ENV 221H1-F Multidisciplinary Perspectives on the Environment
Fall 2019

Lectures: 1-2 pm Tuesday & Thursday, Earth Sciences Rm 1050 (33 Willcocks St)
Tutorials: various times on Tuesday & Thursday (see below)

Instructor: Professor David Pond
Office: Woodsworth College, meet me in main floor lobby next to Second Cup counter
Office Hour: hour after class at Woodsworth
Phone: 647-515-1957
E-Mail: david.pond@utoronto.ca
(please indicate the course code in the subject line of your e-mail)

TAs:
Michael Adamson (michael.adamson@mail.utoronto.ca)
Ali Cannon (ali.cannon@mail.utoronto.ca)
Nikolas McGlashan (nikolas.mcglashan@mail.utoronto.ca)
Brian Pentz (brian.pentz@mail.utoronto.ca)

Grading:
Mid-Term Test in Classroom: October 17 (20%)
Term Paper due: Nov 19 (30%)
Note: penalty for late essays is a deduction of 2 marks per calendar day from your essay mark out of 100
Tutorials: 10%
Exam in December 7-20: (40%)
Final Drop Date without Academic Penalty: November 4

The rules and policies set out in this course outline apply to all students taking this course.

What This Course is About:
This course introduces students to the multidisciplinary study of environmental problems. We begin with a review of some of the main themes in how social scientists understand and interpret the environment.

We then explore these themes through case-studies, drawing on a variety of academic disciplines, including economics, political science, history, law, philosophy, geography, and cultural anthropology.

By the end of this course, students should be able to grasp the interdisciplinary nature of environmental studies. Students should also have a deeper understanding of the issues under discussion. Finally, students should be able to appreciate the intractable nature of environmental problems in the real world of policy-making.
Readings:
There is no textbook for you to purchase. Instead, the readings for this course are accessible through the Quercus site.

Quercus:
This course employs a Quercus website, where you will find the course outline, lecture slides, essay assignments, and all supplementary material. To access the ENV 221H website, go to http://portal.utoronto.ca and log in using your UTORid and password.

Staying in touch:
I welcome e-mail queries and comments. It is your responsibility to maintain your UofT-issued e-mail address in good working order. Forwarding your utoronto.ca email to a Hotmail, Gmail, Yahoo or any other type of commercial e-mail account is not advisable. In some cases, messages from utoronto.ca addresses sent to Hotmail, Gmail, Yahoo or similar accounts are filtered as junk mail, which means that e-mails from me or a TA to you may end up in your spam or junk mail folder.

Therefore, if it is your practice to forward your UofT e-mails to a commercial account, it is advisable to regularly check your spam and junk mail folders.

Failure to receive important class announcements and messages from me or a TA because of a faulty non-UofT e-mail account (for example, an account which screens out UofT e-mails as junk mail; bounced messages because of overloaded caches; a virus on your computer) are not legitimate excuses.

Remember: official communications and announcements from the University will always be sent to students’ official UofT-issued e-mail addresses.

It is strongly advised that you load your fall essay onto TurnItIn using your UofT e-mail account, and not a commercial e-mail account. (The essay assignment is discussed in a separate hand-out).

Feel free to phone me if needed. If you are going to leave a message on my cellphone (647-515-1957) or text me, please identify yourself and the course you are taking.

Accessibility Needs:
Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me, and/or Accessibility Services which can be reached at 416-978-8060 or at: https://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/as. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.
### Tutorials:
The tutorial time-slots are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tutorial Groups</th>
<th>Time-Slot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group #1</td>
<td>Tuesday, 11 AM to Noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group #2</td>
<td>Tuesday, Noon to 1 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group #3</td>
<td>Tuesday, 2 to 3 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group #4</td>
<td>Tuesday, 3 to 4 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group #5</td>
<td>Thursday, 11 AM to Noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group #6</td>
<td>Thursday, Noon to 1 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group #7</td>
<td>Thursday, 2 to 3 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group #8</td>
<td>Thursday, 3 to 4 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note, we do not hold tutorials every week. The schedule will be released once classes begin.

All students are to participate in tutorials. Tutorials give students the opportunity to meet regularly in small groups to discuss readings, ideas raised in lectures, and course assignments.

Your tutorial grade is based on a combination of attendance and contributions to tutorial discussions. Your tutorial mark will be calculated according to this formula: 40% for attendance + 60% for participation.

Please note that attendance alone will not guarantee a good tutorial grade. Students who attend diligently but do not make meaningful contributions to the discussion do better than students who do not attend at all, but not as well as students who attend diligently and make meaningful contributions.

If the name you commonly use varies from your name as recorded by ACORN, let the TA know. Keep in mind that the class list we use for recording marks is the list generated by ACORN.

Your TA will keep a formal attendance record. If you are concerned that the TA has failed to record your name properly, the time to bring this to his/her attention is NOW, not weeks later or at the end of term. Do not come to me weeks after a tutorial was held and claim the TA failed to record you as present. I cannot adjudicate questions about attendance or what may or may not have happened in a tutorial weeks after the event.

Do not show up at the end or in the middle of a tutorial and expect the TA to give you credit for attendance. If you missed a tutorial for what you believe is a legitimate reason (such as a documented medical or family issue), bring this to the attention of the TA as soon as possible. Note, to the attention of the TA, not to me. We reserve the right to determine what are legitimate reasons for missing tutorials.

The medical/family excuse policy is designed to support students who encounter an unexpected problem once the term is underway, which causes them to miss the occasional tutorial. However, if you have a chronic problem or fixed time-conflict which predictably and foreseeably causes you to miss tutorials consistently, week in and week out, your tutorial mark will suffer. Remember: your tutorial mark is a combination of attendance and participation. If you do not attend, you cannot participate. Students who do not attend are missing their opportunity to improve their participation mark. Failure to attend, even for a valid reason, shrinks your universe of opportunities to impress the TA with your participation.
Please do not come to me at the end of the fall term in December and request an opportunity to do make-up work to compensate retroactively for missed tutorials. There is no provision for students to do extra work or assignments to make up for missed tutorials or a low grade in tutorials. I emphasize that this policy applies to all students.

Students sometimes need to switch between tutorial time-slots to accommodate changes in their personal schedule after the term is underway. Permission for any such switch must be granted by me, not a TA. Such switches are not registered through ACORN. Once the term begins, all tutorial registration issues are handled by me, not ACORN. It can sometimes be difficult for the TAs to keep track of students who do not stay in the time-slot to which they have been assigned. If you do for some reason wish to switch between tutorial time-slots in mid-term, the onus is on you to make sure we formally note this.

The topics to be discussed will be announced via e-mail and Quercus in advance of the tutorial date. This is another reason to keep your e-mail address up to date and in good functioning order.

Most of you should already be allotted into one of eight tutorial time-slots on ACORN, for Tuesday or Thursday. Once classes begin, we will assign any remaining students to a specific time-slot.

The Essay Assignment:
The essay assignment will be explained in detail in a separate hand-out. The text of your essay should be no longer than 1,800 words (this total excludes citations and bibliography/references).

TurnItIn.com:
Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to TurnItIn.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the TurnItIn.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University’s use of the TurnItIn.com service are described on the TurnItIn.com web site. A short guide on how to use TurnItIn.com is posted on the Quercus site.

If a student does not wish to participate in TurnItIn, the student MUST advise me immediately, as you will be required to agree to alternate arrangements for vetting your work, as well as to an alternate method for submitting your essays for marking. Such arrangements could include some or all of the following: submission of your drafts, rough work and notes; submission of photocopies of the sources you used; submission of the URLs of all sources you used in your research.

Students who do not wish to participate in TurnItIn are strongly advised to carefully read the section below headed “Handing In Your Essay.”

Plagiarism:
Plagiarism is a serious offence and will be dealt with accordingly.

It is important that you familiarize yourself with U of T’s policies and procedures. Consult:

- “Student Academic Integrity” at https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/academic-advising-and-support/student-academic-integrity-osai
• “Academic Integrity at the University of Toronto” & “Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters” at https://www.academicintegrity.utoronto.ca/
• “Academic Misconduct” at https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/student-academic-integrity-osai/academic-misconduct

Your essays will be marked on the assumption you have read this section of the outline.

Plagiarism is cheating. It is considered a serious offence against intellectual honesty and intellectual property. Penalties for an undergraduate can be severe. At a minimum, a student is likely to receive a “0” mark for the assignment or test in question. But a further penalty is often assessed, such as a further reduction from the course mark or placing a permanent notation of the incident on an academic record.

It is essential that you understand what plagiarism is and that you do not commit it. In essence, it is the theft of the thoughts or words of others, without giving proper credit. **You must put others’ words in quotation marks and cite your source(s).** You must give citations when using others’ ideas, even if those ideas are paraphrased in your own words. Plagiarism is unacceptable in a university.

The University of Toronto provides a process that faculty members must initiate when they suspect a case of plagiarism. See “Process and Procedures” at the University’s Academic Integrity website (https://www.academicintegrity.utoronto.ca/process-and-procedures/). A faculty member may not mark an assignment or assess a penalty if he or she finds evidence of plagiarism – the matter must be reported. The Director of the School, or Dean, will assess the penalty.

The following are some examples of plagiarism:

- Submitting as your own an assignment written by someone else.
- Quoting an author without indicating the source of the words.
- Using words, sentences, or paragraphs written by someone else and failing to place quotation marks around the material and reference the source and author. Using either quotation marks or reference alone is not sufficient. **Both must be used!**
- Adapting an author’s ideas or theme and using it as your own without referencing the original source. All sources used must be properly cited.
- Using false citations or references.
- Seeking assistance from a friend or family member in respect to work you claim as your own.
- Purchasing an essay and submitting it as your own work.

If you are not sure whether you have committed plagiarism, it is better to consult me rather than risk discovery and be forced to accept an academic penalty.

Consult:

- “How Not to Plagiarize” at http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize
- “How can I cite properly?” at https://sidneysmithcommons.artsci.utoronto.ca/how-can-i-cite-properly

You can also consult one of the Writing Centres on campus (http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/writing-centres).
It is also unacceptable to hand in the same essay in two different courses. You cannot submit an essay in this course for which you have already obtained credit in a previous course, or submit the same essay in two different courses in the same term, without my express permission ahead of time.

As the passage above indicates, there are many forms of plagiarism. In my experience, the most common form of plagiarism is the failure to use quotation marks. So to repeat: all wording in your essays which is copied from another source must be in quotation marks.

**Handing in Your Essay:**

In this course, student essays are formally submitted by mounting them on TurnItIn. When you upload your essay to TurnItIn.com, the program automatically records the time and date you do this. On the day the essay is due, you have the entire day to submit your essay without incurring a late penalty:

- The essay is due November 19. You have until 11.59 PM on this day to mount your essay on TurnItIn without incurring a late penalty.

You do not submit a paper copy. Papers will not be accepted by fax, e-mail or other electronic means, unless specifically permitted by me beforehand. Do not submit your essays to a TA, in either paper form or via e-mail. TAs are not authorized to formally accept essays.

**TurnItIn Password Information:**

- **Website:** http://turnitin.com
- **Class ID:** 22018356
- **Enrolment Key:** EarthWind99

*Note: you cannot “cut & paste” this data into the TurnItIn website. It must be inputted directly.*

If you created your essay in separate files on your computer, make sure you merge them into a single file before uploading your essay to TurnItIn.com. Please upload your essay in ‘doc’ format, not ‘txt.’ Do not use PDF to mount your essay on TurnItIn.

In this course, students are not permitted to mount multiple versions of an essay on TurnItIn in order to see their TurnItIn Originality Report. So do not try to mount more than one version of your essay on TurnItIn, either using the same e-mail address, or a different one each time. If you encounter problems mounting your essay, do not keep trying! Instead, contact me immediately.

Some common sense is in order here. If you do not receive your essay mark back when everybody else does, the time to inquire as to what happened to your essay is right then, not weeks later. When you mount your essay on TurnItIn, you should receive a digital receipt via e-mail. If you do not, the time to look into this omission is right NOW, not at the end of the course.

The essay submission process is summarized as follows:

**Submitting your Essay**

- Review the *TurnItIn Guide* mounted on the course Quercus site under the “Essays” heading. This can be found in the “Pages” section.
- Create your essay as a single Word document, not PDF or ‘txt.’ Follow the formatting
instructions contained in the essay assignment hand-out on Quercus under the “Essays” heading.

- Go to http://turnitin.com, and directly input the Class ID (22018356) & enrolment key (EarthWind99).
- Use your UofT e-mail address to mount your essay on TurnItIn, not a commercial e-mail account.
- After you have mounted your essay, make sure you received a digital receipt at your UofT e-mail address. This receipt is your proof that you successfully mounted an essay. You will need this receipt if there is a subsequent dispute about whether I received your essay.
- I will announce in class when the essay marks will be mounted on Quercus. When the marks are mounted, check to make sure you got a mark. Do NOT wait until weeks later or the end of term to inquire about your essay mark.

You are strongly advised to keep your essay drafts and notes until essay marks are returned. You should always retain your own copy of your submitted essay. Students are also strongly advised to back up the electronic version of their essays, to disks, an online storage system, or to an external hard drive. You should keep any storage devices separate from your laptop.

Please be advised that computer malfunctions, computer theft or failure to connect to the Internet are not legitimate excuses for handing in an essay late. Never leave your laptop or other electronic device unguarded anywhere on campus.

**Extensions on the Essay Deadline:**
The essays may be submitted after the deadlines, with the late penalty outlined in the grading scheme on page one applying, and subject to the policy outlined in the next section below, ‘Submitting a Late Essay after Classes End.’ In order to submit a late essay without a penalty, an extension from me must be obtained.

Extensions will be granted for the essays only in cases of *documented* medical problems or of *documented* family emergencies.

If you need an extension you must ask me (not a TA) for it as soon as possible. I am very unlikely to grant a request long after the due date for the essay.

Feel free to approach me in class or during office hours to request an extension. However, all requests must be formally submitted in writing (by e-mail), with the requested time-period stated. An extension is formally granted by me in writing, with the time-period indicated. Extensions are for fixed time periods. There is no such thing as an open-ended extension.

For a medical excuse I need the original medical note (not a photocopy) on U of T’s Verification of Student Illness or Injury form. This form is available at:
http://www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca. It is also available on the Quercus site.

Remember, I am not under any obligation to grant an extension. I am not under any obligation to accept automatically any medical note you submit as valid. The medical note should establish that the physician examined and diagnosed you at the time of your illness, not after the fact. The
medical note must clearly specify you were ill on the day the essay was due. If you submit a falsified or altered medical note you are liable to penalty.

You cannot get a medical excuse for an affliction that starts after the essay was due. The purpose of the extension policy is to assist students facing an imminent deadline. Once the essay deadline has passed, the rationale for an extension expires.

There is only one exception to this rule: if your medical note is dated before or on the due date of the essay. Only under this condition, will I entertain an application for an extension after the due date for the essay has passed.

If your extension runs out and you still have not submitted your essay, your extension has expired. Your late penalty will resume on the day after your extension expired, and will continue until the date you do submit your essay.

This policy applies to all students taking this course.

**Submitting a Late Essay after Classes End:**

Our last class is December 3. The exam period starts on December 7.

If you plan to submit a late essay after classes end for the fall term, with or without an extension, it is extremely advisable that you warn me (not a TA) it is coming. If you do not warn me, I have no reason to assume it is coming. If I am warned, I will make a special effort to watch TurnItIn for it.

**Missing the Fall Test:**

Students who miss one the fall test because of documented medical problems or family emergencies may be entitled to write a makeup test. The standard of documentation required is the same as for essay extensions (see above).

Writing a makeup test is a privilege, not a right. There is no point showing up for a makeup test without the U of T medical certificate properly filled out. (You may of course, submit your medical certificate before the makeup test date). Without submission of the medical certificate (or other appropriate document), you will not be admitted to the makeup test.

Students should notify me as soon as possible that they will be missing the test. After the date of the missed test, you have one week to ask if it is possible to write a makeup test.

The Faculty of Arts & Sciences’ policy regarding makeup tests is set out in the 2019-20 Calendar, on p. 34. The Calendar is available at: https://fas.calendar.utoronto.ca/pdf-version-current-calendar.
Missing the Final Exam:
The Registrar has authority over the scheduling of all exams. Students who miss or are unable to write the final examination should consult their Registrar immediately. The Faculty of Arts & Sciences’ policy regarding missed exams is set out in the 2019-20 Calendar, on pp. 30 & 34.

A Note on Marking:
Feel free to contact me at any time to discuss the requirements of this course. I will conduct a review in class before the in-term test and the exam. These reviews will be included in the lecture slides posted on Quercus. Once all test marks have been returned, an answer-key to the test will be posted on Quercus.

Your Essay Marks
If you are unhappy with the mark you received on an essay, your first step is to discuss it with the TA marker. You should do this as soon as possible after receiving your essay mark. It is advisable to submit to the TA marker a written response to the comments on your essay. If you are unhappy with the TA marker’s reply, then you may appeal to me. However, you must have a substantive reason for appealing an essay mark. You should submit to me a written response to the TA marker’s comments. Keep in mind that an appeal to me is not a request for a re-grade of your essay. Instead, you are expected to persuade me why I should adjust the mark you received from the TA marker.

Your Tutorial Mark
Since I do not attend tutorials I cannot assess your participation in tutorials. If you feel the TA has not accurately recorded your attendance in tutorials you should address this issue with your TA as soon as possible. See above, pp. 3-4.

Your Mid-Term Test Marks
As already noted above, an answer-key to the test questions will be mounted on Quercus once test marks have been returned. Students are invited to compare their own answers to the answer-key answers. However, students can certainly ask for more information about their test marks.

Please Note
There is no provision for students to do extra work or assignments to make up for low grades on any of the assignments in this course, including the in-term test, the essay, or tutorials; or, to do extra work to compensate for missed assignments or tutorials. All students are evaluated under the same marking criteria on page one of this course outline.

You are entitled to the mark your work merits. You are not entitled to the mark you think you personally deserve, or you need in order to achieve your personal goals such as getting into a professional program or graduate school, staying in university or in a particular program, raising your mark in the course to the next letter grade level, maintaining your GPA at a certain level, retaining a scholarship or other funding source, etc. Therefore, please do not lobby me to raise your mark simply because you want a higher mark. Complaining to me about any of your marks in this course (including your final mark) simply because you do not like them and want a higher mark is a waste of your time. This policy applies to all students.
The Lecture Schedule & Class Readings:
The topics covered in the weekly lectures are listed below along with the required readings. The readings are accessible through the Quercus site. While the number of readings may appear intimidating, in fact most of readings are short.

All lecture notes will be posted on the Quercus site after a topic has been covered. It is possible that a small number of additional required readings (most likely, a topical media article) will be added to the Quercus site as the course progresses.

Students are not formally penalized for missing lectures. However, please remember that it is in the lectures that I cover the material you will be tested on, prepare students for the test and exam, respond to student questions and concerns, and make important announcements. Students who regularly miss lectures do so at their own risk.

WEEKLY LECTURE SCHEDULE:
Class One, September 5: Introduction to Course

Class Two, September 10: Thinking about the Environment started
Readings for Class #2 to Class #6:

- Eric Neumayer, Next Stop Environmental Paradise? (London School of Economics 2001)
- John DeGraff, “Are There Limits to Limits?” & Roger Pielke Jr., “What Does It Mean To Be Anti-Growth?,” Earth Island Journal (Spring 2014), pp. 46-48 (on p. 48, DeGraff is the left-hand column & Pielke is the right-hand column)
- Joshua Rothman, “The Big Question: Is the world getting better or worse?,” The New Yorker (23 July 2018), pp. 26-32
- Pierre Desrochers & Joannas Zurmak, “A boon, not a bomb,” National Post, 12 October 2018
- Companion to Environmental Studies (2018), entries for “The tragedy of the commons,” “The commons,” “Scarcity and environmental limits” & “Markets and governments in environmental policy”

Class Three, September 12: Thinking about the Environment continued

Class Four, September 17: Thinking about the Environment continued

Class Five, September 19: Thinking about the Environment continued

Class Six, September 24: Thinking about the Environment concluded
Class Seven, September 26: Climate Change started
Readings for Class #7 to Class #12:

- *Companion to Environmental Studies* (2018), entries for “Anthropogenic climate change,” “Environmental economics” & “Wicked environmental problems”
- Daniel Sarewitz, “Does climate change knowledge really matter?,” 2 *WIREs* (July/August 2011), pp. 475-481
- Mike Hulme, “Climate change narratives: beyond the facts of science” (2 May 2019)
- Mike Hulme, “Why We Should Disagree about Climate Change,” in *Climate Change and Museum Futures* (2015), pp. 9-15

Class Eight, October 1: Climate Change continued

Class Nine, October 3: Climate Change continued

Class Ten, October 8: Climate Change continued

Class Eleven, October 10: Climate Change continued

Class Twelve, October 15: Climate Change concluded

Class Thirteen, October 17: Test in Class

Class Fourteen, October 22: Biodiversity started
Readings for Class #14 to Class #20:

- *Scientific American*, “What is the point of preserving endangered species that have no practical use?” (21 Oct. 1999)
• Stewart Brand, “Rethinking Extinction,” Aeon Magazine, April 21, 2015
• Shawn Regan, “Environmentalism Without Romance,” PERC Reports (Summer 2016), pp. 6-9

Class Fifteen, October 24: Biodiversity continued

Class Sixteen, October 29: Biodiversity continued

Class Seventeen, October 31: Biodiversity continued

Fall Reading Week November 4 to 8

Class Eighteen, November 12: Biodiversity continued

Class Nineteen, November 14: Biodiversity continued

Essay due November 19

Class Twenty, November 19: Biodiversity concluded

Class Twenty-One, November 21: Nuclear Waste started

Readings for Class #21 to Class #23:
• Nuclear Waste Management Organization (https://www.nwmo.ca/)
• Allison Macfarlane, “It’s 2050: Do you know where your nuclear waste is?,” 67(4) Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists (2011), pp. 30-36

Class Twenty-Two, November 26: Nuclear Waste continued

Class Twenty-Three, November 28: Nuclear Waste concluded
Class Twenty-Four, December 3: Wrap-Up & Exam Review

FINAL EXAM during Exam Period December 7-20