



ESS 381A1: GLOBAL CLIMATE JUSTICE

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Gillian Bowser

Email: gbowser@colostate.edu

Communication Policy: Responses to emails will be provided within 36 hours.

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

How the world's poor and minorities self-empower to challenge institutional racism and government apathy in order to secure basic environmental goods.

Upon the completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. define Environmental justice from the perspective of local, regional and international communities
2. identify and describe environmental justice issues in the state of Colorado
3. identify and describe environmental justice issues in different countries around the world
4. demonstrate understanding of UN treaties and agreements that address environmental justice issues

TEXTBOOK / COURSE READINGS

- The required textbook is: Adelson, G. (2008). *Environment : An interdisciplinary anthology*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- External readings as assigned
- Ted-Talks and videos as assigned

PARTICIPATION/BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

This class is designed as a series of independent modules that can be taken at the students' own pace. You must complete all the modules in part 1 (National Environmental Justice) before proceeding to part 2 (International Climate Justice). Each module has a written assignment or short quiz that should be completed by the end of the module. Each assignment is open for limited times so check Canvas for specific dates for each module and when assignments and quizzes become available.



COURSE POLICIES (LATE ASSIGNMENTS, MAKE-UP EXAMS, ETC.)

Environmental and climate justice issues can touch many people directly or indirectly. As part of learning on the topic of environmental justice, you will be asked to “reflect” on the reading and include your personal points of view. The expectation is that you will work individually on these assignments and share reflections based on the assigned reading materials or module structure. Whenever citations for particular references are requested, please use scholarly databases through the CSU Libraries or similar sources and do not cite third party media sources unless specified in the assignment. All work should be completed independently and all online discussions and chats should be conducted as scholarly professionals with thoughtful and respectful discourse on the assigned topic.

GRADING POLICY

Grade	Range
A	100 % to 94.0%
A-	< 94.0 % to 90.0%
B+	< 90.0 % to 87.0%
B	< 87.0 % to 84.0%
B-	< 84.0 % to 80.0%
C+	< 80.0 % to 77.0%
C	< 77.0 % to 70.0%
D	< 70.0 % to 60.0%
F	< 60.0 % to 0.0%

ASSIGNMENT – ALL ITEMS ARE 100 POINTS	GRADE POINTS
Discussions	100 x 2
Written assignments	100 x 8
Quiz/exam	100 x 2
Total:	1200



Major Assignments: Descriptions

1. Quizzes and short assignments. Quizzes and short writing assignments are outlined at the end of each module and should be uploaded into Canvas by the assigned due dates. As modules can be completed at your own pace—be mindful that the class has two major parts: National and International. All assignments from the National part of the class will need be completed by the mid-point of the class before you proceed to Part 2-International.
2. Discussion boards: There are two discussion sections for this class and all students are required to participate in the discussion forums for each part of the class. Check Canvas for instructions on how to participate in online discussion forums and the due dates for all comments.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY & CSU HONOR PLEDGE

This course will adhere to the CSU Academic Integrity [Policies and Guiding Principles](#) as found in the General Catalog and the [Student Conduct Code](#). We take academic integrity seriously. At minimum, academic integrity means that no one will use another's work as his or her own. The CSU writing center defines plagiarism this way: Plagiarism is the unauthorized or unacknowledged use of another person's academic or scholarly work. Done on purpose, it is cheating. Done accidentally, it is no less serious. Regardless of how it occurs, plagiarism is a theft of intellectual property and a violation of an ironclad rule demanding "credit be given where credit is due." If you plagiarize in your work you could lose credit for the plagiarized work, fail the assignment, or fail the course. Plagiarism could result in expulsion from the university. Each instance of plagiarism, classroom cheating, and other types of academic dishonesty will be addressed according to the principles published in the [CSU General Catalog](#) (see page seven, column two).

Academic Honesty Policy: Specific procedures for cases of academic dishonesty are described by the Academic Integrity Policy in the General Catalogue and the Graduate School Bulletin.

Plagiarism is defined as the use of any source, published or unpublished, without proper acknowledgment. The most important thing to know is this: **if you fail to cite your sources, whether deliberately or not, it is still plagiarism.** Ignorance of academic regulations or the excuse of sloppy or rushed work does not constitute an acceptable defense against the charge of plagiarism (Princeton).



When in doubt, cite. It's always preferable to err on the side of caution and completeness. Posters and other presentations require accurate citations and proper credit for figures, graphics or photographs. When in doubt, CITE THE SOURCE.

[Academic Integrity. Princeton University. 2011.](#)

[Tips to Avoid Plagiarism. The Library UC San Diego. 2010.](#)

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th ed. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association, 2010.

Academic integrity lies at the core of our common goal: to create an intellectually honest and rigorous community. Because academic integrity, and the personal and social integrity of which academic integrity is an integral part, is so central to our mission as students, teachers, scholars, and citizens, I will ask that you affirm the CSU Honor Pledge as part of completing your work in this course.

Further information about Academic Integrity is available at CSU's [Practicing Academic Integrity.](#)

ACCOMMODATION OF NEEDS

Please discuss any special needs that may affect your learning or ability to complete the module assignments with your instructor during the first week of class. As required by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, appropriate accommodations will be made for students with documented disabilities. A verifying memo from [Student Disability Center](#) may be required before any accommodation is provided.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT:

In an ideal world, science would be objective. However, much of science is subjective and is historically built on a smaller subset of voices. In this class, we will make an effort to approach Environmental Justice from both a human right and a science at local, national and international levels. I acknowledge that it is possible that there may be both overt and covert biases in much of the literature regarding Environmental Justice and Climate Justice especially when exploring another country's approach to environmental issues using literature primarily of a scientific nature. Integrating a cultural lens in understanding how different cultures respond to environmental challenge is a core objective of this class along with gaining some insights to why human rights and justice are such a central part of an environmental debate.



I believe the process of learning about diverse perspectives and identities is inspiring. Perspectives on the environment often have strong cultural underpinnings such as the term Mother Earth for the Country of Bolivia. Be inspired by your assigned country—I chose countries that are lesser known and probably ones that most of you have never visited. Enjoy the opportunity to learn about that new culture. However, we also have to be respectful of the many cultural heritages within our own class so if something is included in class discussions or in module lectures (by anyone) that made you feel uncomfortable, please send an email with your concerns to gbowser@colostate.edu.

CANVAS INFORMATION & TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Canvas is the where course content, grades, and communication will reside for this course.

- Login: canvas.colostate.edu
- Support: info.canvas.colostate.edu
- For passwords or any other computer-related technical support, contact the [Central IT Technical Support Help Desk](#).
 - (970) 491-7276
 - help@colostate.edu

The [Technical Requirements](#) page identifies the browsers, operating systems, and plugins that work best with Canvas. If you are new to Canvas quickly review [the Canvas Student Orientation](#) materials.