This course is an introduction to the ways in which we as a society interact, culturally, politically, and economically, with our natural environment. Often, this interaction takes the form of management, either of people and/or the non-human environment. As a way to examine these concerns, the class has two main focuses, one theoretical and one empirical:

1. How do people think about the relationship between the environment and society? What sorts of political, social, and economic practices arise from, or are proposed by, these different ways of thinking?

2. What are some key issues in the environment-society relationship which are of great importance to us (and possibly to the environment) and which also serve to illustrate the various ways of thinking about this relationship?

After the introductory classes, we will then have eight week-long sections. Each of these sections will examine a major discourse (way of thinking and practice) about the environment and a significant environmental issue associated with that discourse. By way of a conclusion, we will engage in a comparative evaluation of the discourses presented in the course with an eye towards which of these are most useful in managing the relationship between humankind and our natural environment.

In addition to the focuses described above, this course has a third major goal. ES majors are required to write a senior thesis. This course begins to prepare you for the process of researching and writing such a thesis. The research paper component of this course involves both in class work on researching and writing as well as student writing groups where you will work with your colleagues throughout the term.

**Texts and Reading Material**


Reserve Readings (R) - Available at the Ladd Library Reserve Desk in a book (RB) or as photocopied article (RA), or on electronic reserve (RE).

Web - Available on the worldwide web outside of the Ladd Library system. Some of these are PDF files, and others are HTML documents. Each one may be a little different. Please contact the library staff, the information services help desk, or myself if you have any trouble accessing or printing out these readings.

Dictionaries, Encyclopedias, and Other References

A variety of dictionaries, encyclopedias, and other references are available at Ladd Library, in the stacks, in the reference area, or online. You should use these if there are concepts, events, individuals, etc. about which you would like to learn more.

*Dictionary of Ecology and Environment*

*Gale Environmental Almanac*

*Historical Dictionary of the Green Movement*

*Oxford Reference Online* - Earth and Environmental Sciences and Politics and Social Sciences Subject Areas, accessible through Ladd Library online,  
http://abacus.bates.edu/Library/resources/reference/dictionary.shtml

*State of the World*, annual series from the Worldwatch Institute

*World Resources*, annual series from World Resources Institute

General Environmental Web Sites

Here are some additional web-based resources for news and/or research material on environmental issues (additional resources are provided in the course schedule below). It is a very good idea keeping up with breaking news and information resources on the environment while taking this course and afterwards if you are pursuing an Environmental Studies major and/or career.

Environmental News Network http://www.enn.com

Ladd Library Subject Guide: Environmental Studies  
http://www.bates.edu/Library/resources/subject/environmental.shtml

International Studies Association Environmental Studies Section  
http://www.isanet.org/sections/ess/

Maine Dept. of Environmental Protection http://www.state.me.us/dep
Assignments

Class participation (10% of final grade) - You should come to class prepared to discuss the day’s topic and assigned readings. Classes will be a mix of discussion and lecture, and I will ask you what you think about the issue at hand. I must ask that folks not aim to dominate discussions and that you show respect for the ideas and contributions of your fellow students.

Eight one-page reaction essays (20% of final grade) - In each essay, you should focus on what you thought was most important or interesting, and why in the week’s assigned reading. This is NOT a simple summary of the week’s reading assignments. This should be a critical essay reflecting what you thought about one or more major points from the assigned readings. Your final grade will include only the seven highest grades from these reaction essays, meaning you will be able to drop the one with the lowest grade.

Ten-page paper (25% of final grade) - This paper can be on any topic relevant to the overall course subject of Society and the Environment. The final draft of this paper will be due on See below in the section Writing Groups and the Paper Writing Process for more information of this assignment. Your grade for this assignment will reflect the content of your paper, your writing ability, and your contributions to your writing group. For this assignment, process is as important as your final product.

Mid-term exam, 10/17 (20% of final grade) - This will consist of short answer and essay questions.

Final exam, 12/12, 8:00 am (25% of final grade) - Like the mid-term, this will also consist of short answer and essay questions. The short answer questions will cover the material since the mid-term while the essay questions will cover the entirety of the course.

Extra-credit activities (up to 1 point added to your final grade per activity, to a maximum of 6 points) – Opportunities for extra-credit will be announced during the term. A number can be found on the schedule in Italics. In order to earn extra-credit, you must attend the event and write a one-page critical reflection essay which is due one week after the event.
Writing Groups and the Paper Writing Process

Each of you will be a member of a three or four person writing group. I’ll assign people to these groups toward the end of the second week. Peer review and input will be an important part of the paper writing process, and you are not only responsible for producing your paper, you are also responsible for and will be graded on your contributions to your writing group. The schedule of the paper writing process is as follows:

9/12 - Research Concept Map exercise (no grade)

9/14 - Library Instruction Session

9/28 - Proposal with two references (only one of which may be web-based) due with one copy to me and one for each member of your writing group.

10/7 – Paper Writing Group Work Day, return proposal with comments to other members of your writing group and provide me with a photocopy of each abstract you=returning to your group.

10/28 - Four pages of free writing with four references (only two of which may be web-based) due with one copy to me and one for each member of your group.

11/7 – Paper Writing Group Work Day, return four-page exercises with comments to other members of your writing group and provide me with a photocopy of each outline you=returning to your group.

12/2 - First draft with six references (only three of which may be web-based) due with one copy to me and one for each member of your writing group.

12/5 – Paper Writing Group Work Day, return first drafts with comments to other members of your writing group and provide me with a photocopy of each draft you=returning to your group.

12/9 - Final draft due at 111 Bardwell by 5:00 pm.

In addition to your writing group and myself, you might also want to consult the Bates College Writing Workshop [http://www.bates.edu/acad/acad_support/ww/](http://www.bates.edu/acad/acad_support/ww/) for assistance. Your paper MUST use of one of the three styles, MLA, APA, or Chicago, presented in A Pocket Style Guide. Failure to do so will cost you one letter grade, i.e. a B+ would become a C+. As an example, the readings listed below in the Course Schedule section of this syllabus are in the Chicago style.

Finally, plagiarism WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. Evidence of deliberate plagiarism will be grounds for a F grade for the course. Additional guidance on this subject can be found in the Bates College Statement on Plagiarism [http://www.bates.edu/pubs/Plagiarism/plagiarism.html](http://www.bates.edu/pubs/Plagiarism/plagiarism.html) and in A Pocket Style Guide.
Misc. Class Policies

Late assignments will not be accepted without an acceptable excuse and will thus receive a failing grade. If you anticipate you will be late with an assignment, contact me in advance so that I will be aware of the problem.

As with the specific sin of plagiarism, other forms of cheating and academic misconduct WILL NOT BE TOLERATED and will be grounds for a F grade for the course. For more information on this, see the Section on Academic Misconduct in the Code of Student Conduct http://www.bates.edu/student-handbook.xml.

ENVR 204 on the Net

This course has an email list to which you are automatically subscribed upon registering for the course. Its address is WENVR204A@BATES.EDU. This will be primarily used for class announcements. So check it regularly. If folks want, this list can be used to ask questions about and discuss class topics and readings.

Course Schedule

9/5 - Syllabus Overview and Course Warming Debate


9/7 & 9/9 - Introduction to Dryzek and the Discursive Approach

Dryzek, Ch. 1.

in-class handout - White, Lynn, Jr. AThe Historical Roots of Our Ecological Crisis.@ Science 155 (1967):1203-1207

9/12 – Lecture by Peter Singer, Bioethicist, 8 pm, Chase Hall Lounge

9/12 & 9/14 - Thinking, Doing, and Writing Research

(RESEARCH CONCEPT MAP EXERCISE DUE ON 9/12)


9/13 – Environmental Studies Thesis Presentations, 4:10 pm, Carnegie 225
9/16, 9/19, & 9/21 - Survivalism and the Population Explosion
(1\textsuperscript{ST} REACTION ESSAY DUE ON 9/19)

Dryzek Ch. 2


RA - Hartmann, Betsy. APopulation Fictions: The Malthusians are Back in Town.@ Dollars and Sense September/October 1994:14-17, 37.


9/20 – Environmental Studies Thesis Presentations, 4:10 pm, Carnegie 225

9/23, 9/26, & 9/28 - Promethean/Cornucopian Positions, the Green Revolution, and Beyond
(2\textsuperscript{ND} REACTION ESSAY DUE ON 9/26)
(PAPER PROPOSAL WITH TWO REFERENCES DUE ON 9/28)

Dryzek Ch. 3


9/27 – Environmental Studies Thesis Presentations, 4:10 pm, Carnegie 225

9/30, 10/3, & 10/5 - Administrative Rationalism and the US Environmental Protection Agency
(3\textsuperscript{rd} REACTION ESSAY DUE ON 10/3)

Dryzek Ch. 4


RA - Rosenbaum, Walter A. AImproving Environmental Regulation at the EPA: The Challenge

10/7 – Paper Writing Group Work Day
(RETURN PROPOSALS WITH COMMENTS ON 10/7)

10/10, 10/12, & 10/14 - Democratic Pragmatism and the Role of International Environmental NGOs
(4th REACTION ESSAY DUE ON 10/12)

Dryzek Ch. 5

RB - Chatterjee, Pratap and Matthias Finger. APart II Non-Governmental Organizations @ (pp. 63-64) and AChapter 4 Telling the >Greens= Apart@ (pp. 65-78) In The Earth Brokers. London: Routledge, 1994.


10/17 - MID-TERM EXAM
(optional review session on the evening of 10/16)

10/24, 10/26, & 10/28 - Economic Rationalism and Carbon Marketing in the Northeastern United States
(5th REACTION ESSAY DUE ON 10/26)
(FOUR PAGES OF WRITING WITH FOUR REFERENCES DUE ON 10/28)

Dryzek Ch. 6


Additional readings to be announced

10/31, 11/2, & 11/4 - Sustainable Development and Community Conservation in Africa
(6th REACTION ESSAY DUE ON 11/2)

Dryzek Ch. 7


11/1 – *Environmental Studies Thesis Presentations, 4:10 pm, Carnegie 225*

11/7 - *Paper Writing Group Work Day
(RETURN FOUR PAGES OF WRITING WITH COMMENTS ON 11/7)*

11/8 – *Environmental Studies Thesis Presentations, 4:10 pm, Carnegie 225*

11/9, 11/14, & 11/16 - *Ecological Modernization and the Dutch Experience
(7TH REACTION ESSAY DUE ON 3/22)*

Dryzek Ch. 8


11/11 – *Class visit by William Cronon, Otis Lecturer*

Readings to be announced

11/15 – *Environmental Studies Thesis Presentations, 4:10 pm, Carnegie 225*

11/18 – *In-Class Extra-credit Video (I’ll be away at an African studies conference)*

11/28, 11/30, & 12/2 - *Green Radicalism and Ecotage or Ecoterrorism*
(8TH REACTION ESSAY DUE ON 11/30)
(FIRST DRAFT OF PAPER WITH SIX REFERENCES DUE ON 12/2)

Dryzek Chs. 9 and 10


11/29 – *Environmental Studies Thesis Presentations, 4:10 pm, Carnegie 225*

12/5 - *Paper Writing Group Work Day
(RETURN FIRST DRAFT WITH COMMENTS ON 12/5)*
12/7 – Concluding Comments and Thoughts

Dryzek, Ch. 11

12/9 - FINAL DRAFT OF PAPER DUE AT 111 BARDWELL BY 5:00 PM

12/11 – Optional Final Exam Review Session (time and place to be announced)

12/12, 8:00 am - FINAL EXAM