

Environmental Sociology

Last Updated: Wed, 12/31/2025

Course prefix: HTS

Course number: 2017

Section: A

CRN (you may add up to five):
34955

Instructor First Name: Kate Pride

Instructor Last Name: Brown

Semester: Spring

Academic year: 2026

Course description:

This course examines theories about how human society impacts the natural world through economic, political, and social systems.

Course learning outcomes:

- Students will effectively analyze the complexity of human behavior, and how historical, economic, political, social, or geographic relationships develop, persist, or change.

Required course materials:

The Battle for Yellowstone, by Justin Farrell

Up to Heaven and Down to Hell, by Colin Jerolmack

Merchants of Doubt, by Naomi Oreskes and Erik Conway

The Silicon Valley of Dreams, by David Pellow and Lisa Park

Parks for Profit, by Kevin Loughran

Grading policy:

20% Participation and Performance

20% Current Event Assignment

30% Mid-Course Paper

30% Final Exam

Attendance policy:

Students are expected to attend all classes. Because of the difficulties we all face in life, I am allowing students to miss three classes without excuse and without penalty. After three absences, students will lose participation points exponentially for further absences, unless I receive a request from the Dean of Students for lenience.

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy.

Core IMPACTS statement(s) (if applicable):

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Social Sciences area.

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I understand human experiences and connections?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze the complexity of human behavior, and how historical, economic, political, social, or geographic relationships develop, persist, or change.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Intercultural Competence
- Perspective-Taking
- Persuasion