

Syllabus

Sustainable development and environment

Professor PhD Remus CREȚAN

Course Materials

Information about the general course structure and reading list can be found below.

WEEKS 1-2

Embedding the Environment in Sustainable Development

It is provided the topic of sustainable development and an overview of the environmental challenges the world faces and how environmental sustainability can be incorporated in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Key theories of sustainable development from an interdisciplinary perspective are explored, with a focus on environmental sustainable development.

QUIZ: How is the Environment embedded in Sustainable Development? Why environmental thinking has to be a key issue in current sustainable development strategies?

References

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) (2013). Embedding the Environment in Sustainable Development Goals, UNEP, New York.
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=400&nr=972&menu=35>
European Commission (2016) Environment - Sustainable Development
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eussd/>
Brundtland-Report 'Our Common Future' (1987) <http://www.un-documents.net/ocf-ov.htm>
United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), (1992): Rio-Declaration, Agenda 21, Rio de Janeiro:
https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/agenda21/?utm_source=OldRedirect&utm_medium=redirect&utm_content=dsd&utm_campaign=OldRedirect
World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD, Johannesburg, 2002): Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development
https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/documents/WSSD_POI_PD/English/POI_PD.htm

WEEKS 3-4

Economic Development and the need for Environmental Policy

A short history of economic development is provided, starting with the Industrial Revolution and ending with the current state of modern economic growth, revealing the high pressure that

economy left on the environment. It covers issues of the natural environment and the economy, sustaining economic growth, the role of environmental policy – policy instruments and the management of environmental risk, the economic impacts of environmental policy (including innovation).

QUIZ: How should economic development be (re)shaped by environmental policy?

References

- Everett, T, Ishwaran, M, Ansaloni F P, Rubin A (2010) *Economic Growth and the Environment*, UK Government, London
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69195/pb13390-economic-growth-100305.pdf
- Maddison A., (2008), *Historical Statistics for the World Economy: 1-2006 AD.*, Groningen Growth and Development Centre, Groningen.
- OECD, (2007), *OECD Environmental Data Compendium*, OECD, Paris.
- Ono T. (2001), The Effects of Emission Permits on Growth and the Environment, *Environmental and Resource Economics* 21, 75-87.

WEEKS 5-6

Poverty, Inequality and Environmental Resources

These lectures decipher the reasons for and the dimensions of poverty and inequality within and between countries. It is outlined the pathways for achieving the end of extreme poverty and (wealth/gender) inequality around the world, as well as how could be improved the environment of people who are living in these areas.

QUIZ: How should inequality and poverty be limited? What instruments could be used to improve the environment in which the poor people live?

References

- Cavendish, W (1999), *Poverty, Inequality and Environmental Resources: Quantitative Analysis of Rural Households*, WPS/99-9 , Imperial College of Science, London.
<http://www.csae.ox.ac.uk/workingpapers/pdfs/9909text.PDF>
- Jackson, J.C. and Collier, P. (1991) Incomes, poverty and food security in the communal lands of Zimbabwe. In Mutizwa-Mangiza, N.D. and Helmsing, A. J. (eds.) *Rural development and planning in Zimbabwe*. Avebury, Aldershot. pp 21-69.
- Grootaert, C., Kanbur, R. and Oh, G-T. (1996) The dynamics of poverty: why some people escape from poverty and others don't. An African case study. World Bank Policy Working Paper No.1449, World Bank, Washington DC.

WEEK 7-8

Environmental movements and sustainable development

The lectures details various forms of environmental protests and their implications for environmental policy dynamics. It brings examples from different regions of the world where tensions appeared due to neoliberal practices connected mainly to the exploitation of natural resources.

QUIZ: What is the impact of environmental movements at national/regional/local level?

References

- McCormick, J (1995) *The Global Environmental Movement*, John Wiley, London.
- Rootes C (ed.) (1999), *Environmental Movements: Local, National and Global*, Routledge, London.
- Eckersley R (2004), *The Green State: Rethinking Democracy and Sovereignty*, The MIT Press, Cambridge, MA.
- Vesalon, L, Cretan, R. (2013), 'Cyanide kills!' Environmental movements and the construction of environmental risk at Rosia Montana, Romania", *Area* 45 (4), 443-453
- Vesalon, L, Cretan, R. (2015), 'We are not the Wild West': anti-fracking protests in Romania, *Environmental Politics* 24(2):288-307.

WEEK 9

Sustainable Food Supply System and Health

The lectures provide an overview of food security, bio farm systems, universal health coverage and ecology, and reviews what can be done to achieve a sustainable global food supply.

QUIZ: How could sustainable food supply put an end to hunger and more healthy life?

References

- European Commission (2016). Sustainable food, <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eussd/food.htm>
- APHA (American Public Health Association) (2016), Toward a healthy food system, <https://www.apha.org/policies-and-advocacy/public-health-policy-statements/policy-database/2014/07/29/12/34/toward-a-healthy-sustainable-food-system>
- Beck A (ed) (2014), *Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda for Organic Food and Farming* <http://tporganics.eu/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/tporganiceu-strategic-research-and-innovation-agenda-2014-brochure-20150129.pdf>
- FAO (2014), *Assessing Sustainable Diets within the Sustainability of Food Systems* www.fao.org/3/a-i4806e.pdf

WEEK 10-11

Towards Sustainable (Environmental) Cities / Green Cities

Lectures 10 and 11 look into what makes a city sustainable, some pathways for urban resilience around the world, the patterns of current urbanization and the economic and health values of green cities.

QUIZ: What are the patterns of sustainable environmental cities / green cities?

References

- Lehmann S (2010) *The Principles of Green Urbanism. Transforming the City for Sustainability*, Earthscan Publisher London
- Levine, R S , Yanarella, E J, Radmard, T, Dumreicher H (2002), Sustainable cities: a strategy for a post-terrorized world, <http://www.terrain.org/articles/13/strategy.htm>
- Sassen, S (2009) *Cities are at the centre of our environmental future. S.A.P.I.EN.S.* 2 (3) <http://sapiens.revues.org/948>

WEEK 12-13

Preserving Biodiversity in a Climate Change Era

The lectures provide an introduction to the field of climate change and describes the negotiations and policies that are necessary to mitigate and prevent the costs of climate change. There are presented various climatic threats to the world's ecosystem and biodiversity.

QUIZ: What is Climate Change and what consequences does it have to biodiversity? How could biodiversity be saved?

References

- Climate Change and Biodiversity (2016) Introduction, <https://www.cbd.int/climate/intro.shtml>
- Heller NE, Zavaleta ES (2009). Biodiversity management in the face of climate change: A review of 22 years of recommendations. *Biological Conservation*. 142:14–32
- Rao, M. et al. (2013), Biodiversity Conservation in a Changing Climate: A Review of Threats and Implications for Conservation Planning in Myanmar, *Ambio*. 42(7): 789–804 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3790132/>

WEEK 14

Sustainable environmental education

It is given an overview of the state of modern education, and what needs to be achieved for sustainable environmental development through education.

QUIZ: What is Sustainable Environmental Education?

References

Kyburz-Graber, R., Hofer, K., Wolfensberger, B. (2006), Studies on a socio-ecological approach to environmental education – a contribution to a critical position in the education for sustainable development discourse, *Environmental Education Research* 12 (1): 101–114.

Lieberman, G.A., Hoody, L.L. (1998), Closing the Achievement Gap: Using the Environment as an Integrating Context for Learning, State Education and Environment Roundtable, Poway, California.

Malone, K (1999), Environmental education researchers as environmental activists, *Environmental Education Research* 5 (2): 163–177.

Palmer, J.A, (1998). *Environmental Education in the 21st Century: Theory, Practice, Progress, and Promise*. Routledge.

Date:

02.10.2017

Signature:

