

CET Syllabus of Record



Program: Chinese Studies and Internship in Shanghai

Course Title: Global Environment and Development in the 21st Century

Course Code: SH/ENVR 220

Total Hours: 45

Recommended Credits: 3

Primary Discipline / Suggested Cross Listings: Environmental Studies / Development Studies, International Relations, Geography, Political Geography, East Asian Studies

Language of Instruction: English

Prerequisites/Requirements: None

Description

With a focus on China, this course explores the environmental challenges that are increasingly taking center stage at the global scale as both developed and developing countries attempt how to best balance economic growth with environmental sustainability. China's "Green" Belt and Road Initiative and renewable energy sector are central to these issues. Students in this class also investigate how and why environmental challenges are spread unevenly across different regions of the globe. Additional topics include sustainable development, natural resource extraction, and commodities production. The first half of the semester focuses on selected empirical works of critical social scientists, while the second half allows students to hone in on major conceptual debates in the field. A field study class to a local site gives students insights on how Shanghai is working to improve and protect the local environment.

Objectives

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- identify the key agents, institutions, and places that shape global environment and development issues;
- evaluate the comparative effectiveness of China's "green" development model and its impact on the environment;
- understand the key empirical and conceptual debates on global economic restructuring and its impact on the environment; and
- analyze the effectiveness of efforts to alleviate global environment and development problems.

Course Requirements

Students are expected to attend weekly class meetings and actively participate in class discussions. To do so, students are expected to complete assigned readings of 50-80 pages before each class. There are two quizzes, a midterm exam, and a final exam.

CET Syllabus of Record

Methods of Evaluation

In-class Discussion: 20%

Quizzes: 10% (2 at 5% each)

Midterm Exam: 30%

Comprehensive Final Exam: 40%

Primary Texts

Bridge, G. 2015. "The Hole World: Scales and Spaces of Extraction." *Scenario Journal*, pp.1-8.

Bridge, G. 2017. "Mining and Mineral Resources." *The International Encyclopedia of Geography*. John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Carney, J. and Rangan, H. 2015. "Situating African Agency in Environmental History." *Environment and History*, Vol. 21, No. 1, pp. 1-11.

Child, J. and Rodrigues, S. 2005. "The Internationalization of Chinese Firms: A Case for Theoretical Extension?" *Management and Organization Review*, 1:3, 381-410.

Currid, E. and Williams, S. 2009. "The Geography of Buzz: Art, Culture and the Social milieu in Los Angeles and New York." *Journal of Economic Geography*, pp. 1-29.

Deng, P. 2012. "The Internationalization of Chinese Firms: A Critical Review and Future Research." *International Journal of Management Reviews*, 14(4), 408-427.

Ferguson, J. 2005. "Seeing Like an Oil Company: Space, Security and Global Capital in Neoliberal Africa." *American Anthropologist* 107(3): 377-382.

French, S., Leyshon, A. and Thrift, N. 2009. "A Very Geographical Crisis: The Making and Breaking of the 2007-2008 Financial Crisis." *Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society*. Vol. 2, pp. 287-302. GDMMSHTP..GESHOD..

Lee, C.K. 2014. "The Spectre of Global China." *New Left Review*, 89, 29-65.

Liu, W., and Dunford, M. 2016. "Inclusive Globalization: Unpacking China's Belt and Road Initiative." *Area Development and Policy*, 1(3), 323-340.

Moseley, W., Carney, J. and Becker, L. 2010. "Neoliberal Policy, Rural Livelihoods, and Urban Food Security in West Africa: A Comparative Study of The Gambia, Cote d'Ivoire, and Mali." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA* 107, pp. 5774-5779.

Peck, J. and Theodore, N. 2007. "Variegated Capitalism," *Progress in Human Geography*. Vol. 31, Issue 6. pages 731-772.

CET Syllabus of Record

Peng, M. W. 2012. The Global Strategy of Emerging Multinationals from China. *Global Strategy Journal*, 2(2), 97-107.

Schwartz, C. and Duhigg, C. 2013. "Apple's Web of Tax Shelters Saved It Billions, Panel Finds." *The New York Times* (May 20). Accessed via <<https://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/21/business/apple-avoided-billions-in-taxes-congressional-panel-says.html>>

Sheppard, E. 2002. The Spaces and Times of Globalization: Place, Scale, Networks, and Positionality. *Economic Geography*, 78(3), 307-330.

Sheppard, E. 2015. "Thinking Geographically: Globalizing Capitalism and Beyond." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 105, 6, 1113-1134.

Turner, B.L., II 2014. "The Bet: Paul Ehrlich, Julian Simon, and Our Gamble over the Earth's Future." *The AAG Review of Books*, Vol. 2, No. 1, pp. 1-3.

The Economist 2016. "Demography and Desire: The Empty Crib," August 27, accessed via <<https://www.economist.com/briefing/2016/08/27/the-empty-crib?zid=319&ah=17af09b0281b01505c226b1e574f5cc1>>

Outline of Course Content

Topic 1 – Globalization and the Environment

Topic 2 – Global Population

Topic 3 – Natural Resources

Topic 4 – Global Environmental Challenges

Topic 5 – Commodities Production

Topic 6 – Global Production Networks

Topic 7 – Global and Local Finance

Topic 8 – Agglomeration Economies

Topic 9 – States and Politics

Topic 10 – Global Governance

Topic 11 – Foreign Direct Investment

Topic 12 – Transnational Corporations

Topic 13 – Thinking Critically about Global Environment and Development