

**Sociology 134EC/Environmental Studies 134EC**

**Earth in Crisis**

**Fall 2015**

**Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.**

**Buchanon 1920**

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**Sections**

*For Sociology:*

Wednesdays, 5:00-5:50 p.m. in Phelps 3523

Wednesdays, 7:00-7:50 p.m. in Phelps 1440

Wednesdays, 6-6:50 p.m. in Phelps 3523

*For Environmental Studies:*

Wednesdays, 2:00-2:50 p.m. in HSSB 3202

Wednesdays, 4:00-4:50 p.m. in HSSB 4202

Thursdays, 8-8:50 a.m. in HSSB 3201

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*#1: ALL OF LIFE IS INTERCONNECTED*

We express this value through compassion. Compassion is an active expression of understanding that as I treat others, I treat myself.

Therefore, we seek to mitigate suffering wherever we are able – including suffering of animals, the planet, our fellow humans and of every inhabitant of Mother Earth.

We actively cultivate the awareness that all life is both interconnected and sacred. All of life is part of us so we seek to create a restorative, just and compassionate human presence on the planet.

Life is also complicated. We delight in seeing beauty in all things – yet there is also difficulty, conflict, violence, hardship and suffering which is also a reflection of us. We refuse to see anything as separate from ourselves.

*#2: TO MAKE THE CHANGE, WE MUST FIRST BE THE CHANGE*

As we are deeply interconnected to all life, we play an integral role in supporting or obstructing its ability to thrive, through our thoughts, words, and deeds. Every person has the potential and power to transform our world, and that change starts with ourselves. How we show up is like the soil in which we plant our intentions, vision and hope for the world. If we are fearful, anxious, angry and resentful, what we plant will reflect this. If our soil is rich with love, compassion, beauty and joy, what we plant will be loving, compassionate, beautiful and joyful. As we are, so our work is.

From the “Values” statement of the Pollination Project, <http://thepollinationproject.org/>

## **Statement of Purpose**

This is the situation today on our Earth in crisis: we are in a *huge* mess! So it’s time to really *wake up*...

“Business as usual” – staying on the current trend of burning the fossil fuels that create the CO<sub>2</sub> that is warming Earth – puts us on a trajectory to four degrees Celsius or more by the end of the century, which climate scientists believe is tantamount to a catastrophe for life on our planet. Think of it as a kind of hell on Earth for your great-grandchildren, should you have any.

The latest reports of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and in particular, the view of Dr. James Hansen, the world’s best-known climate scientist, point toward the need for a global climate treaty that will limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (1.5° C) or less (we’ve already raised the temperature 0.9° C and built in another .5° C). Another way to put it is that we have to restore the Earth’s atmosphere to the scientifically established sustainable level of 350 parts per million of carbon dioxide (we passed the threshold of 400 ppm in May 2013 and it continues to rise).

Meanwhile, activist-scholar Bill McKibben notes that for an 80 percent chance [roughly the same odds as playing Russian Roulette, by the way] to stay below 2 [not 1.5] degrees, we have to keep the total of all future greenhouse gas emissions under the equivalent of 565 gigatons of CO<sub>2</sub>, but scarily, the proven reserves of all the fossil fuel corporations and oil exporting countries come to

2,795 gigatons. This means that 80 percent of these reserves have to be kept in the ground somehow and never extracted and burned (or profited from – and they are estimated to be worth \$27 trillion!).

At the annual United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change [UNFCCC] climate summits, known as COPs (for Conference of the Parties) and followed by a number denoting the year (the first, in 1995 was COP1, this year's in Paris, France, is COP21) the world's roughly 200 governments have been trying to negotiate a global treaty for almost twenty years now, and have set themselves the deadline of December 11, 2015 to achieve it. But the international negotiations process is at an impasse, as the dominant parties to the climate negotiations continue to advance positions completely at odds with each other and with what science requires, suggesting that humanity is on a collision course with nature that it cannot win.

On the side of hope, since 2007, or even earlier, a promising global climate justice movement has emerged behind the slogan “System change, not climate change!” making demands for a socially just, science-based, legally binding climate treaty. To get such a treaty, governments who do not want to vote for it, or whose short-term interests and economic elites are not served by signing, will need to be persuaded, defeated in elections, or, more likely, *forced* to do so by their own citizens and Earth citizens everywhere.

The purpose of this course, then, is to get our heads around the reality that we now live on an “Earth in crisis,” and to explore the implications of this for living in and creating, at a minimum, a survivable future, and potentially, a much improved, more just one than we have today. *This course is about knowledge and positive action to secure such a better future.*

## **My Philosophy of Teaching and Learning**

I consider teaching a radical act ... and don't forget that the Latin root of the word “radical” actually means “going to the root”!

Learning and teaching are complex, endlessly fascinating collaborations. I learn enormous amounts from the students in my classes, whom I consider companions on an intellectual, potentially life-changing journey.

My goals for my classes and myself include dramatically increasing our knowledge base about the world, honing our critical thinking skills, improving on the ways we write and speak, acquiring the ability to work collaboratively, learning the art of applying theoretical concepts to actual historical and contemporary situations, and making connections between what we are learning and what this means for how we should live and how we might take action in the world.

In the course of more than twenty years of university teaching, I have come to value interaction, participation, and exchange – *discussion in its many forms* – as the best way to teach and learn. So we will teach and learn from each other.

We will do this through a variety of learning approaches, including discussions of many kinds, student-led presentations and written reports, mini-lectures, short video clips and feature films, a novel, an intense two-week role play, and ... did I mention discussions?

This quarter, Andy, Theo, and I will ask each of you to do a lot of reading, thinking, discussing, and writing; our pledge is that engagement with these materials should prove a rewarding, and – who knows? – quite possibly a life-changing experience.

## **Texts**

*There will be a heavy amount of reading and writing in this course, by any standard. The readings assigned are uneven in the sense that in some weeks they are extensive, while in others there will be little or none. The good news is that **you** decide what to read and how much to read. And, you will find this includes some exciting and inspiring materials you can't find elsewhere – or your money back!*

Two books and a large number of shorter readings are required for this course. The required books are:

Saci Lloyd, *The Carbon Diaries 2015*. London: Holiday House. 2010. Less than \$8 [here](#) at Amazon.

Danny Chivers, *The No-Nonsense Guide to Climate Change: The Science, the Solutions, the Way Forward*. Oxford: New Internationalist. 2010. Just under \$14 [here](#) at Amazon.

Both of these books are available at the UCEN Bookstore, and may also be purchased on Amazon. The novel is on 2-hour reserve in the Library and I will put a copy of Chivers's book on reserve.

The other course readings are posted on our GauchoSpace for the class. Please let me know if you have any problems accessing them. *I strongly advise you to print out or otherwise bring the day's readings to class.*

## **Students with Disabilities**

This course welcomes and accommodates all interested students. We will do everything possible to accommodate your individual needs. Students with disabilities who require accommodations to fully participate in course activities or meet course requirements should speak to the Disabled Students Program, as well as the instructors. If you qualify for services through the DSP, please turn in a letter of accommodation to the Instructor. For more information, go to <http://dsp.sa.ucsb.edu/>

## **GauchoSpace and your UCSB e-mail**

Both are *indispensable* to our work, so check them regularly – <https://gauchospace.ucsb.edu>

## **Course Requirements**

### ***Policy on Plagiarism***

The following quote is from the syllabus of Dr. LeeAnn G. Kryder, for Writing 109AC: “Plagiarism is stealing. It is the copying of a part, or the whole, of another person's work while promoting the text as if you created it. Avoid plagiarism by acknowledging the author or source of that idea or text. Plagiarism may jeopardize a student's entire career.”

If we detect plagiarism on any assignment (please be aware that the internet makes plagiarism easy to detect), you will receive an F for the assignment, and quite possibly for the course, as well as face potential disciplinary action from the University.

### **Now for the fun stuff!**

***Attendance and Participation: Ten percent of your grade (thus, your participation, for good or ill, can affect your final grade by a whole letter step, turning an “A” into a “B”)***

Everyone is expected to attend all class and section meetings and to prepare reading assignments in order to participate *fully* and, in the words of my colleague Brian Tokar, in “an active, informed and respectful manner in our class discussions, which will address many diverse aspects of the readings and a variety of related issues. Please feel free to respectfully share your disagreements and challenges, as these are generally far more interesting than simply echoing what you’ve read.”

*Attendance at all class meetings and sections is therefore indispensable for making this course a success for all of us.* Class participation credit will be given for attendance (which will be taken at random) and participation in class and in section, volunteering for presenting a reading, doing the carbon footprint and other exercises, demonstrated effort in the class role play project, and general engagement with the materials. It will count for ten percent of your grade. You may ask for the occasional excused absence but we will have to see an excellent reason for it within 24 hours of the missed class, if not in advance, in order to honor your request. ***It is always greatly to your advantage to attend class.***

Participants will be asked to volunteer on occasion to facilitate our learning by presenting a reading to the class (sometimes with a partner), and we will conduct the class in a discussion-based way much of the time, so *you must be prepared to participate at every meeting*. We know that speaking in class is difficult for some – perhaps many – students, and we will work together to ease the burden of this. ***Theo, Andy, and I will endeavor to create a community atmosphere where you look forward to having a turn to speak.***

For help with class participation, see “On talking in class” and “How to make a great presentation,” both on GauchoSpace.

### ***Paper Style and Grading Policy***

**Paper style:** The formatting guidelines for all papers in this course are 1” margins all around and 12 point size. We would like all papers double-spaced. For grammar and other writing matters, see John Foran, “Tips for Writers.” *All papers are to be submitted on GauchoSpace.*

**Grading system:** Since all the paper assignments in this class are short, we will grade them on a check minus/check/check plus system, where “v+” is roughly an “A”, “v” is roughly a “B”, and “v-” is roughly a “C.” You may also receive a “split” grade, such as v/v+ or v-/v. You may on occasion even have the good fortune to receive a “v++” which can be thought of as something like “A+.”

If you have any questions about a grade, please see the person who graded the paper first (for most of you this will be Andy or Theo), and then, if necessary, John, and we can talk about it.

***Four Short Written Assignments: Forty percent of your grade***

*Three short reaction papers (thirty percent)*

During the quarter you should write three short “reaction” papers – each of no more than two double-spaced pages. These should cover one or more of the *issues* raised for you by the course materials or class topics, and you can bring your own feelings as well as your judgments into the analysis. In many cases a good way to proceed is to present information, discuss an idea, identify a controversy, etc., then state your point of view or reaction to the material, and *back it up* with reasons and evidence. We want to know what *you* think, so please *do not waste valuable space in summarizing texts!*

Your short reaction papers may take *any* of the following forms:

- A critical discussion (*not* a summary) of one or more of the class readings (*there is no limit on how many of these you can do*).
- A discussion (*not* a summary) of one of the in-class video clips or films we watch (*up to two of these are allowed*).
- A critical analysis of a news item – see the list of news sources below – with the item attached (*only one of these is allowed*).
- A review of a relevant film or a talk attended outside of class, agreed with John (*only one of these is allowed*). We will be announcing especially good opportunities throughout the quarter.

**Due dates:** the first of your three papers is due on or by class time on Thursday, October 8; the second by October 15, and the third by October 29.

*Book review (ten percent)*

On Tuesday, November 24, you will be asked to post a book review on GauchoSpace of no more than two double-spaced pages on Saci Lloyd’s novel, *The Carbon Diaries 2015*. *Do not* use your space to summarize the novel. Beyond that, we have no set expectation for this review, other than to see you *engage* with the book. Be sure to state the reasons for your views, and back them up with evidence, quotations, and reference to specific page numbers. *If you plagiarize your review, you will receive an “F” for the course.*

***COP21: The Class Project: Fifty percent of your grade***

This quarter we will engage in an exciting collective project that will illuminate the possibilities and difficulties of finding a global solution to the problems of an Earth in crisis. We will devote significant class and section time to preparing for and doing this, and it will require careful original research and inspired group work on your part.

The project will take the form of a full-on dramatic role-playing exercise, based on the upcoming UN COP21 climate treaty negotiations that will take place in Paris, France, between November 30 and December 11, which Theo and I will attend. We will do this role-play at *four* class meetings, Thursday, November 5, Tuesday, November 10, Thursday, November 12, and Tuesday, November 17, and, if need be, into Thursday, November 19.

Each class member will be part of a three-person team that will play the role of one of the parties to the conference: national climate change delegates from key countries at the negotiations, *or* members and activists from social movements and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) who attend the conferences.

Each group will prepare a “position paper” of up to three double-spaced pages (including page three as a 60-second “opening statement”) on the views of the group you are representing, based on outside research you will conduct. You are to make this paper as accurate and realistic as possible, and it will serve as the basis for your participation on the first day, Thursday, November 5. Negotiations will start on Tuesday, November 10. This paper will count for twenty percent of your grade.

Over the following weekend, your team will prepare a “flexible strategy paper” of no more than two double-spaced pages for what you intend to do and propose in week two of the role play. This will be due on Thursday, November 12. The flexible strategy paper will count for ten percent of your grade.

Finally, you will each (individually, not as a team) prepare a double-spaced three page “analysis,” commenting on the overall process and outcome of both the role play and of the actual COP21 in Paris. This will be due on Tuesday, December 15, and will count for twenty percent of your grade.

**Note:** detailed guidelines and other materials for each of these role-play papers and for the whole exercise will be posted on GauchoSpace.

### Overview of the deadlines

By or on Thursday, October 8	First Reaction Paper [two pages]
By or on Thursday, October 15	Second Reaction Paper [two pages]
By or on Thursday, October 29	Third Reaction Paper [two pages]
Thursday, November 5	COP21 Position Paper [three pages, with teammates]
Thursday, November 12	COP21 Strategy Paper [two pages, with teammates]
Tuesday, November 24	Book Review of <i>The Carbon Diaries</i> [two pages]
Tuesday, December 15	COP21 Analysis Paper [three pages]

\* \* \*

*Your job is to manage these assignments;* you are advised to do all of them as best you can rather than to miss any, which will affect your grade more than doing a poor job on one or two of them.

## Writing Resources

The class GauchoSpace contains several *excellent* guides on how to write well for this class and all your classes, by John Foran, Chris Bickel, Manuel Callahan, Arthur McEvoy, and UCSB for Writers. It is well worth your while to study one or more of these before every piece of writing you do this quarter (and for your other classes as well), until you feel you have mastered and can practice what they say.

## Following the News: Tracking Current Issues

As a series of current “events” and a long-term ongoing process, climate change – whether named or not – is always in the news. As the occasion arises, we may discuss current events, so please feel free to share news with the class by bringing it to the attention of the instructor, especially if you are moved to report on the news for a reaction paper.

Some tips on how to read and analyze the news are found in our GauchoSpace: Rich Kaplan, “Analyzing the News,” and Yousef Baker, “Reading the News on the Middle East.”

Excellent sources of climate news and analyses, among others, include:

*Grist* – *Environmental News, Commentary, Advice* – <http://grist.org/> – “An American non-profit online magazine that has been publishing environmental news and commentary since 1999. Grist’s taglines are ‘Gloom and doom with a sense of humor’ and ‘A beacon in the smog’” – Wikipedia.

*EcoWatch* – <http://ecowatch.com/> – “EcoWatch is a dedicated platform for environmental news that helps transform the ability of individuals to learn about environmental issues and take action. EcoWatch provides timely access to relevant information that educates and motivates individuals to become engaged in their community, adopt sustainable practices and support strong environmental policy.”

*Resilience* – <http://www.resilience.org/> – “both an information clearinghouse and a network of action-oriented groups. Our focus is on building community resilience in a world of multiple emerging challenges: the decline of cheap energy, the depletion of critical resources like water, complex environmental crises like climate change and biodiversity loss, and the social and economic issues which are linked to these. We like to think of the site as a community library with space to read and think, but also as a vibrant café in which to meet people, discuss ideas and projects, and pick up and share tips on how to build the resilience of your community, your household, or yourself.”

*The New York Times* – <http://www.nytimes.com> – the paper of record in the U.S.

BBC News – <http://www.bbc.co.uk/> – England and U.K.’s news source of record)



*The Guardian* – <http://www.guardian.co.uk/> – the United Kingdom’s best newspaper

Amy Goodman’s *Democracy Now!* – <http://www.democracynow.org/> – the best source of progressive global political journalism in the U.S. They will do extensive coverage of COP21

### **Resources on an Earth in Crisis**

The following websites are useful sources of information on the climate crisis and on some of the things people are doing about it...

Climate Central – <http://www.climatecentral.org/>

Climate Code Red – <http://www.climatecodedred.org/>

Climate Debate Daily – <http://climatedebatedaily.com/>

Creative Climate: Stories from a Changing World – <http://www.open.edu/openlearn/nature-environment/the-environment/creative-climate>

DeSmog Canada – <http://www.desmog.ca/>

The International Institute of Climate Action and Theory (iicat) – [www.iicat.org](http://www.iicat.org)

Real Climate – <http://www.realclimate.org/>

Skeptical Science – <http://www.skepticalscience.com>

System Change not Climate Change – <http://systemchange.ca>

**Note: please read or view the following before class starts on Thursday, September 24!**

Please look at the website Citizens Climate Lobby, “Are You Ready for More?” [a photo essay], found at [http://citizensclimatelobby.org/files/u1/Are%20you%20ready%20for%20more\\_1.pdf](http://citizensclimatelobby.org/files/u1/Are%20you%20ready%20for%20more_1.pdf)

Please read Jim Block, “The Case for Optimism Amidst a Political Wasteland of the Soul” (July 26, 2013), 1-3, <http://www.truth-out.org/buzzflash/commentary/item/18111-optimism-political-wasteland-soul>

## Course Topics and Reading Assignments

### Part One:

#### Different Futures are Possible...

#### Thursday, September 24. First meeting: taking the plunge ...

Introduction to the course!

#### Tuesday, September 29. What future for us?

We'll screen and begin to discuss *The Age of Stupid*, a film with Pete Postlethwaite, directed by Franny Armstrong (One-Off Productions, Ltd., 2009, 88 minutes).

#### Background reading on the film [read before or after the film]

Read background briefing on *The Age of Stupid*, 1-25

#### Readings

Naomi Oreskes and Erik M. Conway, "The Collapse of Western Civilization: A View from the Future," *Daedalus* 142 (1) (Winter 2013), 40-58

Danny Chivers, *The No-Nonsense Guide to Climate Change*, chapter 10: "What might a zero-carbon future look like?" 185-188

Madeline Ostrander, "When Words Fail: Does a Warming World Need a New Vocabulary?" (September 19, 2011), 1-5,  
<http://www.yesmagazine.org/planet/when-words-fail-does-a-warming-world-need-a-new-vocabulary>

#### Thursday, October 1. The Science (with a note on those who deny it)

A quick look at the history of climate science and its current analysis of the situation, or, "why we need to have this course..."

#### Readings

Danny Chivers, *The No-Nonsense Guide to Climate Change*, foreword, introduction, and chapter 1: "How Do We Know that Climate Change is Happening?" 5-45; chapter 2: "How Bad Could it Get?," 46-55; and chapter 3: "Why is Climate Denial on the Rise?" 56-68

Today we'll also roll out the class project on the COP21 UN climate summit in Paris, France that we will engage in later in the term, and explain what is involved.

## **Special assignment due in class Tuesday, October 6: The Ecological Footprint Quiz**

Please see the guidelines for this on GauchoSpace. Take the two quizzes, record the results page, put your name on it, and evaluate why you got the score you did, in a couple of sentences. Then post this on GauchoSpace. This counts as part of your participation grade.

## **Tuesday, October 6. The Carbon-Industrial Complex**

Today, we will take a look at how the social system that we live in shapes our lives, and those of people all over the world. And this system is in crisis.

### **Readings**

Bill McKibben, “Global Warming’s Terrifying New Math: Three simple numbers that add up to global catastrophe - and that make clear who the real enemy is” (July 19, 2012), 1-12,  
<http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/news/global-warmings-terrifying-new-math-20120719>

Danny Chivers, *The No-Nonsense Guide to Climate Change*, chapter 4: “Where are All the Emissions Coming From?” 71-91; chapter 5: “How Much Do We Need to Cut?” 92-101; and chapter 9, “What is it going to take?,” 170-84

### **Part Two:**

### **Climate Justice**

**Note:** *By or on Thursday, October 8, you should have posted your First Reaction Paper.*

## **Thursday, October 8. Ecosocialism, and the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth, or, (perhaps) the Most Revolutionary Ideas on the Planet**

Today, we’ll explore the basic ideas of “ecosocialism,” which combines a critique of capitalism as the cause of the crisis of planet Earth with an alternative model for a future that would be ecologically advanced, economically just, and politically democratic.

We’ll also consider the “Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth,” adopted by the World People’s Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth, on April 27, 2010 in Cochabamba, Bolivia, and subsequently submitted by the Bolivian government to the United Nations for consideration.

Please take at least 30-45 minutes to explore the websites:

System Change Not Climate Change –  
<http://systemchangenotclimatechange.org/>

“21st Century Ecosocialism: Practicing System Change, Making Connections, Building a Movement” – <http://www.westcoastecosocialists.org/>

The Pachamama Alliance – <http://www.pachamama.org/about/mission>

The Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature – <http://therightsofnature.org/>

Ecosocialist Horizons – <http://ecosocialisthorizons.com/>

### Readings

World People’s Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth “Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth,” Cochabamba, Bolivia (April 27, 2010), 1-3, <http://climateandcapitalism.com/?p=2268>

The Lima Ecosocialist Declaration (December 2014), <http://ecosocialisthorizons.com/2014/10/the-lima-ecosocialist-declaration/>

System Change Not Climate Change, “What is Ecosocialism?” (September 2014), 1-14

**WE URGE YOU TO ATTEND THIS VERY SPECIAL EVENT** *Friday, October 9-Sunday, October 11: The West Coast System Change Not Climate Change Gathering: “21st Century Ecosocialism: Practicing System Change, Making Connections, Building a Movement”*

Everything you need to know about the conference can be found here [and if it’s not, just ask John about it!]: “21st Century Ecosocialism: Practicing System Change, Making Connections, Building a Movement” – <http://www.westcoastecosocialists.org/>

**Tuesday, October 13 and Thursday, October 15. Food, Health, Land, Air, Animals, Oceans and Us in Crisis**

**Note:** *By or on Thursday, October 15, you should have posted your Second Reaction Paper.*

This week we’ll watch and discuss the controversial new film, *Cowspiracy: The Sustainability Secret* (directed by Kip Andersen and Keegan Kuhn, A.U.M. films, 2014, 91 minutes).

### Websites

<http://www.cowspiracy.com/infographic>

### Readings

Chris Hedges, “Saving the Planet, One Meal at a Time” (Nov 9, 2014), 1-6, [http://www.truthdig.com/report/item/saving\\_the\\_planet\\_one\\_meal\\_at\\_a\\_time\\_20141109](http://www.truthdig.com/report/item/saving_the_planet_one_meal_at_a_time_20141109)

Chris Hedges, “Choosing Life” (April 19, 2015), 1-5,  
[http://www.truthdig.com/report/item/choosing\\_life\\_20150419](http://www.truthdig.com/report/item/choosing_life_20150419)

Anastasia Pantsios, “Eating Less Meat and Dairy Essential to Curb Climate Change” (December 5, 2014), 1-3, [http://ecowatch.com/2014/12/05/eat-less-meat-dairy-curb-climate-change/?utm\\_source=EcoWatch+List&utm\\_campaign=86ee240ebe-Top\\_News\\_12\\_6\\_2014&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_49c7d43dc9-86ee240ebe-85960137](http://ecowatch.com/2014/12/05/eat-less-meat-dairy-curb-climate-change/?utm_source=EcoWatch+List&utm_campaign=86ee240ebe-Top_News_12_6_2014&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_49c7d43dc9-86ee240ebe-85960137)

Tim Radford, “Eating Healthy Mitigates Climate Change” (November 14, 2014), 1-3, [http://ecowatch.com/2014/11/14/eating-healthy-mitigates-climate-change/?utm\\_source=EcoWatch+List&utm\\_campaign=40ef2088b3-Top\\_News\\_11\\_14\\_2014&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_49c7d43dc9-40ef2088b3-85960137](http://ecowatch.com/2014/11/14/eating-healthy-mitigates-climate-change/?utm_source=EcoWatch+List&utm_campaign=40ef2088b3-Top_News_11_14_2014&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_49c7d43dc9-40ef2088b3-85960137)

John W. Roulac, “The Solution Under Our Feet: How Regenerative Organic Agriculture Can Save the Planet: Part 1” (January 6, 2015), 1-5,  
[http://ecowatch.com/2015/01/06/regenerative-organic-agriculture/?utm\\_source=EcoWatch+List&utm\\_campaign=de5b67ce44-Top\\_News\\_1\\_11\\_2014&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_49c7d43dc9-de5b67ce44-85960137](http://ecowatch.com/2015/01/06/regenerative-organic-agriculture/?utm_source=EcoWatch+List&utm_campaign=de5b67ce44-Top_News_1_11_2014&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_49c7d43dc9-de5b67ce44-85960137)

John W. Roulac, “How Regenerative Organic Agriculture Can Save the Planet: Part 2” (January 13, 2015), 1-5,  
[http://ecowatch.com/2015/01/13/regenerative-organic-agriculture-2/?utm\\_source=EcoWatch+List&utm\\_campaign=c5d44a3cd2-Top\\_News\\_1\\_14\\_2015&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_49c7d43dc9-c5d44a3cd2-85960137](http://ecowatch.com/2015/01/13/regenerative-organic-agriculture-2/?utm_source=EcoWatch+List&utm_campaign=c5d44a3cd2-Top_News_1_14_2015&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_49c7d43dc9-c5d44a3cd2-85960137)

## **Tuesday, October 20. The Environmental and Climate Justice Movements in the United States and Canada**

In this meeting, we will explore the historical rise and current state of the global climate justice movement, surveying a wide range of political struggles waged against the devastation of nature by humans, and exploring some of the key climate justice issues facing us as residents of California and inhabitants of the United States.

Please take at least 30 minutes on-line to check out some of the following groups:

350 Santa Barbara – <http://350sb.org/who-we-are/>

Santa Barbara Water Guardians – <http://www.sbcountywaterguardians.org/>

Movement Generation – <http://www.movementgeneration.org/about-us/who-we-are>

Earth First! – <http://www.earthfirst.org/>

Energy Action Coalition – <http://www.energyactioncoalition.org/>

Green Party of the United States – <http://gp.org/what-we-believe>

Idle No More – <http://www.idlenomore.ca/>

Canadian Youth Climate Coalition – [http://www.ourclimate.ca/who\\_are\\_we](http://www.ourclimate.ca/who_are_we)

Flood the System – <https://floodthesystem.net/>

Peaceful Uprising – <http://www.peacefuluprising.org/>

Rising Tide – <http://www.risingtidenorthamerica.org/features/what-is-rising-tide/>

### Readings

Gopal Dayaneni, “Climate Justice in the U.S.,” pp. 80-85 in Ulrich Brand et al., editors, *Contours of Climate Justice: Ideas for Shaping New Climate and Energy Politics* (Uppsala: Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation, 2009), [http://www.dhf.uu.se/pdffiler/cc6/cc6\\_web.pdf](http://www.dhf.uu.se/pdffiler/cc6/cc6_web.pdf)

Eve Andrews, “Are women our best hope for fighting climate change?” August 14, 2014, [http://grist.org/climate-energy/whos-our-best-hope-for-fighting-climate-change/?utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=Daily%2520Aug%252014&utm\\_campaign=daily](http://grist.org/climate-energy/whos-our-best-hope-for-fighting-climate-change/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_term=Daily%2520Aug%252014&utm_campaign=daily), 1-8

Deirdre Smith, “The Climate Movement Must Stand with Ferguson” (August 21, 2014), 1-4, [http://climateandcapitalism.com/2014/08/21/climate-movement-must-stand-ferguson/?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%203A+climateandcapitalism%20FpEtD+%28Climate+and+Capitalism%29](http://climateandcapitalism.com/2014/08/21/climate-movement-must-stand-ferguson/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%203A+climateandcapitalism%20FpEtD+%28Climate+and+Capitalism%29)

Sarah van Gelder interview with Tim DeChristopher, “The Boomers ‘Failed’ Us: Climate Activist Tim DeChristopher on Anger, Love, and Sacrifice” (May 30, 2014), [http://www.yesmagazine.org/issues/the-power-of-story/boomers-failed-us-america-s-most-creative-climate-criminal-anger-love?utm\\_source=FB&utm\\_medium=Social&utm\\_campaign=20140530](http://www.yesmagazine.org/issues/the-power-of-story/boomers-failed-us-america-s-most-creative-climate-criminal-anger-love?utm_source=FB&utm_medium=Social&utm_campaign=20140530)

[Optional] John Foran, “Climate Train – John’s Journey to the New York City Climate Convergence” (October 1, 2014), 1-58, <http://climatejusticeproject.com/johnsjourney/>

If time permits, we might screen and discuss parts of *A Fierce Green Fire* (2012, directed by Mark Kitchell, Bullfrog Films, 100 minutes).

### Two websites on the film:

<http://www.afiercegreenfire.com/>

<http://www.treehugger.com/culture/sundance-film-fest-highlights-fierce-green-fire-documentary.html>

## Thursday, October 22. The Global Climate Justice Movement

Today, we will take a look at some of the leading players in the *global* climate justice movement, and possibly even meet a UCSB-affiliated member of the global youth climate justice movement!

Please take at least 30 minutes to check out the following groups profiled in the document “The Global Climate Justice Movement On-Line”:

Fossil Free UC – <http://www.fossilfreeuc.org/>

System Change Not Climate Change: The Road to Paris –  
<http://www.parisclimatejustice.org/>

SCNCC Santa Barbara Chapter –  
<https://www.facebook.com/SystemChangeNotClimateChangeSantaBarbara>

350.org – [350.org](http://350.org)

Global Climate Convergence – <http://globalclimateconvergence.org/>

Global Justice Ecology Project – <http://globaljusticeecology.org>

CAN International – <http://www.climatenetwork.org/>

Friends of the Earth International (FOEI) – <http://www.foei.org/>

Global PowerShift – <http://globalpowershift.org/>

Greenpeace International – <http://www.greenpeace.org/international/>

SustainUS – <http://sustainus.org/>

UKYCC (United Kingdom Youth Climate Coalition – <http://ukycc.org/>

We may also screen and discuss a bit more of *A Fierce Green Fire* (2012, directed by Mark Kitchell, Bullfrog Films, 100 minutes).

### Readings

Gustavo Esteva, “The Ecology of Joy in Our Movements and Spaces” (July 31, 2014), 1-12, <http://earthlingopinion.wordpress.com/2014/07/31/the-ecology-of-joy-in-our-radical-movements-and-spaces/>

Patrick Bond, “Climate Justice,” in C. Death, editor, *Critical Environmental Politics* (London: Routledge, 2013), 133-145

John Jordan, “Drawing a line in the sand: The movement victory at Ende Gelände opens up the road of disobedience for Paris” (August 23, 2015), 1-15, <https://labofii.wordpress.com/2015/08/23/drawing-a-line-in-the-sand-the->

[movement-victory-at-ende-gelande-opens-up-the-road-of-disobedience-for-paris/](#)

### Part Three:

#### Negotiating Change?

#### **Tuesday, October 27. What about the United Nations Climate Change Conferences – How are the Negotiations Going?**

Today, we'll study the history of the global climate negotiations which have been taking place since 1995 and led to the Kyoto Protocol in 1997, designed to limit countries' emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere.

#### **Readings**

Danny Chivers, *The No-Nonsense Guide to Climate Change*, chapter 7, "What is the Political History of Climate Change?" 127-139, and chapter 8, "Why Haven't We Fixed It Yet?" 140-169

Joel Kovel, "A Conference that will live in Infamy," *Capitalism Nature Socialism* 21 (1) (March 2010): 1-2

[Optional only] Spencer Weart, "International Cooperation," 1, 27-50 (only), and "A Personal Note," 1-3, extracts from his website on "The Discovery of Global Warming," at <http://www.aip.org/history/climate/index.htm>

#### **Video clip**

Tom Smith, "We're Not Done Yet," a remarkable interview with a young British climate activist who explains what is at stake for him and many other climate campaigners: <http://yesmagazine.org/planet/were-not-done-yet>

**Note:** *By or on Thursday, October 29, you should have posted your Third Reaction Paper.*

#### **Thursday, October 29. What a COP is Really Like, and What the Treaty Looks Like**

Today, we will update the story to the present with a careful look at the Warsaw COP19 meetings in Poland in December 2013, and at the Lima COP20 meetings in Peru in December 2014. We'll also take a look at the current draft of the treaty that is under negotiation.

#### **Readings**

John Foran, "¡Volveremos!/We Will Return": The State of Play for the Global Climate Justice Movement," *Interface: A Journal for and about Social Movements* (Summer 2014), 1-24,



<http://www.interfacejournal.net/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Interface-6-1-Foran.pdf>

Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action. “Working Document,” Second session, part ten, 1-45, <http://unfccc.int/2860.php>

Jim Shultz, “Climate Comeback: A Grassroots Movement Steps Back into the International Arena” (August 26, 2014), 1-4, <http://www.yesmagazine.org/planet/climate-comeback-international-arena>

### Video clip

*Civil Society Walkout at COP19 on November 21, 2013* (Summer Gray, 4 minutes): November 21, 2014, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KbtdXFeEUXk&feature=youtu.be>

### Tuesday, November 3. “Paris is Coming...”

Today, we’ll take a look at what’s at stake in COP21, which begins in 27 days!

### Readings

John Foran, “Just Say ‘No’ to the Paris COP: A Possible Way to Win Something for Climate Justice,” originally published by Resilience.org (September 16, 2015), 1-18, <http://www.resilience.org/stories/2015-09-16/just-say-no-to-the-paris-cop-a-possible-way-to-win-something-for-climate-justice>

### Film clip

*Climate Deadline 2015* (Richard Widick, 65 minutes)

**Note:** *on Thursday, November 5, before class, you should post your three-page team-written COP21 Position Paper.*

### Thursday, November 5. Opening Plenary, COP21– Soc 134EC/ES 134EC/COP20 Climate Conference, Day 1

Today, we begin our role-play of the upcoming COP21 meetings in Paris, France, with opening statements.

**Note:** *Your team’s “position paper” of up to three double-spaced pages on the views of the group you are representing, including page three as a 60-second “Opening Statement” is due before class today.*

### Tuesday, November 10. The COP21 Event Continues (and things get serious!) – Soc 134EC/ES 134EC/COP21 Climate Conference, Day 2

Today, we conduct negotiations for our COP21 meeting in Paris, France.

**Note:** on *Thursday, November 12, before class, you should post your two-page team-written COP21 Strategy Paper.*

**Thursday, November 12. The COP21 Event Continues (and gets even more serious!!) – Soc 134EC/ES 134EC/COP21 Climate Conference, Day 3**

Today, we continue the COP21 meetings in Paris, France, with some hard negotiations and passionate climate activism...

**Note:** *your team's two-page "flexible strategy paper" is due before class today.*

**Tuesday, November 17. The COP21 Event Continues (and the pressure becomes almost unbearable!!!) – Soc 134EC/ES 134EC/COP21 Climate Conference, Day 4**

Today, we complete the COP21 meetings in Paris, France. The world awaits the outcome...

**Thursday, November 19. Debriefing Paris, California, and Preparing for Paris, France**

Today, we will discuss the outcome of our role play and also the upcoming actual COP21 in Paris, France, and how to prepare for it.

**Note:** *on Tuesday, November 24, before class, you should post your two-page Book Review of The Carbon Diaries.*

**Part Four:**

**Facing the Future**

**Tuesday, November 24. In the Year 2015: *The Carbon Diaries* and *The Great Turning***

Today, we'll look at an imagined world of 2015, and try to imagine what *our* world might look like in 2015... 2020... 2030...

**Reading:**

Saci Lloyd, *The Carbon Diaries 2015*, and see the author's homepage:  
<http://www.sacilloyd.com/books/carbon-diaries-2015>

*Carbon Diaries* – a compilation of reviews and background

**Note:** *Your book reviews are due today in class.*

**Special screening:**

*Joanna Macy and the Great Turning* (Chris Landry, 26 minutes, 2013),  
<https://vimeo.com/ondemand/greeturning>

### **Thursday, November 26. Thanksgiving, a holiday**

Enjoy your Thanksgiving Day!

**Note:** *COP21 opens in Paris today.*

### **Tuesday, December 1. Video-chat with the Climate Justice Project, Live from the COP21 in Paris, France ...**

Technology, sleep patterns, and time zones permitting, be prepared for a special eye-witness account of the COP21 proceedings from Paris, France, and to interact with climate justice advocates John Foran and (perhaps) others.

#### **Readings**

Keep up with the first reports on COP21 by reading the following on-line:

Amy Goodman's *Democracy Now!* – <http://www.democracynow.org/>

Climate Action Network [CAN], *Eco Newsletter*,  
<http://www.climatenetwork.org/eco-newsletters>

Third World Network [TWN], “Lima News Updates,” which will be found on their website at <http://www.twinside.org.sg/>

International Institute for Sustainable Development [IISD], daily *Earth Negotiations Bulletin*, <http://www.iisd.org/>

### **Thursday, December 3. What are we going to do? Final thoughts, and farewells – live from Paris, France**

Today, we conclude our time together. Let's celebrate, hear what everyone's thinking, and figure out how we'll stay in touch.

#### **Reading:**

Danny Chivers, *The No-Nonsense Guide to Climate Change*, chapter 6, “What are the Solutions?” 102-123, and chapter 11: “Ten top tips to save the planet,” 170-84 and 189-96

**Note:** *on Tuesday, December 15, by midnight you should post your three-page COP21 Analysis Paper.*

\* \* \*

*We need to remember that the work of our time is bigger than climate change. We need to be setting our sights higher and deeper. What we're really talking about, if we're honest with ourselves, is transforming everything about the way we live on this planet.*

– Rebecca Tarbotton, Executive Director of the Rainforest Action Network, 1973-2012, quoted in Naomi Klein, *This Changes Everything: Capitalism versus the Climate* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2014), epigraph

\* \* \*

*“Ask... History knocked on your door, did you answer.”*

*That's a good question for all of us.*

– Naomi Klein, referring to Greek Prime Minister Alexi Tsipras, in 2013, from *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs the Climate* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2014), 466