NRSM 571: International Conservation & Development

Spring 2013
3 credits, grade

Instructor:
Stephen Siebert
office: SC 406 tel: 243-4661

Course description:
A critical examination of international conservation and development approaches and experiences with a focus on tropical and subtropical regions, particularly Bhutan. We will explore conservation and development challenges in the context of rapidly changing ecological, socioeconomic and political conditions likely to be encountered while working in the field. This is a graduate-level course intended for students preparing for field assignments. Weekly topics will be covered through lectures on Tuesdays followed by discussions on Thursdays.

Course requirements:
Attendance, informed participation, one in-class presentation, preparation of an annotated bibliography, and a term paper on a topic pertaining to your international assignment or a specific subject of interest.

Course Objectives:
• examine underlying driving forces of forest degradation and conversion;
• evaluate climatic, edaphic and floristic constraints to sustainable land use;
• explore traditional ecological knowledge and practice (TEKP) and its potential use;
• review national and international policies and macroeconomic forces that affect land/resource use;
• examine the history and effectiveness of biodiversity conservation and protected area management;
• prepare for field work through reviewing relevant literature and completing a research prospectus.

Grading (+/- grading will be used):
Seminar presentation 30 %
Annotated bibliography (due May 7) 30
Term paper (due May 7) 30
Attendance & participation 10
Total 100 %

Readings:
Readings as assigned each week should be completed for lecture and discussion. The UC bookstore has copies of:
**Syllabus**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week/Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Jan 29 &amp; 31</td>
<td>Learning from the Past &amp; Discussion Frameworks</td>
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**Required readings:**

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<th>2 Feb 5 &amp; 7</th>
<th>Climate, Soils &amp; Management</th>
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**Required Readings:**

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<th>3 Feb 12 &amp; 14</th>
<th>Forest Complexity, Change &amp; Management</th>
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**Required Readings:**
4 Feb 19 & 21  Historic Livelihoods and Forest Management

Required Readings:

5 Feb 26 & 28  Forest Conservation: What Role Humans?

Required Readings:

6 March 5 & 7  Underlying Drivers of Forest Degradation & Conversion

Required Readings:
7 March 12 & 14 Government Policies, Trade & Consumption

Required Readings:

8 March 19 & 21 Forestry in the Future

Required Readings:

9 March 26 & 28 Agriculture in the Future

Required Readings:

SPRING BREAK
April 9  Conservation, Development and Social Justice - Discussion

**Required Readings:**

April 11  Conservation Alternatives - Discussion

**Required Readings:**

11  Case Studies

April 16  Lore-Lindu National Park, Indonesia

**Required Readings:**

April 18  Case studies – student presentations

12  April 23  “
April 25  “

13  April 30  “
May 2  “
14  May 7  Case studies (cont.)

May 9  Concluding Discussion - What of the future? Is change possible?

**Required Readings:**