

**PHIL 2380-A: Environmental Philosophy**  
**September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016**  
**Professor: Devin Zane Shaw, Ph.D.**  
Contact: Devin.Shaw@carleton.ca

**Class**

Loeb Building C264  
Tuesday/Thursday 4:05pm–5:25pm

**Office Hours**

Paterson Hall 3A56  
Thursday, 1:30pm–2:30pm

**Course Objectives**

The objective of this course is to introduce students to fundamental issues and debates in environmental ethics. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to: 1) compare and contrast competing philosophical frameworks and concepts concerning the environment, 2) justify ethical positions using clear argumentation, and 3) analyze the social implications of particular technologies using the methods, theories, and concepts introduced in the course.

**Course Description**

Environmental issues occupy a central place in policy, and society at large. Owing largely to the many environmental consequences that have accompanied industrialization (though some would say the expansion and intensification of capitalism), we have been forced to rethink our relationship with technology and nature. We will investigate, in this course, the following questions: What is nature, and what role do humans occupy in or outside of it? What role should we occupy? What, if anything, do we owe non-human members of the biotic or abiotic community? What do we owe future generations? How do we balance technological benefits against their environmental harms? What philosophical tools are useful in answering these questions? How should answers to these questions factor in public policy?

**Course Evaluation**

**Class Participation (10%).** Participation is evaluated according to whether the student actively contributes to class discussions, discusses material with either the professor or the teaching assistant during office hours, and is present during days in which class attendance is taken. Class attendance will be taken on randomly chosen days; if the student is absent on each day that attendance is taken they will receive a zero for class participation.

**Tests**

- **First Test: October 5<sup>th</sup> (20%)**
- **Second Test: November 9<sup>th</sup> (30%)**

**Final Exam (40%):** The Final Exam is cumulative. It will be scheduled during the period of December 10–22. Exams are scheduled during the day and evening, on weekdays and on weekends. Please do not schedule vacations during this period, for travel does not constitute a reason to defer the Final exam.

### **Policies and Procedures:**

1. Professionalism: I require that students adopt a professional attitude towards class conduct. This entails arriving on time and not leaving early, focusing on the lecture and not engaging in discussions unrelated to class material, turning off and ignoring cell phones unless an emergency is imminent, such as mortality (birth or death) or imprisonment. Most importantly, I also expect class discussions to be conducted at a respectful and professional level.
2. Email to the professor should indicate the name, student number, and course. The subject line should read PHIL 2380A. Please note that I reserve the right to not answer an email if it requests information that is provided on the syllabus or other distributed documents.
3. If you miss an exam, you must contact the professor within 48 hours. This is your responsibility. If you are excused from an exam (for medical reasons, etc. as determined by the professor) you must make up the exam at the following times: For Test 1, the make up date is October 12<sup>th</sup>, 1:00pm–2:30pm; Test 2: November 16<sup>th</sup>, 1:00pm–2:30pm. The location is Paterson Hall 3A56. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS.

### **Required Texts**

*The required textbook is available at All Books, 327 Rideau Street:*

- Robbins, P., Hintz, J., Moore, S.A. *Environment and Society: A Critical Introduction*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. (Malden, MA: Wiley Blackwell, 2014). ISBN: 978-1-118-45156-4.

*These required texts are available through the ARES reserve system:*

- Stålo Holgersen and Andreas Malm, "'Green fix' as Crisis Management: Or, In Which World Is Malmö the World's Greenest City?" *Geografiska Annaler: Series B, Human Geography*, 97:4 (2015): 275–290.
- Aldo Leopold, "The Land Ethic" in *A Sand County Almanac* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1987), 201–226.
- Andreas Malm, "China as Chimney of the World: The Fossil Capital Hypothesis," *Organization and Environment* 25/2 (2012): 146–177.
- Michael Mascarenhas, "Where the Waters Divide: First Nations, Tainted Water and Environmental Justice in Canada," *Local Environment* 12/6 (2007), 565–577.
- Deborah McGregor, "Traditional Knowledge: Considerations for Protecting Water in Ontario" *The International Indigenous Policy Journal* 3/3 (2012), Article 11.
- Jen Preston, "Neoliberal Settler Colonialism, Canada and the Tar Sands," *Race and Class*, 55:2 (2013): 42–59.

## Reading Schedule

(All Readings are from *Environment and Society* unless otherwise noted)

### Reading Schedule (Subject to Change)

Week 1: September 7 <sup>th</sup>	Introduction
Week 2: September 12 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 1: Introduction Chapter 2: Population and Scarcity
Week 3: September 19 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup>	Chapter 3: Markets and Commodities
Week 4: September 26 <sup>th</sup> , 28 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 4: Institutions and “The Commons”
Week 5: October 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Review
<b>October 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Test 1 (20%)</b>
Week 6: October 10 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 5: Environmental Ethics Leopold, “The Land Ethic”
Week 7: October 17 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 7: Political Economy Marx and Engels, “The Communist Manifesto”
<b>Week 8: October 24<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Fall Break, No Classes</b>
Week 9: October 31 <sup>st</sup> November 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Malm, “China as Chimney of the World” Chapter 9: Carbon Dioxide
Week 10: November 7 <sup>th</sup>	Review
<b>November 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Test 2</b>
Week 11: November 14 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup>	Mascarenhas, “Where the Waters Divide” McGregor, “Traditional Knowledge”
Week 12: November 21 <sup>st</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Preston, “Neoliberal Settler Colonialism”
Week 13: November 28 <sup>th</sup> , 30 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 17: E-Waste Holgerson and Malm, “‘Green fix’ as Crisis Management”
Week 14: December 5 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup>	Holgerson and Malm, “‘Green fix’ as Crisis Management” Final Review

**Final Exam (40%): To Be Announced.**

## Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (Fall/Winter 2017-18)

### Assignments:

Unless specifically told otherwise by their instructors, students:

- must not use a plastic or cardboard cover or paper clips
- must staple the paper (there is a stapler on the essay box)
- must include the following:
  - student name
  - student number
  - course number and section
  - instructor's name
- No assignments will be accepted after the last day for handing in term work – see dates in next column.
- Assignments handed in through the essay box (just inside the glass doors, Paterson Hall, Floor 3A) must be dropped into the box by **4:15** on a regular business day in order to be date-stamped with that day's date. Assignments handed in after 4:15 or on a non-business day will be stamped as having been handed in on the next business day.
- Students are required to keep copies of their assignments. If your paper is lost at any point, you will be considered not to have submitted it if you cannot produce a copy immediately on request.

### Deferrals for Final Exams:

If you miss a final examination (formally scheduled or take-home) because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply for a deferral. You must apply within 3 working days after the scheduled date of your formally scheduled exam or within 3 working days after the due date of a take-home exam. Visit the Registrar's Office for more information:

<http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/acadregsuniv2/#2.5>

### Plagiarism:

It is the responsibility of each student to understand the meaning of 'plagiarism' as defined in the Undergraduate or Graduate Calendars, and to avoid both committing plagiarism and aiding or abetting plagiarism by other students. <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>

### 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 your professor 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 visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

**Religious obligation:** write to your professor 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 visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

**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 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 your professor 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://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/>

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

### Important Dates:

Sept. 6	Classes start.
Sept. 19	Last day for registration and course changes for Fall term and Fall/Winter (two-term) courses.
Sept. 30	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from Fall term or two-term courses.
Oct. 9	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Oct. 23-27	Fall Break – no classes.
Nov. 24	Last day for summative or final examinations in Fall term courses before the official examination period.
Dec. 8	Last day of Fall term classes. <b>Classes follow a Monday schedule.</b> Last day for academic withdrawal from Fall term courses. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for a Fall term course.
Dec. 10-22	Final examinations for Fall term courses and mid-term examinations in two-term courses. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.
Dec. 22	All take-home examinations are due.
Jan. 8	Classes begin.
Jan. 19	Last day for registration and course changes in the Winter term.
Jan. 31	Last day for a full fee adjustment when withdrawing from Winter term courses or from the Winter portion of two-term courses.
Feb. 19	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Feb. 19-23	Winter Break – no classes.
Mar. 27	Last day for summative or final examinations in Winter term or two-term courses before the official examination period.
Mar. 30	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Apr. 11	Last day of two-term and Winter term classes. <b>Classes follow a Friday schedule.</b> Last day for academic withdrawal from Fall/Winter and Winter courses. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for two-term and for Winter term courses.
Apr. 14-26	Final examinations for Winter term and two-term courses. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.
Apr. 26	All take home examinations are due on this day.

### Addresses:

Department of Philosophy:	3A35 Paterson Hall <a href="http://www.carleton.ca/philosophy">www.carleton.ca/philosophy</a> 520-2110
Registrar's Office:	300 Tory <a href="http://www.carleton.ca/registrar">www.carleton.ca/registrar</a> 520-3500
Academic Advising Centre:	302 Tory <a href="http://www.carleton.ca/academicadvising">www.carleton.ca/academicadvising</a> 520-7850
Writing Services:	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor, Library <a href="http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/">http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/</a> 520-3822
MacOdrum Library	<a href="http://www.library.carleton.ca/">http://www.library.carleton.ca/</a> 520-2735