

Meeting times

M & Th 12:30 – 1:50
SUDA 108C

Modality

in-person with online content
and remote seats

Instructor

Prof. Nicolas Delon

Email

ndelon@ncf.edu

Office Location

ACE 303

Office Hours

<https://ndelon.youcanbook.me/>

Course Description: This course provides an introduction to the interdisciplinary field of environmental studies and the Environmental Studies AOC at New College. The course provides an overview of natural and social systems relevant to environmental issues and explores current issues at local, national, and global scales. Perspectives from a range of disciplines will be brought to key topics such as sustainability, climate change, energy, population growth, urbanization, biodiversity and ecology, food security and natural resources, ethics, environmental policy, and other strategies for improving human-environment interactions. This is a required course for those seeking an Environmental Studies Area of Concentration. No prerequisites.

Overview & Learning Objectives: This course aims to describe and discuss current environmental issues. You will learn about the scientific process by examining the science behind environmental issues such as pollution, climate change, and the loss of biological diversity. There will be a focus on the interconnected nature of environmental issues and varying solutions will be presented and discussed. You will also learn how to access peer-reviewed scientific articles and how to be a critical consumer of popular media. Class meetings will include lectures, guest presentations, discussions, and in-class activities.

Required Text: *Environment and Society: A Reader*, eds. C. Schlottmann, D. Jamieson, C. Jerolmack, A. Rademacher (NYU Press). It is available for purchase (new and used copies) at the campus bookstore. Have it by the beginning of week 2. I will also assign selections from the open-access textbook, *Environmental Biology*, ed. M. Fischer (Open Oregon). Download it or access it from the website. Other readings will be available on Canvas.

Approximate Evaluation Weighting:

20% Attendance & Participation

15% Homework (2)

20% Quizzes (4)

20% Midterm

25% Final project (5% proposal, 5% report, 15% project and presentation)

Attendance & Participation: You are expected to be an active member of the course by regularly contributing to in-class discussions, debates, and activities. If you must miss a class due to an extenuating circumstance, you must notify me by email ASAP; you are allowed a maximum of 2 unexcused absences. If you are sick please DO NOT come to class, but be sure to email me and your group members immediately (cf. COVID guidelines below).

Assignments: [see Canvas Modules for details].

Expectations: As a student, you are expected to read all assigned material before class, attend class, take notes and review them in-between class meetings, participate in discussions, and complete assignments on-time. Check your email daily and Canvas frequently. I will communicate with you via your **New College Gmail account and Canvas announcements**, so make sure it is up and running and that you **receive notifications** for new Canvas announcements.

You are responsible for knowing material covered in the assigned readings even if the material is not presented during class. Likewise, you are responsible for material covered during class (including discussions and activities) even if it is not covered in the assigned readings. Please seek help from me or your classmates and never hesitate to ask questions, consult resource centers (writing resource center, library, quantitative reasoning). Really, needing help is expected and there are no silly questions. Silly is not asking questions when you need.

Student resources and class policies: Sexual assault awareness is important for our community to be vibrant and to have free exchange of ideas in a safe environment. The Victim Advocate number is (941) 504-8599; with 24 hour availability for assistance with crime, sexual assault, and partner violence. Sexual Assault does not discriminate between age, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, ethnicity, or race. It is important to have a clear understanding of what sexual assault IS and IS NOT, as well as the resources available for sexual assault prevention and survivor support. More information is at www.ncf.edu/sexual-assault-awareness.

Disability services and accommodation: I am committed to providing an inclusive and effective learning environment for all students regardless of ability status. Students in need of academic accommodations for a disability may consult with the office of Student Disability Services (SDS) to arrange appropriate accommodations (<https://www.ncf.edu/disability-services-ncf>, HCL3, 941-487-4496, disabilityservices@ncf.edu). To ensure that I can work with Student Disability Services to provide the resources that you need, please alert me of your accommodation eligibility as early as possible and request testing accommodation in writing at least 10 days before scheduled date of the exam listed on the syllabus.

Academic honesty: Students are expected to be familiar with the college's academic dishonesty policy, as described in the General Catalog. Any violation of this policy may result in academic sanctions, up to and including, dismissal from the college.

Religious observance: Please alert me as soon as possible if an exam is scheduled at a day or time when you are prohibited from participating by your religious beliefs.

Title IX: New College of Florida is committed to equal access to education pursuant to Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972. The law protects all individuals on our campus from gender-based discrimination or exclusion or instances of sexual misconduct. **All full-time faculty, full-time staff, and resident advisors are Responsible Employees required to report any known instances of sexual misconduct or gender discrimination to the Title IX Coordinator.** Please contact our Title IX coordinator (titleix@ncf.edu) or see the website (<https://www.ncf.edu/campus-life/title-ix/>) for more information.

Equity, Diversity, and Equal Opportunity: New College's commitment to academic excellence can only be realized in a learning environment that is inclusive, characterized by openness to diverse perspectives, and marked by mutual respect. Anything short of this aspiration is inconsistent with our commitment. Equal access, and the opportunity to participate fully in all of our programs and facilities, without regard to race, color, creed,

religion, political ideology, national origin, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation, is essential to that commitment and will be the standard to which we expect all members of our learning community to adhere.

COVID-19 Safety guidelines: The success of this class depends on **mutual trust**. I expect all students to follow the following guidelines. If you cannot or refuse to do so, I kindly ask that you attend the class remotely.

Prior to the start of each F2F class, all students will be required to check their temperature or other signs of illness. Anyone presenting symptoms is expected to follow the college-recommended protocol and should not attend F2F class but instead join us on Zoom. Symptoms of COVID-19 include but may not be limited to: fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, diarrhea. If you tested positive, you may not return to class until you have met CDC and local health authority guidelines (at present, two negative tests taken at least 24 hours apart; but check the latest NCF recommendations). Students **MUST** also follow these common guidelines **in class**:

- **Wear a mask at all times** (surgical masks are better than cloth masks). While the CDC currently does not recommend N95 use for the general public, if you have one or an equivalent respirator, you are welcome to use it.
- **Use Hand Sanitizer** BEFORE AND AFTER entering the classroom.
- **Clean your working space** BEFORE and AFTER use. Cleaning supplies will be provided.
- Strive to maintain a safe **6-foot distance** between each other
- I cannot admit more people inside the classroom than is allowed by the current COVID-19 guidelines. If necessary, rather than capping the class, I will ask students (except for first-years) to attend sessions remotely on a rolling basis.

Again, **we all depend on each other** for this class—and the whole term at New College—to follow through. Be **respectful, considerate and kind** to each other.

Course Schedule (*subject to change – visit Modules on Canvas for up to date info*)# indicates a reading in *Environment & Society*; * indicates a reading on Canvas

Week	Date	Subject	Read	Notes/Assignments
1	M - Aug. 24	Class overview, syllabus		<u>Canvas survey</u>
	Th - Aug. 27	Scientific method <u>Guest speaker: Heidi Harley</u>	*Env. Bio 1.1-1.2 *Humanities and science	
2	M - Aug. 31	Humans and nature	#Thoreau #Abbey	Protocol
	Th - Sept. 3	Humans and nature, cont'd <u>Guest speaker: Emily Heffernan</u>	#Merchant *Cronon *Dowie	
3	M - Sept. 7	<i>Labor Day (no class)</i>		
	Th - Sept. 10	Ecology	*Env. Bio 3-4	Quiz
4	M - Sept. 14	Environmentalism I <u>Guest speaker: Emily Carr</u>		
	Th - Sept. 17	Environmentalism I, cont'd	#Leopold #Carson	
5	M - Sept. 21	Chemistry <u>Guest speaker: Lin Jiang</u>		
	Th - Sept. 24	Biodiversity and conservation	*Env. Bio 5 #Goodin	Project proposal
6	M - Sept. 28	Conservation, cont'd <u>Guest speaker: Athena Rycyk</u>		
	Th - Oct. 1	Resilience & social-ecological systems	*Stockholm Resilience, texts and videos	
7	M - Oct. 5	Resilience and SES, cont'd <u>Guest speaker: Susan Marks</u>		Quiz
	Th - Oct. 8	Resilience and SES, cont'd	Listen: <i>Floodlines</i>	Case study

8	M - Oct 12	<i>No Class – Columbus Day / Indigenous People’s Day</i>		
	Th - Oct. 15	Environmental justice <u>Guest speaker: Uzi Baram</u>	#Bullard, #Guha *Dowie	Midterm due
9	M - Oct. 19	Population and consumption	#Malthus #Chertow	
	Th - Oct. 22	Population and consumption, cont’d	#Daily&Ehrlich #Kolankiewicz #Holland Opt: *Env. Bio. 8-9	
10	M - Oct. 26	Public goods and collective action	#Hardin #Ostrom et al. Opt: *Env. Bio 11	Quiz
	Th - Oct. 29	Public goods and ..., cont’d	#Petrzelka&Bell #Hourdequin	
11	M - Nov. 2	Plants, cities, climate change <u>Guest speaker: Brad Oberle</u>	#Owen	Project report
	Th - Nov. 5	Pandemic ethics (w/ COVID 19 course) <u>Guest speaker: Eric Winsberg (USF)</u>	*Chappell&Singer *Winsberg et al.	
12	M - Nov. 9	Environmentalism II	#Schlosberg *Black environmentalism	
	Th - Nov. 12	Intrinsic value <u>Guest speaker: Erika Diaz-Almeyda</u>	#Passmore *Hourdequin&Wong	Quiz
13	M – Nov. 16	Policy, markets, cost-benefit analysis	#Adler *Sunstein	
	Th - Nov. 19	Agriculture	#Borlaug #Berry	
14	M - Nov. 23	Virtual gallery		Final projects
	Th - Nov. 26	<i>No Class – Thanksgiving</i>		
15	M – Nov. 30	Exam week / Virtual gallery		