**UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING**

**SOC 3950 / ENR 3950**

**ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY, 3 CREDIT HOURS**

**ONLINE DELIVERY**

**SPRING 2020**

**START DATE: JANUARY 27 END DATE: MAY 8, 2020**

**Instructor: Kate Inman, PhD**

**Email:** [kinman@uwyo.edu](mailto:kinman@uwyo.edu)

**Office hours**: Via email or by appointment in the Chat Room or Conferences tab. Please email requesting a time for an appointment. I usually respond to email inquiries within a day or two.

**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**:

* Complete all readings, discussions, exercises, assignments, and exams.
* View and discuss all films.
* 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

**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

**General requirements and expectations for the course:**

**Assignments:** Due dates for assignments are posted with the assignment instructions and on the calendar. Please include your full name, course number, and the unit and assignment name/number (for example: “<your name>, SOC 4020, Unit 3, Assignment 1”) on every assignment. Please submit assignments to me in Microsoft Word or rich text (\*.rtf).

Each unit’s work must be done within the time frame specified. I have listed dates during which each unit, reading, discussion, and assignment will be due. Please note that readings are assigned weekly, as are discussions. Please keep up with the work assigned in each unit and complete it by the date and within the week it is assigned.

**Please back up your written work!** With a backup system in place, you won’t lose your work. You might want to work on assignments off-line, then copy them into the appropriate online site or send them as attachments. This will reduce your time online and allow you to keep a copy of your work. It also reduces the chance of getting cut off in the middle of creating your work.

**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
* Two short papers on topics related to course content
* Exercises TBA in class
* A series of films with discussions
* Seven exams (one or two exams in each numbered unit of the course)

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.

If any changes are made to the course, I will announce these via email and/or through the announcements in the course. Please keep up with your UW email and check for announcements regularly.

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

**Grading Scale and Grading Policies:** Grades will be weighted as noted on the Syllabus page in the course. Late assignments will not receive full credit unless you have contacted me ahead of time for an extension.

Grades will be based on the following scale:

A = 90% to 100%

B = 80% to < 90%

C = 70% to < 80%

D = 60% to < 70%

F = < 60%

**Attendance and Absence policies:** You are required to participate in all aspects of the class. Attendance is recorded through participation in weekly threaded discussions and completion of assignments. Please keep up with weekly assigned readings and discussions. Non-participation in weekly class activities is counted as absence. If you do not participate 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.

**Contact Information:** Should you experience **computer or other technical difficulties**, help is available through the **UW Online Help Desk**  (helpdesk@ecampus.uwyo.edu; or 800-448-7801 and follow the operator's prompts for Online UW technical assistance).

If you have problems with **the course platform** or need information on how to do something in Canvas or operate WyoCourses, scroll down the brown bar to the far left and click on **“HELP” to get help from Canvas personnel.** You can also log into the WyoCourses home page online (http://www.uwyo.edu/wyocourses/) and see helpful links there.

If you need help with **administrative problems**, please contact **Dr. Matthew Painter** in the Criminology/Sociology Department (307-766-2988 or [mpainter@uwyo.edu](mailto:mpainter@uwyo.edu)). For **instructional problems** or questions, please email me at [kinman@uwyo.edu](mailto:kinman@uwyo.edu).

**Disability Services, eTutoring, and other student resources:** Please see the link, below/left, titled “Learning Tools” in the course.

**Classroom Statement on Diversity:** Please see the link, below/left, titled “Classroom Climate & Conduct” in the course.

**Classroom Behavior Policy:** Please see the link, below/left, titled “Classroom Climate & Conduct” in the course.

**Academic Dishonesty Policies:** Please see the link, below/left, titled “Classroom Climate & Conduct” in the course.

**Duty to Report:** Please see the link, below/left, titled “Classroom Climate & Conduct” in the course.

**Substantive changes to syllabus:** Please see the link, below/left, titled “Classroom Climate & Conduct” in the course.

**Daily or weekly schedule of topics, activities, and graded work**: Listed below syllabus in the course.