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2017

# Syllabus: Conservation of Nature and Culture

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## History 391N/691N: Conservation of Nature and Culture

Fall 2017  
Herter 225  
M/W/F 10:10-11:00

D. Glassberg  
Herter 637  
[glassberg@history.umass.edu](mailto:glassberg@history.umass.edu)  
office hours M/W 11:00-12:00 & by appt.

This course explores the history of various efforts to conserve nature and culture. Students will learn about the history of environmental conservation, but also to think broadly about what the idea of conservation means in archaeology, historic preservation, and the arts, especially in a time of globalization and climate change. Its fundamental premise is that nature and culture are interconnected; nature cannot truly be conserved without also conserving the culture that has shaped it, and culture cannot truly be conserved without also conserving the natural world on which it rests.

The students in this course come from a wide variety of majors. So it is especially important for you to attend every class, do the readings, and contribute actively to class discussions from your unique point-of-view. Please hand papers in on time so that you can get feedback on your work before the next assignment is due. Your final grade will be based on:

- 1) class participation (20%);
- 2) two short (1-2 pg.) "research activity" presentations (25%);
- 3) two short (3-4 pg.) papers based on assigned readings (30%);
- 4) one 10-15 pg. final research paper and oral presentation (25%).

Here is the list of books that appear on the UMass on-line book order website. These books will also be on Reserve in the Library, and available for purchase at Amherst Books, 8 Main Street, Amherst

- M. Lewis, ed. *American Wilderness: A New History* (available from Library as e-book)
- K. Jacoby, *Crimes Against Nature: Squatters, Poachers, Thieves and the Hidden History of American Conservation* (available from Library as e-book)
- A. Leopold, *A Sand County Almanac* (with additional essays)
- B. Minter & S. Pyne, eds. *After Preservation: Saving Nature in the Age of Humans*

Additional readings are posted on the course Moodle site. We will also make extensive use of the journal *Environmental History* (on line through the Library) and the Library of Congress Website, *The Evolution of the Conservation Movement 1850-1920*. (<http://www.memory.loc.gov/ammem/amrvhtml/conshome.html>).

**Schedule of Topics and Readings** (readings marked \* recommended for all; readings marked \*\* required for graduate students and recommended for undergraduate students):

## **PART ONE: CONSERVATION HISTORY**

### **Week 1: Introduction, What is Conservation?**

#### **9/6 Introduction: What is Conservation?**

- G. Morris, "Woodsman Spare That Tree" (1837)  
T. Roosevelt, "Opening Address," *Proceedings of a Conference of Governors in the White House* (1909) (excerpt)  
L. Vivanco, "Conservation and Culture: Genuine and Spurious," in USNPS, *Speaking of the Future: A Dialogue on Conservation* (2002), p. 21.  
H. Mansfield, *The Same Axe Twice: Restoration and Renewal in a Throwaway Age* (2000), pp. 3-5.  
B. Ramm, "A Controversial Restoration that Wipes Away the Past," *NY Times*, September 1, 2017

#### **9/8 Your Environmental Autobiography**

### **Week 2: The Origins of Conservation (1)**

#### **9/11 Conservation and Imperialism**

- W. Cronon, "That Wilderness Should Turn a Mart," *Changes in the Land* (1983), pp. 159-70.  
\*\*R. Grove, *Green Imperialism: Colonial Expansion, Tropical Island Edens and the Origins of Environmentalism, 1600-1860* (1996), pp. 1-15.

#### **9/13 Conservation and Romanticism**

- H.D. Thoreau, "Walking" (1862), pp. 185-97, LC Conservation Movement Website  
T. Cole, "Essay on American Scenery," *American Monthly Magazine* 1 (Jan 1836): 1-12.  
\*\*R. Williams, "Ideas of Nature," in *Problems in Materialism and Culture* (1980), pp. 67-85.

#### **9/15 Research Activity 1: Landscape Painting**

- A. Miller, "The Fate of Wilderness in American Landscape Art," in *American Wilderness*, pp. 91-112.

## **Week 3: Origins of Conservation (2)**

### **9/18 Conservation and the Commons**

- S. Stoll, "Farm Against Forest," *American Wilderness: A New History*, pp. 55-72.
- B. Donahue, "Another Look from John Sanderson's Farm: A Perspective on New England Environmental History and Conservation," *Environmental History* 12 (January 2007): 9-34.
- \*\*R. Judd, "The Commons in Transition," in *Common Lands, Common People: The Origins of Conservation in Northern New England* (1997), pp. 40-56.

### **9/20 Research Skills Workshop in Library with Madeleine Charney**

### **9/22 Conservation and Science**

- G. Marsh, "Preface," and "The Destructiveness of Man" in *Man & Nature, or Physical Geography as Modified By Human Action* [1864], pp. iii-vi, 35-44  
LC Conservation Movement Website
- \*G. Marsh, "Address delivered before the Agricultural Society of Rutland County, VT, Sept. 30, 1847," LC Conservation Movement Website
- \*R. Judd, "'A Wonderfull Order and Balance': Natural History and the Beginnings of Forest Conservation in America, 1730-1830," *Environmental History* 11 (January 2006): 8-36.

## **Week 4: Conservation and the National Parks**

### **9/25 Origins: Yosemite**

- F.L. Olmsted, "Preliminary Report on the Yosemite and Big Tree Groves" (1865)  
LC Conservation Movement Website.
- \*Yosemite Travellers Accounts from the Huntington Library (Cochrane, Mayer, Raymond Excursion, Bridges, To Yosemite By Auto)
- \*K. Burns, *National Parks* film, Episode 1 ("The Scripture of Nature"): segments on "Yosemite," "Eden," "Unconditional Surrender."

### **9/27: Managing the Wild**

- John Muir, "A Windstorm in the Forest," in *The Mountains of California* [1894], LC Conservation Movement website
- \*\*R. Sellars, "Creating Tradition: The Roots of National Park Management," in *Preserving Nature in the National Parks* (1997), pp. 7-27.

### **9/29 Discuss "The Trouble with Wilderness" (paper #1 due)**

- W. Cronon, "The Trouble with Wilderness, or Getting Back to the Wrong

- Nature," *Environmental History* 1 (January 1996): 7-28.
- D. Worster, "The Wilderness of History," *Wild America* 7 (Fall 1997): 9-13.
- \*M. Feige, "The Democratic Promise of Nature Preservation," in Minter & Pyne, *After Preservation*, pp. 114-22.

## **Week 5: Conservation and Subsistence**

### **10/2 Working Class Wilderness**

- K. Jacoby, "Working Class Wilderness," in *Crimes Against Nature: Squatters, Poachers, Thieves and the Hidden History of American Conservation* (2001), chapter 3, pp. 48-78.
- \*\*K. Jacoby, *Crimes Against Nature: Squatters, Poachers, Thieves and the Hidden History of American Conservation* (2001), ch. 1-2.

### **10/4 Conservation and Native Americans**

- K. Jacoby, "Nature and Nation," in *Crimes Against Nature: Squatters, Poachers, Thieves and the Hidden History of American Conservation* (2001), ch. 4, pp. 81-98.
- \*\*K. Jacoby, *Crimes Against Nature: Squatters, Poachers, Thieves and the Hidden History of American Conservation* (2001), ch. 5-8.
- \*M. Spence, "Dispossessing the Wilderness: Yosemite Indians and the National Park Ideal, 1864-1930," *Pacific Historical Review* 65 (February 1996): 27-59.

### **10/6: Research Activity 2: Photography and Native Americans**

- \*C. Lyman, *The Vanishing Race and Other Illusions* (1982)
- \*M. Sandweiss, "Momentos of the Race: Photography and the American Indian," in *Print the Legend: Photography and the American West* (2002), pp. 207-73.

## **Week 6: Conservation and Politics**

### **10/9 No class: Columbus Day**

### **Tuesday 10/10 Conservation and Scientific Management**

- Gifford Pinchot, "Principles of Conservation," chapter 4 (pp. 40-52) in *The Fight for Conservation* (1910). LC Conservation Movement Website
- T. Roosevelt, *Special Message from the President of the United States Transmitting a Report of the National Conservation Commission* (February 1909), pp. 1-6. LC Conservation Movement Website.
- J. Muir, "Let Everyone Help Save the Hetch Hetchy Valley" (1909), LC Conservation Movement Website

- \*\*C. Miller, "A Sylvan Prospect: John Muir, Gifford Pinchot, and Early 20th Century Conservation," in *American Wilderness*, pp. 131-47;
- \*\*C. Koppes, "Efficiency, Equity, Aesthetics: Shifting Themes in American Conservation," in D. Worster, ed. *Ends of the Earth* (1989), pp. 230-51.
- \*"Roosevelt, Friend of the Birds," film, LC Conservation Movement Website
- \*K. Jarvis, "Gender and Wilderness Conservation," in *American Wilderness: A New History*, pp. 149-65;
- \*K. Burns, *National Parks* film, Episode 2 ("The Last Refuge"), segments on "The Greatest Good," "The Most Vital Man," "Leave it As it Is," "Distance in His Eyes," and "Devil & His Relations."

### **10/11 Conservation, Immigration, and Race**

- A. Rome, "Nature Wars, Culture Wars: Immigration and Environmental Reform in the Progressive Era," *Environmental History* 13 (July 2008): 432-53.
- W. Hornaday, *Our Vanishing Wildlife* (1913), pp. 100-104. LC Conservation Movement Website
- \*C. Cocks, "Children of Light: The Nature and Culture of Suntanning," in *Reading Nature: Animals, Bodies, Places, Politics* ed. M. Shaffer & P. Young (2015), pp. 122-37.
- \*M. Grant, "Saving the Redwoods," *National Geographic* 37 (June 1920): 529.
- \*C. Finney, "Jungle Fever," in *Black Faces, White Spaces: Reimagining the Relationship of African Americans to the Great Outdoors* (2014), pp. 32-50.
- \*A. Stern, "California's Eugenic Landscapes," in *Eugenic Nation: Faults and Frontiers of Better Breeding in Modern America* (2005), pp. 115-49;
- \*L. Lovett, "Men as Trees Walking: Theodore Roosevelt and the Conservation of the Race," in *Conceiving the Future: Pro-natalism, Reproduction, and the Family in the United States, 1890-1938* (2007), pp.109-30.

### **10/13: Discuss "Conservation's Winners and Losers" (paper #2 due)**

## **Week 7: Conservation and the New Deal**

### **10/16 Conserving Land and People**

- S. Phillips, "Poor People Make Poor Land," in *This Land, This Nation: Conservation, Rural America, and the New Deal* (2007), pp. 75-107.
- \*\*N. Maher, "Landscape: The Evolution of CCC Conservation," in *Nature's New Deal: The Civilian Conservation Corps and the Roots of the American Environmental Movement* (2008), pp.43-76
- \*B. MacKaye, "An Appalachian Trail: A Project in Regional Planning." *Journal of the American Institute of Architects* 9 (Oct. 1921): 325-330.
- \* P. Lorenz, *The Plow that Broke the Plains* (1936) and *The River* (1937)
- \*"Voices from the Dust Bowl," American Memory Collection, Library of Congress;

\*B. Filene, "Searching for Folk Music's Institutional Niche," in *Romancing the Folk: Public Memory & American Roots Music* (2000), pp. 133-51.

### **10/18 Aldo Leopold and the Land Ethic**

A. Leopold, "Thinking Like a Mountain," and "The Land Ethic," in *A Sand County Almanac and other Essays*, pp. 137-41, 237-64.

\*\*A. Leopold, *A Sand County Almanac*, pp. 1-95.

\*\*P. Sutter, "Putting Wilderness in Context: The Interwar Origins of the Modern Wilderness Idea," in *American Wilderness*, pp. 167-85.

### **10/20: No class: DG out of town**

## **Week 8: Conservation and Environmental Politics**

### **10/23 From Conservation to Environment**

S. Hays, "From Conservation to Environment," in *Beauty, Health, & Permanence: Environmental Politics in the United States, 1955-85*, pp. 13-39.

U.S. Public Law 93-205, "The Endangered Species Act," approved December 28, 1973 (excerpts).

\*\*M. Harvey, "Loving the Wild in Postwar America," *American Wilderness*, pp. 187-203;

### **10/25 Conservation Politics**

Bill Devall & George Sessions, *Deep Ecology* (1985), pp. 65-70.

R. White, "Are You an Environmentalist or Do You Work for a Living? Work and Nature," in W. Cronon, ed. *Uncommon Ground: Rethinking the Human Place in Nature* (1996), pp. 171-85.

\*\*J. Turner, "The Politics of Modern Wilderness," *American Wilderness*, pp. 243-61.

\*C. Stone, "Should Trees Have Standing? Toward Legal Rights for Natural Objects," 45 *Southern California Law Review* 450 (1972): 3-54.

### **10/27 Research Activity 3: The Energy Crisis of the 1970s**

Jimmy Carter, "Energy and National Goals," July 15, 1979 (<https://www.c-span.org/video/?153917-1/president-carter-address>)

Meg Jacobs, "Introduction: An Energy Pearl Harbor," and "Hot Summer Mad," in *Panic at the Pump: The Energy Crisis and the Transformation of American Politics in the 1970s* (2016), pp. 3-10, 196-232.

## **PART TWO: CONSERVATION TODAY AND TOMORROW**

### **Week 9: Conservation and Cultural Resources**

#### **10/30 Conserving Cultural Landscapes**

- N. Mitchell & Susan Buggey, "Protected Landscapes and Cultural Landscapes," *George Wright Forum* 17 (2000): 35-46.
- R. Hester, "Subconscious Landscapes of the Heart," *Places* 2 (1985): 10-22.
- \*J. Grenville, "Conservation as Psychology: Ontological Security and the Built Environment," *International Journal of Heritage Studies* 13 (November 2007): 447-461.
- \*C. Finney, "The Land is Your Land, This Land is My Land: People and Public Lands Redux," *George Wright Forum* 27 (2010): 247-54.
- \*K. Basso, *Wisdom Sits in Places: Landscape & Language Among the Western Apache*
- \*S. Hutt, "The Evolution of Federal Agency Authority to Manage Native American Cultural Sites," *George Wright Forum* 26:1 (2009): 45-56;
- \*J. Mazur, "Working With Traditionally Associated Groups: A Form of Civic Engagement," *George Wright Forum* 26:3 (2009): 85-94.

#### **11/1 Culture and Agriculture**

- W. Berry, "The Unsettling of America" and "The Agricultural Crisis as a Crisis of Culture," in *The Unsettling of America* (1977), pp. 3-14, 39-48.
- \*Max J. Pfeffer and Mark B. Lapping, "Public and Farmer Support for Purchase of Development Rights in the Metropolitan Northeast," *Journal Of Soil And Water Conservation* (January-February 1995): 30-33.
- \*D. Hellerstein, et. al., "Farmland Protection: The Role of Public Preferences for Rural Amenities." *Agricultural Economic Report* No. 815 (2002).
- \*J. Kleiman, "Local Food and the Problem of Public Authority," *Technology and Culture* 50 (April 2009): 399-417.
- \*D. Brown, "Back to the Garden: The 1970s," in *Back to the Land: The Enduring Dream of Self-Sufficiency in Modern America* (2011), pp. 202-26.

#### **11/3 Discuss Final Paper Prospectus (Due)**

### **Week 10: Conservation and Globalization**

#### **11/6 Conservation and International Development**

- IUCN, *Strengthening What Works: Recognizing and Supporting the Conservation Achievements of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities*, pp. 1-6.
- E. Barrow & C. Fabricius, "Do Rural People Really Benefit From Protected Areas: Rhetoric or Reality?" *Parks* 12:2 (2002): 67-79.



- \*S. Stevens, "Indigenous Peoples, Bio-cultural Diversity, and Protected Areas," in S. Stevens, ed. *Indigenous Peoples, National Parks, and Protected Areas: A New Paradigm Linking Conservation, Culture, and Rights* (2014), pp. 15-46.
- \*C. Conte, "Creating Wild Places from Domesticated Landscapes: the Internationalization of the American Wilderness Concept," in *American Wilderness*, pp. 223-41.

### **11/8 What is World Heritage?**

- UNESCO. "Managing Natural World Heritage" (2012), pp. 20-34.
- \*UNESCO, "Engaging Local Communities in Stewardship of World Heritage" (2014)
- \*A. Stille, "The Sphinx—Virtual and Real" in *The Future of the Past* pp. 4-39

### **11/10 Research Activity 4: World Heritage sites**

## **Week 11: Conservation and Climate Change (1)**

### **11/13 Rethinking Nature in the Anthropocene**

- B. Minter & S. Pyne, eds, *After Preservation: Saving American Nature in the Age of Humans* (2015), Introduction (1-8) and essays by McNeil (17-23), Marris (41-49), and Carrington & Vosick (133-45).
- \*J. Baron, "Adaptation Strategies for Public Land Managers to Climate Change" in US Forest Service Climate Change Course (2009)
- \*D. Cole, et.. al., "Naturalness and Beyond: Protected Area Stewardship in an Era of Global Environmental Change," *George Wright Forum* 25:1 (2008): 36-56;
- \*D. Cole, E. Higgs, and P. White, "Historical Fidelity: Maintaining Legacy and Connection to Heritage," in D. Cole & L. Yung, eds. *Beyond Naturalness: Rethinking Park & Wilderness Stewardship in an Era of Rapid Change* (2010), pp. 125-41.

### **11/15 Facing Extinction**

- E. Kolbert, "The Sixth Extinction?" *The New Yorker* 85 (May 25, 2009): 53-

### **11/17 Climate Justice: Preparing for Disaster**

- C. Colten, R. Kates, and S. Laska, "Three Years After Katrina: Lessons for Community Resilience," *Environment Magazine* 50 (September/October 2008): 36-47.
- FEMA, *EHP Reflections on Katrina After 10 Years* (2015)

## **Week 12: Conservation and Climate Change (2)**

### **11/27 Climate and Cultural Heritage**

Marcy Rockman, et. al, *Cultural Resources Climate Change Strategy* (Washington, DC: National Park Service Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science and Climate Change Response Program, 2016).

\*Marcy Rockman, "An NPS Framework for Addressing Climate Change with Cultural Resources," *George Wright Forum* 32: 1 (2015), 37-50.

\*\*Sandra Fatoric and Erin Seekamp, "Evaluating a Decision Analytic Approach to Climate Change Adaptation of Cultural Resources Along the Atlantic Coast of the United States," *Land Use Policy* 68 (2017): 254-63,.

\*M. Berenfeld, "Climate Change and Cultural Heritage: Local Evidence, Global Responses," *George Wright Forum* 25:2 (2008): 66-82.

### **11/29 Psychology of Risk and Denial**

Rosemary Randall, "Loss and Climate Change: The Cost of Parallel Narratives," *Ecopsychology* 1:3 (September 2009): 118-29,

\*Kari Mari Norgaard, "People Want to Protect Themselves a Little Bit: Emotions, Denial, and Social Movement Non-Participation," *Sociological Inquiry*, Vol. 76, No. 3, August 2006, 372–396

\*Renee Lertzman, "Introduction," *Environmental Melancholia: Psychoanalytic Dimensions of Engagement* (2015), pp. 1-17.

### **12/1 Hope in the Dark**

R. Solnit, "Grounds for Hope," in *Hope in the Dark: Untold Histories, Wild Possibilities* (2015), pp. xi-xxvi.

\*\*D. Glassberg, "Place, Memory, and Climate Change," *The Public Historian* 36 (August 2014): 17–30.

## **Weeks 13: Oral Presentations**

**12/4 Oral Presentations Based on Final Papers**

**12/6 Oral Presentations Based on Final Papers**

**12/8 Oral Presentations Based on Final Papers**

## **Week 14: Wrapping Up**

**12/11 Course Overview**

**Friday 12/15 Final Papers Due 3:30-5:00 PM in Herter 637**