Fall 2020
Sustainability and the Environment in the Global South (GEOG 3209A)
Department of Geography and Environmental Studies
Carleton University

Professor: Luke Struckman, PhD
Office Hours: via Zoom; by appointment
Telephone: 613-520-2600 ext. 8934
E-mail: lukestruckman@cunet.carleton.ca
Lectures: Blended delivery
TA: TBA

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 commodity 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:
All readings are available through the ARES link on cuLearn.

IV. Course Delivery
The course takes a blended approach to delivery. Students must be available on the following dates during class time:

Course Discussions via Zoom:
September 23, October 14, November 4, and December 9.

Mid-term Exam:
October 23

Final Exam:
Held during final exam period (December 12-23). Date and time TBA.
V. Readings, Films, and Assignments
Readings, films, 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. Films apply course concepts to case studies. Assignments allow for further reflection and research on course themes and case studies.

V. Evaluation: Film Reviews, Essay Assignments, and Exams:

Film Reviews (10%)
Film reviews will be short essays focused on two assigned documentaries. Students will review the main themes of the films and then make connections to course themes and case studies.

Essay Assignments (40%)
Essay assignments will allow students to explore major course themes more deeply and conduct their own research. These are significant assignments in which students will be evaluated based on spelling, grammar, proper use of citations, and paper structure.

Mid-term Exam (25%)
The mid-term exam (25%) will be two hours in length and will consist of multiple choice and short and long answer questions. The mid-term exam will focus on course content between Weeks 1 and 6. If documentation for a missed mid-term exam is insufficient, a grade of zero will be assigned.

Final Exam (25%)
The final exam (25%) will be two hours in length and will consist of multiple choice and short and long answer questions. The final exam will focus on course content between for the entire term. If documentation for a missed final exam is insufficient, a grade of zero will be assigned.

Grade Distribution
Please note the grade distribution and important dates for assignments and exams

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Important Dates</th>
<th>% of Final Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Film Reviews</td>
<td>September 23; November 4</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<td>2. Essay Assignments</td>
<td>October 7; November 11</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<td>3. Mid-term exam</td>
<td>October 21</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<td>4. Final Exam</td>
<td>Formal exam period (December 12-23)</td>
<td>25%</td>
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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
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

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<th>Academic Accommodation</th>
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<td>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 <a href="http://www.carleton.ca/equity/">http://www.carleton.ca/equity/</a>. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Pregnancy obligation</strong>: 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.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Religious obligation</strong>: 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.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities</strong>: 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</td>
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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/

Course Schedule and Readings

Week 1 - September 9: Defining Sustainability and Delimiting the "Global South"

Optional Reading:


Week 2 - September 16: Political ecology


Optional Reading:


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

****Film discussion via Zoom at scheduled class time****

Unnatural Histories: "Serengeti" BBC Four (50 mins) - link available via cuLearn
Film Review 1: due @23:55

Optional Reading:


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


Videos: Demi-lunes & Zai pits

Optional Reading:


**Week 5 - October 7: Food Security and Food Sovereignty****Mid-term exam review via Zoom at scheduled class time****


**Essay Assignment 1: Food Security and Food Sovereignty - due @ 23.55**

**Optional Reading:**


**Week 6 - October 14: The Green Revolution and Biotechnology  
****Mid-term exam review via Zoom at scheduled class time****


**Optional Reading:**


**Week 7 - October 21: Mid-term exam (held during scheduled class time)**

**Fall Break - October 28: No classes**

**Week 8 – November 4: Domesticated Landscapes of the Amazon Basin**


Unnatural Histories: "The Amazon" BBC Four (50 mins) - link available via cuLearn

****Reading and film discussion via Zoom at scheduled class time****

**Film Review 2: due @23:55**

**Optional Reading:**

Week 9 - November 11: Land Cover and Soy Production in South America's "Soylandia"


Optional Reading:


Essay Assignment 2: South American Soy Production - due @ 23.55

Week 10 - November 18: Agricultural Transformation


Videos: The Land Institute

Week 11 – November 25: Climate Change and the Anthropocene I


Week 12 - December 2: Climate Change and the Anthropocene II

Carey, M. 2010. In the shadow of melting glaciers: Climate change and Andean society. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (What other Carey reading could work here?) (Introduction; Chapter 1 – pp. 3-44)

Week 13 - December 9: Dams and displacement in India
****Final exam review via Zoom at scheduled class time****


Film: Dam/age: A Film with Arundhati Roy

Optional Reading:

Final Exam (held during formal exam period, December 12-23)