

COURSE SYLLABUS

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (ESM 487/587)

INSTRUCTOR:

Adjunct Assistant Professor (Dr) Leslie King (she/her/hers)
kingles@pdx.edu
<https://pdx.zoom.us/j/5039240469>

COURSE DETAILS:

- Fall Term
- Mon & Wed, 4-5:50pm
- Cramer Hall 449
- Holidays: Yom Kippur (Mon, Sep 25th), Indigenous Peoples' Day (Mon, Oct 9th)
- Credits: 4 Undergraduate; 3 Graduate

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This class explores the definition and foundation of environmental justice and the direct application of this concept to both historical and current issues. The goal of the course is to learn the theoretical framework of distributive, procedural, and recognition justice and then apply these learnings to present day scenarios. We will explore a variety of case studies, touching on interrelated topics ranging from climate justice, food justice, energy justice and water justice. This course blends sociological perspectives with natural resource management and policy implications.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

If you require accommodations from the Disability Resource Center (DRC), please visit <https://www.pdx.edu/disability-resource-center/accommodations>

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Portland State is located on the traditional homelands of the Multnomah, Kathlamet, Clackamas, Tumwater, Watlala bands of the Chinook, the Tualatin Kalapuya, and many other indigenous nations of the Columbia River. We acknowledge the ancestors of this place and understand that we are here because of the sacrifices forced upon them. By recognizing these communities, we honor their legacy, their lives, and their descendants

REQUIRED TEXTS:

****NOTE:** complete texts of all below made available as pdfs on Shared Drive

1. Hannah-Jones, Nikole (2019) *1619: A New Origin Story*, New York Times Magazine
2. DiAngelo, Robin (2016) *White Fragility*, Beacon Press
3. Kimmerer, Robin Wall (2013) *Braiding Sweetgrass*, Milkweed Editions

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. Comprehension of both the historical development of the theory and the modern day practice of environmental justice



2. Identification of the social, economic, and political factors that contribute to the existence of disparities in environmental outcomes

ASSIGNMENTS:

Two "Midterms" covering approximately six (6) lectures each plus one final project consisting of a five-minute final viva/visual presentation summarizing a final paper or project. Final paper or project should be 5 pages in length for undergraduate students, 10 pages for graduate students. Paper or project to focus both on the identification of and solutions to an example of environmental injustice. Paper or project should meet basic academic research standards and include annotations.

Quizzes:

1. Mon, Oct 23rd
2. Wed, Nov 15th

Final Project:

1. Mon, Dec 4th, 1-15
2. Wed, Dec 6th, 16-30

ASSIGNMENT	PERCENTAGE
1st Quiz	25
2nd Quiz	25
Final Presentation	15
Final Paper/Project	35
TOTAL	100

GRADING:

A 94-100%	B+ 86-89%	C+ 76-79%	D+ 66-69%
A- 90-93%	B 84-85%	C 74-75%	D 64-65%
	B- 80-83%	C- 70-73%	D- 60-63%

*****59% and below represents a failing grade***

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance at class sessions are mandatory with the exceptions of illness (mental or physical) and family obligations or emergencies.

OFFICE HOURS:

Always available for brief questions, discussions or clarifications at the end of each class.
Zoom appointments on Tuesday or Thursday mornings as needed, 10:30 to Noon.



COURSE CALENDAR
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (ESM 487/587)

****NOTE:** No class on Yom Kippur (Mon, Sep 25) or Indigenous Peoples' Day (Mon, Oct 9th)

WEEK	DATE	PRESENTATION	READING/VIEWING	DUE
1	Wed 9/27	The Represent! History Lesson	https://www.nytimes.com/2021/11/04/style/black-outdoors-wilderness.html (**see NYT Articles Folder) https://projects.oregonlive.com/publishing-prejudice/ https://projects.oregonlive.com/publishing-prejudice/concealed-consequences-wwii	
2	Mon 10/2	Environmental Justice: 1) Definition & Theory 2) Movements & Scholars	1) <i>The 1619 Project</i> , pp 22, 76 (Tiya Miles) 2) <i>White Fragility</i> , Foreword, Author's Note, Introduction, Chapter1 3) <i>Braiding Sweetgrass</i> , Preface, Skywoman Falling, The Council of Pecans	
	Wed 10/4	Toxic Water Pollutants: Toxics & Fish Consumption Guest Lecturer: Mary Lou Soscia, EPA Region 10, <i>Retired</i>	https://willametterivertoxicsreductionpartnership.org/	



3	Wed 10/11	Maxville Loggers Bootleg Fire/Sycan Marsh Guest Lecturer: Peter Caligiuri, Forest Strategy Director, The Nature Conservancy of Oregon	The Logger's Daughter (Doco) https://environment.yale.edu/canopy/2022/cover-story/fire-paradox-threat-part-solution 4) TNC Sycan Marsh Preserve (2021 Bootleg Wildfire)	
4	Mon 10/16	Vanport	https://projects.oregonlive.com/publishing-prejudice/flooded-forgotten Vanport Flood (Doco)	
	Wed 10/18	Urban Canopy/Heat Islands Data Visualization Guest Lecturer: Vivek Shandas, PSU SUPR Lab	2) <i>White Fragility</i> , Chapters 2-4 3) <i>Braiding Sweetgrass</i> : The Honorable Harvest, Burning Cascade Head	
5	Mon 10/23	Urban Greenspaces Guest Lecturer: Sahan Dissanayake, PSU Institute for Sustainability	1) <i>The 1619 Project</i> , pp 82-83 (Trymaine Lee)	
	Wed 10/25	Midterm (1)		1st Midterm (25%)
6	Mon 10/30	Asthma Alleys	1) <i>The 1619 Project</i> , pp. 48-49 (Kevin Kruse); pp. 56-57 (Linda Villarosa)	



	Wed 11/1	Toxic Air Pollutants Guest Lecturer: Mary Peveto, Executive Director Neighbors for Clean Air	https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2023/jun/21/lead-emissions-racetracks-portland-international-raceway https://www.wweek.com/news/city/2023/07/21/kmart-fire-sends-chunks-of-asbestos-flying-around-east-portland/	
7	Mon 11/6	Albina <i>Possible</i> Guest Lecturer: Rukaiyah Adams, Director, Albina Vision Trust Chief Executive, 1803 Fund	https://projects.oregonlive.com/publishing-prejudice/whitewashing-destruction https://www.portland.gov/civic/dream-rezoned https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2014/06/the-case-for-reparations/361631/ <i>6) A Dream Rezoned, 7) The Case for Reparations** pdfs of links directly above</i> <i>1) The 1619 Project, p 40 (Tiya Miles); 5) Historical Context of Racist Planning</i> <i>Websites: Albina Vision Trust; 1803 Fund; Comic: Urban Ecology 2.0</i>	
	Wed 11/8	Kellogg Dam	Un-Dam It! (Doco) 8) <i>Kellogg Dam Information Packet</i>	
8	Mon 11/13	Klamath Guest Lecturer: Becky Hatfield-Hyde, ODFW Commissioner	Klamath (Doco)	
	Wed 11/15	Midterm (2)		2nd Midterm (25%)



9	Mon 11/27	Fish Wars Guest Lecturer: Bob Spelbrink, ODFW Commissioner	https://www.opb.org/article/2023/08/09/grand-ronde-tribe-oregon-agreement-hunting-fishing-licenses/ https://www.nwcouncil.org/reports/columbia-river-history/usvoregon/-:~:text=United States v.,fished in the Columbia River. https://fiveoaksmuseum.org/this-is-kalapuyan-land-treaties-broken/ https://americanindian.si.edu/nk360/pnw-fish-wars/	
	Wed 11/29	Homelessness Crisis Guest Lecturer: Bob Salinger <i>or</i> Travis Williams, Willamette Riverkeeper	https://www.oregonlive.com/news/2023/07/hidden-toll-of-homeless-crisis-portlands-prized-natural-areas.html https://www.opb.org/article/2023/07/24/columbia-slough-portland-pollution-river-polluted/?utm_medium=email&utm_term=Learn more&utm_content=First Look July 24 2023CID_2e0779f26e80d7580aaf116f84248453&utm_source=firstlook&utm_campaign=First Look July 24 2023	
10	Mon 12/4	Final Presentations	https://www.elsevier.com/authors/tools-and-resources/graphical-abstract	Presentations: 1-15 Final Papers
	Wed 12/6	Final Presentations		Presentations: 16-30 Final Papers

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