

## People, Places, and Environments

Geography and Environmental Studies: GEOG/ENST 1020A

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

Office Hours & Location: Tuesday's 2-3pm, Loeb A301D

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

Class Location: Azrieli Theatre 102

Class Meeting Time: Mondays, 6:35pm-8:25pm (note that on Friday, Dec 9 Carleton operates as a Monday)

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, the politics of land relations in Canada, forms of colonialism, and the normative values used in environmental decision making.

What can students expect? This is an introductory university class. The objective of readings, assignments, and lab sessions are 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 required books for this class. They will be available at Haven Books (43 Seneca St., 10 minutes walking from campus or take #7 Bus: [www.havenbooks.ca](http://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:

Further instructions and guidance will be given well in advance of the following assignments:

- **October 17:** The first midterm exam is worth 25% of the final grade. It will cover material from readings and lectures.
- **November 14:** The first assignment is worth 25% of the final grade. Students will write a short essay on one of the topics provided. 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 5<sup>th</sup> page is allowed for references.
- **December 5:** The second assignment is worth 25% of the final grade. Students will critically analyze a cartogram (maps where territories are re-sized based on what is being measured). The analysis will be 4 pages maximum, lines double-spaced, 12 pt-Times New Roman font, with 1 inch margins on all 4 sides of the page. A 5<sup>th</sup> page is allowed for map images, a 6<sup>th</sup> for references.
- **December 9:** Students will complete an in-class reflective essay worth 5% of the final grade.
- **The final 20%** of the course grade is based on attendance, participation, and exercises in tutorials. Your tutorial 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

- Week 1 (Sept 12): Welcome. Class overview. Eurocentrism. ~~LAB~~
- Week 2 (Sept 19): Making “Nature,” LAB      READING, Chapters 1-4, Vaillant
- Week 3 (Sept 26): Land and settler colonialism in Canada, LAB      READING, Chapters 5-7, Vaillant
- Week 4 (Oct 3): Human geography and conservation, LAB      READING, Chapters 8-11, Vaillant
- Week 5 (Oct 10): THANKSGIVING      READING, Chapter 12 – end, Vaillant
- Week 6 (Oct 17): Midterm, ~~LAB~~
- Week 7 (Oct 24): Fall Break      READING: Intro & Chapter 1, Sabin
- Week 8 (Oct 31): Development, population, and scarcity, LAB      READING: Chapters 2 & 3, Sabin
- Week 9 (Nov 7): Western environmentalism LAB      READING: Chapter 4, Sabin
- Week 10 (Nov 14): Environmental politics, LAB      READING: Chapters 5 & 6, Sabin
- Week 11 (Nov 21): Resources, production, and scale, LAB      READING: Chapters 1 & 2, Mintz
- Week 12 (Nov 28): Consumption, labour, and class, LAB      READING: Chapter 3, Mintz
- Week 13 (Dec 5): Social power, ~~LAB~~      READING: Chapters 4, Mintz
- Week 14 (Dec 9): Social space, ~~LAB~~      READING: Chapter 5, Mintz

#### 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 **0.75 percentage points** on your final grade, up to a maximum of 3% (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. There are no specific workshops you must attend, any of them (including the online workshops) count towards bonus marks.

#### 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%, and 5%/day after that.

#### 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](mailto: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.