

ENST 1000 – INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES (FALL 2023)



Image: Clemes van Lay (Unsplash)

{Updated July 19, 2023}

Instructor: Dr. David Hugill, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies,
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Class Meetings: Fridays 8:35-10:25 (lecture)

Teaching Assistants/Tutorial Leaders: TBD

Professor Office Hours: Fridays 1-3 PM or by appointment (Loeb B448)

Course Brightspace Page: <https://brightspace.carleton.ca/d2l/home/208884>

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PRECLUSIONS

ENST 1000 is designed to provide a critical introduction to the scholarly field of Environmental Studies. It is structured to help students grapple with key disciplinary concepts and learn how to deploy theoretical approaches to make sense of contemporary environmental issues.

Precludes additional credit for FYSM 1100 and ENST 1001.

2. COURSE OBJECTIVES

ENST 1000 has four objectives:

- To introduce students to foundational content in the field of Environmental Studies
- To encourage students to engage with ideas that challenge conventional thinking and received wisdom
- To facilitate critical conversations about the relationships between human beings and the non-human world
- To provide opportunities for students to strengthen their analytical skills

3. REQUIRED TEXTS

There is one required book for ENST 1000.

- Paul Robbins, John G. Hintz, and Sarah A. Moore (2022), **THIRD EDITION**, *Environment and Society: A Critical Introduction* (Wiley Blackwell Press).

Physical copies are available from Haven Books, in person (at [43 Seneca St.](#)) and online (havenbooks.ca). Used copies are often available at a reduced price.

You can reach Haven by phone at 613-730-9888 or email at havenbooks@cuasaonline.ca

You can also access the book through the MacOdrum Library <https://library.carleton.ca/>

4. COURSE CALENDAR

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Week 1: Friday September 8, 2023 **Intellectual Biography assignment due Wednesday September 13 at midnight** **No tutorial meetings this week**	
Introduction and Discussion of Course Policies	Required Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frank Bruni, "How to Get the Most out of College," August 17, 2018 (available on course Brightspace page).
Week 2: Friday September 15, 2023 **Tutorial meetings start this week** **ALL TUTORIALS WILL BE HELD AT THE GLOBAL CLIMATE STRIKE**	
Foundational Approach I: Population and Scarcity	Required Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Environment and Society</i> Chapter 2: Population and Scarcity, p. 13-29 Liza Featherstone, "Don't Blame the Babies" (link available on course Brightspace page) Suggested Listening (optional): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "The Population Bomb," <i>If Books Could Kill</i> podcast (link available on course Brightspace page)
Key Terms:	Exponential Growth; Neo-Malthusians; the Demographic Transition Model; Accelerationism; The Great Acceleration; Carrying Capacity; the Green Revolution
Week 3: Friday September 22, 2023 **Ecological Footprint Exercise due Sunday September 24, 2023 at midnight**	
Foundational Approach II: Markets and Commodities	Required Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Environment and Society</i> Chapter 3: Markets and Commodities, p. 33-50 Philip Hoare, "Sperm Whales in 19th Century Shared Ship Attack Information," (link available on course Brightspace page)
Key Terms:	Neoclassical Economics; Market Response Model; Market Fundamentalism; Cap and Trade; Greenwashing

Week 4: Friday September 29, 2023	
Foundational Approach III: Institutions and the Commons	<p>Required Readings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Environment and Society</i> Chapter 4: Institutions and the Commons, p. 51-66. ○ Garrett Hardin, "The Tragedy of the Commons" (link available on course Brightspace page)
Key Terms:	Commons; Game Theory; Prisoner's Dilemma; Tragedy of the Commons; Institutions
Week 5: Friday October 6, 2023	
Foundational Approach IV: Environmental Ethics	<p>Required Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Environment and Society</i> Chapter 5: Environmental Ethics, p. 67-82 ○ Aleen Brown, "The Green Scare" (link available on course Brightspace page)
Key Terms:	Dominion Thesis; Anthropocentrism; Ecology; Conservation; Preservation; Deep Ecology; Ecocentrism
Week 6: Friday October 13, 2023	
Foundational Approach V: Risks and Technology	<p>Required Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Environment and Society</i> Chapter 6: Risks and Technology, p. 83-98 ○ Lois Beckett, "Mike Davis, California's 'prophet of doom', on activism in a dying world: "Despair is useless" (link available on course Brightspace page)
Key Terms:	Risk; Hazard; Uncertainty; Risk Perception; Affect
Week 7: Friday October 20, 2023	
Foundational Approach VI: Political Economy	<p>Required Readings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Environment and Society</i> Chapter 7: Political Economy, p. 98-115. ○ Karl Marx, "The Secret of Primitive Accumulation" (link available on course Brightspace page)

Key Terms:	Commodity/Commodification; Means of Production; Commodity Fetishism; Surplus Value; Primitive Accumulation; Overaccumulation; First and Second Contradictions of Capitalism; Spatial Fix; Social Reproduction
*** Fall Break – October 23-27, 2023***	
Week 8: Friday November 3, 2023	
Film Screening	Required Viewing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>If A Tree Falls: A Story of the Earth Liberation Front</i> (documentary, link available on course Brightspace page) (to be confirmed)
Week 9: Friday November 10, 2023	
Foundational Approach VII: Social Construction of Nature	Required Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Environment and Society</i> Chapter 8: Social Construction of Nature, p. 119-134.
Key Terms:	Social Construction; Race; Constructivism; Discourse; Relativism
Week 10: Friday November 17, 2023	
Foundational Approach VIII: Racialized Environments	Required Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Environment and Society</i> Chapter 10: Racialized Environments, p. 156-173.
Key terms:	Environmental Justice; Environmental Racism; Redlining; Racial Capitalism; Settler Colonialism
Week 11: Friday November 24, 2023 **Object of Concern Assignment due Monday December 4 at midnight**	
Object of Concern: Wolves	Required Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Environment and Society</i> Chapter 11: Wolves, p. 183-202. ○ Brian Palmer, "Do Wolves Kill for Sport?" (link available on course Brightspace page)

Key Terms:	Trophic levels; Trophic Cascades; Rewilding; Stakeholders
Week 12: Friday December 1, 2023	
Exam Preparation	No Required Readings
Have a great break!	

TUTORIAL GROUPS

Tutorial Group	Time	Location	Tutorial Leader
A1	Fridays 12:35-13:25	Loeb A410	TBD
A2	Fridays 16:35-17:25	Loeb A410	TBD
A3	Fridays 13:35-14:25	Loeb A410	TBD
A4	Fridays 11:35-12:25	Loeb A410	TBD

TUTORIAL/QUIZ SCHEDULE

NOTE: There are no tutorials during the weeks of **Sept 4-8.*

WEEK	Topic of Discussion	Reading Quizzes
Week 1 (Sept 4-8)	NO TUTORIALS	No quiz
Week 2 (Sept 11-15)	"Population and Scarcity" (Global Climate Strike)	No quiz
Week 3 (Sept 18-22)	"Markets and Commodities"	Quiz
Week 4 (Sept 25-29)	"Institutions and the Commons"	Quiz
Week 5 (Oct 2-6)	"Environmental Ethics"	Quiz
Week 6 (Oct 9-13)	"Risks and Technology"	No quiz
Week 7 (Oct 16-20)	"Political Economy"	Quiz
Week 8 (Oct 30-Nov 3)	<i>If A Tree Falls</i>	No Quiz
Week 9 (Nov 6-10)	"Social Construction of Nature"	Quiz
Week 10 (Nov 13-17)	"Racialized Environments"	No quiz
Week 11 (Nov 20-24)	Wolves	Quiz

Week 12 (Nov 27-Dec 1)	Exam Preparation	No quiz

*** Tutorial discussions will be based on required readings and lecture materials***

5. EVALUATION AND ASSIGNMENTS

Assignment	Weight	Short Description
Tutorial Participation	10%	Tutorial attendance and active participation
Lecture Attendance	12%	Lecture attendance
Reflection 1: Intellectual Biography	3%	A short reflection about who you are and how you ended up here
Reading Quizzes	15%	Six in-class quizzes on weekly readings (worth 2.5% each)
A1: Ecological Footprint Exercise	5%	A comparative reflection on the results of several ecological footprint analyses.
A2: Film Review Exercise	10%	A position paper on <i>If a Tree Falls</i>
A3: Object of Concern Assignment	25%	A mid-length research paper.
Final Exam	20%	A formal exam held during the exam period that follows the end of classes in December.
Total	=100%	

Please note:

- Late assignments will be penalized by 3% per calendar day (to a maximum of 25% total); no assignments will be accepted after two weeks beyond the original deadline (unless an alternative arrangement has been made)
- All assignments must follow the style guidelines outlined in the Chicago Manual of Style (16th edition or later); citations can be formatted in either the “notes and bibliography” or “author-date” style, so long as one of these options is used consistently throughout the document; there is a quick Chicago-style citation guide available here: http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html
- All assignments will be assessed on the overall quality of presentation, including citation formatting, spelling, grammar, coherence of argument, etc.
- 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.
- In case of illness or extraordinary circumstances, students can request an assignment extension of up to 7 days by completing the form at the following link and submit it to their tutorial leader prior to the assignment due date. <https://carleton.ca/registrar/wp-content/uploads/self-declaration.pdf>
- The teaching team will do their best to return all assignments within two weeks of submission. All grades will be posted on the course Brightspace page.
- Extensions for longer than 7 days will normally not be granted. In those extraordinary cases where extensions lasting longer than 7 days are granted, the student will be required to provide additional information to justify the longer extension.

6. PLAGIARISM/ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The University Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This includes 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. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, artworks, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else.
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment.
- using another’s data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement.
- submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one’s own; and

- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

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.

7. STATEMENT ON MENTAL HEALTH

As a university student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. Here is a list that may be helpful:

Emergency Resources (on and off campus): <https://carleton.ca/health/emergencies-and-crisis/emergency-numbers/>

Carleton Resources:

- Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>
- Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>
- Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>
- Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>
- Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>
- Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

Off Campus Resources:

- Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: (613) 238-3311 or TEXT: 343-306-5550, <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: (613) 722-6914, 1-866-996-0991, <http://www.crisisline.ca/>
- Empower Me: 1-844-741-6389, <https://students.carleton.ca/services/empower-me-counselling-services/>
- Good2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, <https://good2talk.ca/>
- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: <https://walkincounselling.com>

8. STATEMENT ON PANDEMIC MEASURES

It is important to remember that COVID is still present in Ottawa. The situation can change at any time and the risks of new variants and outbreaks are very real. There are [a number of actions you can take](#) to lower your risk and the risk you pose to those around you including being vaccinated, wearing a mask, staying home when you're sick, washing your hands and maintaining proper respiratory and cough etiquette.

Feeling sick? Remaining vigilant and not attending work or school when sick or with symptoms is critically important. If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms do not come to class or campus. If you feel ill or exhibit symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately. In all situations, you should follow Carleton's [symptom reporting protocols](#).

Masks: Masks are no longer mandatory in university buildings and facilities. However, we continue to recommend masking when indoors, particularly if physical distancing cannot be maintained. We are aware that personal preferences regarding optional mask use will vary greatly, and we ask that we all show consideration and care for each other during this transition.

Vaccines: While proof of vaccination is no longer required to access campus or participate in in-person Carleton activities, it may become necessary for the University to bring back proof of vaccination requirements on short notice if the situation and public health advice changes. Students are strongly encouraged to get a full course of vaccination, including booster doses as soon as they are eligible and submit their booster dose information in [cuScreen](#) as soon as possible. Please note that Carleton cannot guarantee that it will be able to offer virtual or hybrid learning options for those who are unable to attend the campus.

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow requirements and guidelines regarding health and safety which may change from time to time. For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and health and safety requirements please see the [University's COVID-19 website](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact covidinfo@carleton.ca.

9. REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

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 accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, you must complete the Pregnancy Accommodation Form [click here](#).

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 [click here](#).

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).

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: <https://carleton.ca/equity/sexual-assault-support-services>

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation will be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. 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. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

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