

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME IN SOCIOLOGY

SOCIOLOGY

			Semester:	4	Paper No:	10
Paper Title:	ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY					

COURSE SUMMARY

Objectives: This course is designed to introduce students to the core debates of environmental sociology, different approaches within the sub-discipline and how these approaches may be used to understand environmental issues and movements in India.

- Outline:**
- 1. Envisioning Environmental Sociology**
 - 1.1. What is Environmental Sociology?
 - 1.2. Realist-Constructionist Debate.
 - 2. Approaches**
 - 2.1 Treadmill of Production
 - 2.2 Ecological Modernization
 - 2.3 Risk
 - 2.4 Ecofeminism and Feminist Environmentalism
 - 2.5 Political Ecology
 - 3. Environmental Movements in India**
 - 3.1 Forest- based movement – Chipko
 - 3.2 Water- based movement – Narmada
 - 3.3 Land- based movements – Anti-mining and Seed

COURSE CONTENTS AND ITINERARY

1. Envisioning Environmental Sociology [Weeks 1-2]

- 1.1.1. Bell, MM. (2008). *An Invitation to Environmental Sociology*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage 3rd ed. Ch 1.(pp. 1-5).
- 1.1.2. Hannigan, J. A. (1995). *Environmental Sociology*. Routledge, London and New York, 2nd ed. Ch1 and 2. (pp. 10-15,16 - 35).
- 1.2.1. Leahy, T. (2007). *Sociology and the Environment*. Public Sociology: An Introduction to Australian Society. Eds. Germov, John and Marilyn, Poole. NSW: Allen & Unwin, Ch 21 (pp. 431-442).
- 1.2.2. Evanoff, R. J. (2005). Reconciling realism and constructivism in environmental ethics. *Environmental Values*, 61-81.

2. Approaches [Weeks 3-8]

- 2.1.1. Gould, K. A., Pellow, D. N., & Schnaiberg, A. (2004). Interrogating the Treadmill of Production: Everything You Wanted to Know about the Treadmill but Were Afraid to Ask. *Organization & Environment*, 17(3), 296-316.
- 2.1.2. Wright, E. O. (2004). Interrogating the Treadmill of Production: Some Questions I Still Want to Know about and Am Not Afraid to Ask. *Organization & Environment*, 17(3), 317-322.
- 2.2.1. Mol, A. P. (2002). Ecological modernization and the global economy. *Global Environmental Politics*, 2(2), 92-115.
- 2.2.2. Buttel, F. H. (2000). Ecological modernization as social theory. *Geoforum*,31(1), 57-65.
- 2.2.3. O'Connor, J. (1994). Is sustainable capitalism possible. Is capitalism sustainable? *Political Economy and the Politics of Ecology*. The Guilford Press. Ch 8. (pp.152-175).
- 2.3.1. Beck, U. (2006). Living in the world risk society: A Hobhouse Memorial Public Lecture given on Wednesday 15 February 2006 at the London School of Economics. *Economy and Society*, 35(3), 329-345.
- 2.4.1. Shiva, V. (1988). Women in Nature. In *Staying Alive: Women, Ecology and Development*. Zed Books. Ch 3.(pp.38-54).
- 2.4.2. Agarwal, Bina, 2007. The Gender and Environment Debate: Lessons from India. In Mahesh Rangarajan. (ed.) 2007. *Environmental Issues in*

India: A Reader. New Delhi: Pearson, Longman, Ch 19.(pp. 316-324, 342-352).

2.5.1. Robbins, P. (2011). *Political Ecology: A Critical Introduction* (Vol. 16). Wiley and Sons Ltd. East Sussex, U.K. Ch 1 (pp.10-25).

3. Environmental Movements in India [Weeks 9-12]

3.1.1. Guha, R. Chipko : Social history of an environmental movement. In Ghanshyam Shah ed.(2002). *Social Movements and the State* (Vol. 4). Sage Publications Pvt. Ltd., Ch. 16 (pp.423-454).

3.2.1. Khagram, S., Riker, J. V., & Sikkink, K. (2002).Restructuring the global politics of development: The Case of India's Narmada Valley Dams. *Restructuring World Politics: Transnational Social Movements, Networks, and Norms* (Vol. 14). U of Minnesota Press. (pp.206-30).

3.3.1. Padel, F., & Das, S. (2008). Orissa's highland clearances: The reality gap in R & R. *Social Change*, 38(4), 576-608.

3.3.2. Scoones, I. (2008). Mobilizing against GM crops in India, South Africa and Brazil. *Journal of Agrarian Change*, 8(2-3), 315-344.

[Projects, feature films and documentary screenings and field visits will be will be undertaken by students through the course]

SUGGESTED READINGS

Students will not be examined on the suggested readings but may use them for projects, and presentations that will be woven into the course.

Guha, R., & Alier, J. M. (1998). The environmentalism of the poor. In *Varieties of environmentalism: Essays North and South*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Osofsky, H. M. (2003). Defining Sustainable Development after Earth Summit 2002. *Loy. LA Int'l & Comp. L. Rev.*, 26, 111.

Baviskar, A. (1999). In the Belly of the River: Tribal Conflicts over Development in the Narmada Valley. Oxford University Press.