ECOSYSTEMS AND HUMAN IMPACT (EHI) - COURSES

Human ecology investigates how humans and human societies interact with nature and with their environment. Course first introduces the concepts and methods of human ecology. Following this foundation, the course will give special emphasis to empirical examples, case studies and lessons from history. The course will focus on individuals, communities and traditional societies. Human Ecology compliments Human Geography, which studies pattern at the larger scale.

Prerequisite: BIO 201

EHI 326: Conservation Genetics

This course is an introduction to genetics taught in the context of conservation. The course will cover a basic introduction to Mendelian, molecular, population, evolutionary and meta-population genetics, and then examine specific applications of these concepts to topics in conservation biology.

Prerequisite: BIO 201

EHI 340: Ecological and Social Dimensions of Disease

The ecology and evolutionary biology of disease will be examined to provide a more general context for human diseases. Pathogens may have large effects on many different types of organisms, from bacteria to plants to humans. We will build on this biological background to examine the social dimensions of disease in human populations and societies, including historical, political and economic aspects to issues of money, power, sexuality, international development and globalization. Specific case studies (the chestnut blight in North America, AIDS in Africa, etc.) will be used to examine concepts and principles in detail in a real-world context. This course will investigate basic fundamentals and recent research on these issues in a unified framework.

Prerequisite: BIO 201

EHI 351: Conduct and Communicate a Research Project in Ecotoxicology

Research project in ecotoxicology. Course covers literature reviews, hypothesis formation, initial implementation of a research project, and some write-up. Projects vary by year but may involve ecotoxins such as acid rain, heavy metals, pesticides, plastics or herbicides and organisms such as soil microbes and/or earthworms. Students are encouraged but not required to enroll in EHI 351, offered in the spring, to complete and communicate their project. Course may be repeated once with director's approval.

Prerequisite: C or better in one of the following: BIO 201, BIO 202, BIO 203, CHE 115, CHE 123, CHE 129, CHE 131, CHE 141, CHE 152, PHY 121, PHY 125, ENV 115

EHI 342: Materials in the Natural and Human World

Course explores in depth the origin, composition, use, bioavailability, mobility, persistence, and fate of selected materials and chemical compounds. Compounds or materials, such as DDT, aldicarb, freon, plastics, organotin, nuclear fuel, antibiotics, and carbon nanotubes, are used to illustrate how man-made substances once released into the environment can lead to environmental degradation, ecological degradation, and/or public health issues.

Prerequisite: ENV 115 or CHE 131; BIO 201

Prerequisite: SBC 111 or ENS 101; ENV 115 or CHE 131; BIO 201

EHI 350: Design and Implement a Research Project in Ecotoxicology

Research, design and implement a unique project in ecotoxicology. Course covers literature reviews, hypothesis formation, initial implementation of a research project, and some write-up. Projects vary by year but may involve ecotoxins such as acid rain, heavy metals, pesticides, plastics or herbicides and organisms such as soil microbes and/or earthworms. Students are encouraged but not required to enroll in EHI 351, offered in the spring, to complete and communicate their project. Course may be repeated once with director's approval.

Prerequisite: C or better in one of the following: BIO 201, BIO 202, BIO 203, CHE 115, CHE 123, CHE 129, CHE 131, CHE 141, CHE 152, PHY 121, PHY 125, ENV 115

Prerequisite: SBC 111 or ENS 101; ENV 115 or CHE 131; BIO 201

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or herbicides and organisms such as soil microbes or earthworms. Course builds on a project initiated in EHI 350, but EHI 350 is not a prerequisite. Course may be repeated once with the director's approval.

Prerequisite: C or better in one of the following: BIO 204, 205, 207, CHE 133, 134, 154, PHY 123, 124, 133, 134, 191, 192, EHI 350

SBC: EXP+ 3 credits

**EHI 444: Experiential Learning**

This course is designed for students who engage in a substantial, structured experiential learning activity in conjunction with another class. Experiential learning occurs when knowledge acquired through formal learning and past experience are applied to a “real-world” setting or problem to create new knowledge through a process of reflection, critical analysis, feedback and synthesis. Beyond-the-classroom experiences that support experiential learning may include: service learning, mentored research, field work, or an internship.

Prerequisite: WRT 102 or equivalent; permission of the instructor and approval of the EXP+ contract (http://sb.cc.stonybrook.edu/bulletin/current/policiesandregulations/degree_requirements/EXPplus.php)

SBC: EXP+ 0 credit, S/U grading

**EHI 487: Research in Ecosystems and Human Impact**

Qualified advanced undergraduates may carry out individual research projects under the direct supervision of a faculty member. May be repeated.

Prerequisite: Permission of instructor

SBC: ESL, EXP+, WRTD 1-6 credits, S/U grading

**EHI 488: Internship in Ecosystems and Human Impact**

Participation in local, state, and national public and private agencies and organizations. May be repeated to a limit of 12 credits.

Prerequisites: U3/U4 status and permission of the Undergraduate Program Director

SBC: EXP+ 0-12 credits, S/U grading

**SBC**

**Sustainability Block Curriculum**

**SBC 111: Introduction to Sustainability Studies**

Survey course introduces concept of sustainability. Sustainability is often defined as the ability to provide for the needs of the world's current population without damaging the ability of future generations to provide for themselves. This course reviews the needs of the current population and future generations, trends that affect our ability to provide those needs, and possible solutions that are environmentally, economically, and socially acceptable.

SBC: SNW 3 credits

**SBC 113: Physical Geography Lecture**

This study of geosystems examines modern environmental problems through quantitative methods, analysis, and modeling grounded in basic and applied science and research. The goal of the course is to introduce students to the fundamental processes that dominate the atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere, and biosphere, their characteristics and complex interactions, and their impact on human life and society.

DEC: E SBC: SNW 3 credits

**SBC 114: Physical Geography Lab**

This laboratory course provides hands on experience in understanding the geosystems, including distribution and interrelationships of climate, vegetation, soils, and landforms.

Pre- or corequisite: SBC 113 1 credit

**SBC 115: Introduction to Human Demography**

An introductory course on the study of human population. Measurement issues and data in demographic analysis, as well as demographic perspectives on the basis of a review of major sources of information about population studies will be presented. Theories incorporating social, economic and political explanations for influences on human population growth will be considered. Population processes, with focus on fertility, mortality and migration, are reviewed. Population structure and characteristics, the interaction of the population processes and the number of people in a society of a given age, sex, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic levels, marital status, and gender, are reviewed.

Major issues related to sustainability (such as economic development, food and pollution, urbanization, gender and minority empowerment, and the human relationship and ecology with other organisms and species) are reviewed.

Prerequisite: MAT 125, MAT 131, MAT 132, or level 6 or higher on math placement exam.

SBC: SBS 3 credits

**SBC 116: Introduction to Human Geography**

Survey course introduces geography as a social science by emphasizing the relevance of geographic concepts to human problems. Course emphasizes globalization and cultural diversity.

DEC: F SBC: SBS 3 credits

**SBC 117: Design Drawing**

This introductory course exposes the student to the fundamental theories and practices employed in visually representing design concepts from observational through technical and speculative drawing. The course content introduces the student to contour drawing, rendering, orthographic projection, and pictorial drawing. Project work engages the student in the application of the above-mentioned drawing techniques and develops skills through the solution of student tailored problems.

DEC: D SBC: TECH 3 credits

**SBC 200: Human Settlement: History and Future**

The history of city growth over the millennia as affected by technological change is a basis for understanding the future of human settlement. More than half of the world's population currently lives in cities and urbanization continues on a global scale. The universality of urban development and resulting patterns will be presented as well as limits on growth of cities. Architectonic and socioeconomic planning theories and strategies for sustainable growth are presented. The development of Long Island, which is a microcosm of national and global patterns, will be discussed in detail.

DEC: F SBC: SBS 3 credits

**SBC 201: Systems and Models**

Introduction to the dynamic modeling of complex systems. Students will learn to
use simulation software that facilitates the visualization, formulation, and analysis of systems. Students will learn about systems with positive and negative feedbacks, the effects lags on system performance, and the difference between stocks and flows. Systems studied will include ecological models, economic models, chemical models, population models, epidemiological models, and models that include the interactions between population, economic development, and the environment.

Prerequisite: AMS 151 or MAT 125 or MAT 131 or MAT 141

2 credits

SBC 203: Interpretation and Critical Analysis

An introduction to interdisciplinary inquiry and representation in arts, culture, and theory with emphasis on the roles of analysis, argument, and imagination in multiple media. Requires serious engagement with sophisticated texts.

Pre- or corequisite: WRT 102

DEC: G

SBC: CER, HUM, WRTD

3 credits

SBC 204: Population Studies

The course will present basic mathematics of population growth and introduce various approaches for modeling populations, including population viability analysis (PVA). PVA, the quantitative assessment of the extinction risk of rare species or populations, takes biological information (habitat requirements, birth and death rates, population size) and makes predictions about future population sizes. Real examples will be discussed for a range of organisms, from bacteria to plants and mammals. This course will provide also the background for understanding human population growth. The impacts of human population growth in the developed and developing world on the ecology of other organisms, habitats and systems will also be discussed.

Prerequisite: MAT 125

DEC: E

SBC: STEM+

3 credits

SBC 206: Economics and Sustainability

Introduction to the basic economic concepts used in sustainability analysis. Students will learn the basic concepts and how to apply them in various contexts. Topics include the analysis of situations in which the behavior of individuals indirectly affects the well-being of others, strategic behavior and the environment, and the use of market-oriented policies to help in the stewardship of the environment.

Prerequisite: ECO 108

DEC: F

SBC: SBS+

3 credits

SBC 307: American Environmental History

This course provides an overview of the history of how Americans have used, viewed and valued the natural environment. Beginning with the Indians and the early colonists (15th-16th centuries), the course will examine the cultural, social, economic, political, and technological currents that shaped North Americans' relationships with their environment in early and later industrial eras, after World War II, and finally, in the late 20th and early 21st centuries. Historical snapshots will center on people living in more natural places, such as farms and forests, as well as more built places, such as factories, cities, and suburbs. Events in the northeastern U.S. will provide a geographic focus, but the course will also look at related happenings elsewhere on the North American continent and beyond. Finally, it will examine at the growing array of movements that have identified themselves as 'environmental,' at the 'greenness' of modern culture, and at the environmental dimensions of a globalizing era.

Prerequisite: WRT 102

DEC: K & 4

SBC: SBS+, USA

3 credits

SBC 308: American Environmental Politics

This course will survey the politics of environmental policy-making in the United States. It examines how contrasting political, economic and social interests and values have clashed and contested with one another, and the exerted power, in the environmental policy realm. The course will explore past precedents and roots, but with a view to explain the shape of this realm in the modern United States, including the many actors and institutions: local, regional and national governments, non-governmental organizations and interest groups, as well as the public. It will look at the main patterns by which these groups have defined environmental problems and formulated and implemented solutions. A chief goal is to illuminate how and why solutions of real-world environmental problems, if they are to be effective, differ from those of scientific or engineering puzzles.

Prerequisite: POL 102

DEC: K

SBC: SBS+

3 credits

SBC 309: Global Environmental Politics

This course will explore the politics of environmental policy-making within the international realm. Focused especially on environmental dilemmas that cross national boundaries (i.e., pollution), or that are shared by multiple nations (i.e., global warming) it will look at the ways that such problems have been defined and their solutions sought, both with and without an over-arching state or governance. It will survey the many groups, interests and values that have clashed and competed with one another to exert power and influence international environmental policies, as well as the variety of international institutions and agreements that have sought to formulate and implement solutions. One goal is to illuminate how and why effective solutions to global environmental problems differ from those to scientific or engineering puzzles. The course also aims to spur student engagement with the sometimes overwhelming nature of global environmental threats, the tenuous and sometimes counterproductive ways that knowledge and power can be linked, and the ways individuals may act powerfully in service of “sustainability.”

Prerequisite: SBC 111 or ENV 115 or ENS 101 or GEO 101 or permission of instructor

SBC: GLO

3 credits

SBC 310: Migration, Development and Population Redistribution

This course draws upon the contributions of various social and natural sciences (including population and urban geography, demography, political science, sociology, history, economics, public health and environmental sciences) to explore the effects of migratory and demographic shifts on the environment, social welfare, public health, economic development, ethnic diversity, urbanization, public policy and planning. It will examine the political, social, environmental, health and economic effects on sustainability.

Prerequisite: SBC 115

3 credits

SBC 311: Disasters and Society: A Global Perspective

This class introduces students to the sociological examination of natural, technological, and industrial disasters. Students will explore how and why disasters are fundamentally social events: What do disasters reveal about society? Why are the...
human consequences of disasters unequally distributed? What are the typical ways in which states, organizations, and communities respond to disasters? Focusing on case studies from around the world, students will discuss: What are the long-term/short-term causes of particular disasters? What forms of suffering the disasters under consideration generated? What state/civil society actions did they trigger? What advocacy networks were put in place in their aftermath?

Prerequisite: SBC 111, or ENS 101, or GEO 101; POL 102 or SOC 105

DEC: H

SBC: STAS

3 credits

SBC 312: Environment, Society, and Health

This class examines the interactions between environment, social structures, and institutions. The first part of the class examines the ways in which environmental issues are perceived and constructed by various social actors (lay public, state officials, scientists, activists, media). The second part of the class will examine the differential impact of class, race, and gender on the distribution of hazards and risks (what is commonly known as 'environmental inequality'). In the third part of the class, students will be introduced to different cases of 'contested environmental illnesses' (cancer, lead-poisoning, asthma).

Prerequisite: SBC 111, or ENS 101, or GEO 101; POL 102 or SOC 105

DEC: F

SBC: SBS+

3 credits

SBC 321: Ecology and Evolution in American Literature

This course is a review of 19th- and 20th-century American writers who trace the evolution of the US with respect to ecological practices through various multicultural perspectives. Literature covered will include transcendentalist essays, utopian/dystopian novels, ecofeminist fiction, and journalism.

Prerequisite: WRT 102

Advisory Prerequisite: SBC 203

DEC: G

SBC: HFA+, WRTD

3 credits

SBC 330: Extreme Events in Literature

A course that examines the depiction of extreme events (both natural and human-related) in literature, journalism, art, and film, with special emphasis paid to the extended political and social issues that are raised by the events in question.

Prerequisite: WRT 102

Advisory Prerequisite: SBC 203

DEC: G

SBC: HFA+, WRTD

3 credits

SBC 331: City, Suburb, Sprawl

A course that traces the shift from city to suburb to sprawl in texts that span the late-nineteenth century through the early twenty-first century, with special attention paid to phenomena such as industrialization, immigration, mass society, globalization, and postmodern hyperspace. An interdisciplinary set of texts will include works by novelists, artists, architects, and literary theoreticians.

Prerequisite: WRT 102

Advisory Prerequisite: SBC 203

DEC: G

SBC: HFA+

3 credits

SBC 354: Drawing for Design--CAD

Techniques and Theory of Drawing; Architectural Drawing; Learning Computer Assisted Design (CAD). This course will serve as an introduction to CAD tools relevant to design and architectural rendering.

Prerequisite: SBC 117

SBC: STEM+

3 credits

SBC 374: Environment and Development in African History

Provides a critical exploration of the history and political-economy of environmental changes and human activities in Africa from earlier times to the present. It examines the ways in which the dynamics of human-environment relationship have shaped the development of African societies and economies from the rise of ancient civilizations to the contemporary problems of war and famine. Although significant attention will be given to the pre-colonial era (like the impacts of iron-working, irrigation, deforestation and desertification), the focus of the course will be on the 20th and century and after, looking at the impacts of imperialism, colonialism, globalization and the postcolonial quest for development on the state of the environment in Africa. In the discussion, we will demonstrate that the shaping of African environments and ecologies is a product of complex, evolving and interconnected developments between humans and nature within and beyond the African continent. Offered as both AFS 374 and SBC 374. Not for credit in addition to SBC 320.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 status

DEC: J

SBC: ESI

3 credits

SBC 475: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum

Work with a faculty member as assistant in a regularly scheduled course. The student must attend all classes and carry out all assignments; in addition the student will be assigned a specific role to assist in teaching the course. The student must meet with the instructor on a regular basis to discuss intellectual and pedagogical matters relating to the course.

Prerequisites: Permission of instructor and undergraduate director

SBC: ESI, EXP+

3 credits, S/U grading

SBC 476: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum II

Work with a faculty member as assistant in one of the faculty member's regularly scheduled courses. Students assume greater responsibility in such areas as leading discussions and analyzing results of tests that have already been graded. Students may not serve as teaching assistants in the same course twice.

Prerequisites: Permission of instructor and undergraduate director

SBC: EXP+

3 credits, S/U grading