Anyone who will read the anarchist and radical environmentalist journals will see that opposition to the industrial-technological system is widespread and growing.

Theodore Kaczynski, aka the Unabomber

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**Radical Environmentalism**

Green religion and the politics of radical environmentalism from Earth First! and the Earth Liberation Front to the Unabomber and anti-globalization resistance

*Department of Religion*
*The University of Florida*
Spring 2017
Wednesdays, 4:05-7:05 p.m.

Offered with both undergraduate & graduate sections:
REL 3938, Section 1E77
RLG 6167, Section 1E76

Instructor: Dr./Prof. Bron Taylor
Office: Anderson 121
Office Hours: Wednesdays, 1:30-3:00 p.m.
(and by appointment)

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**Course Gateways:**

- [Syllabus](#) (The additional, direct access links, below, are also found in this syllabus.)

- [Schedule of Readings and Assignments](#)

- [Bron Taylor’s Print History and Digital Archive of Earth First!, Wild Earth, Live Wild or Die, and Alarm](#)

- [Bibliography](#)

- [Documentary Readings](#)

- [WWW Sites](#)

- [Music](#)
Anyone who will read the anarchist and radical environmentalist journals will see that opposition to the industrial-technological system is widespread and growing

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Course Description

Critical examination of the emergence and social impacts of Radical Environmentalism, with special attention to its religious and moral dimensions, and the ecological and political perceptions that undergird its controversial strategies designed to arrest environmental degradation.

Course Overview and Objectives

During the 1980s and much of the 1990s and beyond, thousands of environmental activists were arrested for resisting through civil disobedience and creative blockades deforestation and other forms of environmental destruction, especially in North America, Australia, and England. Some took up sabotage concluding that civil disobedience was not enough, driving spikes into trees to prevent them from being cut down and torching heavy equipment and buildings, for example. Since the early 1990s, activists from the “Earth Liberation Front” destroyed over 120 million dollars worth of property in a campaign against those engaged in genetic engineering, habitat destruction, and animal exploitation. This group, and the Animal Liberation Front with which it sometimes cooperates, is considered by some law enforcement authorities to be the #1 domestic terrorism threat in the United States and England. Indeed, the most radical of these groups wonder when the time will come to emulate confessed Unabomber Ted Kaczynski, whom they consider a folk hero. Some envision a violent anti-industrial revolution, such as those who threw bricks through the windows of multinational corporations during the 1999 World Trade Organization meeting in Seattle. Whatever their chosen tactics, the radical environmentalists leading the anti-globalization
resistance claim that corporations and governments are engaged in a sinister, profit-driven mission that fuels environmental degradation and species extinctions, while corrupting if not destroying democracy and violating human rights.

This course seeks to understand the worldviews (ecological understandings, cosmologies, religious perceptions, and political ideologies). and to assess the impacts (past and future), of the subcultures that constitute radical environmentalism, as they engage in trenchant struggles over the earth’s living systems.

Specifically, in this class we will explore:

1) The historical emergence and diverse forms of radical environmentalism (social ecological, deep ecological, ecofeminist, anarcho-primitivist, bioregionalist, and animal liberationist, to name a few).
2) The ecological and political views that typify radical environmentalists.
3) The metaphysical, spiritual and ethical beliefs and perceptions that animate radical environmentalists.
4) How the radical environmental forms cross-fertilize and the limits of such cross-fertilization.
5) The internal disputes and factions among and within radical environmental groups, and the contested nature of the various approaches.
6) The criticisms of radical environmental groups by political conservatives and liberals, whether environmentalist or not.
7) The role that radical environmentalism plays or is likely to play in the future in violent conflicts over natural systems.
8) The likely futures for humans and nature in the context of intensifying, environment-related social conflict, where radical environmentalists play an increasing role.

Through such exploration students will be ready to assess the extent to which radical environmentalism and the dynamics it produces is a positive or negative social movement.

**Required Readings:**
Readings preceded by an asterisk should be purchased; all others will be on reserve or otherwise made available, but purchase is recommended of the major ones, such as by Bender, Abbey, Zakin, and Devall/Sessions


**Special research archive, hosted by the Rachel Carson Center:**
Bron Taylor’s Print History and Digital Archive of Earth First!, Wild Earth, Live Wild or Die, and Alarm

**Schedule ~ Overview**

**Module I (weeks 1-5)**
Tributaries and the Early Years: A historical overview of the sources, worldview, and mythic structure of Radical Environmentalism, with special attention to ethical and ecological claims, ritualizing, and political impacts. (10 year period, through 1980).

**Module II (weeks 6-9)**
The Critique and Negative Reaction: From “wise use” partisans to environmental and other philosophers, to law enforcement authorities.

**Module III (weeks 10-12)**
Distributaries and fellow Travelers: from Bioregionalism, to Conservation Biology, to the Earth Liberation Front and Green Anarchism.

**Module IV (weeks 13-15)**
Key issues in the Future of Radical Environmentalism: including foci on social philosophy, biocentric axiology, violence, globalization, and spirituality.

**Schedule ~ Details**

**Requirements and Evaluation**

The requirements, indicated below, and the reading schedule that follows, may be modified during the course. This will occur sometimes because new developments will be documented or sources discovered that will be added to and or supplant existing readings. For this reason, students should consult the online syllabus every week to access the current version of the syllabus.
Some students will negotiate with the course instructor deviations from these standard requirements and readings. Individual course contracts will then be operative, which better focus this course’s work on an aspect of radical environmentalism particularly relevant to a given student’s research agenda.

Undergraduate Section:

Periodic quizzes or short essays on the week’s readings and classroom experiences. These will constitute 20% of the course grade and some of them will not be announced previous to their administration. The lowest score will be dropped.

Take Home Examinations. There will be two intensive take home essay examinations, which students will have one week to complete. Each will constitute 30% of the course grade.

Reflection Paper. Each student will complete a reflective paper about radical environmentalism. This paper will have two dimensions: the first will be a personal reflection based on their own experimentations during the course with the epistemologies typically found in radical environmentalism; the second will be a critical evaluation of what the student takes to be the essential features of such social phenomena. Worth 20% of the course grade.

Research Option: Ambitious students wishing to read more deeply and write a research paper may, with the permission of the instructor, fulfill the course requirements for the Graduate Section. Those who do so conscientiously will receive an upgrade up to a one full grade from that which would result from the points alone.

Graduate Section:

Course Participation. It is expected that all readings will be completed and assimilated prior to Monday evening’s class, and that graduate students will participate actively in classroom discussions, demonstrating this careful preparation. Unusually strong or weak preparation and classroom contributions may affect the final course grade.

Take Home Examinations. There will be two intensive take home essay examinations, which students will have one week to complete. Each will constitute 25% of the course grade.

Reflection Paper. Same as above, but worth 10% of the course grade.

Research Paper. Each student will complete a research paper and must be prepared to present material from this research to the discussion section of either the undergraduate or graduate seminar, sometime during the semester, by arrangement with Dr. Taylor. A rough draft must be turned in by week 12. A list of possible topics entitled “Possible Research Topics” is posted on the course website under “Course Assignments.” At the same location you will find “Research Paper Guidelines,” which you must follow closely.
Note: All students are required to abide by the Student Honor Code, which governs academic honesty and more. Read it.

Additional Required Readings for Graduate Section

Recommended Movement Anthologies (widely available online)

Selected Course Bibliography


__________. *Take back conservation*. Durango, Colo.: Raven's Eye Press.


Kaczynski, Ted. *Industrial Society and Its Future*. (Click title; widely available on the internet.)

Kuipers, Dean. 2009. *Operation bite back: Rod Coronado's war to save American wilderness*. 


Schedule ~ Details
Radical Environmentalism
Weekly Schedule & Readings

Rigorous, college-level courses typically require two to three hours outside of class for every hour in class; graduate courses even more. This said, there may be weeks in which the assigned readings will be extensive enough that it will be difficult to read everything slowly and carefully. Develop your ability to peruse and skim as well as read. Some materials require slow, thoughtful reading. Others, one can skim and get the pertinent feel and main points without perseverating on every detail. Books like the historical overview by Susan Zakin can and should be worked through quickly, as should many of the primary reading sources (such as deep ecology and from the Earth First! journal). Scholarly journal articles will generally be more demanding and require more careful and analytical reading. In summary, figure out the different ways to read different sorts of things so you can get the most out of the readings within the time constraints of the semester. Readings during especially heavy weeks, which are the most critical to read, will be preceded by an asterisk. Focus on perceiving the main assertions, arguments, and evidence the authors are making, understanding what they perceive the stakes to be (why they think what they are saying matters), and what the various schools of thought (and action) are, what the fault lines are among them, and why. Do this well and you will flourish in this class.

Please bookmark this URL and consult this page every week for assignments, due dates, special guests, and extra-credit opportunities, some of which may change or appear suddenly.

Module I (weeks 1-5) ~ Tributaries and the Early Years

Week 1 (23 August) ~ Introducing the Monkeywrench Gang

The Tributaries to and Genesis of Radical Environmentalism

Poetic prologue, including Robinson Jeffers’ “The Answer”
Video: “60 Minutes” on Earth First (1990); Dave Foreman Roadshow (UWO, Spring 1990).

Undergraduate and graduate section readings

Prologue to B Taylor’s draft volume On Sacred Ground: Radical Environmentalism from Earth First! to the Earth Liberation Front (draft) [NOTE: ALL OF B. TAYLOR’S CHAPTERS ARE DRAFTS, FOR CLASS PARTICIPANT’S EYES ONLY, AND NOT FOR QUOTATION (BEYOND THIS COURSE) WITHOUT PRIOR PERMISSION]

Radical Environmentalism (7), Deep Ecology (3.5), Arne Naess (3), Earth First! and the Earth Liberation Front (5), Social Ecology (2), Edward Abbey (2), Black Mesa (3), Anarchism (6), Ecofeminism (5), Bioregionalism and the North American Bioregional Congress (2) (these are all from primers on the subjects, from the Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature).
Week 2 (30 August) ~ Encountering the Godfather of Radical Environmentalism

NOTE: There will be an in-class quiz on the previous week’s assigned readings.

Edward Abbey and the roots of Radical Environmentalism.
Video: Wrenched (alternative): Edward Abbey: A Voice in the Wilderness (or later)

Undergraduate and graduate section readings

Abbey, Edward, Desert Solitaire (selections; starred chapters especially recommended and double starred or more required & hyperlinked): *First Morning, *Solitaire, *Serpents of Paradise, *Cliffrose and Bayonets, **Polemie on Industrial Tourism, Cowboys & Indians, **Cowboys and Indians (part II), Water, The Heat of Noon, The Moon-Eyed Horse, *****Down the River [sets up MW gang], ***Havasu, **Dead Man at Grandview Point, *Tukuhnikivats, Island in the Desert, *****Episodes & Visions, Terra Incognita, **Bedrock and Paradox

Loeffler, with Abbey, on Glenn Canyon Dam, in Adventures with Ed, 101-05
* Abbey’s The Monkeywrench Gang: Prologue, Origins I/Sarvis, Origins II/Hayduke, OriginsIII/ Seldom Seen, OriginsIV/MsAbbzug, The Wooden Shoe Conspiracy
* Abbey, on ranching and public lands, in “Preliminary remarks” (1-6) and “Free speech: the cowboy and his cow,” from One Life at a Time, Please, 7-19
* Abbey, “Theory of Anarchy” (25-28) and “Ecodefense” 29-32 [also and originally as “Forward!” in Dave Foreman’s Ecodefense] from One Life at a Time, Please
* Abbey, “Preface & Benedicto” to 1998 edition to Desert Solitaire

Additional graduate readings

Loeffler, with Abbey, on Anarchism, in Adventures with Ed, 202-06
Loeffler, with Abbey, on mysticism, peyote, and Abbey’s epiphany at Havasupai, in Adventures with Ed, 241-247, 196, 34.

Hopiland to the Rainforest Action Network (Randy Hayes)

Optional reading

Animals in the Woods (ch 1) in B Taylor’s draft volume On Sacred Ground: Radical Environmentalism from Earth First! to the Earth Liberation Front

Week 3 (6 September) ~ From Underground Resistance to a Resistance Movement (The Elders of & Tributaries to Radical Environmentalism)

Begin Radical Environmentalism through images and sound (including live field recordings and tunes such as Animal, Habitat, Sea Shepherd, & Manley Men). Background to include primers on the Conservation movement in North America: Gifford Pinchot, John Muir, and their respective progeny; The Fox, Bolt Weevils, The RARE II process and its role in the Genesis of Radical Environmentalism.

Undergraduate and graduate section readings

Tributaries (ch 2) in B Taylor’s draft volume On Sacred Ground: Radical Environmentalism from Earth First! to the Earth Liberation Front

Aldo Leopold
Pyotr Ouspensky
Conservation Biology
Foreman, *Rewilding*, 1-60 (part I, first 1/2)

**Additional graduate readings**


Susan Zakin, *Coyotes & Town Dogs*, (1-100) (Read quickly/peruse Zakin’s book.) [Note: this book has just gone back in print with University of Arizona Press and can be easily acquired online and in some bookstores.]

**Week 4 (13 September) ~ The First Decade of Earth First!**

Lectures: on the tributaries and early years of EF!
Background Presentations on the argument that “It’s so bad that…” radical action is necessary. . . and digging into the ecological and anthropological reasons for resistance
Books Focused on Bill Devall, ed., *Clearcut: The Tragedy of Industrial Forestry*, and *Re-wilding.*
Poetry & Prose: Gary Snyder from *Turtle Island* and in *Clearcut*
Possible Video: “Lou Gold” & Lessons from the Forest (Bald Mountain, Oregon, Case Study)

**Undergraduate reading**

Susan Zakin, *Coyotes & Town Dogs*, (1-101) With Zakin’s book, the goal is to get a broad feeling for the movement, its campaigns, internal disputes, and political impacts; read quickly.

**Undergraduate and graduate readings**

Foreman, *Rewilding*, 61-108 (part I, concluded)

**Additional graduate readings**

Foreman, *Rewilding*, 109-176 (part II)
Susan Zakin, *Coyotes & Town Dogs*, (102-215) and (216-315)

**Additional Recommended Readings**


**Week 5 (20 September) ~ Digging Underneath the History – Uncovering the Perceptual, Affective, Spiritual, and Ethical Motivations**

Video: Rage over Trees and/or Video: Road Use Restricted (28min)

**Undergraduate & graduate readings**

* B. Taylor, “Resacralizing Earth: Environmental Paganism and the Restoration of Turtle
There here are many antecedents to the countercultural spirituality of radical environmentalism, including Emil Rousseau (in 17th c. France) and the so called Romantic movements wrote which followed (including the poet Robinson Jeffers in America, who published in the mid-20th c and influenced many ardent and radical environmentalists), the Transcendentalists and esp. H. D. Thoreau, early conservationists including John Muir, Bob Marshall, Aldo Leopold, Rachael Carson, and indeed, most of the most passionate 20th c. conservationists, and poets From the late 1950s, the most important early voices were Edward Abbey, Paul Shepard, and Gary Snyder. Less well known figures including Freeman House, Dolores LaChapelle, and Peter Berg made some of the more remarkable early and influential statements. In addition to the books by them cited above in the main bibliography, the following books and articles in movement tabloids and magazines were especially important. Below are some readings in this section of the courses’ documentary reader. Skim through these to get a field for the ‘spiritual ferment’ in the early movement.

**Pagansm**
Graham Harvey, Animism
* Daniel Quinn, Animism: Humanity’s Original Worldview (ERN entry), which provides the novelist’s views of animistic foraging societies and reflects the central cosmogony and mythic structure of the movement.

**Paul Watson and the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society**
* Paul Watson’s A Call for Biocentric Religion


David Abram’s Depth Ecology and Magic and Animism (ERN entries)
David Abram, “Returning to our animal senses,” 209-15, in Tom Butler, ed., Wild Earth

**Additional graduate readings**

Susan Zakin, Coyotes & Town Dogs, (316-443) (Coyotes/Notes)
G-O Road
David Chidester, Animism

**Primary sources: read as many as possible**

The importance of spirituality early in Earth First! is illustrated in the following:
* Dave Foreman, “Around the Campfire,” Earth First! 2, no. 8 (21 September 1982): 2. Argues, "Deep Ecology is the most important philosophical current of our time," promising to make Earth First! a forum for such philosophy, as well as for diverse "Earth religion in whatever guise."

Dave Foreman (under pseud. Chim Blea),"What Are We Fighting For?" Earth First! 3, no. 2 (22 December 1982): 17.

* Dave Foreman. "Dear George," Earth First! 7, no. 1 (1 November 1986): 3. In this follow up to his August 1985 “Around the campfire” editorial, and responding to criticism of it by social ecologist George Bradford, Foreman writes in a way that illustrated his fundamental epistemological presuppositions: “My criticism of Murray Bookchin in ‘Around the Campfire’ (‘I think Murray would do well to get out of his stuffy libraries and encounter the wilderness.’) . . . is a fundamental critique of Bookchin and anyone else who relies
excessively on scholarship instead of direct wilderness experience for wisdom. [No one] can fully understand human society or the relationship to the natural world without regularly encountering the wilderness and finding instruction there.”


Gary Snyder and the Invention of Bioregional Spirituality
Gary Snyder, "Reinhabitation," Earth First! 7, no. 8 (23 September 1987): 28. Snyder himself promotes bioregionalism and this central aspect of this decentralist, green, social philosophy.

Hundredth Monkey (ERN entry).
By 1983, the peace and anti-nuclear counterculture, left over as the cold war ebbed, was drawn to the movement. The ‘hundredth monkey’ story illustrates the spirituality of some of this stream, a bricolage of anti-dualistic, “new science,” Gandhian, New Age, and other forms of nature-related spirituality.

Week 6 (27 September) ~ Ritual, Ecofeminism, Eros, Genderwork ~ and the possibility of a New Age

Take home midterm exam distributed in class 27 September 2017 (due Friday, 6 October 2017, see below).


Undergraduate reading

Read Susan Zakin, Coyotes & Town Dogs, (102-215) and (216-315) (skim/read quickly/ peruse)

Undergraduate & graduate readings

Many movement figures believe that ritualizing is critical to proper perception regarding the sacredness and interdependence of all life, and some such ritual involves ecofeminist premises. The following articles and entries introduce such a perspective and give examples of the kinds of ritual experimentation that has characterized much of radical environmentalism.


Dolores LaChapelle, "Thoughts on Autumn Equinox about the Importance of Ritual," Earth First! 9, no. 8 (22 September 1989): 30.

* Joanna Macy’s Council of All Beings (from 1985) and biography Joanna Macy (ERN entries)

* John Seed, Re-Earthing and biography John Seed (ERN entries)

For more information on the Council of All Beings, do a web search, and see especially the Rainforest Information Centre’s site: http://www.rainforestinfo.org.au/deep-eco/coab.htm

Additional graduate readings

Week 7 (4 October) ~ Earth First! & Deep Ecology

All students must turn in their take home exams, sending them as word documents by email attachment no later than 5:00 p.m., Sunday 8 October, to Bron Taylor. There will class between when these exams are distributed and when they are due. As student energy and participation is a key to this course, students who do not attend and who do not have a pre-confirmed medical excuse will have their mid-term exam reduced one full grade.

Lectures: Field notes from the Council of All Beings and the First International Re-Gendering Workshop.

Possible Video: The Hundredth Monkey

Undergraduate readings

Susan Zakin, *Coyotes & Town Dogs*, (316-443) (skim/read quickly/peruse) (*Coyotes/Notes*)

Graduate readings


Strongly recommended optional readings:

Katz, Light and Rothenberg. *Beneath the Surface: Critical Essays on Deep Ecology*. Read the introduction (1-3), Clark (3-14), *Katz (17-39), *Plumwood (59-81), Light (125-143), Zimmerman (169-191), Gare (195-212); Jacobsen (231-246), and Curtin (253-26).

Further readings


Week 8 (11 October): Judi Bari, Ecofeminism, and Revolutionary Deep Ecology

Video: Judi Bari on “Revolutionary Ecology” (at UWO) & “Ecofeminism Now” (1996) [optional videos: “Who Bombed Judi Bari” (Steve Talbot)] If no link Prof. Taylor will provide.

Undergraduate readings

Devall and Sessions, *Deep Ecology*: (Peruse the entire book, reading as much as possible.) Section one (pp. 1-77); Section two (pp. 78-129); Section three (pp. 130-77); Section four (pp. 178-267)

Undergraduate & graduate readings

Judi Bari was an influential Earth First! activist who claimed to have turned it in a feminist direction, argued for what she called “revolutionary ecology,” who led a campaign to save some of
California’s remaining redwood forests in the late 1980s and early 1990s. She was critically injured when a bomb exploded under the seat of her car in 1990, which she blamed on her political enemies. Much of her writing was originally published in *Earth First!*, and then reprinted in *Timber Wars*. Some important examples include:

*“The Feminization of Earth First!”* (219-225), and
*“The Secret History of Tree Spiking”* (in two parts, 264-270, 271-82).
*“Breaking up is hard to do”* (55-59).
*“1990: a year in the life of Earth First!”* and *“Why I am not a misanthrope”* (82-84),
*“Review: Dave Foreman’s Confessions of an Eco-Warrior,”* 103-108.
This collection includes background on the car bombing, “Earth First Car Bombing” (286-328) and “Redwood Action Week” (165-173).

For contrast, see


(See also week 11 readings, esp. “Cult of Nonviolence” and “Pacifism as Pathology,” which directly challenged the “Ecotopians” who rejected tree spiking.)


**Graduate readings**


* Prof. Taylor has an extensive bibliography on ecofeminism, which is available on request.

**Strongly recommended optional readings:**

Katz, Light and Rothenberg. *Beneath the Surface: Critical Essays on Deep Ecology*. Read Zimmerman (169-191), Gare (195-212); Jacobsen (231-246), Curtin (253-26)

**Week 9 (18 October) ~ Anarcho-Primitivism and the Earth Liberation Front**

Undergraduate & graduate section readings

Begin by reading about the recent arrests and convictions of Earth Liberation Front/Animal Liberation Front Activists (one or more of these articles):

The most in-depth article was run in the Eugene Weekly: Kera Abraham, "Flames of Dissent" (five part series), Eugene Weekly, November & December 2006). (This is a large document, if it will not download for you, try the newspaper’s archives at: http://www.eugeneweekly.com/2006/index.html, and then search for the series in these, archived issues: 2, 9, 22 November and 7 & 21 December.

Also worth reading:
Vanessa Grigoriadis, “The Rise and Fall of the Eco-Radical Underground,” Rolling Stone, July 2006

Then peruse and read widely the following materials to get a feel for ‘anarcho-primitivism’ or ‘green-anarchism,’ and how it relates to the Earth Liberation Front and the Animal Liberation Front. Be sure to grasp the challenge of Schmookler’s views, published in Parable of the Tribes, and discussed in a number of the articles, below. Be ready to comment on whether Ted Kaczynski’s views are in synch with anarcho-primitivism and/or radical environmentalism.

Visit the Primitivism website. Start with “What is Primitivism” by John Filiss, and then turn to and read the essays by John Zerzan within the primitivism web domain, and after this, read his article (*) “Future Primitive” in this domain’s section titled Anthropology. Then see also the excerpts from Stanley Diamond’s “In Search of the Primitive”, and prowl around the site as you wish. Also relevant is Zerzan’s “The Catastrophe of Postmodernism” at www.primitivism.com

From Stephen Best and Anthony Nocella, eds., Terrorists or Freedom Fighters: Reflections on the Liberation of Animals (Lanter 2004):

*Introduction* (9-49)
Rod Coronado, “Direct Actions Speak Louder than Words” (178-184)
Tom Regan, “How to justify violence” (231-36)

From Stephen Best and Anthony Nocella, eds., Igniting the Revolution (AK Press 2006)
Best and Nocella, “Introduction”
Jeff Leurs, “From Protest to Resistance” (211-223)

Anarchism and Revolutionary Ecology . . .
. . . debates over the extent to which radical environmentalism is or should be considered revolutionary, and if so: What is the nature of that revolution?
* Australopithecus. "Review of The Parable of the Tribes," Earth First! 5, no. 8 (22 September 1985): 24. In this article then Earth First! editor John Davis, writing under his favorite pseudonym, reviewed an important book which contradicts the anarchist tendencies of both the libertarian “rednecks for wilderness” and the more communitarian green anarchists. This sets off the first (and last) extended debate on social philosophy in the pages of Earth First! Formanistas from Davis, Manes, Abbey, and others, defend anarchism, while Schmookler more than holds his own.

Manes, Christoph. "Ascent to Anarchy." Earth First!, 6, no 6, 1 August 1986, 21.


The Unabomber


Graduate readings

Peter Kropotkin


Recommended readings


Read ahead as much as possible and from the online document bank of movement literature.

Week 10 (25 October): Critical perspectives on radical environmentalism and deep ecology: critique and rejoinders regarding the idea of wilderness

Undergraduate and Graduate Readings (* read first/most important)


* J. Baird Callicott, “A critique of an alternative to the wilderness idea” (172-86) in Tom Butler, ed., Wild Earth

Reed Noss, “Wilderness—now more than ever” (187-94) in Tom Butler, ed., Wild Earth


Ken Wu, “Ecoforestry or protected status? Some words in defense of parks” (199-08), in Tom Butler, ed., *Wild Earth*

**Graduate Readings**


Donald Worster, “The wilderness of history” (221-229) in Tom Butler, ed., *Wild Earth*


**Recommended**

Neil Evernden, *The social construction of Nature*


**Week 11 (1 November) ~ On Tactics I: The ethics & politics of ecotage, arson, and violence**

**Video:** Yellowstone to Yukon (possible/tentative)

Edward Abbey, *1988 speech in Utah*

**Undergraduate Reading:**

One article attempting to wrestle with the moral permissibility of extra-legal resistance, based on two direct action campaigns (Cove/Mallard Idaho and Warner Creek, Oregon), is:


The following primary sources explore using arson and violence as a tactic (peruse these primary sources).


- "**Forward!**" by Edward Abbey, 7-9

- "**Strategic Monkeywrenching**" by Dave Foreman, 10-17. Additional versions in *Earth First!* 5, no. 6 (21 June 1985): 22-3, and *Confessions of an Ecowarrior*, 161-166

- "**The Future of Monkeywrenching**" by T. H. Hellenbach (pseud.), 18-23


Foreman, Dave. "**Foreman Replies (to Robert Aitken).**" *Earth First!* 2, no. 5 (1 May 1982): 2.

Snyder, Gary. "**Dear Dave."** *Earth First!* 2, no. 7 (1 August 1982): 2-3.

* Snyder, Gary, “**A letter to Ed Abbey,**" Resist Much/Obey Little (1985: 118-23)

Dustrud, Pete. "**Dear Readers, You Now Have a New Editor.**" *Earth First!* , 1 August 1982, 2.

*Foreman, Dave. "**Earth First! and Non-Violence.**" *Earth First!* 3, no. 7 (1 August 1983): 11.


*Wuerthner, George. "**Tree Spiking and Moral Maturity.**" Earth First!, 1 August 1985, 20.
A willingness to risk harming humans, at least in self-defense, was present from the earliest moments of Earth First! But by the late 1980s, even more radical voices pushed for more revolutionary strategies and tactics, arising in part to criticize what they considered to be an anthropocentric fetish about non-violence among some movement activists. Some examples include:


Live Wild or Die began publishing in 1988 to give expression to the wilder, more extreme Earth First! voices, funded in part with Michael Roselle’s support through the Earth First! direct action fund. See especially:


**Graduate Readings:**


**Recommended further readings on violence and sabotage**


**Week 12 (8 November) ~ On Tactics II: Population prescriptions, immigration disputes & ethnic issues, and apocalyptic solutions.**

**Undergraduate Reading**


**Undergraduate and Graduate Readings** (primary sources ~ read into this as widely as time allows to gain a sense of movement perspectives and internal controversies about these issues)

* Edward Abbey’s views and responses
  * Abbey, on “Immigration and Liberal Taboos”, from One Life at a Time, Please, 41-44
  Loeffler, with Abbey, on population, technology, lifestyle, and G. Hardin, in Adventures with Ed, 148-50.
  Loeffler, with Abbey, on immigration, in Adventures with Ed, 109-11.
  Loeffler, with Abbey, on Indians, in Adventures with Ed, 136-37.
Luis Alberto Urrea, “Down the highway with Edward Abbey,” from Resist Much, Obey Little, 40-47.

Barbara Kingsolver, adios, final thoughts, from Resist Much, Obey Little, 232-33.

* Terry Tempest Williams, “A Eulogy for Edward Abbey,” from Resist Much, Obey Little, 199-203

Misc movement articles on population and immigration


* Christopher Manes (under pseudo. Miss Ann Thropy). "Technology and Mortality." Earth First! 7, no. 1 (November 1986): 18. Criticizes technological innovations that prolong life and suggests that they, and the western religious ideas that accompany such efforts, must go. Foreman comments in support telling bleeding heart Christians, humanists or Marxists, need not bother to send rejoinders.


* Christopher Manes (under pseudo. Miss Ann Thropy). “Population and AIDS.” Earth First! 7, no. 5 (May 1987): 32. Beginning "If radical environmentalists were to invent a disease to bring human population back to ecological sanity, it would probably be something like AIDS", Manes offered "an ecological perspective on the disease" premised on the axiom "that the only real hope . . . is an enormous decline in human population." This is one of the most controversial articles ever published in Earth First!, and while qualifications in it were widely ignored, it arguably suggested genocidal solutions to the population-fueled environmental crisis. Such articles were used against the movement by social ecologists and social justice advocates alike and, combined with Foreman’s and others anti-immigration statements, were taken by many to represent the movement’s mainstream.

Foreman, Dave. "Is Sanctuary the Answer?" Earth First! 8, no. 1 (November 1987): 21-2. Concluded controversially: "In the long run the most humane solution is the one advanced by Edward Abbey; send every illegal alien home with a rifle and a thousand rounds." (He later apologized for being insensitive.)

Flowers, Will. "This Is Pro Life?" Earth First! 9, no. 5 (1 May 1989).


Additional graduate readings:

* Garrett Hardin, Living within Limits, if possible, peruse the entire book, reading carefully: ch1, ch 3, ch 4, ch 6, ch 9, ch 10, ch 11

Further readings


Martin Lewis, Green Delusions, “Introduction & ch. 1 (1-26), read ch 2 (43-81).


Joel Cohen, *How many people can the earth support?* (Norton 1995)

**Week 13 (15 November) ~ Radical Environmentalism and social philosophy – including conservation science and considering the possibility (promise?) of reformist environmentalism.**

During the 2017 semester, Native American scholar Phil Deloria will present a lecture during our regular class time. In addition to focusing on social philosophy, readings on native American and radical environmental resistance to oil pipelines and telescope projects will be distributed.

**Undergraduate & Graduate Readings**

Foreman, *Rewilding*, 109-176 (part II)

**Additional Graduate readings**

Lewis, Martin, ch 3, “A question of scale” (82-116), from *Green Delusions*


**Week 14 (29 November) ~ Ecotopian and dystopian visions & strategies**

Graduate Student research papers due by midnight 26 November 2017, emailed to Professor Taylor. Graduate students will presentation their research to the class on 29 November or 6 December.

**Undergraduate Readings**

*** Derrick Jensen, “What goes up must come down” (284-300).
Foreman, *Rewilding*, 177-229 (part III)
*Environmental Review 2001 Interview with Dave Foreman* (recommended)

Additional Graduate readings

Lewis, Martin, ch 4, “Technophobia…” (117-149) and ch 5 “The Capitalist Imperative” (150-190)
Merchant, Carolyn, “Anti-globalization & sustainability” Radical Ecology

Recommended
Lewis, Martin, ch 6 “Third World Development” (191-241)

Week 15 (6 December) ~ (last day of class)
I will distribute the take home portion of the final exam by Friday 1 December. There will likely be a short, in-class identification portion of this exam administered on 6 December. The take home portion will be due by Sunday, 11:59 p.m., 10 December.