**Course Description:**
This course will examine humanistic, social, and technological dimensions of ecological restoration from Native American Ecocentric, multicultural and analytic perspectives. This examination will incorporate the inherently multidisciplinary nature of ecological restoration. The relationship between restoration and human ecology, including matters of culture, social context, and situated knowledge, will be emphasized. Current and recent case studies will be analyzed, and the applicability of policies associated with those case studies considered. The underlying notions of restoration, sustainability, adaptation, and ecosystem will be critically examined, both conceptually and normatively.

**Administrative Details, Course Requirements, and Assessment:**
As this is a graduate seminar, active participation will be required, and will constitute a significant portion of your final grade (50%). Aside from regular attendance and class discussion, participation grades will include the two additional elements:

- On five occasions over the term, students will be required to submit, by email or dropped in one of the instructors’ mailboxes, a three to five page response to the weekly reading. This response is due by 1pm the day of the class meeting. Two-thirds of this response should be summary, and the other third criticism.

- Students will also be required to make one class presentation during the final four class meetings. This presentation will be on your final paper; a draft of your presentation should be circulated one week prior to your presentation. Failing to provide a draft paper will result in a deduction of 3 points per day off your class participation grade.

A final paper of at least 20 pages is due one week after the final class meeting. By the fourth week of classes (that is, by 16 Sep), students are required to submit a two paragraph description of their final paper topic and a list of five or six representative sources. While this short description is revisable, care should be taken in choosing your research topic. This paper will constitute 50% of your final grade.

**Texts**
Required:
Recommended:


Suggested:


**Topics and Tentative Schedule**

26 Aug  Introduction to course, and general comments on Environmental Ethics

Readings, available on UBLearns:

Aldo Leopold’s “The Land Ethic”

Recommended, available on UBLearns:

Richard Sylvan, “Is There a Need for a New, an Environmental, Ethic?”

Peter Singer, “Not For Humans Only: The Place of Nonhumans in Environmental Issues”

2 Sep  Topic: Native American Ecological Perspectives

Readings: Cajete *People's Ecology*, Clear Light Publishers

9 Sep  Philosophical Issues in Ecological Restoration

Topic: Clarification of conceptual and normative issues associated with restoration


“Alternative Models of Ecosystem Restoration,” Susan Power Bratton

“Faking Nature,” Robert Elliott


“Restoration or Domination? A Reply to Katz,” Andrew Light


“Restoration,” Holmes Rolston III

“Restoring Oak Ecosystems,” Steve Packard

“Between Theory and Practice: Some Thoughts on Motivations Behind Restoration,”

Donald Scherer

Recommended: (the remaining essays in Throop)

16 Sep  Topic: Iroquois Perspectives on Ecology & Restoration

Readings: Haudenosaunee Environmental Task Force *Words That Come Before All Else: Environmental Philosophies of the Haudenosaunee*
23 Sep  Topic: Native American analysis of environmental problems
   Readings: *Original Instructions*, Bear & Company

30 Sep (classes cancelled for Rosh Hashanah)

7 Oct  Environmental Politics: Resolving Environmental Disputes and Sustainable Development; Consideration of various strategies for resolving disputes over environmental policy, with a particular focus on restoration and sustainability

   Required Readings: John Dryzek’s *The Politics of the Earth* (2nd ed. Oxford, 2005), Chapters 1, 4-7

   Recommended
   - *Debating the Earth* (Dryzek and Schloseberg, edd. 2nd ed. Oxford, 2005), Parts Two and Three

14 Oct  Environmental Justice: The Indigenous Perspective and the Importance of Place; Examination of (1) the demands of justice as they apply to matters of the environment, (2) the significance of indigenous and local perspectives, (3) the importance of location to ecological decision making, and (4) the interdependence of these three considerations.

   Required readings from John Dryzek’s *The Politics of the Earth* (2nd ed. Oxford, 2005), Chapters 9, 10
   - Essays 33-36 from *Debating the Earth* <UBLearns>

   Recommended: *Debating the Earth* (Dryzek and Schloseberg, edd. 2nd ed. Oxford, 2005), focusing on essay 25 (Jim Dodge’s “Living by Life”) and sections X and XI (except #35: you’ll be reading Laduke’s whole text for 4 Nov)

21 Oct  Ecological Democracy and Civic Engagement: Consideration of what it means to be a part of an ecological community

   Required Readings: Required readings:

From *Debating Democracy* <UBLearns>:

41. The Politics of the Risk Society, Ulrich Beck  
42. Ecological Citizenship, Andrew Dobson  
43. Inequality, Ecojustice, and Ecological Rationality, Val Plumwood  
44. Political and Ecological Communication, John S. Dryzek

28 Oct  Topic: Conquest ecology and its impact on Native peoples  
Readings: Grinne *Ecocide of Native America*, Clear Light Publishers

4 Nov  Topic: Native American environmental activism today  
Readings: Laduke *All Our Relations*, South End Press

11 Nov  presentations  
18 Nov  presentations  
25 Nov  presentations  
2 Dec  presentations