Winter 2018
Sustainability in the South (GEOG 3209A)
Department of Geography and Environmental Studies
Carleton University

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I. Course description:
This course explores sustainability and environmental issues in relation to broader socio-economic and political processes. The course examines these issues in settings across the global south, with a focus on social conflicts related to the governance and control of land and resources. The course addresses a range of socio-environmental topics and issues, such as: land cover narratives and indigenous land use practices, mining and resource extraction, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and industrial farming and land clearing. Course content includes case studies from Africa, South America, the Caribbean, and India.

II. Prerequisites:
Third year standing and GEOG 2200 (Global Connections) or GEOG 2300 (Space, Place, and Culture) or permission of the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies

III. Texts:
Available from Octopus Books, 116 Third Avenue, Ottawa.
All other readings are available through the ARES link on cuLearn.

IV. Lectures, Assignments and Readings
Readings, lectures, class discussions, guest speakers, audio-visual materials and assignments are designed to complement each other in meeting course objectives. Required readings establish the overall theme for each class and introduce key concepts and issues. Class lectures expand upon the readings, clarify key terms, and present additional background and case study materials. Class discussions also incorporate guest speakers and/or audio-visual materials. The written assignments provide the opportunity to explore aspects of course content in greater depth.

V. Evaluation: Assignments, Exams and Class Participation:
All written assignments are due at the beginning of class on the indicated due dates. Assignments submitted after class will be considered late.
Reading Discussant Assignment (5%)  
Students will be asked to sign-up to serve as a “discussant” of the required readings for a given week of the term. Discussants will be called upon in class to initiate and facilitate class discussion by responding to questions about the readings posed by the instructor. This will be done in an informal manner and no formal presentation is required. A sign-up sheet for this activity will be circulated in the first week of class and then posted to cuLearn. The dates on the sign-up sheet should treated as firm deadlines; evidence of a legitimate reason (e.g. illness or bereavement) is required to change the date selected to serve as a discussant. Students who fail to sign up or show up as a discussant will receive zero percent (0%) for this component of their overall grade.

Written Assignment (30%)

Written Assignment #1  
Detailed information and instructions for this assignment will be distributed in class on January 16, 2018 and then posted to cuLearn. Assignment #1 is due at the beginning of class on February 13, 2018.

Written Assignment #2  
Detailed information and instructions for this assignment will be distributed in class on February 27, 2018 and then posted on cuLearn. Assignment #2 is due at the beginning of class on March 27, 2018.

Written assignments will be evaluated in part on spelling, grammar, and the proper use of in-text citations for paraphrasing or direct quotes. Further details will be given in the assignment sheets. For each day a written assignment is late, 10% will be deducted from the assignment’s overall grade.

Exams (55%)  
The mid-term exam (25%) and the final exam (30%) will be two hours in length and comprised of multiple choice and short and long answer questions. The mid-term exam will focus on course content between Weeks 1 and 5. The final exam will focus on the entire course. Course content refers to class lectures and discussions, readings, films, and guest speakers. There will be no make-up exam for a missed mid-term. If a student misses the mid-term exam because of a documented illness or family emergency, the final exam will be reweighted to count for 55% of the final grade. If documentation for a missed mid-term exam is insufficient, a grade of zero will be assigned.

Class Participation (10%)  
Students should come to class prepared to participate in class discussions in an informal manner based on their familiarity with the required readings. Class participation will be evaluated by the instructor based on overall attendance (5%) and contribution to class discussions (5%) during the entire term. Class participation involves completing the readings before class, attending class, contributing to class discussions, and engaging any guest speakers. An attendance sheet will be circulated in class starting on January 16, 2018. One unexcused absence is allowed and will not count against your grade.
Grade Distribution
Please note the grade distribution and important dates for assignments and exams as outlined:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Important Dates</th>
<th>% of Final Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Reading Discussant</td>
<td>As per sign-up sheet posted on cuLearn</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Written Assignment #1</td>
<td>Due at the beginning of class on Feb. 6, 2018</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Written Assignment #2</td>
<td>Due at the beginning of class on March 20, 2018</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Mid-term Exam</td>
<td>Feb. 27, 2018 (in-class)</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Final exam</td>
<td>During formal exam period (April 14-26, 2018)</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Class participation</td>
<td>Based on entire term</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assignments and the mid-term exam will be returned in class. The final exam is intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned. Grades will be posted to cuLearn throughout the term. However, any grades posted to cuLearn are unofficial and will not be finalized until the end of the term.

In accordance with FASS Grading Guidelines:

"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."

If, for any reason, the final exam must be deferred due to a documented illness or a family emergency, the deferred final exam will be identical in format and coverage with the final it is replacing. **Deferred finals, which must be applied for at the Registrar's Office, are available ONLY if the student is in good standing in the course.**

**VI. PLAGIARISM**

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:

- 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;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- 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.

For further information on plagiarism, please see Carleton University's Academic Integrity Policy: [http://www2.carleton.ca/studentaffairs/academic-integrity](http://www2.carleton.ca/studentaffairs/academic-integrity).

**VII. Requests for Academic Accommodations**

**Academic Accommodation**

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at [http://www.carleton.ca/equity/](http://www.carleton.ca/equity/). 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.

**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.

**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) at [http://carleton.ca/pmc/students/dates-and-deadlines/](http://carleton.ca/pmc/students/dates-and-deadlines/)
Course Schedule and Readings
Please note that additional audio-visual resources and guest speakers may be added during the term.

Week 1 - January 9: Defining Sustainability, Re-thinking Development, and Delimiting the "Global South"
*Reading discussant sign-up in class

Optional Readings:


Week 2 - January 16: Introduction to Political Ecology
*Distribution of Assignment #1 in class


Week 3 - January 23: (Un)sustainable Pasts: Countering Colonial Myths


Week 4 - January 30: Land Cover Narratives and Indigenous Land Use Practices in West Africa


Week 5 - February 6: Conservation and Enclosure


Week 6 - February 13: Mining and Resource Extraction in Peru

*Assignment #1 is due at the beginning of class*


Film: Open Pit (2011)

Winter Break - February 20

Week 7 - February 27: Mid-term exam - Two hours

Week 8 – March 6: Variability and Adaptation in the Anthropocene I

*Distribution of Assignment #2 in class*


Carey, M. 2010. *In the shadow of melting glaciers: Climate change and Andean society.*
Week 9 - March 13: Variability and Adaptation in the Anthropocene II

(Read ONLY Chapters 1 and 2 – pp. 3-66)

Week 10 - March 20: Food Security and Food Sovereignty


Week 11 - March 27: Land Cover and Industrial Soy Farming in South America

*Assignment #2 is due at the beginning of class*


Week 12 – April 3: Dams and displacement in India


http://www.narmada.org/gcc/gcc.html

Film: Dam/age: A Film with Arundhati Roy
Week 13 - April 10: Modernization, the Cold War, and 'Third World' Landscapes

(Read ONLY Chapter 6 – pp. 165-185)

(Read ONLY Chapter 1 – pp. 1-27)

**Final Exam:** During formal exam period (April 14-26, 2018)