

## OUTLINE

This course is an introduction to ecological anthropology. How do different natural environments affect humans living in those habitats? And, conversely, how do different patterns of human life affect the natural environments in which people live? During the semester, we shall survey anthropological theories and empirical studies bearing on these two, related questions.

The course is divided roughly into four segments. First, as an introduction to the course, we will read the short book by Townsend. Following this brief overview, we will spend several weeks discussing the general concepts, history, and theoretical variants of ecological anthropology, drawing mostly on the two “main texts” (the books by Moran and by Sutton and Anderson). The third part of the course focuses on specific findings from numerous studies of human-habitat interactions. Moran organizes his summary of previous studies by environmental types, whereas Sutton and Anderson organize their summary by human subsistence types. The final weeks of the semester are reserved for student research presentations.

The format of this course is very much discussion of readings. Before coming to class, each of us is responsible for carefully reading the assignments, sifting out their important ideas, and thinking about them on our own. Then, during class, each of us is responsible for asking as well as answering questions and generally sharing our thoughts about the materials with others in the class. The goal is to help one another improve our, respective, understandings of the readings.

## MATERIALS

Three paperback books are required for this course, and these are available from the University Bookstore. From time to time, I may distribute copies of individual articles, as well. The three “textbooks” are listed below, and make sure you obtain the correct editions of these.

Townsend, Patricia K. (2009) *Environmental Anthropology: From Pigs to Policies*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Long Grove, IL: Waveland. [ISBN: 978-1-57766-581-6]

Moran, Emilio F. (2008) *Human Adaptability: An Introduction to Ecological Anthropology*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. Boulder, CO: Westview. [ISBN: 978-0-8133-4367-9]

Sutton, Mark Q. and Anderson, E. N. (2010) *Introduction to Cultural Ecology*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Lanham, MD: AltaMira. [ISBN: 978-0-7591-1247-6]

## REQUIREMENTS

Your grade in the course will be determined by performance on hour exams, daily questions/discussion points about the readings, a team research presentation, and class participation. Briefly, the course requirements are as follows:

Two in-class exams	400 points
Daily questions/discussion points concerning readings	100 points
Team research presentation	100 points
Class participation	<u>50 points</u>

Total = 650 points

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Note that attendance is required. Also, and particularly for this class, you really must **read all assignments in advance** of the period for which they are assigned, and **bring the books with you to class**.

READING POSTINGS: While all students are responsible for reading all assignments, to facilitate class discussions, the class is divided into three “Posting Groups.” Which group has responsibility for particular readings are indicated on the day-by-day schedule, below, with group numbers in square-brackets to the left of assignments, e.g., “[1] Moran, Preface and Chapter 1 (pp. xv-25).” Postings on the class’s CourseSite discussion board(s) are due no later than midnight the evening before the readings are scheduled for discussion.

EXAM POLICY: You are responsible for taking exams during their scheduled times. Any exception must be approved by me (John Gatewood) *\*IN ADVANCE\** of the exam. Please note that calling and leaving a message, speaking with my department secretary, sending an e-mail, etc., is not sufficient—you must obtain my permission beforehand to re-schedule an exam. Otherwise, failure to take an exam as scheduled will result in an automatic “F” in the course, irrespective of what grades you may have earned on other requirements.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting accommodations, please contact both your instructor and the Office of Academic Support Services, University Center 212 (610-758-4152) as early as possible in the semester. You must have documentation from the Academic Support Services office before accommodations can be granted.

#### CLASS PERIODS BY CALENDAR DAYS

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Jan 17	—	Jan 19	—	Jan 21
Jan 24	—	Jan 26	—	Jan 28
Jan 31	—	Feb 2	—	Feb 4
Feb 7	—	Feb 9	—	Feb 11
Feb 14	—	Feb 16	—	Feb 18
Feb 21	—	Feb 23	—	Feb 25
Feb 28	—	Mar 2	—	Mar 4
—	—	—	—	—
Mar 14	—	Mar 16	—	Mar 18
Mar 21	—	Mar 23	—	Mar 25
Mar 28	—	Mar 30	—	Apr 1
Apr 4	—	Apr 6	—	Apr 8
Apr 11	—	Apr 13	—	Apr 15
Apr 18	—	Apr 20	—	Apr 22
Apr 25	—	Apr 27	—	Apr 29

## **TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF TOPICS**

### **PART I: INTRODUCTORY OVERVIEW**

1. Jan 17 (M)           Introductory Remarks  
                          Townsend, Chapter 1 (pp. 1-7)
2. Jan 19 (W)           Roots of Environmental Anthropology / Cultural Ecology  
                          Townsend, Chapters 2, 3, 4, and 5 (pp. 9-35)
3. Jan 21 (F)           Developments from the 1960s and 1970s Onwards  
                          Townsend, Chapters 6, 7, 8, and 9 (pp. 37-68)
4. Jan 24 (M)           Local-Global Interactions  
                          Townsend, Chapters 10, 11, 12, and 13 (pp. 69-101)

### **PART II: GENERAL CONCEPTS IN ECOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY**

5. Jan 26 (W)           People in Ecosystems  
                          [1] Moran, Preface and Chapter 1 (pp. xv-25)
6. Jan 28 (F)           Theories of Human-Habitat Interaction  
                          [2] Moran, Chapter 2 (pp. 27-59)  
                          [3] Sutton & Anderson, Preface and Chapter 1 (pp. xiii-33)
7. Jan 31 (M)           Theories of Human-Habitat Interaction  
                          Moran, Chapter 2 (pp. 27-59)  
                          Sutton & Anderson, Chapter 1 (pp. 1-33)
8. Feb 2 (W)           Fundamentals of Human Ecology  
                          [1] Moran, Chapter 3 (pp. 61-91)  
                          [2] Sutton & Anderson, Chapter 2 (pp. 35-57)
9. Feb 4 (F)           Fundamentals of Human Ecology  
                          Moran, Chapter 3 (pp. 61-91)  
                          Sutton & Anderson, Chapter 2 (pp. 35-57)
10. Feb 7 (M)           Fundamentals of Human Ecology  
                          (lecture on MSY and other “missing” topics in textbooks)
11. Feb 9 (W)           Human Biological Ecology  
                          [3] Sutton & Anderson, Chapter 3 (pp. 59-90)
12. Feb 11 (F)           Cultural Ecology  
                          [1] Sutton & Anderson, Chapter 4 (pp. 91-132)
13. Feb 14 (M)           Environmental Change and Spatial Analysis  
                          [2] Moran, Chapter 4 (pp. 93-120)
14. Feb 16 (W)           ----- IN-CLASS EXAM -----
15. Feb 18 (F)           MOVIE: “Collapse” (55 minutes ... MC VC LU 1451, part 8)

### **PART III: FINDINGS FROM PREVIOUS STUDIES OF HUMAN-HABITAT INTERACTIONS**

16. Feb 21 (M)            ORGANIZATIONAL DAY  
Forming Teams for Student Research
17. Feb 23 (W)            Arctic  
                                 [3] Moran, Chapter 5 (pp. 123-155)
18. Feb 25 (F)            High Altitudes  
                                 [1] Moran, Chapter 6 (pp. 157-187)
19. Feb 28 (M)            Arid Lands  
                                 [2] Moran, Chapter 7 (pp. 189-225)
20. Mar 2 (W)             Grasslands  
                                 [3] Moran, Chapter 8 (pp. 227-261)
21. Mar 4 (F)             Humid Tropics  
                                 [1] Moran, Chapter 9 (pp. 263-304)
22. Mar 14 (M)            FLEX DAY  
Additional topic, or catch up & review
23. Mar 16 (W)            Hunting and Gathering  
                                 [2] Sutton & Anderson, Chapter 5 (pp. 133-175)
24. Mar 18 (F)            Origins of Food Production  
                                 [3] Sutton & Anderson, Chapter 6 (pp. 177-194)
25. Mar 21 (M)            Horticulture  
                                 [1] Sutton & Anderson, Chapter 7 (pp. 195-224)
26. Mar 23 (W)            Pastoralism  
                                 [2] Sutton & Anderson, Chapter 8 (pp. 225-266)
27. Mar 25 (F)            Intensive Agriculture  
                                 [3] Sutton & Anderson, Chapter 9 (pp. 267-304)
28. Mar 28 (M)            FLEX DAY  
Additional topic, or catch up & review
29. Mar 30 (W)            Current Issues and Problems  
                                 [1] Sutton & Anderson, Chapter 10 (pp. 305-321)
30. Apr 1 (F)             Urban Sustainability  
                                 [2] Moran, Chapter 10 (pp. 307-330)

31. Apr 4 (M) Urban Sustainability  
[3] Moran, Chapter 10 (pp.307-330)
32. Apr 6 (W) FLEX DAY  
Additional topic, or catch up & review
33. Apr 8 (F) - - - - - IN-CLASS EXAM - - - - -

**PART V: STUDENT PRESENTATIONS**

34. Apr 11 (M) Consultations and Planning for Team Presentations
35. Apr 13 (W) Consultations and Planning for Team Presentations
36. Apr 15 (F) TEAM 1 – Research Presentation
37. Apr 18 (M) TEAM 2 – Research Presentation
38. Apr 20 (W) TEAM 3 – Research Presentation
39. Apr 22 (F) TEAM 4 – Research Presentation
40. Apr 25 (M) TEAM 5 – Research Presentation
41. Apr 27 (W) TEAM 6 – Research Presentation
42. Apr 29 (F) Course Summary and Student Evaluations