

Ethical Trade in Latin America

IS 4990, Fall 2008

Professor Adam Henne, adampetershenne@gmail.com
115 Anthropology
Office hours: Tuesdays 11:30 – 2:30 or by appointment

Class Tuesdays 3:10 – 6:00
History #259

Description Who grew that coffee? Were your jeans made by slaves? Is that hamburger causing deforestation? In the 21st century we are becoming increasingly aware of the complicated networks that bring us our consumer goods. More importantly, many people are trying to reshape those networks, to make them more ecologically sustainable and socially just. In this course, we will examine the production of everyday products and their socio-ecological contexts. We will study the new movement to transform international trade through enlightened consumption, and raise questions about its effectiveness and implications. You can still enjoy your coffee, but by the end of class you will think of it very differently.

Grading Reading responses.....10%
Lead weekly discussion.....10%
In-class presentation.....10%
Class participation.....30%
Final paper.....40%

Graduate students will be evaluated as above, with additional assignments, readings and expectations as discussed below.

Assignments You will notice that we have a lot of reading. Each week I'd like you to e-mail me a brief (1-2 page tops) *response to the readings* by the Monday before class – thoughts, questions, issues, etc. Each week, 1 or 2 of you will be responsible for directing the *in-class discussion* of the readings, or rather co-leading it with me. This just means to come in extra-prepared, with questions to get us started and redirect conversation if we lag or get off-topic. You don't need to send me a response that week. This is in addition to your regular *participation in class*, which makes up a large part of your grade: this is a seminar, and as such depends on everyone's active contribution to conversation, thought, and the construction of a learning community in the classroom. No wallflowers! The course will build toward a *final paper*, a research project that reflects your own interest in the subject of trade and social movements, or justice and sustainability more broadly. We will discuss the projects and drafts of the paper at various points throughout the semester. I expect that grad students will produce longer papers with more theoretical analysis, incorporating resources and experiences from your own particular (or anticipated) graduate thesis projects. As the semester ends, we will *present these projects in class*. I expect this to be a semi-formal presentation, with or without visual aids but prepared in a coherent and professional fashion – grad students may wish to think of this as practice for presentation at a professional conference. Finally, in addition to the above, grad students will also submit a *book review* on a volume or set of publications pertaining to the theme of the class as it relates to your particular area or field of interest.

Texts Guthman, Julie. 2004. *Agrarian dreams: The paradox of organic farming in California*. University of California Press. ISBN 0-5202-4094-4
Hayden, Cori. 2004. *When nature goes public: The making and unmaking of bioprospecting in Mexico*. Princeton University Press. ISBN 0-6910-9556-6
Jaffee, Daniel. 2007. *Brewing Justice: Fair Trade coffee, sustainability, and survival*. University of California Press. ISBN 0-5202-4959-3
Vivanco, Luis. 2006. *Green Encounters: Shaping and contesting environmentalism in rural Costa Rica*. London: Berghahn Books. ISBN 1-8454-5168-6

Other readings required for class will be available online, on reserve at Coe, or on a CD, as noted.



Week	Topics:	Assignments and/or Activities:
8-26	Introduction	
9-2	Commodity, commodification, and commodity fetishism	MARX, KARL. 1967. <i>Capital, vol. 1</i> : Chapter One. Many editions available, the easiest to find is probably: http://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1867-c1/ch01.htm
9-9	Unequal development	CARDOSO, FERNANDO HENRIQUE. 1972. Dependency and development in Latin America. <i>New Left Review</i> 74:83-95. www.rrojasdatabank.org/cardoso1.htm ROBBINS, RICHARD. 2002. Chapter 2, "The laborer in the culture of capitalism," and Chapter 3, "The rise of the merchant, industrialist, and capital controller." In <i>Global Problems and the Culture of Capitalism</i> . <u>for grad students</u> : ESCOBAR, A. 1995. "The problematization of poverty," In <i>Encountering development</i> : http://site.ebrary.com.proxy.uwlib.uwyo.edu/lib/uofw/Doc?id=10031960
9-16	Networks and Actor-Networks	POLLAN, MICHAEL. 2006. <i>Omnivore's Dilemma</i> , section 1. WHATMORE AND THORNE. 1997. "Nourishing networks: Alternative geographies of food." In <i>Globalizing food</i> , D Goodman and MJ Watts, eds. <u>for grad students</u> : LAW, J. 1986. "On the methods of long distance control: Vessels, navigation, and the Portuguese route to India," in <i>Power, action and belief</i> .
9-23	Consumer cultures	JACKSON, PETER. 1999. Commodity cultures: The traffic in things. <i>Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers</i> 24: 95-108 APPADURAI, ARJUN. 1986. "Commodities and the politics of value". In <i>The social life of things</i> . Edited by A. Appadurai. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
9-30	Standards and standardization	BUSCH, LAWRENCE. 2000. The moral economy of grades and standards. <i>Journal of rural studies</i> 16:273-83. DUNN, ELIZABETH. 2003. Trojan pig: Paradoxes of food safety regulation. <i>Environment and planning A</i> 35:1493-1511.
10-7	Gender	BARNDT, DEBORAH. 2008. "Picking and packing for the North: Agricultural workers at Empaque Santa Rosa," in <i>Tangled routes: Women, work and globalization on the tomato trail</i> . Rowman and Littlefield. BELSKY, JILL. 2003. "Unmasking the local: Gender, community, and the politics of community-based ecotourism in Belize." In <i>Contested Nature</i> , Brechin et al, eds. BROWN, PATRICIA LEIGH. 2008. For 'EcoMoms,' saving Earth begins at home. <i>The New York Times</i> , Feb. 16. http://www.nytimes.com/2008/02/16/us/16ecomoms.html?pagewanted=1 -- also visit some of the discussions of this article in the blogosphere: http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&safe=off&q=ecomoms+saving+earth+blog

10-14	Organic	GUTHMAN, JULIE. 2004. <i>Agrarian dreams: The paradox of organic farming in California</i> . University of California Press.
10-21	Fair Trade Coffee	JAFFEE, DANIEL. 2007. <i>Brewing Justice: Fair Trade coffee, sustainability, and survival</i> . University of California Press.
10-28	Ecotourism	VIVANCO, LUIS. 2006. <i>Green Encounters: Shaping and contesting environmentalism in rural Costa Rica</i> . London: Berghahn Books.
11-4	Forest certification	FERN. 2004. <i>Footprints in the forest</i> . HAENER, M.K. AND M.K. LUCKERT. 1998. Forest certification: Economic issues and welfare implications. <i>Canadian public policy</i> 24(2):S83-S94. MEIDINGER, ELLIOT, AND OESTEN. 2003. "The fundamentals of forest certification," in <i>Social and political dimensions of forest certification</i> . <u>for grad students</u> : BERNSTEIN, S. and CASHORE, B. 2004. "Nonstate global governance: Is forest certification a legitimate alternative to a global forest convention?" In <i>Hard choices, soft law</i> , Kirton and Trebilcock, eds.
11-11	Bioprospecting	BERLIN AND BERLIN. 2004. Community autonomy and the Maya ICBG project in Chiapas, Mexico: How a bioprospecting project that should have succeeded failed. <i>Human organization</i> 63(4). BRUSH, S. 1999. Bioprospecting the public domain. <i>Cultural anthropology</i> 14(4):535-55. NIGH, RONALD. 2002. Maya medicine in the biological gaze: bioprospecting research as herbal fetishism. <i>Current anthropology</i> 43(3). <u>for grad students</u> : HAYDEN, CORI. 2004. <i>When nature goes public: The making and unmaking of bioprospecting in Mexico</i> . Princeton University Press.
11-18	No class	Draft of final paper due in my email by 11-17.
11-25	Class presentations	
12-2	Class presentations	
finals	No class	Final paper due in my email by 12-5