Gender and The Environment  
Spring 2011  
Bruss Seminar 33

Amrita Basu  
Office hours: Wed. 4-6 pm

Martha Saxton  
Office hours: Tue: 2-4

Course Materials

Books for Purchase, available from Food for Thought Bookstore:

Linda Pulido, Environmentalism and Economic Justice  
Sandra Steingraber, Living Downstream  
Maureen G. Reed, Taking Stands, Gender and the Sustainability of Rural Communities

All the other readings will be placed on E-Reserve. If you would like to purchase a printed copy of the readings, you can order it on line from the CMS course web site and collect it at the WAGS office in Grosvenor House

We are streaming a number of films which we will expect you to see before the classes when we will discuss them. The only film which will not be streamed, Harvest of Grief, will be shown on the date and times listed below.

Course Requirements

We expect you to attend class regularly and inform us by email if you miss a class.

You will be responsible for weekly postings on the CMS course web site, two of which should be expanded into short (3-4-page) papers. Comments on the CMS site should be posted by 6 pm on Tuesday evening.

Each student will be expected to do a 20-page research paper and a class presentation on one of two questions. One alternative is to study community activism; the other is to develop a policy paper on mainstreaming gender and environmental concerns within institutions. We will expect you to submit proposals and bibliographies for your papers and meet with one of us to discuss your research. The papers will provide the basis for class presentations during the last two classes; the papers are due on the first day of finals.

Your grade will be determined on the following basis

Short papers: 25%  
Posts and class participation: 25%  
Final paper: 50%.
Course Schedule

1. Jan 26th The Local and the Global

Stacy Malkan, “What Price Beauty?”


Amherst College sustainability initiatives
https://www.amherst.edu/campuslife/greenamherst/sustainability_press

“Amherst College Interns Learn Life Lessons…”

Guest Speakers:

Amy Calandrella, Nuestras Raices

Sarah Barr, Director of Academic Programs, Center for Community Engagement

2. Feb 2nd Theoretical Debates: Eco Feminism and Its Critics

Greta Gaard and Lori Gruen, “EcoFeminism: Toward Global Justice and Planetary Health”

Sherry Ortner, “Is Female to Male as Nature is to Culture?” in Making Gender, The Politics and Erotics of Culture

Vandana Shiva, “Colonialism,” in Gender and Politics in India

Bina Agarwal, “The Gender and Environment Debate” in Gender and Politics in India

Regina Cochrane, “Rural poverty and Impoverished Theory: Cultural populism, Ecofeminism, and Global Justice” Journal of Peasant Studies

Linda Pulido, Environmentalism and Economic Justice, chapters 1 and 2

3. Feb. 9th Food: the US

Film: The Future of Food

Michael Pollan, Part I, Omnivore’s Dilemma

Food Hardship USA 2010

FOOD NEWS, pesticides on fruit

Rachel Carson, Silent Spring, 1-37

Sandra Steingraber, Living Downstream, 1-15; 116-122, 143-169

Linda Pulido, Environmentalism and Economic Justice, 57-124

Trauger, A. "Our Market is our community: women farmers and civic agriculture in Pennsylvania, USA." *Agriculture and Human Values*

4. Feb. 16\textsuperscript{th} Food: India  
**Film:** *Harvest of Grief* (will be shown in Fayerweather 117 on Tuesday Feb 15\textsuperscript{th} at 4.30 and 7.30 pm.)


5. Feb 23\textsuperscript{rd} Water  
**Film:** *The Water Front*

Sandra Steingraber, *Living Downstream*, 187-211


6. March 2\textsuperscript{nd} Forests: The US

Linda Pulido, *Environmentalism and Economic Justice*, 125-190

7. March 9th Forests: India  
*Film: Sudesha*


8. March 23rd Toxicity: the U.S.  
*Film: Silkwood*

Steingraber, *Living Downstream* 213-237

Elizabeth Blum, *Love Canal Revisited*, 18-150.


9. March 30th Toxicity: India  
*Film: Bhopali*


10. April 6th Climate: Climate Change


11. April 13th “Natural” Disasters: US


Lori Peek and Alice Fothergill, “Parenting in the Wake of Disaster: Mothers and Fathers Respond to Hurricane Katrina.” American Sociological Association, 2008

Duke Austin, “Hyper masculinity and Disaster: Gender Role Construction in the Wake of Hurricane Katrina”

12. April 20th “Natural” Disasters: South Asia


13. April 27th Activism and Community Organizing

Film: The Forest for the Trees

Student presentations

14. May 4th Mainstreaming Gender and Environment within Institutions

Student Presentations

Background Reading:

UNEP “Gender Mainstreaming Among Environment Ministries – Government Survey 2007”