**UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING**

**SOC 3950**

**ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY, 3 CREDIT HOURS**

**WYOCOURSES ONLINE**

**SPRING 2019**

**JANUARY 28 – MAY 10, 2019**

**Instructor: Kate Inman, PhD**

**email:** kinman@uwyo.edu

**Office hours**: Via email or by appointment in the Chat Room or Conferences tab. I am in the course most days of the week and will respond to email within 24 to 48 hours.

**Course prerequisites**: SOC 1000. **Max enrollment**: 30.  **Cross listed:** ENR 3950

**Course Description**: This course presents sociological approaches to the study of society and the physical/natural environment. It provides an overview of theoretical approaches that have been applied to environment and society, such as “limits to growth” and the role of technology, production, and consumerism on resource scarcity. By analyzing key contemporary environmental debates, students will develop an understanding of sociological analyses, and the impact of social life on our environment, as well as the effect of the environment on social life. The course analyzes major topical issues and environmental policies that currently challenge the global human survival base and reviews actions taken so far to meet that challenge. Debates on specific issues include population, energy and natural resources, development and political economics, food and agriculture, waste and pollution, and environmental movements. The course examines how these issues impact larger problems such as global climate change and global environmental sustainability. Possible future outcomes and policy solutions, such as development of alternative energy sources, are explored.

This course has been designed for upper-level undergraduate students. Students in the class are expected to have a significant interest in the course content and be prepared to thoroughly discuss the materials. There are two texts for the class, plus some additional readings. The texts are listed below and are available at the UW Bookstore. Class will include “lecture” pages, discussions, films, exercises, assignments, and exams.

One of the benefits of taking an online class is the opportunity to participate in thoughtful discussions, do your own research, and share what you find with the rest of the class. The field is always changing; the texts cover only so much, and I'm sure you will find other issues and authors not covered in this class. Please feel free to seek out additional academic readings, introduce them to your fellow students, and use them in your assignments. I will rely on you to help create a safe, fun learning environment in which you can take part in threaded discussions, share information, teach each other, and learn from many different sources. I will do my best to facilitate this process.

**Student Learning Outcomes**: Your grade for the class will reflect mastery of the subjects through the objectives and assignments described below.

**Course objectives**:

* Complete all readings, discussions, exercises, assignments, films and exams
* Learn about historical, conceptual, and empirical aspects of the interactions of society with the natural environment
* Learn to think critically about, discuss, and assess in writing concepts and issues relevant to environmental sociology
* Produce and present a final project

**Required texts, readings, and special tools or materials:**

Gould, Kenneth A. & Lewis, Tammy L. 2015. *Twenty Lessons In Environmental Sociology,* 2nd edition. New York: Oxford University Press.

Mulligan, Martin. 2018. *An Introduction to Sustainability: Environmental, Social and Personal Perspectives*, 2nd edition*.* New York: Routledge.

Other readings as assigned

**Required examinations, assignments, activities, and projects:** All the activities and assignments you create throughout the course will make up your final grade.  These will include:

* A series of threaded discussion entries based on weekly readings
* Exercises TBA in class
* One or two exams in each numbered unit of the course (or one exam every two to three weeks)
* A one-page proposal for the final project
* A final project, in the form of a paper, about 8 to 10 pages long
* A one- to two-page presentation of your final paper to the class

All Unit readings are required except those that are marked as optional. Please keep up with weekly readings – your threaded discussions depend on them and they will be graded in a timely fashion. Assignments are announced throughout the Units.

**Final Examination and Final Project Date:**  Because each unit has one or two exams covering the topics in their respective units, there will be no final examination.

The Final Project will be due on Sunday, May 12.

**Grading Scale and Grading Policies:** Evaluation of discussions follow a rubric which includes the degree of participation, significance of the contribution, level of correct grammar & punctuation, degree of creativity & imagination, and level of critical thinking skills. Evaluation of all other assignments take most or all of these factors into account. Final grades are made up of the average of all assignment grades.

Late assignments will not receive full credit unless the student has contacted me ahead of time for an extension.

Grades will be based on the following scale:

A+ = 100% to 97%

A = <97%% to 93%

1. = < 93% to 90%

B+ = < 90% to 87%

B = < 87% to 83%

1. = < 83% to 80%

C+ = < 80% to 77%

C = < 77% to 73%

1. = < 73% to 70%

D+ = < 70% to 67%

D = < 67% to 63%

1. = < 63% to 60%

F = < 60% to 0%

**Attendance and Absence policies**. Non-participation in weekly class activities is counted as absence. If I do not receive any communication from you at all for a week or two, I will email you a letter of concern.  If I do not hear from you, you will receive an “F” for your final grade unless you return to class and do all the assigned work. It is up to you to withdraw from the class if you are too far behind to catch up.

You are responsible for solving your own computer problems.  They are not an excuse for missing class.

**Classroom Behavior Policy:** Please treat your presence and enrollment in this course as if it were your job. Be professional, show up, pay attention, do your work on time, and respect all deadlines. Please be considerate of others in the class.  Online humor can be misleading if it is not clearly labeled as such.  Challenging someone’s ideas does not have to be confrontational.  It can be fair and honest, *and* can be done in a friendly, non-threatening way.  Sharing in this way can make the course both fun and allow us all to grow in a safe learning environment where all views are heard and respected.  Continued offensive or inappropriate communications can be cause for administrative action and possible exclusion from the class.

**Classroom Statement on Diversity:** The University of Wyoming values an educational environment that is diverse, equitable, and inclusive. The diversity that students and faculty bring to class, including age, country of origin, culture, disability, economic class, ethnicity, gender identity, immigration status, linguistic, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, veteran status, worldview, and other social and cultural diversity is valued, respected, and considered a resource for learning.

**Disability Services:** The University of Wyoming is an affirmative action/equal opportunity educator and employer, and is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students.  If you have a physical, learning, sensory or psychological disability and require accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible. You will need to register with, and provide documentation of your disability to, University Disability Support Services (UDSS) in SEO.  You may apply on-line at the UDSS web site: [www.uwyo.edu/udss](https://uwmail.uwyo.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=e224be874be34978a87c4e107c9f6ef6&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.uwyo.edu%2fudss) or you may contact UDSS for more information at (307) 766-6189, TTY: (307) 766-3073. It is in your best interest to request accommodations within the first week of classes, understanding that accommodations are not retroactive.

**Academic Dishonesty Policies**: Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this class. Cases of academic dishonesty will be treated in accordance with UW Regulation 2-114 (Procedures and Authorized University Actions in Cases of Student Academic Dishonesty). The penalties for academic dishonesty can include, at my discretion, an “F” on an exam, an “F” on the class component exercise, and/or an “F” in the entire course. Academic dishonesty means anything that represents someone else’s ideas as your own without attribution. It is intellectual theft – stealing - and includes (but is not limited to) unapproved assistance on examinations, plagiarism (use of any amount of another person’s writings, blog posts, publications, and other materials without attributing that material to that person with citations), or fabrication of referenced information. Facilitation of another person’s academic dishonesty is also considered academic dishonesty and will be treated identically.

**Duty to Report:** UW faculty are committed to supporting students and upholding the University’s non-discrimination policy. Under Title IX, discrimination based upon sex and gender is prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex- or gender-based discrimination, we encourage you to report it. While you may talk to a faculty member, understand that as a "Responsible Employee" of the University, the faculty member MUST report information you share about the incident to the university’s Title IX Coordinator (you may choose whether you or anyone involved is identified by name). If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you privacy or confidentiality, there are people who can meet with you. Faculty can help direct you or you may find info about UW policy and resources at:

http://www.uwyo.edu/reportit

You do not have to go through the experience alone. Assistance and resources are available, and you are not required to make a formal complaint or participate in an investigation to access them.

**Substantive changes to syllabus**: This syllabus is a guide. All deadlines, requirements, and course structure are subject to change if deemed necessary by me, the instructor. Students will be notified on our announcement page and via email of these changes. You are required to check WyoCourses and your email at least twice a week.

**Student Resources:**

**UW Writing Center:** For online, off-campus students, the Writing Center offers phone consultations and online feedback. For more information about how online students can request these services, view the [Online Writing Center page](http://www.uwyo.edu/ctl/writing-center/online-writing-center.html)  [http://www.uwyo.edu/ctl/writing-center/online-writing-center.html] within UW Writing Center's website. Please plan ahead; generally, the turn-around time for an online request is 24 to 48 hours, and they aren't open on weekends.

**eTutoring.** University of Wyoming students now have access to free online tutoring, 24 hours a day, seven days a week through an e-Tutoring program. UW students can go to <https://www.etutoring.org/LOGIN.CFM?INSTITUTIONID=294&RETURNPAGE>= and follow the instructions to access e-Tutoring. Once logged in, students can view a schedule of available tutors for undergraduate subjects including math, science, writing, Spanish, Web development and others. Tutoring sessions are conducted in real-time between tutors and students with online interaction and an audio connection.

***CAMPUS RESOURCES***

*DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES: udss@uwyo.edu, 766-3073, 128 Knight Hall, www.uwyo.edu/udss*

*COUNSELING CENTER: uccstaff@uwyo.edu, 766-2187, 766-8989 (After hours), 341 Knight Hall,*

*www.uwyo.edu/ucc*

*ACADEMIC AFFAIRS: 766-4286, 312 Old Main, www.uwyo.edu/acadaffairs*

*DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE: dos@uwyo.edu, 766-3296, 128 Knight Hall, www.uwyo.edu/dos*

*UW POLICE DEPARTMENT: uwpd@uwyo.edu, 766-5179, 1426 E Flint St, www.uwyo.edu/uwpd*

*STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT WEBSITE: www.uwyo.edu/dos/conduct*