



A: Division: **INSTRUCTIONAL** Date: **FEBRUARY 1999**
 B: Faculty: **HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES** New Course:
 Department: **SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY** Revision of Course **FEBRUARY 1993**
 Program: Information form:

C: SOCI 270 D: SOCIETY AND ENVIRONMENT E: 3
 Subject & Course No. Descriptive Title Semester Credit

F: Calendar Description: This course examines the relations between human society and the natural environment. It investigates the ways in which institutions shape and are shaped by natural environments. The ways in which culture, social organization, and social inequality are related to natural environments will be discussed. A range of sociological perspectives will be used to explore contemporary concerns of sustainability, distributive justice and environmental crisis.	Summary of Revisions: Enter sections) Eg: Section C,E,F H
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G: Type of instruction: Days per Week/ per Semester

Lecture:	4	Hrs.
Laboratory:		Hrs.
Seminar:		Hrs.
Clinical Experience:		Hrs.
Field Experience:		Hrs.
Practicum:		Hrs.
Shop:		Hrs.
Studio:		Hrs.
Student Directed Learning:		Hrs.
Other (Specify):		Hrs.
Total:	4	Hrs.

H: Course Prerequisites:
SOCI 125 or SOCI 145 or SOCI 155

I: Course Corequisites:
NONE

J: Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite:
NONE

K: Maximum Class Size:
35

L: College Credit Transfer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
College Credit Non-Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-Credit	<input type="checkbox"/>

M: Transfer Credit: Requested:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Granted:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Specify Course Equivalents or Unassigned Credit as appropriate: (as per current B.C. Transfer Guide)

SFU SA (3) 200 div Sociology
 UBC SOCI (3) 2nd
 UVIC SOCI (1.5) 200 lev
 Other

Melody Hessup
 Course Designer(s)
Tom Carr
 Department Chair

[Signature]
 Dean
P. H. Ongu
 Registrar

Subject and Course Number

N. Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students (Use Bibliographic Form):

Dickens, P. (1992) Society and Nature: Towards a Green Social Theory. Philadelphia: Temple University Press.

The text will be updated periodically .

**Complete Form with Entries Under the Following Headings: O. Course Objectives; P. Course Content;
Q. Method of Instruction; R. Course Evaluation**

O. COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of the course the student will be able to:

1. Understand sociology as a discipline with regards to its perceptions and analysis of the natural environment, including both classical and contemporary perspectives.
2. Discuss cultural linkages, both material and non-material, between humans and natural environment (e.g sustenance, shelter, consumption, religion and beliefs); compare cross-cultural perceptions of the natural environment.
3. Describe the Green Movement and changing social perceptions of the environment as ideological forces.
4. Trace the impact of technological and economic development on human relations with the environment.
5. Discuss social inequalities in terms of their impact on human/environmental relations, with particular reference to issues of class, gender, age, ethnicity, and regionalism.
6. Review the development of human ecology with reference to both urban and rural environments; understand the implications of demographics for natural and social environments.
7. Discuss issues of development and environment, especially with reference to international and gender dimensions of development.
8. Review the potential of political and administrative processes for environmental regulation and protection, and understand their limitations.
9. Identify and understand the potential of sociology to contribute to applied environmental studies, such as social and environmental impact assessments.
10. Demonstrate an understanding of principle social factors in environmental degradation and discuss possible solutions to impending environmental cases.

P. COURSE CONTENT

1. **Introduction**
Sociology of the environment: Foundations
Theoretical perspectives
Functionalism and ecological perspectives
Marxism and Conflict Theory
Contemporary theorizing: EcoFeminism
2. **Culture, Ideology and Environment**
Culture: Cross-cultural perspectives of natural environment
Socialization
Ideology: Ideological perspectives of environmental degradation
The Green Movement
3. **Industrialization, Technological Innovation and Economics**
Material analyses of the human/environmental interface:
production, distribution, corruption
Industrialization and the impact on the natural environment
Post-industrial society and continuing degradation
"Green" economics
Capitalism, global economies, sustainable development
4. **Social Inequality and the Environment**
Class and environment
Gender and environment
Labour and environment
Ethnicity and environment
Regionalism and environment
Global inequality: North-South issues and the Post-Rio Agenda
Distributive justice and the natural environment
5. **Environments and Demographics**
Human ecology: classical and contemporary
Urban and rural sociology
Population issues
6. **Sociology in Environmental Applications**
Science, ethics, values and decision-making
Sociology in resource management
Social impact studies
Environmental impact assessment
Regulatory regimes: Compliance, enforcement and social control
7. **Conclusions: The Global Picture and Survival**

Q. METHOD OF INSTRUCTION

The course will employ a number of instructional methods to accomplish its objectives and will include some of the following:

1. Lectures
2. Seminar presentations
3. Audio visual materials including video, 16mm film, etc.
4. Small group discussions
5. Research projects
6. Practical conditioning demonstrations
7. Research papers

R. COURSE EVALUATION

Evaluation will be carried out in accordance with Douglas College policy and will include both formative and summative components. Evaluation will be based on some of the following: quizzes, multiple choice exams, essay type exams, term paper or research project, class participation, seminar discussion, oral presentation, etc.

The specific evaluation criteria will be provided by the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

An example of one evaluation scheme:

Three Examinations	40%
Term paper	20%
Oral presentation	10%
Seminar participation and group work	10%
Final Exam	<u>20%</u>
	100%

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