This course examines attitudes in the major world religions to nature and the environment and recent responses by religious traditions to environmental degradation and crisis. We consider what the religions have said historically with regard to nature and also what, by implication, various traditions could say or are saying (as expressed by recent activists, theologians, and thinkers). The course complements the investigation of environment and religions with the writings of those who critique environmentalism as religion.

**Required Readings:**

The textbook is supplemented by journal articles and PDFs available on the course cuLearn site.

**Assignments and Evaluation:**

Attendance/Participation. This will be based partially on receipt of brief written assignments conducted in the classroom. 15% (Please note that to miss more than three of our twelve weekly sessions is, in effect, to miss one third of the semester which means forfeiting credit for the course.)

In-class test: February 12. 15% [Make-up test only available with documented medical excuse]

Final Examination: Based on assigned readings and lectures. In Examination Period (April 11 - 23). 30%

Term Paper Proposal: Topic choice, initial abstract, and working bibliography of intended paper Due February 26. 10%

Term Paper: 2500 words. [This means not less than 10 double spaced pages not including title page and bibliography.] Topics and specific format to be provided. Due by Friday, April 3 in the Religion drop box on 2A Paterson Hall. 30% Note: Please supply a self-addressed, stamped envelope to facilitate return of your paper with comments.
RESOURCES

Serials:

Worldviews: Environment, Culture, Religion  Floor 5 BL65.N35 W675 (also online)
Environmental Ethics  Floor 4 Serial GF 80 A. 1E6

Reference:

On Reserve for RELI 3710A:


BL65. E36 W67 2003

BL65. N35 T39 2010


[Harvard World Religions and Ecology Series]:


*Christianity and Ecology: Seeking the Well-being of Earth and Humans* / edited by Dieter T. Hessel and Rosemary Radford Ruether. BT695.5 C49 2000


*Islam and Ecology: A Bestowed Trust* / edited by Richard Foltz, Frederick Denny, and Azizan Baharuddin. BP 190.5 N38 186 2003


**Highly recommended web resources:**

Forum on Religion and Ecology (hosted at Yale University) [http://fore.research.yale.edu](http://fore.research.yale.edu)


Alliance of Religions and Conservation (ARC) [http://arcworld.org/](http://arcworld.org/)
REL 3710A  SCHEDULE

WEEK 1  Introduction to the Course
Jan. 8
nature religion vs. religious environmentalism
green vs. dark green religion
Film: *A Fierce Green Fire*
READ: Grim and Tucker, Introduction

WEEK 2  The field
Jan. 15
READ: Grim and Tucker, ch. 1, ch. 2

WEEK 3  White’s seminal essay
READ: Grim and Tucker, ch. 3

WEEK 4  Christianity I
Jan. 29
READ: Grim and Tucker, ch. 6

WEEK 5  Christianity II
Feb. 5
READ: Grim and Tucker, ch. 5 pp. 85-91.
The Cornwall Declaration  http://www.cornwallalliance.org/articles/read/the-cornwall-declaration-on-environmental-stewardship/
E. Calvin Beisner, “The Competing Word Views of Environmentalism and Christianity.”
http://www.cornwallalliance.org/docs/THECOM~1.PDF
WEEK 6  Resurgent Religion in China  
Feb. 12
READ: Grim and Tucker, ch. 7, Appendix B

WEEK 7  BREAK WEEK  
Feb. 19

WEEK 8  Hinduism (paper proposal due)  
Feb. 26
READ: Grim and Tucker, ch. 9, Appendix E
http://www.jstor.org.proxy.library.carleton.ca/stable/20027723

WEEK 9  Indigenous Traditions I  
READ: Grim and Tucker, ch. 8, Appendix C

WEEK 10  Indigenous Traditions II  
March 12
READ: Grim and Tucker, Appendix D
http://journals2.scholarsportal.info.proxy.library.carleton.ca/tmp/4313291747380019018.pdf
WEEK 11  Ecological Founders: Muir and Leopold
March 19
READ: Grim and Tucker, ch. 4
John Muir, Selections
Aldo Leopold, The Earth Ethic

WEEK 12  Environmentalism as Religion
March 26
http://scienceandpublicpolicy.org/commentaries_essays/crichton_three_speeches.html

WEEK 13  Looking Forward
April 2
READ: Grim and Tucker, ch. 10, Epilogue, Appendix F
http://jaar.oxfordjournals.org.proxy.library.carleton.ca/content/65/2/275.full.pdf+html

April 11 – 23  (Exam period, do not make travel plans within these dates)
REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL HUMANITIES COURSES

COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED
Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

PLAGIARISM
The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional 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 which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct 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

GRADING SYSTEM
Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100 (12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>85-89 (11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80-84 (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>77-79 (9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>73-76 (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70-72 (7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>67-69 (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>63-66 (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>60-62 (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>57-59 (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>53-56 (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>50-52 (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Failure. Assigned 0.0 grade points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABS</td>
<td>Absent from final examination, equivalent to F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEF</td>
<td>Official deferral (see &quot;Petitions to Defer&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FND</td>
<td>Failure with no deferred exam allowed -- assigned only when the student has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION
You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and 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. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your Instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by Nov. 7, 2014 for the Fall term and March 6, 2015 for the Winter term. For more details visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

PETITIONS TO DEFER
If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a FINAL assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply a deferral of examination/assignment.

If you are applying for a deferral due to illness you will be required to see a physician in order to confirm illness and obtain a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination or assignment deadline. This supporting documentation must specify the date of onset of the illness, the degree of incapacitation, and the expected date of recovery.

If you are applying for a deferral due to personal illness, please contact the Registrar’s Office directly for information on other forms of documentation that we accept.

Deferrals of assignments must be supported by confirmation of the assignment due date, for example a copy of the course outline specifying the due date and any documented extensions from the course instructor.

Deferral applications for examination or assignments must be submitted within 5 working days of the original final exam.

ADDRESSES: (Area Code 613)
College of the Humanities 520-2809 300 Paterson
Greek and Roman Studies Office 520-2809 300 Paterson
Religion Office 520-2100 2A39 Paterson
Registrar's Office 520-3500 300 Tory
Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850 302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre 520-6608/TTY 520-3937 501 Uni-Centre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-2600 Ext. 1125 4th Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125 4th Floor Library

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY
The last date to withdraw from FALL TERM courses is DEC. 8, 2014. The last day to withdraw from FALL/WINTER (Full Term) and WINTER term courses is APRIL 8, 2015.