ENVS 203: INTRO TO ENVIRONMENTAL HUMANITIES
email: jmbacon@uoregon.edu
office: ENVS 240
office hours: T & Th After Lecture & by appointment

Fulfills the Arts and Letters Group Requirement
Core requirement for Environmental Studies and Environmental Science majors.
The course must be taken for a grade in order to satisfy ENVS/ESCI major requirements.

WHAT?
This course is a survey of the contribution of humanities disciplines—literature, intellectual history, religious studies, and philosophy—to understanding the relationship between human beings and the natural environment.

HOW?
The course emphasizes the skills of textual and cultural interpretation, reasoning, and critical inquiry through active engagement with a variety of theoretical concepts and texts.

COURSE MATERIALS

The Hunger Games
Salmon is Everything
Course Packet (should be available before class begins at Duck Store)
Bring materials to class and discussion section

PLEASE NOTE: Not all readings are the same.
In the schedule I have rated readings according to their difficulty.
If a reading is only a few pages but has a high rating be advised that it might take a long time to get through.

ACADEMIC HONESTY
The UO Student Conduct Code defines academic misconduct. Students are prohibited from committing or attempting to commit any act that constitutes academic misconduct. For example: students should not give or receive (or attempt to give or receive) unauthorized help on assignments
or examinations without express permission from the instructor (FYI: I HEREBY AUTHORIZE YOU TO HELP EACH OTHER ON HW AND STUDYING). Students should properly acknowledge and document all sources of information (e.g. quotations, paraphrases, ideas) and use only the sources and resources authorized by the instructor. If there is any question about whether an act constitutes academic misconduct, it is the students’ obligation to clarify the question with the instructor before committing or attempting to commit the act. Additional information about a common form of academic misconduct, plagiarism, is available at www.libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/plagiarism/students.

Academic misconduct will be met with disciplinary action (the usual punishment is an “F” for the course).

SOME IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

Sexual Violence Prevention and Education  http://asap.uoregon.edu/
Center for Multicultural Academic Excellence  http://cmae.uoregon.edu/
Multicultural Center  http://pages.uoregon.edu/mcc/
Women’s Center  http://pages.uoregon.edu/women/
Teaching and Learning Center  http://tlc.uoregon.edu/
Accessible Education Center  http://aec.uoregon.edu/
Men’s Center  http://pages.uoregon.edu/uomc/
UO OUT  http://lgbt.uoregon.edu/Home.aspx

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Unit 1: Basic Introduction to Environmental Humanities
Tuesday April 4th: Recovering the Sacred “Intro” – LaDuke ⭐⭐
Thursday April 6th: Wilderness as an Idea
   “The Trouble with Wilderness” – Cronon ⭐⭐
   “The Land Ethic” – Leopold ⭐⭐
Online HW 1 (due before class)
Tuesday April 11th: Environmental Justice and Violence
  Slow Violence “Intro” – Nixon ★★★
  “From EJ Literature to the Literature of EJ” – Sze ★★★
  Online HW 2

Thursday April 13th: Biopower and Population
  Biopower – Foucault ★★★
  Online HW 3

Tuesday April 18th: TEST ONE

Unit 2: Book I of the Hunger Games - Labor & Environment, Coal, Overconsumption & Food Justice
Thursday April 20th: Labor, Coal, and Cultural Production
  Ch. 1-3 ★
  Excerpt Ironweed ★★

Tuesday April 25th: Overconsumption
  Ch. 4-6 ★
  “Overconsumption” – Hynes ★

Thursday April 27th: Intro to Food Security, Food Sovereignty, Food Justice
  Ch. 7-9 ★
  TedTalk LaDonna Redmond ★
  Hunger in the Fields ★
  Online HW 4

Unit 3: Book II of the Hunger Games - Panopticon, GMOs, & Selling “Nature”
Tuesday May 2nd: Built environments, biopower and the carceral
  Ch. 10-12
  Foucault: 293-308 “The Carceral” ★★★★
  Online HW 5

Thursday May 4th: Genetic Modification Utopias and Dystopias
  Ch. 13-15 ★
  GMO reading ★
  PAPER PROPOSAL DUE IN SECTION THIS WEEK

Tuesday May 9th: Commodification, Capitalism, and Environment
  Ch. 16-18 ★
  Nature at the Mall – Price ★★★
  Online HW 6

Unit 4: Book III of the Hunger Games – Slow Violence, Environmentalism, & Eco-Terrorism
Thursday May 11th: Place, Space, and Resistance
  Ch. 19-24 ★
  Criminalization of Protest

Tuesday May 16th: Environmental Movements & the Humanities
  Ch. 25-27 ★
  “Reaping” Environmental Justice through Compassion in The Hunger Games” ★★
Thursday May 18th: TEST TWO

Unit 5: Theater, Environment, and Indigenous Epistemologies
Tuesday May 23rd: Intro
“Living Our Ancestor’s Dystopia”☆☆
Intro and a Call to Action ☆☆
Online HW 7
Thursday May 25th: Salmon is Everything
Start Reading Salmon is Everything ☆☆
FIRST 500 WORDS DUE IN SECTION THIS WEEK
Tuesday May 30th: Salmon is Everything
Act I ☆☆
Thursday June 1st: Salmon is Everything
Finish the play ☆
Tuesday June 6th: Epistemology, Art, and Justice
Thursday June 8th: TEST THREE

GRADE BREAKDOWN

Tests -30% total
Three in class tests designed to assess your understanding of basic terms and concepts central to the course. Generally, tests will be 30-50 questions long, multiple choice and true/false. Make up tests will be in essay format, contact me ASAP if you need a make-up test.

In-Class Group Projects – 25% total
In class projects designed to facilitate inter-textual analysis and critical thinking. Graded on the bases of clear, accurate, and thoughtful answers. These cannot be made up. If you miss class, you miss your chance to gain these points

Participation 10%
Contribution in a thoughtful way to the weekly discussion section. Just showing up is NOT enough.

Homework 15% total
Timely completion of homework assignments. Must complete 3 over the course of the term. Your choice of which 3.

Final Paper/Project -20%
In the final paper/project students will use theoretical materials from the course to develop their own analysis of a work of fiction, drama, or film. Or to explain their own work of fiction or visual art. Final papers will use a minimum of 5 course sources.
Final papers will be minimum 1200 words. Final projects will require consultation with instructor.

READ THOROUGHLY / THINK CLEARLY / ASK QUESTIONS / DO WELL