

FALL 2017
HISTORICAL ECOLOGY
ANG 6086
Section 2371

Lecturer: Dr. Augusto Oyuela-Caycedo
Lecture sessions: Thursday, 4:05-7:05 PM
Location: LIT 235
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DESCRIPTION:

The objective of this course is to create a solid foundation in the study of the theories and methods in historical ecology today. This will be accomplished by evaluating the new trends that have driven historical ecology in the last ten years. This new approach demands an interdisciplinary view. The first part of the class will focus on the different epistemological approaches. We will look at the kinds of questions asked and the methodologies employed to answer them. The last part of the course will place emphasis on case studies where historical ecology has been employed to understand long-term regional dynamics of the relationship between humans and the environment. We will examine the theoretical and methodological relationship of historical ecology to biology, geography, and geology as well as to history. We will look at why historical ecology is a powerful approach to evaluating critical theories that range from biology to history. We will look at how the theories are evaluated and what factors favor their success or abandonment.

REQUIRED READINGS:

Books

Kawa, Nicholas c. 2016. Amazonia in the Anthropocene . Texas university press.

Moore, Jason W. 2016. Anthropocene or Capitocene? PM Press

Chapters from edited books:

Rick, Rorben and Jon M. Erlandson (ed.) 2008. *Human Impacts on Ancient Marine Ecosystems: A Global Perspective*. University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles.

Dean, Rebecca M. (ed.) 2010. *The Archaeology of Anthropogenic Environments*. No. 37. Center For Archaeological Investigations, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale.

Fairhead, James and Melisa Leach. 1996. *Misreading the African Landscape: Society and Ecology in a Forest-Savanna Mosaic*. Cambridge University Press.

Cooper, Jago and Payson Sheets (editors). 2012. *Surviving Sudden Environmental Change*. University of Colorado Press.

Håkansson, N Thomas and Mats Widgren (Editors). 2014. *Landesque Capital: The Historical Ecology of Enduring Landscape Modifications (New Frontiers in Historical Ecology)*. Left Coast Press.

There will be other assigned readings. Most of these can be downloaded as PDF files from the library service. Sometimes you will have to copy them from the library journals at the main library.

EVALUATION:

Evaluation will be based on the accumulation of points up to 100 (100 points =100 %).

Final research paper (30 %), presentation of the final research paper (10%), short presentations in class (20%) and class participation (40 %).

REMEMBER IT IS A RESEARCH PAPER, NOT A REVIEW PAPER. The paper should be 15 to 20 pages in length, double-spaced including bibliography. For the paper you should choose a region of the planet where you can study the impact of human activity on the environment as well as the impact of the environment on the population. The paper should follow the format guidelines of the journal American Anthropologist.

There is a large amount of literature to be covered in this class and each student must be able to discuss each of the articles. You are responsible for all of the readings. It always helps to write a review on each article or chapter that you read, and have notes on the topics that are relevant for the discussion, as well as questions on the aspects that you do not understand.

Disclaimer: Some adjustments may be made in the schedule and course requirements during the semester. All changes will be announced.

ATTENDANCE is required.

GRADE SYSTEM:

Grading Scale Grades will be awarded according to the following scale in effect by the university:

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	.67	0

A complete listing of university policy pertaining to grades may be found at <http://graduateschool.ufl.edu/files/handbook.pdf>

Classes and readings

Week 1, August 24: General presentation: What is historical ecology.

Week 2, August 31: Epistemology: Concepts and Research Program.

Balee, William. 2006. The Research Program in Historical Ecology. *Annual Review of Anthropology*. 35:75-98.

Balee, William. 2013. Cultural Forests of The Amazon: A Historical Ecology of People and their Landscapes. University of Alabama Press. (selected chapters)

Week 3, September 7, Epistemology: Concepts and Research Program.

Carole L. Crumley. 2007. Historical Ecology: Integrated Thinking at Multiple Temporal and Spatial Scales. *The World System and The Earth System: Global Socio-Environmental Change and Sustainability Since the Neolithic*. Alf Hornborg and Carole Crumley, eds., pp. 15-28. Walnut Creek CA: Left Coast Press.

Gunderson, Lance and C. S. Holding. 2002. *Panarchy: Understanding Transformations in Human and Natural Systems*. Washington: Island Press, 2002.

Delcourt, Paul and Hazel R. 2004. *Prehistoric Native Americans and Ecological Change: Human Ecosystems in Eastern North America since the Pleistocene*. Cambridge University Press.

Week 4, September 14: Historical ecology and climate change.

Kirch, Patric. 2005. Archaeology and Global Change. *Ann. Rev. Envir. Resour.* 30:409-40.

Dulla, Robert A. ; Richard J. Nevleb; William I. Woods; Dennis K. Birdd; Shiri Avnerye; William M. Denevan. 2010. The Columbian Encounter and the Little Ice Age: Abrupt Land Use Change, Fire, and Greenhouse Forcing. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. <http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t788352614>.

Cooper, Jago and Payson Sheets (editors). 2012. *Surviving Sudden Environmental Change*. University of Colorado Press. (selected chapters.)

Week 5, September 21: Rapid climatic change and societies.

Cooper, Jago and Payson Sheets (editors). 2012. *Surviving Sudden Environmental Change*. University of Colorado Press. (selected chapters.)

Week 6, September 28: Anthropogenic landscapes and history.

Fairhead, James and Melissa Leach. 1996. *Misreading the African Landscape: Society and Ecology in a Forest-Savannah Mosaic*. Introduction, Ch1, Ch2 and Ch3. Cambridge University Press .

Week 7, October 5: Historical Ecology and Environments.

Dean, Rebecca M. (ed.) 2010. *The Archaeology of Anthropogenic Environments*. No. 37. Center For Archaeological Investigations, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. Please read chapters 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13.

Week 8, October 12: Landesque Capital.

Håkansson, N Thomas and Mats Widgren (Editors). 2014. *Landesque Capital: The Historical Ecology of Enduring Landscape Modifications* (New Frontiers in Historical Ecology). Left Coast Press. Ch. Introduction, 2, 4, 11, 12

Week 9, October 19: The Anthropocene or Capitalocene

Ruddiman, William F. 2013. The Anthropocene. *Annu. Rev. Earth Planet. Sci.* 41:45–68.

Zalasiewicz, Jan, Mark Williams, et al. 2008 Are we now living in the Anthropocene? *GSA Today*: v. 18, no. 2

Waters, Colin N., Jan Zalasiewicz, et al. 2016. The Anthropocene is functionally and stratigraphically distinct from the Holocene, *Science*, Vol 351 Issue 6269

Braje Todd J. 2015. Earth Systems, Human Agency, and the Anthropocene: Planet Earth in the Human Age. *J Archaeol Res*. 23:369–396

Moore, Jason W. 2016. *Anthropocene or Capitocene?* PM Press (selected chapters)

Week 10, October 26: The Anthropocene and the Amazon and Mayalandia

Kawa, Nicholas c. 2016. *Amazonia in the Anthropocene*. Texas university press.

Beach, Tim, Sheryl Luzzadder-Beach, Duncan Cook, Nicholas Dunning, Douglas J. Kennett, Samantha Krause, Richard Terry, Debora Trein, Fred Valdez. 2015. Ancient Maya impacts on the Earth's surface: An Early Anthropocene analog? *Quaternary Science Reviews* 124:1-30.

Week 11, November 2: Historical Ecology and Maritime Ecosystems,

Rick, Rorben and Jon M. Erlandson (ed.) 2008. *Human Impacts on Ancient Marine Ecosystems: A Global Perspective*. University of California Press. Please read chapters 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 10, 11, 13

Week 12, November 9: Historical Ecology and Maritime Ecosystems.

Habu Junko and Mark E. Hall. 2013. Climate Change, Human Impacts on the Landscape, and Subsistence Specialization: Historical Ecology and Changes in Jomon Hunger-Gatherers Lifeways. In *The Archaeology and Historical Ecology of Small Scale Economies*, edited by Victor D. Thomson and James C. Waggoner Jr. pp. 65-78. University of Florida.

Fish, Paul, Suzanne K. Fish, Paulo DeBlasis and Maria Dulce Gaspar. Monumental Shell Mounds as Persistent Places in Southern Coastal Brazil. In *The Archaeology and Historical Ecology of Small Scale Economies*, edited by Victor D. Thomson and James C. Waggoner Jr. pp. 120-140. University of Florida

Paper presentation

Week 13, November 16: Social life of forest and historical ecologies.

Parte III, Historical ecologies. 2014. In: The Social Life of Forest, edited by Susan B. Hech, K. Morrison, and C. Padoch. Chicago.

Paper presentations.

Week 14, November 23: Holiday, thanksgiving.

Week 15, December 7: reading days.