

**ESPM 155 Society & Natural Resources: A Political Ecology Approach
FALL 2006**

Louise Fortmann
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Office Hours 121 Giannini Hall
Tuesday 1:30-4:30

GSI Stephanie Gerson
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Recommended Text: Becker, Howard. 1986. *Writing for Social Scientists*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Readers are for sale at Replica Copy 2140 Oxford
Reference Article on reserve in the Bio-Resources Library

Connery, Brian A. and John L. Vohs. 1989. *Group Work and Collaborative Writing*. Davis, CA.: Campus Writing Center.

(1) Tuesday, August 29 Political Ecology: An Overview

Film: Darwin's Nightmare

(2) Thursday August 31: An empirical reference point for the course

Film continued: Darwin's Nightmare

Hvalkof, Søren. 2000. "Outrage in Rubber and Oil: Extractivism, Indigenous peoples and Justice in the Upper Amazon" in Charles Zerner (ed) *People, Plants and Justice*. New York: Columbia University Press: 83-116

**Be sure to read the footnotes!

(3) Tuesday September 5 Political Ecology: Foundations

Paul Robbins. 2004. *Political Ecology*. Oxford: Blackwell
Chapter 1 "Hatchet and the Seed" 3-16

Piers Blaikie and Harold Brookfield. 1987. *Land Degradation and Society*. "Defining and Debating the Problem" pp 1-26

**(4) Thursday September 7 BUILDING BLOCKS: MEANING
The Question of Meaning: Constructing Meaning, Struggles Over Meaning**

Paul Robbins. 2004. *Political Ecology*. Oxford: Blackwell: Pages 87-90; Chapter 6
"Construction of Nature: Environmental Knowledges and Imaginaries" 107-126

Suryanata, K. 2000. "Products from Paradise: The Social Construction of Hawai'i Crops," *Agriculture and Human Values* Vol. 17(2): 181-189 (June).

Paper #1 is due today. You must turn this paper in on time to take this class

(5) Tuesday September 12 Research Assignment: The Political Ecology of Your Dinner Plate

Buck, D., C. Getz, and J. Guthman. 1997. "From Farm to Table: The Organic Vegetable Commodity Chain of Northern California" *Sociologia Ruralis* 37 (1): 3-20.

Reardon, Thomas and Julio A. Berdegue. 2002. "The Rapid Rise of Supermarkets in Latin America: Challenges and Opportunities for Development." *Development Policy Review* (20 (4): 371-388.

For Section: Watch "The Meatrix" and "Meatrix II: Revolting" on the web at <http://www.themeatrix.com/> You will be watching and discussing this in section but you will learn more if you have already watched it. It will only take 10 minutes to watch both clips.

This is a source that will help you with your research: Friedland, William H. 1984. "Commodity System Analysis: An Approach to the Sociology of Agriculture" in Harry Scharzweller (ed) *Research in Rural Sociology and Development*. JAI Press. Volume 1.: 221-235.

The paper assignment will be handed out and discussed in class today. You will be given time to begin to form groups.

(6) Thursday September 14 Research Tools 1: Resources on Crops, Production, Processing and Related Associations

Guest Speaker: Norma Kobzina, Librarian BioScience and Natural Resources Library

"On-Line Research Tools in the Library"

(7) Tuesday, September 19 Research Tools 2: Resources on Agricultural and Food Processing Businesses

Guest Speaker: Gary Peete, Librarian, Haas Business School Library

NB: CLASS WILL BE HELD IN THE BUSINESS SCHOOL LIBRARY

(8) Thursday September 21 Craig McNamara (Sierra Orchards- Organic Walnut Farmer)

Barndt, Deborah. 2002. *Tangled Routes: Women, Work and Globalization on the Tomato Trail* New York: Rowan and Littlefield Publishers Inc. excerpts from Chapter 5 "On the

Move for Food: Truckers and Transnational Migrants” pages 155-164 and Chapter 6 “Picking and Packing for the North: Agricultural Workers at Empaque, Santa Rosa” pages:193-198.

(9) Tuesday, September 26 Science and Meaning

Asquith, Pamela J. 1996. "Japanese Science and Western Hegemonies" in Laura Nader (ed.) *Naked Science: Anthropological Inquiry into Boundaries, Power and Knowledge*. London: Routledge. 240-256.

Barres, Ben A. 2006. “Commentary: Does Gender Matter?” *Nature*: 442:133-136

(10) Thursday September 28 The Construction and Use of Meaning in the Media

Film: Media and the End of the Environment”

Heyman, Josiah McC. 2004. “The Political Ecology of Consumption: Beyond Greed and Guilt” in Susan Paulson and Lisa L. Gezon (eds) *Political Ecology across Spaces, Scales and Social Groups*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press: 113-132.

NB: Each person must turn in a 1-2 page plan (outline, sources, research plan) for her/his project at the beginning of class today. Each group must turn in a preliminary work plan for developing the group presentation at the beginning of class today.

(11) Tuesday October 3 What is Property?

Yudhijit Bhattacharjee (editor), 2006. “Universal Ownership” *Newmakers Science* 313:295.

Geisler, Charles. 2000. "Property Pluralism" in Charles Geisler and Gail Daneker (Eds.) *Property and Values: Alternatives to Public and Private Ownership*. Covelo, California: Island Press: 65-87.

(12) Thursday, October 5: Is the Commons Always a Tragedy?

Ostrom, Elinor. 1990. *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 1 “Reflection on the Commons” pp 1-28, 88-102

(13) Tuesday, October 10 Chocolate: A Commodity Chain Analysis

Guest Speaker: John Scharffenberger co founder Scharffen Berger Chocolate Maker

(14) Thursday, October 12: Why Does Property Matter?

Sen, Amartya. 1988. "Property and Hunger." *Economics and Philosophy* 4: 57-68.

Geisler, Charles C. 1995. "Land and Poverty in the United States: Insights and Oversights" *Land Economics* 71 (1): 16-34.

(15) Tuesday October 17 Building Blocks: Gender and Household

Rocheleau, Diane, Barbara Thomas-Slayter, and Esther Wangari. 1996. *Feminist Political Ecology: Global Issues and Local Experiences*. New York: Routledge. Chapter 1: Gender and Environment: A feminist political ecology perspective: 3-23.

Seager, Joni. 2003. "Rachel Carson Died of Breast Cancer: The Coming of Age of Feminist Environmentalism" *Signs* 28 (3) Excerpt: pages 957-972.

Paul Robbins. 2004. *Political Ecology*. Oxford: Blackwell "Breaking Open the Household: Feminist Development Studies": 58-60

(16) Thursday October 19 Tuesday, October 31 (HALLOWEEN!) Race and Class

Brown, Beverly and Agueda Marin-Hernandez. 2000. *Voices from the Woods*. Wolf Creek Oregon: Jefferson Center for Education and Research.: 1-5, 8-9, 20-21, 24-26, 39-40, 45, 49-52.

Finney, Carolyn. 2003. "Can't See the Black Folks for the Trees: Feminist Theory in Black and White" in C. Faulkner and S. Weir (eds) *Voices for a New Century*. Massachusetts: Allyn and Bacon.

Paulson, Susan. 2005. "Gendered Practices and Landscapes in the Andes: The Shape of Asymmetrical Exchanges" in Susan Paulson and Lisa L. Gezon (eds.) *Political Ecology across Spaces, Scales, and Social Groups*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press:174-195.

Costumes are encouraged!!

**(17) Tuesday, October 24: Midterm
Bring As Many Bluebooks as You will Need with you to the exam**

(18) Thursday October 26: Environmental Justice

Romm, Jeff. 2002. "The Coincidental Order of Environmental Injustice" in Kathryn M. Mutz, Gary C. Bryner, and Douglas S. Kenney (Eds.) *Justice and natural Resources*. Washington, D.C.: Island Press. pp. 117-137.

Seager, Joni. 1996. "Hysterical Housewives: And Other Mad Women: Grassroots Environmental Organizing in the United States" in Diane Rocheleau, Barbara

Thomas-Slayter, and Esther Wangari (Eds.). 1996. *Feminist Political Ecology: Global Issues and Local Experiences*. New York: Routledge. pp. 271-283.

(19) Environmental Justice: Native Americans

Film: Homeland: Four Portraits of Native Action

(20) Thursday, NOVEMBER 2: A Local Case

Guest Speaker: Jacquelyn Ross, California Indian Basket Weavers.

CASE STUDY: CONSERVATION IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

(21) Tuesday, November 7 "They always Use Drumbeats": Meanings & Images of Conservation

TODAY IS ELECTION DAY- VOTE!!!

Film: "Africa Passion"

Lutz, Catherine and Jane L. Collins. 1993. *Reading the National Geographic* Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Chapter 4 "A World Brightly Different: Photographic Conventions, 1950-1986. (pages 87-117).

Slater, Candace. 2000. "Justice for Whom? Contemporary Images of Amazonia." In Charles Zerner (ed) *People, Plants and Justice: The Politics of Nature Conservation*. New York: Columbia University Press. 67-82.

(22) Thursday, November 9: Science and Conservation

Thompson, Charis. 2001. "When Elephants Stand for Competing Models of Nature" in A. Mol and J. Law (eds) *Complexities: Social Studies of Knowledge Practices (Science and Cultural Theory)*. Duke University Press.

Sullivan, Sian. 2000. "Getting the Science Right, or Introducing Science in the First Place? Local "Facts", global discourse—"desertification" in North-west Namibia" in Philip Stott and Sian Sullivan (eds.) *Political Ecology: Science, Myth and Power*. New York: Oxford University Press: 15-44

Film: Second Nature

(23) Tuesday, November 14: Conservation as an Arena of Struggle

Peluso, Nancy L. 1993. "Coercing Conservation? The Politics of State Resource Control." *Global Environmental Change* 3 (2): 199-217

Schroeder, R. A. 1997. "Re-claiming" land in the Gambia: Gendered property rights and environmental intervention." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 87 (3):487-508

(24) Thursday, November 16: Community-Based Natural Resource Management

Marshall W. Murphree. 2005. "Congruent Objectives, Competing Interests, and Strategic Compromise: Concept and Process in the Evolution of Zimbabwe's CAMPFIRE, 1984-1996." in J.P. Brosius *et al.* (editors) *Communities and Conservation: Histories and Politics of Community-Based Natural Resource Management*. Walnut Creek: Alta Mira Press.:105-147.

Louise Fortmann. 2005. "What We Need is a Community Bambi: The Perils and Possibilities of Powerful Symbols" in J.P. Brosius *et al.* (editors) *Communities and Conservation: Histories and Politics of Community-Based Natural Resource Management*. Walnut Creek: Alta Mira Press:195-205

(25) Tuesday, November 21: Student Presentations

YOUR PAPER IS DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS TODAY

NB: ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED AT ALL STUDENT PRESENTATIONS. THERE WILL BE AT LEAST ONE FINAL EXAM QUESTION BASED ON THESE PRESENTATIONS.

(26) Thursday, November 23: HAPPY THANKSGIVING!! NO CLASS TODAY

(27) Tuesday, November 28: Student Presentations

(28) Tuesday, November 30: Student Presentations

(29) Tuesday, December 5: Student Presentations

(30) Thursday, December 7: Course Evaluation and Student Presentations

At the beginning of each class you **must** turn in 1-3 sentence summaries of the reading for the day. Your grade will be based on one short (1-3 page) paper (5 %); your personal research plan and your group plan (5%), a 15-20 page research paper (20%) an oral group presentation (10%); a midterm (20%), a final (25%) and class participation (including the summaries of readings) 25%. You are expected to attend every class, **COME TO CLASS ON TIME** participate in class discussions and to do the assigned reading before class. (You'll be amazed at what you learn when you do the readings before class.) Late papers are strongly discouraged. **10% will be deducted from the grade for every day a paper is late.**

I have a **ZERO TOLERANCE** policy for plagiarism. **Plagiarized work will result in an F in the class.** Please consult the class website and the reader for details about the plagiarism policy and what does and does not constitute plagiarism. If you are unsure

about whether you have provided adequate citation, consult with me or Stephanie before you turn in your paper.

This class starts promptly at 9:40 am. Please be on time. If this is too early in the morning for you, don't take the class.