

FYSE 1378: American Environmentalisms After 1960—Spring 2016

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Office Hours Spring 2016: Mon. 11am-12pm, 2-4pm; Thurs. 3-4pm, except Feb. 25;

Fri. 1:30-2:30 pm, except Feb. 26; or by appointment, please email

Our Writing and Academic Mentor: Sadie Shackelford, Class of '16, ENAM Major. She will be assisting us with some of our tasks and projects this term, and is available for advice and mentoring on all things related to academic work: Her email is: [sshackelford@middlebury.edu](mailto:sshackelford@middlebury.edu)

Course goals. This is a first year seminar. As such, our learning goals begin with the goals of all first year seminars:

1. to learn what is expected intellectually and ethically for college-level work in the Liberal Arts;
2. to engage seriously with the topic to which one's seminar is devoted;
3. to develop skills in widely accessible yet scholarly presentation (written and oral), involving observation, analysis, argumentation, research, and the use of sources;
4. to become (with the help of advising) active in exploring academic and professional interests, and to find rewarding ways to participate in intellectual life in the Liberal Arts.

In addition to those goals, our course aims to:

5. Engage students in critical inquiry into the historical context in which various strands and branches of environmentalism (broadly defined) emerged and changed after 1960.
6. Engage in critical reading of both primary and secondary sources pertaining to the history of various American environmentalism.
7. Practice the drafting, rewriting and polishing of scholarly essays based on both primary and secondary sources.
8. Work collaboratively in small groups to present original analysis of historical changes in definitions and ideas of American environmentalisms.
9. Practice oral presentations as a second form (after essay writing) of presenting scholarly arguments to our academic community.

Course Requirements: The most important course requirement is to come to class prepared with assignments and readings complete, and participate with focused attention in classroom exercises and discussions. Other required work includes:

- 1) Three drafts each of three essays (3-4 pp at first; then 4-6pp), with full details to be announced. Paper #1 will be based on primary sources we all share as assignments; Paper #2 will be based on shared primary sources plus other primary sources you find individually through library

research. The final paper will be based on both primary and secondary sources you find through library research; the final presentation will build from those sources as well.

- 2) Library research exercises (3 versions), dates and details to be announced).
- 3) Small group collaborative project with a group contribution to the online exhibit Fifty Years of Green (at [omeka.middlebury.edu/fyg](http://omeka.middlebury.edu/fyg)).
- 4) Final presentation of final paper topic, with associated contribution to FYG web exhibit (presentation during our exam period).

#### Course Policies:

1) **Honor Code:** The honor code is in effect for all work in this class, and should be stated and signed on all formal written work (papers and exams). As best practices for honor code encourage the professor to create contexts and conditions which provide the best possible environment for honoring the code, I will provide details as to what constitutes “authorized” aid for each assignment.

2) **Grades:** As the semester progresses, I will provide handouts and further information on specific criteria for evaluation on specific assignments. Final grades will be determined *mostly* by the following percentages, though there is always room for adjustment. Class participation and engagement: 20%; Paper 1 Final Grade: 15%; Paper 2 Final Grade: 20%; Paper 3 Final Grade: 20%; Fifty Years of Green website contributions: 15% ; Oral presentation: 10%.

3) **Technology in the classroom.** Please turn off or at last utterly silence all cellphones and other hand held personal electronic devices during ALL CLASSES.

With so many digital readings (pdfs), many of you will use laptops and tablets (with sound alerts OFF) during class to refer to readings. I reserve the right to ask you to sit in the back or to limit laptop use if that use is distracting to myself or to other students.

**4) Technology outside of class:** BEFORE you call or email ANY professor with a specific question about details of the course (or about anything), ask yourself this important question: **Is there ANY other way to gain this information or answer this question? Is the answer on the syllabus or on other class handouts? Might a classmate know the answer. You will see your professor in class soon...might you ask the question then? Independent learning and inquiry is an important skill. THINK BEFORE YOU EMAIL.**

**That being said:** Students are welcome to email to make an appointment outside office hours, or to attend to course-related matters that need attention. Please be advised that I do not read and answer email constantly or immediately. I will attempt to return your email or call within 24 hours during the week. Please address emails in a polite and formal manner (no: “hey prof” or “hey there”).

**Email Sabbath: I often sign off of work email after 5 pm for the evening.**

**Furthermore**, during the semester, at 5 pm on Fridays, I usually declare an “email Sabbath” and take a break from work email until 1 or 2 pm Sunday afternoon. If you need to communicate with me immediately (i.e. to change or set up a meeting in the very near future), send an email with the “urgent” exclamation point so that I will look at it quickly.

The above does not apply to true emergencies, such as those involving serious illness, personal crisis, or loss. In the event of such an event, I will respond as quickly as possible, by phone or email.

**I do assume that you read your Middlebury college email on a regular basis, several times a week. If you do not read your email with any regularity, please remember to ask me in class whether I have sent out any information or updates.**

**In addition, please familiarize yourself with our class folders on the server. All registered students will have access to the class folder. The “share” folder will contain necessary material for the class.**

**5) Classroom behavior.** I expect students to behave as professional adults usually do: to treat each other (and me) with courtesy and respect; to address all persons with the form of address they prefer (and to ask what that is, when you don’t know). Although the classroom is open to vigorous and thoughtful debate, and to disagreement on topics under discussion (some of them contentious and difficult) we all must work to critique each other’s ideas, and not each other as fellow students and scholars. If at any time you feel limited by me or others in your ability to express your ideas openly, or feel that our standards of professional and courteous behavior have been breached or compromised (by me or anyone else) in ways that leave you feeling excluded from the conversation, or silenced for your contributions, please let me know in person or by email, or ask someone you trust to communicate your concerns to me.

**6) Please avoid leaving during class.** Unless you are experiencing a physical or emotional emergency, please do not leave the classroom during our 50 minute classes once we have begun class. If you need to leave a specific class early, please let me know at the beginning of class, and sit near the door so as to minimize disruption.

**7) Accessibility, Accommodations, Abilities:**

We all have varying abilities; we all carry various strengths and weaknesses. Some of these might even be “documented” with a place like the ADA Office. If so, please just let me know. With or without documentation, it is my intent to make our learning experience as accessible as possible. With documentation, I am especially interested in providing any student accommodations that have probably been best determined by the student and the ADA Coordinator (Jodi Litchfield) in advance. Please let me know NOW what we can do to maximize *your* learning potential, participation, and general access in this course. I am available to meet with you in person or to discuss such things on email.

The ADA Office is located at Meeker House 003. [46 Porter Field Road]  
 Jodi Litchfield, coordinator: 802.443.5936; [litchfie@middlebury.edu](mailto:litchfie@middlebury.edu)  
<http://www.middlebury.edu/studentlife/doc/ada/about>

**8) Intercollegiate Athletics and Other Activities:** If you are a member of a team or engaged in other campus activities, you may, at various times during the semester, have athletic contests or artistic performances on a schedule which conflicts with our classes. Although **no activity can require** that you miss class or other academic events, you may need to choose which activity (class or non-class) you would prefer to attend. Those choices are entirely your own, and I will respect them as valid choices. However, be aware that according to college policy such absences are explained rather than excused. It is **your responsibility** to inform me of your schedule, what work you will miss, and how and when you intend to make up that work. I do not regularly check sports schedules or know team departure times, so it is your job to present me with that information, well in advance of the absence itself.

### Spring 2016 Weekly Schedule (again, subject to change):

#### Week 1

Tues Feb 16: Getting Organized, letters to yourself in May (confidential) due in class; handout of topics for Paper #1.

Thurs Feb 18: For class: Read from our 1960s/70s magazine collection (in share folder or emailed). **Learn about midfiles! Our share folder is in midfiles→classes→Spring 16→FYSE 1378→Share.** Read selections from magazines according to your choice of paper topics.

#### Week 2:

Tues Feb 23: Draft 1 of Paper 1 due. Print and bring 2 hard copies to class.

Wed. Feb. 24: By 8 pm, email edited draft (draft 2) of Paper #1 to [kmorse@middlebury.edu](mailto:kmorse@middlebury.edu) and to [sshackelford@middlebury.edu](mailto:sshackelford@middlebury.edu) with the file name: Your Last Name FYSE 1378 Paper 1 2 as a .doc file, for Paper 1, Draft 2.

Thurs Feb 25: Before class: Take Honor Code Tutorial on line, link below. Take note of any questions you find challenging, and any questions you get wrong (it happens!). Bring questions and issues to class (will have the tutorial printed out for discussion).

While logged in to your Middlebury account or on a Middlebury Computer: Link for tutorial at: [go.middlebury.edu/ait](http://go.middlebury.edu/ait)

Log in and select: “Tutorial and Self-Test for Winter and Spring 2016”

Week 3:

Tues March 1: **Bring Laptops!** For class: based on our reading and writing so far, come to class with three questions or topics about which you simply wish to seek further knowledge and find and engage good scholarly, dependable sources. In class: Library Research session with Librarian Brenda Ellis, based on your questions. For Thurs: handout of library exercise #1.

Thurs March 3: For class: Library exercise #1 due in class (or emailed in the case of phone pictures) with in-class discussion of results. Read for discussion: In Stradling, The Environmental Moment, documents to be announced; and study and take note on events of interest on the Fifty Years of Green website exhibits for 1966-1970; and 1971-1975. Take notes on any connections you see between our readings so far and the timeline and analysis on the website exhibits.

Week 4:

Mon. March 7: Final (3<sup>rd</sup>) Draft of Paper 1 due. Please email the paper by 5 pm to [kmorse@middlebury.edu](mailto:kmorse@middlebury.edu) and as a .doc or .docx attachment to an email. Name the file for the paper: Your Last Name\_FYSE 1378\_Paper 1\_3.docx or .doc (for Paper 1, Draft 3).

Tues March 8: For class: Reading in Stradling, The Environmental Moment, continued (specifics TBA); spend a bit more time on the FYG website and come up with two proposals for items you might add to the timeline from the reading you’ve done OR ideas or analysis or images you might contribute to the website from the reading you’ve done so far. In class: brainstorm questions for Paper #2 using Stradling, previous readings, new primary and secondary sources from library work.

Thurs. March 10: **Bring laptops!** In class: Finding further primary sources: In class workshop on researching with primary sources. **Handout of primary sources library exercise.**

Week 5:

Tues March 14: Bring library exercise results to class for discussion.

**Wed. March 16: 7pm, place TBA, 2016 Margolin Lecture in Environmental Affairs: Prof. Traci Brynne Voyles, “Environmentalism in the Interstices: California’s Salton Sea and the Borderlands of Nature and Culture”**

Thurs March 17: In class, first draft of paper 2 due. Print out and bring 2 hard copies of your paper to class.

Friday March 18: Email by 8 pm, edited second draft of paper #2, to [kmorse@middlebury.edu](mailto:kmorse@middlebury.edu) and [sshackelford@middlebury.edu](mailto:sshackelford@middlebury.edu) with the file name: Your Last Name\_FYSE 1378\_paper 2\_2.doc.

#### Week 6:

Tues. March 22: For class: Read Finis Dunaway, Seeing Green: The Use and Abuse of Environmental Images (2014), Introduction and Ch. 1; AND (skipping ahead), Conclusion.

Thurs. March 24: Read Dunaway, everyone read ch. 2-3; in three groups, each groups chapter 4, 5, or 6, taking notes by methods we discussed on Tuesday, and reports in to other groups. Pre-Spring break wrap up and discussion of advising for next fall.

SPRING BREAK!!

#### Week 7:

Tues April 5: Welcome back! Into the late 1970s and 1980s. For class, Read Dunaway chapters 7, 8, 9; and study the FYG website for 1976-1980 and 1981-1985, including student papers (In Depth section).

Thurs April 7: In-class library research session with librarian Brenda Ellis. Finding secondary sources in the library and electronically. Handout of library research exercise.

Friday April 8: Final (3<sup>rd</sup>) drafts of paper #2 due if needed, emailed by 8pm to [kmorse@middlebury.edu](mailto:kmorse@middlebury.edu)

Week 8: Begin advising meetings with Prof. Morse this week

Tues April 12: Library exercise due in class or by email. Field trip! All the way to Middlebury Library Special Collections and Archives!

Thurs April 14: Read Dunaway, ch. 10-12; and study FYG website exhibits (briefly): for 1986-1990; 1991-1995; and 1996-2000. In class meetings on group FYG projects and final paper topics.

Fri April 15: Spring Symposium!! Go see what your fellow students have been up to!

Week 9: Advising and draft meetings with Prof. Morse

Tues April 19: For class: Read Dunaway chapters 10-11 for discussion; small group work on plan for FYG exhibit work. Course registration questions.

Thurs April 21: No class: time for archival research.

Week 10:

Tues April 26: Read Dunaway, chapters 12-13; Final questions on Fall 2016 registration (Thursday at 7 a.m.)!

**Thurs April 28: 7 a.m. course registration.** In class: Reports on archival research in Middlebury Campus and other sources; in class workshop on oral presentations.

Week 11:

Tues May 3: For Class Read Dunaway, chapters 14-15.

Thurs May 5: In class Omeka workshop on adding material to FYG exhibits.

Week 12:

Tues May 10: In class workshops on group Omeka work and final papers.

Thurs May 12: First draft of Paper 3 due in class, bring 2 hard copies to class.

Exam period: Final exam (which will be brief oral presentations) scheduled for: Monday May 23, 7-10 pm (with pizza!).

Final draft of final paper due by 5 pm Tuesday May 24 (by email to [kmorse@middlebury.edu](mailto:kmorse@middlebury.edu))