

Geography 4340 Section 1: Human-Environment Interaction

MW: 2:30 -3:55 pm

Ratliff Building North 3039

Spring 2022

First Two Weeks Will Be Online (January 10th to 21st)

Join the Class Using the Zoom link below

<https://uttyler.zoom.us/j/97793123166?pwd=cmIDYWQvZXlucHpiQUhvUzdHVC9kdz09>

Passcode: 567752

Instructor: Dr. E. Cory Sills

Office: CAS 142

Office hours in person or via Zoom MTW 1-2 pm

Zoom link: <https://uttyler.zoom.us/j/95466338479?pwd=Q01SS3VPcHFZdW5pTnhscWlGU1lKdz09>

Passcode: **262200**

Or by appointment

E-mail: esills@uttyler.edu ph:903-566-7442

Communications: I encourage you to come see me during office hours, directly after class, or via Zoom. This is a good opportunity for you to look over your exams, review assignments, ask questions, or seek clarification. If you can not attend my office hours you may set-up an alternative time to meet. I will respond to your emails within 24 hours on weekdays and 48 hours on weekends. In your email, include your first and last name and that you are enrolled in Geography 4340.

All of us, including myself, will need to be **flexible** this semester because of the coronavirus. If you are sick and cannot attend a class that is okay. All I ask, is that you **communicate with me**. If I get sick with Covid, you will be notified by email, and I will send you a contingency plan. I understand that some students will be using their computers at home or in non-traditional locations with more distractions than an in-person class. If this happens (i.e., parent walks in, animal jumps on lap, or kid will not let you work, bad internet connection) do not be embarrassed or worried. I understand. Everyone is having to adjust to new ways of learning and working. I too will have distractions when I am teaching, especially from home.

Required texts: You can purchase the books at the UT Tyler bookstore or online at sites such as Amazon or Chegg.

1. People and Nature: An Introduction to Human Ecological Relations, 2nd edition. Emilio F. Moran, 2017.
2. Environmental Anthropology: From Pigs to Policies, 3rd edition. Patricia K. Townsend, 2018.
3. Additional readings will be posted to Canvas (see the schedule for details about the readings)

Course description: Study of the dynamic relationships between human cultures and their environments. This course will examine the strategies employed by humans to cope with challenges and take advantage of opportunities within their ecological environment.

Course Objectives:

- To examine and synthesize key theoretical concepts, thinkers, and practitioners on human-environment interactions.
- To develop required skills to critically read, analyze, and interpret scholarly works and case studies.
- Apply the learned theories to modern environmental problems and issues.
- To develop and improve critical thinking and writing skills about human-environment interactions.

Course format: Class lectures and discussions will be supplemented by the required text, current events, videos, demonstrations, and guest lectures. Lectures and readings will not necessarily cover the same ground. Indeed, they are intended to supplement each other rather than to completely overlap. All students must participate in the class discussions. I strongly recommend that you attend every lecture and carefully study the assigned readings. I encourage relevant questions and comments during the lecture. A question you have other students might also have, and thoughtful remarks will make the course more interesting for everyone, including myself.

Class Etiquette: I expect everyone in the classroom to be **respectful** of each other and treat everyone with dignity – we all bring to the class different opinions and experiences. Some of these might be dissimilar to your own. I expect comments to be positive and objective and not judgmental and rude.

Grading: The course grade will be based on two exams (mid-term and final), 4 group discussions, NIMBY assignment, and a 5-page environmental problem paper, as well as participation in discussions and attendance

Exams: The mid-term and final exams will cover material from class including slides, discussions, presentations, guest lectures, readings, and videos. The midterm will cover material from the first part of the course; the final will cover material from the second part of the course including presentations by the class. Exams can include multiple choice, true/false, short answer questions, and essay questions dealing with major issues raised in the course. Exams are closed book and closed notes. **Any communication via an electronic device during an exam will be considered potential cheating.**

Discussion Assignments: Each student will be required to participate in four group discussion assignments. See the syllabus for dates. To facilitate discussion, each person will be required to turn in at least 3 questions and/or comments covering all of the readings. **Specific instructions will be posted on the class Canvas site. If you need help with this component, please ask me for further details. I will not accept late discussion questions and comments.**

NIMBY Assignment: Choose a news article that discusses a NIMBY about the environment. The article can be about local or international issues. In two paragraphs describe the major players and who is opposed to the NIMBY and why? Use a reputable news source such as Washington Post, The Economist, The New York Times, The New Yorker, and The Wall Street Journal. If you have a question about the sources, see me. **See Canvas for instructions.**

Environmental Problem Paper: A 5-page environmental problem paper is required for this course. The paper will identify an environmental problem facing a community, town, region, country, or the world and provide evidence-based solutions to this problem. The paper should incorporate at least one solution from an indigenous group past or present. Pick a topic that interests you and one that you want to know more about. You may also pick a topic that is affecting your community. **See Canvas for instructions.**

Class Participation and Attendance: Students are expected to complete the readings for each class period and to participate in class discussions about the readings.

- **Make-up Policy:** Make-up tests will be given with a legitimate reason and in rare circumstances. Students should contact the instructor **prior** to the exam and not after if they will miss the exam. Make-up exams will not be given except when there are exceptional circumstances (be prepared to provide documentation of your circumstance, such as a doctor's note, police report, University-excused absence, *et cetera*).

• Grading scale:	A	90-100%	B	80-89.99%	C	70-79.99%
	D	60-69.99%	F	0-59.99%		

Course weights:

Exam 1:	20%
Exam 2:	20%
4 Group Discussions 8% each	32%
Nimby Assignment:	10%
Environmental Problem Paper:	15%
Class Participation (Attendance and Discussion):	3%
Total:	100%

Cell Phones/Lap tops: Turn off your ringer and do not use your cell phone during class – this includes text messaging. If you are expecting an important call please put your phone on vibrate and sit close to the door. This action will help minimize any disturbance to the class. **I will not be recording this class. Any video, photographic or audio recordings of the class must be approved by me.**

Important Covid-19 Information for Classrooms and Laboratories

Students are expected to wear face masks covering their nose and mouth in public settings (including classrooms and laboratories). The UT Tyler community of Patriots views adoption of these practices consistent with its [Honor Code \(Links to an external site.\)](#) and a sign of good citizenship and respectful care of fellow classmates, faculty, and staff.

Students who are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms such as sneezing, coughing, digestive issues (e.g. nausea, diarrhea), or a higher than normal temperature should stay at home and are encouraged to use the [UT Tyler COVID-19 Information and Procedures \(Links to an external site.\)](#) website to review protocols, check symptoms, and report possible exposure. Students needing additional accommodations may contact the Office of Student Accessibility and Resources at University Center 3150, or call (903) 566-7079 or email saroffice@uttyler.edu.

Recording of Class Sessions

Class sessions may be recorded by the instructor for use by students enrolled in this course. Recordings that contain personally identifiable information or other information subject to FERPA shall not be shared with individuals not enrolled in this course unless appropriate consent is obtained from all relevant students. Class recordings are reserved only for the use of students enrolled in the course and only for educational purposes. Course recordings should not be shared outside of the course in any form without express permission.

UT Tyler Honor Code

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

Students Rights and Responsibilities

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors.

Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products.

There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free.

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a “W” grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability/Accessibility Services

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

The University of Texas at Tyler has a continuing commitment to providing reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Like so many things this Fall, the need for accommodations and the process for arranging them may be altered by the COVID-19 changes we are experiencing and the safety protocols currently in place. Students with disabilities who may need accommodation(s) in order to fully participate in this class are urged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources Office (SAR) as soon as possible, to explore what arrangements need to be made to ensure access. If you have a disability, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student Application. For more information, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices> or call 903.566.7079.

Student Absence due to Religious Observance

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor), must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Student Standards of Academic Conduct

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

i. "Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:

- copying from another student's test paper;
- using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
- possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed "crib notes". The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
- using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
- discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
- substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
- paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
- falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
- taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
- misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.

ii. "Plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another's work and the submission of it as one's own academic work offered for credit.

iii. "Collusion" includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.

iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software.

UT Tyler Resources for Students

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254)

**Incidence of Scholastic Dishonesty: You will receive an automatic zero on the assignment.
All cases of plagiarism or cheating will result in an automatic zero for the assignment!**

What we cover in the lecture on a day-to-day basis may differ from the attached schedule. I will inform the class via email if topics change.

Course Schedule

Week	Day	Date	Lecture and Activities	Readings
1	Mon.	10-Jan	Mapping the Course/Introduction	Syllabus
1	Wed.	12-Jan	Lecture: Culture and Nature	Environmental Anth. Chap. 1 People and Nature Chap. 1
2	Mon.	17-Jan	No Class MLK Day	
2	Wed.	19-Jan	Lecture: Historical Beginnings	People and Nature Chap. 2
3	Mon.	24-Jan	Lecture: Historical Beginnings	People and Nature Chap. 2
3	Wed.	26-Jan	Lecture: Emergence of Cultural Ecology Census Day	Cultural. Ecology. Chap. 1 (posted to Canvas) Environ. Anth. Chap. 2
4	Mon.	31-Jan	Discussion 1 Lecture: Hunter-Gatherer	Environ. Anth. Chap. 5 Canvas: <i>What Hunter's do for a living</i> by Richard Lee and <i>Transformation</i> by John Yellen
4	Wed.	2-Feb	Film	No Reading
5	Mon.	7-Feb	Lecture: Domestication	People and Nature Chap. 3
5	Wed.	9-Feb	Lecture: Pastoralists	Cult. Eco. Chap. 4 (posted to Canvas)
6	Mon.	14-Feb	Lecture: Agriculturalists	Environ. Anth. Chap. 6 People and Nature Chap. 6
6	Wed.	16-Feb	Discussion 2	Environ. Anth. Chap. 10 People and Nature Chap. 7 pgs. 172-175. Canvas: <i>Tragedy of the Commons</i> by Garrett Hardin, Science, 162:1243-1262, and <i>The Benefits of the Commons</i> by Berkes, Feeny, McCay, and Acheson in <i>The Environment in Anthropology</i>
7	Mon.	21-Feb	Lecture: World Population	No Reading. Refer to previous readings
7	Wed.	23-Feb	Lecture: Methods, Paper Workshop Mid-term Review	Canvas: <i>Concepts and Methods of Cultural Ecology</i> in <i>The Environment in Anthropology</i>

8	Mon.	28- Feb	Mid-term	
8	Wed.	2-Mar	Lecture: Ethnoecology	Environ. Anth. Chap. 3 Canvas: NRCS Document <i>Traditional Ecological Knowledge</i>
SPRING BREAK NO CLASSES Monday March 7 to Friday March 11				
10	Mon.	14-Mar	Lecture: Energetics	Environ. Anth. Chap. 4 People and Nature Chap. 4
10	Wed.	16-Mar	Lecture: Reconstructing Ancient Landscapes	Environ. Anth. Chap. 5 People and Nature Chap. 5
11	Mon.	21-Mar	NIMBY Assignment Due Lecture: Political and Applied Ecology	Environ. Anth. Chap.'s 7, 9 Canvas: Paul E. Little, 1999, <i>Environmentalists and Environmentalisms in Anthropological Research: Facing a New Millennium</i> , Annual Review of Anthropology 28:253-284.
11	Wed.	23-Mar	Lecture: Spiritual Ecology	Environ. Anth. Chap. 13 People and Nature Chap. 7 Canvas: <i>Spiritual Ecology: One Anthropologist's Reflections</i> by Leslie Sponsel, 2007
12	Mon.	28-Mar	Film	
12	Wed.	30-Mar	Discussion 3 Last Day to Withdraw	Environmental Anth. Chapter 8 Canvas: <i>1491</i> by Charles Mann, and <i>The Golden Age That Never Was</i> by Jared Diamond, and <i>Blitzkrieg and Thanksgiving in the New World</i> by Jared Diamond
	Mon.	4-Apr	Lecture: Capitalism and the Environment	Environ. Anth. Chap.'s 11 & 14 People and Nature Chap. 8
	Wed.	6-Apr	Lecture: Colonialism and the Environment	Readings posted to Canvas
13	Mon.	11-Apr	Lecture: Capitalism and the Environment	Environ. Anth. Chap.'s 11 & 14 People and Nature Chap. 8
13	Wed.	13-Apr	Discussion 4	Canvas: <i>Gender and the Environment</i> by Rocheleau, Thomas-Slayter, and Wangari in <i>The Environment in Anthropology</i> , and <i>Rethinking Environmental Racism: White Privilege and Urban Development in Southern California</i> by Laura Pulido 2000, and <i>Geographies of race and ethnicity I: White supremacy vs white privilege in environmental racism research</i> by Laura Pulido 2015
14	Mon.	18-Apr	Discussion of Environmental Problem Papers Environmental Problem Paper Due	
14	Wed.	20-Apr	Review for the Final	
15	Mon.	25-Apr.	Study Day No Class	
15	Wed.	27-Apr.	FINAL: Time to be announced	

