



ANTH-216 – Culture and the Environment

University Arts and Science

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2022
Course Outline Review Date: 2024-04-01

Program Area: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Description:

In this course we will explore the dynamic interplay between culture and environment. We will examine environmental impacts and climate change from an anthropological perspective. The adaptive strategies employed by different cultural groups around the globe will be analyzed. We will examine the complexity of human relationships with the environment in a world where conflicting cultural systems are often competing for survival.

Program Information:

This course can be used as either a required course or an elective in several University Studies Programs. Refer to the College Program Guide for additional information.

Delivery Methods: On-campus (Face-to-Face), Online

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 3

Course type/s: Social Sciences

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	45
Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	
Practicum/Field Experience	

Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	
Total	45

Course Requisites:

None

Flexible Assessment: Yes

In some cases students may be able to apply for recognition of prior learning outside the classroom. This flexible assessment process provides equivalent course credit. It is a rigorous process that may include external evaluation, worksite assessment, demonstration, standardized test, self-assessment, interview, products/portfolio, and challenge exam, or other measures as appropriate. Tuition fees apply. Contact an education advisor for more information.

Course Transfer Credit:

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at either British Columbia or Alberta institutions, please see <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or <https://transferalberta.alberta.ca> . For more transfer credit information, please visit <https://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in British Columbia or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrolment Services office.

Textbook Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

Watt-Cloutier, S. (2016). *The Right to Be Cold: One woman's story of protecting her culture, the Arctic and the whole planet*. Toronto, ON: Penguin Canada.

Barker, H. (2013) *Bravo for the Marshallese: Regaining control in a post-nuclear, post-colonial world*. (2nd ed.) Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning.

Additional readings will be made available in class or online.

**Please ensure you get the correct edition of both texts as older editions cannot be used.

Equipment:

- Regular online access to Moodle
- Adobe Reader
- Microsoft 365

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator <https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- identify and describe various human adaptations to global environmental conditions;
 - analyze the diverse reasons for cultural adaptations to specific environmental conditions;
 - describe and explain the processes which contribute to the global environmental condition;
 - recognize the importance and value of Indigenous and traditional ecological knowledge;
 - evaluate some of the various solutions being posed to address environmental problems from both Western scientific and indigenous ecological perspectives;
 - analyze gender relationships, religious beliefs and political processes as they impact upon the human-nature relationship; and
 - describe and explain impacts and meaning of climate change on people and cultures.
-

Course Topics:

Content will include, but is not restricted to, the following:

- Culture
- Cultural Ecology
- Environmental Anthropology
- Culture Change
- Ethnoecology
- Ethnobotany
- Human Adaptations to Environment: Subsistence Strategies
- Challenges of Globalism
- Indigenous & Traditional Ecological Knowledge
- Impacts and Meanings of Climate Change
- Climate Change
- Adaptations to Climate Change

See instructor's syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments.

Evaluation and Assessments

Assessment Type: On-Campus (face-to-face) and Online, or Hybrid

Assessment Type	% of Total Grade
Oral Presentation	15%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	25%
Critical Book Review & Seminar participation	25%
Participation in Discussions and small activities/assignments	15%
Total	100%

Grade Scheme

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
>=90	89-85	84-80	79-76	75-72	71-68	67-64	63-60	59-55	54-50	<50

Pass requirements: None

Evaluation Notes: A grade of “D” grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

Evaluation Notes Comments:

Please see the instructor’s syllabus for specific classroom policies related to this course, such as details of evaluation, penalties for late assignments, and use of electronic aids.

Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a “0” on the exam.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
- Policy 2.4.4 Student Conduct (plagiarism, other cheating, behavioral misconduct)
- Policy 2.5.8 Academic Performance

- Policy 2.5.3 Grade Appeal
 - Policy 2.4.9 Student Concerns Re Faculty
-

Course Changes:

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.