IEST5007

Political Ecology: Sustainable Development & Justice

Term One // 2021

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Daniel Robinson	d.robinson@unsw.edu.au	by appointment	Room 360 Morven Brown	0478323792

School Contact Information

School of Humanities and Languages

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, 258

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Phone: +61 2 9385 1681

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Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

This subject takes an international perspective on ecological and social inequity and other global challenges, focusing on ongoing impacts of colonisation, the role of environmental conventions and trade rules, and the impact of global governance strategies such as the "sustainable development goals." This course will be of particular interest if you are concerned with issues of global inequality, environmental justice, and the roles of the state and civil society. In this course, you will explore the environmental challenges that face the "Global South" and engage in a productive critique of neoliberal models of economic growth and development that underlie these challenges. The course provides you with an understanding of the historical, political, and international contexts within which issues of environment and "development" are framed, governed, and (in some cases) addressed. You will consider the social and environmental impacts and implications of global value chains and production networks, as well as efforts to undertake more ethical and sustainable approaches. You will engage in case studies and learn about applied, practical, and reflexive approaches for addressing globally interlinked issues facing the "Global South," or "majority world."

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Apply critical thinking to core concepts relevant to emerging global environmental issues and challenges
2. Explain external political economic influences on the Global South/majority world, and how these influence 'sustainable development' type challenges and inequities
3. Explore and assess the use of global, economic, legal, and institutional frameworks for addressing environmental issues in the context of a range of other structural inequalities and challenges
4. Discuss and critique the effectiveness of institutional or regulatory approaches, market-based approaches, technology transfer, capacity building, and other approaches for dealing with 'sustainable development' challenges
5. Use knowledge of 'sustainable development' challenges and the practical and applied attempts to resolve them to analyse a range of local, national, and regional case studies

Teaching Strategies

The course is taught in a seminar style with some lecture content and regular break-outs for discussions/activities.

Assessment

Detailed assignment information will be provided in an assignment sheet in moodle. Due to COVID-19 some changes to the presentation may be required.

For all assignments Harvard or APA in-text referencing is preferred, with a full reference list at the end of your assignments (only reference the works that you use and cite). Always include a citation when using someone else's work whether it is a paper, book, report or website. Failing to have citations is considered plagiarism. For the presentation, please have small in-text references when you use others work directly, and a single slide containing your directly used references at the end.

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Group presentation	30%	01/03/2021 11:00 PM	2, 4, 5
Essay 1	30%	19/03/2021 11:00 PM	1, 2, 3
Major research report	40%	12/04/2021 11:00 PM	1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Group presentation

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 15-20 minutes (max)

Details:

A 20 minute group presentation on a major environmental issue in a developing country. Group written feedback provided. Allows students to peer-review own group members. Presentation either in class or online.

Additional details:

Normally this would be a presentation done in small groups/pairs (2 people) in class using Powerpoint or other presentation tools. Due to COVID-19 it appears that we will not be able to do this in a socially distanced way. The NSW health notifications and UNSW advice will be followed in the coming weeks. It is likely that *students will have to do audio recorded presentations individually*.

More details can be found on an assignment sheet in moodle. Advice on doing audio recordings is noted in this sheet in moodle.

Submission notes: Submit on 1 March or present in class (if COVID situation allows)

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Assessment 2: Essay 1

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 1300 words (plus references)

Details:

Individual short essay.

Additional details:

More details will be provided in the assignment sheet in moodle.

Submission notes: Submit as a PDF or word doc in Moodle

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 3: Major research report

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 3000 words (plus references)

Details:

Major research report and case study on specific topic(s) covered. Individual written feedback provided. Approx 3000 words. This is the final assessment for attendance purposes.

Additional details:

Further information is provided in the assignment sheet in moodle.

Submission notes: submit as a PDF or word doc in moodle portal

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 15 February - 19 February	Seminar	The course runs in intensive mode from 10am-5pm on Mondays and Tuesdays in weeks 1-3, with a 1 hour break for lunch from 1 pm each day and short breaks every hour. The course is scheduled for classes online in Blackboard Collaborate (through moodle) AND face-to-face simultaneously. Given the recent COVID outbreak, the face-to-face classes are unlikely. In the event this changes, the rooms would be: Mon 10:00 - 13:00 Quadrangle 1043 (K-E15-1043) Mon 14:00 - 17:00 Goldstein G09 (K-D16-G09) Tue 10:00 - 13:00 Quadrangle G040 (K-E15-G040) Tue 14:00 - 17:00 Mathews 227 (K-F23-227)
Week 2: 22 February - 26 February	Seminar	The course runs in intensive mode from 10am-5pm on Mondays and Tuesdays in weeks 1-3, with a 1 hour break for lunch from 1 pm each day and short breaks every hour. The course is scheduled for classes online in Blackboard Collaborate (through moodle) AND face-to-face simultaneously. Given the recent COVID outbreak, the face-to-face classes are unlikely. In the event this changes, the rooms would be: Mon 10:00 - 13:00 Quadrangle 1043 (K-E15-1043) Mon 14:00 - 17:00 Goldstein G09 (K-D16-G09) Tue 10:00 - 13:00 Quadrangle G040 (K-E15-G040) Tue 14:00 - 17:00 Mathews 227 (K-F23-227)
Week 3: 1 March - 5 March	Seminar	The course runs in intensive mode from 10am-5pm on Mondays and Tuesdays in weeks 1-3, with a 1 hour break for lunch from 1 pm each day and short breaks every hour. The course is scheduled for classes online in Blackboard Collaborate (through

		moodle) AND face-to-face simultaneously. Given the recent COVID outbreak, the face-to-face classes are unlikely. In the event this changes, the rooms would be:
		Mon 10:00 - 13:00 Quadrangle 1043 (K-E15-1043)
		Mon 14:00 - 17:00 Goldstein G09 (K-D16-G09)
		Tue 10:00 - 13:00 Quadrangle G040 (K-E15-G040)
		Tue 14:00 - 17:00 Mathews 227 (K-F23-227)

Resources

Prescribed Resources

There are no required texts for students. Readings will be set for each module through Leganto in Moodle. You will be able to access these readings through the UNSW library with your login.

Recommended Resources

Some useful texts, most of which can be found in UNSW library, include:

Perreault, T., Bridge, G., & McCarthy, J. (Eds.). (2015). *The Routledge handbook of political ecology*. Routledge, London.

Peet, R., Robbins, P., & Watts, M. (Eds.). (2010). *Global political ecology*. Routledge, London.

Peet, R., & Watts, M. (2004). *Liberation ecologies: environment, development, social movements*. Routledge, London.

Kothari, A., Salleh, A., Escobar, A., Demaria, F., & Acosta, A. (Eds.). (2019). *Pluriverse: A post-development dictionary*. Tulika Books and Authorsupfront. E-version here

D'Alisa, G., Demaria, F., & Kallis, G. (Eds.). (2014). *Degrowth: a vocabulary for a new era*. Routledge, London.

Some websites that may be useful include:

South Centre: https://www.southcentre.int/

ICTSD (Trade and Sustainable Development): https://ictsd.iisd.org/

International Institute for Sustainable Development: https://www.iisd.org/

International Institute for Environment and Development: https://www.iied.org/

UN SDG pages: https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/

IDDRI (French SD think-tank): https://www.iddri.org/en

GRAIN NGO: https://www.grain.org/

Natural Justice NGO: https://naturaljustice.org/

Course Evaluation and Development

After the 3 weeks of class/intensive mode, you have assignments to work on during the rest of term. MyExperience feedback will be encouraged at the end of term and used to improve the course content, delivery and assessments. Due to COVID, this has been somewhat challenging, but in 2020 the course received good reviews despite being fully online. Every year we consider the feedback for this course. Please read the course outline and moodle pages and email me with any questions, concerns or

comments about the course or assessments.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.
http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/

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CRICOS

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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Bedegal people who are the traditional custodians of the lands on which UNSW Kensington campus is located.