

155,001

Schedule for Environmental Ethics, Hettinger, Fall 2014

Introduction

1. Aug 19: Class introduction, distribution of syllabus and schedule of assignments
2. Aug 21: Jamieson, pp. 1-25 (Ch 1, "Environment as an ethical question": Nature, human/nature dualism, seriousness of env problems, technology, economics and religion)
 - a. George Monbiot, How Wolves Change Rivers (4 ½ min in class video)

Religion and Environment

3. Aug 26: Lynn White, "The Historical Roots of Our Ecological Crisis"

Are Humans Natural?

4. Aug 28: Paul Veach Moriarty, "Nature Naturalized: A Darwinian Defense of the Nature/Culture Distinction"

Anti-Environmentalism, Anthropocentrism, and an Economic Approach to Environment

5. Sep 2: Two readings
 - a. Ron Arnold, "Wise Use"
 - b. William Baxter, "The Case for Optimal Pollution"
 - c. Peter Kareiva, Environmentalism critique of environmentalism (7 minute in class video)

Environmental Justice

6. Sep 4: Peter Wenz, "Just Garbage"

Property and Environment

7. Sep 9: **Oral Presentations (1) on Owning Nature, Property Rights, and Takings**
 - a. "Who Owns the Moon?" Fred Elliott Myer III
 - b. "Tragedy of the commons" and "Whales for Sale" Mackin Borsich
 - c. Colette Baxley, "Law is costing landowners" and "Woodpecker clouds state forest's future." and "Biologists to move endangered birds" (all in one pdf file) Audrey Rittenhouse
 - d. "'Takings' and Property Rights" and "Property Rights and 'Takings' Legislation"
 - e. Jimmy Chandler, "The Lucas Case: Supreme Court Decisions" _____
 - f. Andrew Kahrl, "Beaches Are an American Right and Environmental Necessity"
Kirti Advani
 - g. Reed Watson, "Allow the Free Market to Protect the Environment"
Geraldine Ruiz

Environmental Ethics and Animals (Sentiocentrism)

8. Sep 11: **Video:** "The Witness" (43 minutes)
9. Sep 16: Jamieson, pp. 102-112 (on "Speciesism")
10. Sep 18: **Oral Presentations (2) on Human Uses of Animals**
 - a. Nicholas Kristoff, "Can We See Our Hypocrisy to Animals?" Randi Watkins
 - b. Give Thanks for Meat (Pro eating meat essay contest winner; if interested see also other finalists essays) Tiffany Sisk
 - c. Should Green Mountain College eat an ox that worked on its farm? See also Mehenzie O'Connor
 - d. Sierra, "Can You Eat Meat and Consider Yourself an Environmentalist?" (for oral presenter, I recommend reading ahead – Jamieson 121-125) Kyle Bostick
 - e. Animal Experimentation: LD-50: "In U.S., Few Alternatives to Testing on Animals"
Abi Rodriguez
 - f. Pets: "Animal Rights Uncompromised: 'Pets'" Jessica Coleman
 - g. Zoos: Marc Bekoff, "Thick skins, tender hearts and broken spirits" and Susan Freinkel, "Why I Still Believe in the Zoo" Annie Johnson

11. Sep 23: Two readings
 - a. Peter Singer, "All Animals are Equal"
 - b. Jamieson, pp. 112-116 (on "Singer's animal liberation")
12. Sep 25: Three readings
 - a. Tom Regan, "The Case for Animal Rights"
 - b. Jamieson, pp. 116-120 (on "Regan's rights theory")
 - c. Jamieson pp. 120-131 (on "Using animals" and "Killing versus causing pain")
13. Sep 30: Carl Cohen, "The Case for the Use of Animals in Biomedical Research"
14. Oct 2: Two readings
 - a. Michael Pollan, "An Animal's Place"
 - b. Jamieson, pp. 131-144 (on "The conscientious omnivore, vegetarians and vegans, and animals and other values")
15. Oct 7: Mark Sagoff, "Animal Liberation and Environmental Ethics: Bad Marriage, Quick Divorce"

16. Oct 9: Midterm Exam

Biocentrism

17. Oct 14: Paul Taylor, "The Ethics of Respect for Nature" (long article)
18. Oct 16: Two readings
 - a. Paul Taylor, "Priority Principles"
 - b. Jamieson, pp. 145-149 (on "Biocentrism")

Ecocentrism

19. Oct 21: **Oral Presentations (3) on Ecocentric Holism vs. Individualism**
 - a. Roger Caras, "There are Two Ways of Looking at it" Andrew Kelly
 - b. "The American Hunting Myth" Narren Stevic
 - c. "Kill the Cat That Kills the Bird?" (Full article link on class webpage)
Sarah Chahin
 - d. "Breeding Endangered Species" and "Species and Individuals" Marguerite Mashburn
 - e. "Delisting of Wolves Raises Hackles" Chloe Callabrum
 - f. "States Seek Ok to Kill Sea Lions" v Lauren Bogenrief
 - g. Jamieson, pp. 172-175 (on "Feral goats versus endemic plants")
Cara Lauria
20. Oct 23: Three readings
 - a. Aldo Leopold, "Preface to Sand County Almanac"
 - b. Aldo Leopold "The Land Ethic"
 - c. Jamieson, pp. 149-153 (on "Ecocentrism")

****Paper Proposal Due, Friday, Oct 21 by email (hettingern@cofc.edu)**

Valuing Nature

21. Oct 28: Two readings
 - a. Jamieson, pp. 68-75 (on "Intrinsic value")
 - b. Jamieson, pp. 153-162 (on "Valuing reconsidered," "The plurality of values," and "Aesthetic values")

The Value of the Natural (J.S. Mill: The use of terms like "natural is "one of the most copious sources of false taste, false philosophy, false morality and even bad law")

22. Oct 30: **Oral Presentations (4) on the Meaning and Value of the Natural**
 - a. Do what is natural, you say? (reading begins on bottom of second page)
Kelly Dandrea

- b. Niagara Falls: America's Most Unnatural Wonder Nicole Anderson
- c. De-extinction (2 ½ min video) Maggie Casca
- d. Natives and Exotics: Don't Judge Species by their Origin Logan Erb
- e. Saving a Drowning Buffalo or Letting Nature Take its Course? Genevieve Fletcher
- f. Hope in the Age of Man (The Anthropocene) Brittany Hayward
- g. To What Extent Should Humans Manage Nature If At All? Haley Lewis

Nov 4: Fall Break (and election day)

- 23. Nov 6: Two readings
 - a. Jamieson, pp 162-168 (on "Natural values")
 - b. Jamieson, pp. 175-180 (on "Natives versus exotics")
 - c. Hunting exotic species in Texas as way to protect endangered species? (14 min in class video)

Wilderness

- 24. Nov 11: **Oral Presentation (5) on Wilderness**
 - a. Bill McKibben's "The End of Nature?" (from Holmes Rolston, Conserving Natural Value), "More on McKibben," and "Climbers clear trash from Everest" (all in one pdf file)
Katie Kerbel
 - b. Timothy Egan, "Searching for Eden; The Definition of Wilderness Is Increasingly Elusive"
Amber Ruby
 - c. Rethinking the Wild: The Wilderness Act Is Facing a Midlife Crisis
Nicole Fernandez
 - d. John Perry, "The Nature of Wilderness" Riley Fromerth
 - e. Pleistocene rewilding: "Rewilding North America" Katherine Sharkey
 - f. "Environmentalists in a clash of goals" (wilderness versus green energy)
Alexis Walters
 - g. Gabriel Escobar, "Rain Forest Gift Raises Suspicions" Rachel Wureman
- 25. Nov 13: William Cronon, "The Trouble with Wilderness; or, Getting Back to the Wrong Nature"

****Paper due, Friday, Nov 14, 14 Glebe, inside mailbox, paper copy (not by email)**

Environmental Action

- 26. Nov 18: **Oral Presentations (6) on Environmental Action**
 - a. No Impact Man trailer and Lessons from Low Impact Week Garrett Todd
 - b. Derrick Jensen, "Forget Shorter Showers" (if interested, see also: The Story of Change - Video) Catherine Warren
 - c. "Charged With the Crime of Filming a Slaughterhouse," Taping of Farm Cruelty Is Becoming the Crime, Mark Bittman, and "Who Protects the Animals" (cruelty and "ag-gag")
Aidan Lordigan
 - d. Wendell Berry, Speech Against the State Government Simon Engel
 - e. Peter Singer "Ends and Means" Chelsea Taylor
 - f. If a Tree Falls (movie trailer and description) Tanisha Ingram
 - g. "Would You Ever Break The Law in Support of an Environmental Goal?"
Andrea Leehr

Justice and Nature's Future

- 27. Nov 20: Jamieson, pp. 181-196 (on "Travails of the biosphere" and "Questions of justice")
- 28. Nov 25: Jamieson, 196-205, (on "Visions of the future")

Final Exam (See syllabus for date)