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2009)
Robertson, *Sustainability Principles and Practice* (Routledge, 2014)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Requirements: Four 3 page preces (to be explained); one 12 page analytic research paper, due at the end of the semester. Late preces and papers without granted extensions down-graded one-half letter grade per day late. Attendance is crucial and expected; participation is desired and encouraged. Readings are to be completed prior to class.

Grading: Each précis 10% x 4 = 40%; final paper = 50%; participation = 10%

Cheating: Any cheating (including, but not limited to, plagiarism, recycling, or purchasing papers) will result in an automatic ‘F’ for the course, without opportunity for grade change.

Disabilities: Students with disabilities must submit Disabilities Services paperwork As soon as possible.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (subject to change)

Note: ‘CM’ refers to Clowney and Mosto; ‘R’ refers to Robertson; and ‘*’ refers to articles that will be provided to you. ‘A’ refers to precis due for group A (last names A – L); ‘B’ refers to precis due for group B (last names M – Z).

Week 1 (8/25): INTRODUCTION

Week 2 (9/1): LABOR DAY: NO CLASS

Week 3 (9/8): ETHICS, RELIGION, AND THE ENVIRONMENT
Descartes, *Animals as Automata* CM
Kant, *Duties to Animals* CM
White, *The Historical Roots of Our Ecological Crisis* CM
DeWitt, *In the First Person* CM
Kraft, *The Greening of Buddhist Practice* CM
Eagle Man, *We Are All Related* CM

Week 4 (9/15): VALUING NATURE I
Taylor, *The Ethics of Respect for Nature* CM
Sylvan, *Is There a Need for a New, an Environmental Ethic?* CM

Week 5 (9/22): VALUING NATURE II
O’Neill, *Varieties of Intrinsic Value* CM
Norton, *Environmental Ethics and Weak Anthropomorphism* CM
McShane, *Why Environmental Ethics Shouldn’t Give Up on Intrinsic Value* CM

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Week 6 (9/29):	DEEP ECOLOGY Naess, <i>The Deep Ecological Movement: Some Philosophical Aspects</i> CM Devall and Sessions, <i>Deep Ecology</i> CM Taylor, <i>Deep Ecology and Its Social Philosophy: A Critique</i> CM	
Week 7 (10/6):	Rex out of town – NO CLASS. Please read Robertson, Chapters 1- 6	
Week 8 (10/13):	LAND, WATER, AND AGRICULTURE Leopold, <i>The Land Ethic</i> CM Hardin, <i>The Tragedy of the Commons</i> CM Callicott, “The Conceptual Foundations of the Land Ethic” [*] Robertson, Chapters 7 and 8 R	A
Week 9 (10/20):	MONKEYWRENCHING, ECOTAGE, AND EARTH FIRST! Haywood and Foreman, Excerpts from <i>Ecodefense: A Field Guide to Monkeywrenching</i> [*] Foreman, Excerpts from <i>Confessions of an Eco-Warrior</i> [*] Manes, Excerpts from <i>Green Rage: Radical Environmentalism and the Unmaking of Civilization</i> [*]	B
Week 10 (10/27)	ECOFEMINISM, SOCIAL ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE Warren, <i>The Power and the Promise of Ecological Feminism</i> CM Shiva, <i>Development, Ecology, and Women</i> CM Bookchin, <i>What is Social Ecology?</i> CM Guha, <i>The Environmentalism of the Poor</i> CM	A
Week 11 (11/3):	WILDERNESS, DEVELOPMENT, AND GLOBALIZATION Nelson, <i>The Great New Wilderness Debate</i> CM Elliot, <i>Faking Nature</i> CM Abbey, Excerpts from <i>Desert Solitaire</i> [*] Hasse, <i>Final Harvest in the Garden State: New Jersey’s Struggle with Suburban Sprawl</i> CM	B
Week 12 (11/10):	DEVELOPMENT, GLOBALIZATION, AND POPULATION GROWTH Erllich, <i>Fables about Population and Food</i> CM Hardin, <i>Living on a Lifeboat</i> CM Partridge, <i>Future Generations</i> CM Robertson, Chapters 10 and 11 R	A
Week 13 (11/17):	DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMICS, AND SUSTAINABILITY Daly, <i>Economics in a Full World</i> CM Sagoff, <i>Consumption</i> CM Robertson, Chapters 10 and 11 R	B
Week 14 (11/24):	SUSTAINABILITY AND CARBON CONTROL Socolow and Pacala, <i>A Plan to Keep Carbon in Check</i> Readings to be announced [*] Robertson, Chapter 12 R	A
Week 15 (12/1):	SUSTAINABILITY, AGRICULTURE, AND WASTE Guest Speaker to be announced Robertson, Chapters 13, 14, and 15	B
Week 16 (12/8):	Writing Week, no class. FINAL PAPER DUE ON THURSDAY, 12/18/14. 5:00 pm, COH 2025	