

Descriptif d'enseignement

Etudiants internationaux uniquement / Only international students

Semestre 1

Titre du cours

Contemporary Environmental Challenges

Type de cours : Cours magistral

Langue du cours/Language of instruction : English

Enseignant(s)

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Résumé du cours – Objectifs

This course aims at giving an introduction to the main environmental challenges that human societies are facing today. Drawing from research in political sociology and political theory, the course will give an analysis of a range of environmental issues and of the responses they have drawn so far in the field of environmental/sustainability politics and society. Students will be invited to compare and contrast political responses from different countries and regions. The course will be based on a series of milestones articles from environmental humanities and Earth sciences, that students will be invited to read and discuss.

Maximum number of students: 30

Evaluation

Evaluation will be based on:

- an oral presentation given in class (group of 2-3 students)
- after the end of the course, each student will have 2 weeks to give a written comment of a scientific article

Plan – Séances

- 1- Introduction: the paradigm of planetary boundaries.
- 2- The politicisation of climate, from climate change to global change.
- 3- Anthropocene and Earth-stewardship.
- 4- Energy policies, oil and the nuclear industry.
- 5- Climate-scepticism.
- 6- Biodiversity, from wilderness to rewilding.
- 7- French green political thought seen from abroad.
- 8- Decoupling consumption and growth.
- 9- Green parties, green platforms and the mainstreaming of ecologism.

Bibliographie :

- Barnosky (Anthony D.), Hadly (Elizabeth A.) & al., « Approaching a State Shift in Earth's Biosphere », *Nature*, vol. 486, 7 juin 2012, p.52-58.
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- Crutzen (Paul J.) et Stoermer (Eugene F.), « The 'Anthropocene' », *Global Change, IGPB Newsletter*, n°41, mai 2000, p.17-18.
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- Dryžek (John S.) et Schlosberg (David) (eds.), *Debating the Earth: The Environmental Politics Reader*, Second edition, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2005 [1998].
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- Hecht (Gabrielle), *The Radiance of France: Nuclear Power and National Identity after World War II*, MIT Press, 2009 [2000].
- Jackson (Tim), *Prosperity Without Growth? The Transition to a Sustainable Economy*, London, Sustainable Development Commission, 2009.
- Mitchell (Timothy), *Carbon Democracy : Political Power in the Age of Oil*, London, NY, Verso, 2011.
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- Steffen (Will), Crutzen (Paul. J.), et McNeill (John R.), "The Anthropocene: Are humans now overwhelming the great forces of nature", *Ambio*, vol.36, n°8, Dec. 2007, p.614-621.
- Whiteside (Kerry H.), *Divided Natures: French Contributions to Political Ecology*, Cambridge-London, MIT Press, 2002.