

155002

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?" Elijah Bohan
 - b. "Tragedy of the commons" and "Whales for Sale" Miesuo Fujita
 - 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) _____
 - d. "Takings' and Property Rights" and "Property Rights and 'Takings' Legislation"
Mihayla Munds
 - e. Jimmy Chandler, "The Lucas Case: Supreme Court Decisions" Caroline Clark
 - f. Andrew Kahrl, "Beaches Are an American Right and Environmental Necessity"
Jacqueline Reagon
 - g. Reed Watson, "Allow the Free Market to Protect the Environment"
Jessica Kesten

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?" Ann-Elizabeth Sisk
~~Katelyn Schaefer~~
 - b. Give Thanks for Meat (Pro eating meat essay contest winner; if interested see also other finalists essays) Davisha Robinson
 - c. Should Green Mountain College eat an ox that worked on its farm? See also
Abby Culp
 - d. Sierra, "Can You Eat Meat and Consider Yourself an Environmentalist?" (for oral presenter, I recommend reading ahead – Jamieson 121-125) Holden Hartsoe
 - e. Animal Experimentation: LD-50: "In U.S., Few Alternatives to Testing on Animals"
Alexis Storey
 - f. Pets: "Animal Rights Uncompromised: 'Pets'" Clancy Crawford
 - g. Zoos: Marc Bekoff, "Thick skins, tender hearts and broken spirits" and Susan Freinkel, "Why I Still Believe in the Zoo" Amanda Caballero

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" Jenslet Orosz
 b. "The American Hunting Myth" Ali Carper
 c. "Kill the Cat That Kills the Bird?" (Full article link on class webpage)
Brian Burns
 d. "Breeding Endangered Species" and "Species and Individuals" EMMA COZ
 e. "Delisting of Wolves Raises Hackles" Rachel Meek
 f. "States Seek Ok to Kill Sea Lions" V
 g. Jamieson, pp. 172-175 (on "Feral goats versus endemic plants")
Grant Maddox
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)
Valerie Patel

- b. Niagara Falls: America's Most Unnatural Wonder Kate Connolly
- c. De-extinction (2 1/2 min video) Max Lapage
- d. Natives and Exotics: Don't Judge Species by their Origin Brynn Gallagher
- e. Saving a Drowning Buffalo or Letting Nature Take its Course? Jimmy Camp
- f. Hope in the Age of Man (The Anthropocene) Deanna Silcox
- g. To What Extent Should Humans Manage Nature If At All? Raul Howle

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) Bradley Chandler
 - b. Timothy Egan, "Searching for Eden: The Definition of Wilderness Is Increasingly Elusive" Jane Jordan
 - c. Rethinking the Wild: The Wilderness Act Is Facing a Midlife Crisis Daw Harrelson
 - d. John Perry, "The Nature of Wilderness" Stuart Bomer
 - e. Pleistocene rewilding: "Rewilding North America" Katherine Benoit
 - f. "Environmentalists in a clash of goals" (wilderness versus green energy) Hope Denon
 - g. Gabriel Escobar, "Rain Forest Gift Raises Suspicions" Kinsey Kellam
- 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 David DeRose
 - b. Derrick Jensen, "Forget Shorter Showers" (if interested, see also: The Story of Change - Video) Aili Vinson
 - 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") Katelyn Schmitt
 - d. Wendell Berry, Speech Against the State Government Megan Conley-Frasca
 - e. Peter Singer "Ends and Means"
 - f. If a Tree Falls (movie trailer and description) Emily Robertson
 - g. "Would You Ever Break The Law in Support of an Environmental Goal?" Isis Barber

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)