

People, Places, and Environments

Geography and Environmental Studies: GEOG/ENST 1020A

Dr. Jeremy Schmidt: jeremy.schmidt@carleton.ca

Office Hours & Location: Mondays 11am-1pm, Loeb A301D

Teaching Assistants & Office Hours: TBA on the course CULearn site

Class Location: Azrieli Theatre 101

Class Meeting Time: Mondays 6:05-7:55pm ****NOTE: THE 1st CLASS IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4****

Tutorials: Loeb A410; Students must register for one (and only one) of the class tutorials (1 hour per week)

I. Course description:

This course introduces the perspective human geography brings to understanding relationships between people and place. It covers a number of topics central to environmental studies, including: population demands on resources, relations to land, cultural practices, forms of colonialism, and the normative values used in environmental decision making.

What can students expect? This is an introductory university class. The readings, assignments, and lab sessions are all designed to provide a foundation for a successful undergraduate experience. They develop key skills, including: consistent and skillful reading, familiarity with terms and concepts, basic research techniques, and opportunities to develop ideas in written form.

II. Texts: There are three required books. They are available at Haven Books (43 Seneca St., 10 minutes walking from campus or take #7 Bus: www.havenbooks.ca) and on reserve at the library.

1. Sidney Mintz, *Sweetness and Power: The Place of Sugar in Modern History* (New York: Penguin, 1985).
2. Paul Sabin, *The Bet: Paul Ehrlich, Julian Simon, and our Gamble over Earth's Future* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2013).
3. John Vaillant, *The Golden Spruce: A True Story of Myth, Madness and Greed* (Toronto: Vintage, 2006).

III. Course Requirements:

There are 3 assignments in this class. Two are tests and one is written. Further instructions and guidance will be given well in advance of each and also posted on the CULearn website for the class.

- **October 19:** The midterm exam is worth 20% of the final grade. It will cover material from readings, lectures, and labs. It will be 50 minutes long, and combine multiple choice and short answer.
- **November 23:** The written assignment is worth 25% of the final grade. Students will write a short essay on one of the topics provided, and which relate to class readings. The paper will be at least 3 pages and 4 pages maximum, lines double-spaced, 12 pt-Times New Roman font, with 1 inch margins on all 4 sides of the page. An additional 5th page is allowed for references. The assignment further develops critical thinking and writing skills practiced in labs.
- **Date set by the Registrar:** The final exam is worth 35% of the final grade. It may include any material in the course, though it will emphasize the material covered after the mid-term. It will be a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and long answer. The registrar will schedule the exam during the December exam period.
- **The final 20%** of the course grade is based on attendance and participation in tutorials. Your instructor will provide further information regarding this aspect of the course grade, which is based on contributing to exercises that take place wholly within the tutorial session.

IV. Topics and readings

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| • Week 1 (Sept 4): Welcome. Class overview LABS | |
| • Week 2 (Sept 14): Resources, production, and scale, LAB | READING: Chapters 1 & 2, Mintz. |
| • Week 3 (Sept 21): Consumption, labour, and class, LAB | READING: Chapter 3, Mintz |
| • Week 4 (Sept 28): Social power, LAB | READING: Chapters 4, Mintz |
| • Week 5 (Oct 5): Social space, LAB | READING: Chapter 5, Mintz |
| • Week 6 (Oct 12): THANKSGIVING, CLASS, LAB | |
| • Week 7 (Oct 19): Development, population, and scarcity, LAB | READING: Intro & Chapter 1, Sabin |
| • Week 8 (Oct 26): FALL BREAK, CLASS, LAB | READING: Chapters 2 & 3, Sabin |
| • Week 9 (Nov 2): The roots of the environmental movement, LAB | READING: Chapter 4, Sabin |
| • Week 10 (Nov 9): Environmental politics, LAB | READING: Chapters 5 & 6, Sabin |
| • Week 11 (Nov 16): Environmental science and social policy, LAB | READING, Chapters 1-4, Vaillant |
| • Week 12 (Nov 23): Land and settler colonialism in Canada, LAB | READING, Chapters 5-7, Vaillant |
| • Week 13 (Nov 30): State regulations and conservation, LAB | READING, Chapters 8-11, Vaillant |
| • Week 14 (Dec 7): Ecology, knowledge and place, LAB | READING, Chapter 12 – end, Vaillant |

V. Student Support

This course is registered in two of Carleton’s student support programs. Both of these are run external to the course (i.e. they are not run by TA’s or the professor) and are entirely optional.

- The first is the Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS). In this program students who have previously taken this course and scored an A or higher offer study sessions for students. Historically, students who use PASS do better in the course (<http://carleton.ca/sasc/peer-assisted-study-sessions/>).
- The second is the Incentive Program offered by Learning Support Services. This program offers a series of workshops designed to help students develop and refine their academic skills for a university environment. Each workshop attended earns you a **bonus percentage point** on your final grade, up to a maximum of 4% (i.e. 4 workshops). See: (<https://carleton.ca/sasc/learning-support-services/incentive-program/>). You must bring your Carleton ID card when you go to workshops.

VI. Evaluation:

- All assignments and tests must be clearly labeled with your name and University ID number.
- The criteria for grading written assignments includes: (1) Clear writing (including spelling & grammar); (2) Correct citation formats. In this class students **MUST** use APA style for citations (it will be taught in labs, see this web resource for more information: <https://www.library.cornell.edu/research/citation/apa>), and (3) Careful description of, and critical perspective towards, competing ideas.
- Assignments are due at the beginning of class. Late assignments will lose 10% per day.
- Students must complete all written assignments and examinations to pass the course.

VII. Academic Standing

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

VIII. Course Grades

In accordance with the Carleton University Calendar, the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 56-59	F = <50
A = 85-90	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	D = 53-56	
A- = 80-84	B- = 70-72	C- = 60-62	D- = 50-52	

IX. Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Students must abide by Carleton University's Academic Integrity Policy. It can be found at: <http://www2.carleton.ca/studentaffairs/academic-integrity>.

The University Senate defines plagiarism as "*presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own.*" This can include: (1) reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source; (2) submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else; (3) using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment; (4) using another's data or research findings; (5) failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's works and/or failing to use quotation marks; (5) handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs."

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course's instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of "F" for the course.

X. Academic Accommodations

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the Student Guide.

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the Student Guide.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

XI. Email Policy

Carleton University email accounts are the official means of communication for the course. Do not use social media to arrange appointments or make requests. Students can expect email responses within 24 hours, except on weekends and holidays.