

**HH4091: Environmental History of the United States**  
**Lin Qi Feng**

**Week 1 (Aug 9): No Class – National Day**

**Week 2 (Aug 16): Overview and Impact of the Discovery of the Americas**

American perspective:

McNeill, J.R. 2010. "The State of the Field of Environmental History." *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 35 (1): 345–374. doi: 10.1146/annurev-environ-040609-105431.

French perspective:

Locher, Fabien, and Grégory Quenet. 2009. "Environmental History: The Origins, Stakes, and Perspectives of a New Site for Research." *Revue d'histoire moderne et contemporaine* 56-4 (4): 7-38. [https://www.cairn-int.info/article-E\\_RHMC\\_564\\_0007--environmental-history.htm](https://www.cairn-int.info/article-E_RHMC_564_0007--environmental-history.htm).

Worster, Donald. 2016. *Shrinking the Earth: The Rise and Decline of American Abundance*: Oxford University Press.

**Week 3 (Aug 23): Theory**

Leibhardt, Barbara. 1988. "Interpretation and Causal Analysis: Theories in Environmental History." *Environmental Review: ER* 12 (1): 23-36. doi: 10.2307/3984375. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3984375>.

Nash, Linda. 2005. "The Agency of Nature or the Nature of Agency?" *Environmental History* 10 (1): 67-69.

Ruuskanen, Esa, and Kari Väyrynen. 2017. "Theory and Prospects of Environmental History." *Rethinking History* 21 (4): 456–473. doi: 10.1080/13642529.2017.1333289. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13642529.2017.1333289>.

<https://nature.berkeley.edu/departments/espm/env-hist/studyguide/chap1.htm>

**Week 4 (Aug 30): American Fauna and Game: The Bison**

Isenberg, Andrew C. 2000. *The Destruction of the Bison: An Environmental History, 1750–1920*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Dehler, Gregory J. 2013. *The Most Defiant Devil: William Temple Hornaday and His Controversial Crusade to Save American Wildlife*. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press.

## **Week 5 (Sep 6): National Parks, Wilderness Areas, and Eviction of Native Americans**

Spence, Mark David. 1999. *Dispossessing the Wilderness: Indian Removal and the Making of the National Parks*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Turner, James Morton. 2014. "Rethinking American Exceptionalism: Toward a Transnational History of National Parks, Wilderness, and Protected Areas." In *The Oxford Handbook of Environmental History*, edited by Andrew C. Isenberg. Oxford University Press.

Brockington, Daniel, and James Igoe. 2006. "Eviction for Conservation: A Global Overview." *Conservation and Society* 4 (3): 424-470.  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/26396619>.

Sutter, Paul S. 2012. "The Trouble with "America's National Parks"; or, Going Back to the Wrong Historiography: A Response to Ian Tyrrell." *Journal of American Studies* 46 (1): 23-29. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/41427307>.

## **Week 6 (Sep 13): Conservation movement**

Tyrrell, Ian R. 2015. *Crisis of the Wasteful Nation: Empire and Conservation in Theodore Roosevelt's America*. Chicago, Illinois: University of Chicago Press.

Taylor, Dorceta E. 2016. *The Rise of the American Conservation Movement: Power, Privilege, and Environmental Protection*. 1 online resource (486 pages) vols. Durham: Duke University Press.

## **Week 7 (Sep 20): Dust Bowl**

Worster, Donald. 2004. *Dust Bowl: the Southern Plains in the 1930s*. 25th anniversary ed. New York: Oxford University Press.

Cronon, William. 1992. "A Place for Stories: Nature, History, and Narrative." *The Journal of American History* 78: 1347-1376.  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/2079346>.

## **Make-up Class during Recess Week (Sept 27 – tentative date): Race Science, Social Science, and the Environment**

Finney, Carolyn. 2014. *Black Faces, White Spaces: Reimagining the Relationship of African Americans to the Great Outdoors*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press.  
<http://public.eblib.com/choice/publicfullrecord.aspx?p=1696225>.

Powell, Miles A. 2016. *Vanishing America: Species Extinction, Racial Peril, and the Origins of Conservation*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press.

### **Week 8 (Oct 4): Women in Conservation**

Zaslowsky, Dyan. 2009. *Rosalie Edge, Hawk of Mercy: The Activist Who Saved Nature from the Conservationists*. Athens: University of Georgia Press.

Ogilvie, Marilyn Bailey. 2018. *For the Birds: American Ornithologist Margaret Morse Nice*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press.

### **Week 9 (Oct 11): Chemical Pesticides**

Carson, Rachel. 1962. *Silent Spring*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

Davis, Frederick Rowe. 2014. *Banned: A History of Pesticides and the Science of Toxicology*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

### **Week 10 (Oct 18): War**

Pearson, Chris. 2012. "Researching Militarized Landscapes: A Literature Review on War and the Militarization of the Environment." *Landscape Research* 37 (1): 115-133. doi: 10.1080/01426397.2011.570974.

Chiang, Connie Y. 2018. *Nature Behind Barbed Wire: An Environmental History of the Japanese American Incarceration*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

### **Week 11 (Oct 25): Consumption of Resources**

*Lost World* documentary by Mam Kalyanee:  
[https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Lk6\\_XjUR1mQ](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Lk6_XjUR1mQ)

Welland, Michael. 2009. *Sand: The Never-Ending Story*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Black, Megan. 2018. *The Global Interior: Mineral Frontiers and American Power*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press.

Soluri, John. 2005. *Banana Cultures: Agriculture, Consumption, and Environmental Change in Honduras and the United States*. Austin: University of Texas Press.

## **Week 12 (Nov 1): Environmental Movement: 1960s-1980s Literature and Earth Day**

Stone, Robert (director). 2010. *Earth Days* (documentary film). Arlington, VA: PBS Distribution. DVD, 102 min.

Rome, Adam. 2013. *The Genius of Earth Day: How a 1970 Teach-In Unexpectedly Made the First Green Generation*. New York: Hill and Wang.

Gottlieb, Robert. 2005. *Forcing the Spring: The Transformation of the American Environmental Movement*. Revised and updated ed. Washington, DC: Island Press.

## **Week 13 (Nov 8): The Anthropocene**

Kyle Powys, Whyte. 2017. "Our Ancestors' Dystopia Now." In *The Routledge Companion to the Environmental Humanities*. Routledge.  
<https://www.routledgehandbooks.com/doi/10.4324/9781315766355.ch21>.  
doi: 10.4324/9781315766355.ch21.

Schneider-Mayerson, Matthew, ed. 2020. *Eating Chilli Crab in the Anthropocene: Environmental Perspectives on Life in Singapore*. Singapore: Ethos Books.