

Sociology 265SD: the World in 2050: Sustainable Development and Its

Alternatives

Spring 2018

Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

SSMS 3017

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Office Hours: : John's office hours will be held in his office (SSMS 3417) for the first 60 minutes (10:30-11:30 a.m.) and at the Coral Tree Cafe (near Cheadle Hall) for the second 60 minutes (11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.). This will happen on Fridays, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and by appointment (the best policy is to e-mail or see me after class to reserve a spot – I'll also do lots of e-mail consultation!)

Sustainable development is the central challenge of our times.

– Ban Ki-moon, U.N. Secretary
General

... it is more and more apparent that, mainstreamed as sustainability or sustainable development, environmentalism has failed to reduce, even remotely adequately, the impact of humans on the biosphere.... The world talks the talk, but walks only as much of the walk as will enable it to go on talking.

– John Foster, *After Sustainability: Denial, Hope, Retrieval*
(Earthscan, 2015), 2

It is not enough to know what is wrong. You also have to be able to know how to fix it.

– Albert Bates, “Stairway to Heaven”
 (August 19, 2015),
<http://www.resilience.org/stories/2015-08-19/stairway-to-heaven>

Statement of Purpose and Course Description

“Sustainable development” can mean many things, and I don’t know what they all are. One way to put it, for me, would be moving the planet toward the most exacting possible global climate treaty, contributing to the strongest possible social movement participation in creating the future worlds we envision, and through both of these channels to bring about the creation of a low-carbon, sustainable [that word again], equitable, and deeply democratic future.

What I do know is that in addition to all our efforts to stop obviously bad things from happening – out-of-control climate change, the further narrowing of democratic options [say, Donald Trump versus Hillary Clinton], the waves of militarism and violence that engulf us, or their component pieces, like fracking, tar sands, Arctic oil, the climate treaty on offer for Paris COP 21, a Republican win for the presidency in 2016, the list goes on – in addition to stopping all *that...*

We will need to have visions of a better world to offer to each other and to all the people we hope to build it with, and ideas about how to tie these strategically into one large social movement that stops the machinery of destruction and sets off in a different direction.

The dream of “sustainable development” is one of those visions. Will it turn into a long nightmare for our century, like “development,” its twentieth-century predecessor, continually betraying its (arguably) noble initial goals of a world without poverty, with political freedom, and with healthy, plural cultures?

2015 is one of those hinges of history, when, in a happy confluence of timing, the [Millennium Development Goals](#) that were the highest expression of the dream of development will get traded in for the new model – the Sustainable Development Goals (in a three-day [U.N. conference](#) in New York that begins on the day of our first meeting!), and when the world community – or at least the United Framework Convention on Climate Change – has vowed to deliver a global climate treaty that will save us from the elephant in the room of all discussions of future worlds, [in Paris](#) on practically the last day of class in December.

How wonderful, then, that we will meet and spend three hours together each week to take stock of the state of the world, the import of these events, the field of

sustainable development, and discuss our own dreams and nightmares about the future!

I believe that if we are to pass on a world worth living in to the next generation, this network of movements for global and climate justice and an authentically sustainable future must become the biggest the world has ever seen.

And the moment is now.

The latest reports of the United Nations [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#) (IPCC) and leading climate scientists James Hansen, Alice Bows, and Kevin Anderson point toward the need for a treaty that will limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius or less and restore the Earth's atmosphere to the scientifically established sustainable level of 350 parts per million of carbon dioxide (it passed the threshold of 400 ppm in May 2013 and today they are at 410 ppm).

Meanwhile, back in 2012, activist-scholar Bill McKibben [noted](#) that for an 80 percent chance to stay under a politically and physically “realistic” but far riskier 2 degrees, we have to keep the total of all future greenhouse gas emissions under the equivalent of 565 gigatons of CO₂, but scarily, the proven reserves of all the fossil fuel corporations and exporting countries come to 2,795 gigatons; today the budget is closer to 400 gigatons and we continue to burn through over 30 gigatons a year. This means that 80 percent of these reserves – by some estimates, worth as much as \$27 trillion – have to be kept in the ground somehow and never extracted and burned.

The annual United Nations climate summits, known as the COPs (for Conference of the Parties), followed by a number denoting the year (the first, in 1995 was COP1) have been trying to negotiate such a treaty for almost twenty years now, and have set themselves the deadline of the COP21 in Paris in December 2015, to achieve it. But the international climate negotiations process is at an impasse, as the dominant parties to the climate negotiations continue to advance positions completely at odds with each other and with what science requires, suggesting that humanity is on a collision course with nature that it cannot win.

Perhaps more importantly, on the side of hope, since 2007, or even earlier, a promising global climate justice movement has emerged behind the slogan “System change, not climate change!” making demands for a socially just, scientifically appropriate, and legally binding climate treaty. To get such a treaty, governments who do not want to vote for it, or whose short-term interests and economic elites are not served by signing, will need to be persuaded, or more probably, *forced* to do so by their own civil societies and Earth citizens everywhere.

The purpose of this course, then, is to explore the diverse meanings and impacts of the concept and practice of the term “sustainable development” as used by scholars, social movement organizations, communities, and activists to imagine and create a sustainable, equitable, democratic world for future generations.

This course is about co-generating knowledge and positive action to secure a better future. We need to break new ground as scholars and make commitments to be active participants in this process.

My Philosophy of Teaching and Learning

I consider teaching a radical act...

Learning and teaching are complex, endlessly fascinating collaborations. I learn enormous amounts from the students in classes I have facilitated, whom I consider colleagues and companions on an intellectual, sometimes life-changing journey. My goals for my classes and myself include dramatically increasing our knowledge base about the world, developing critical thinking, analytical skills, and the historical perspective necessary to examine our deeply held assumptions regarding the social world, and cultivating our sociological imaginations as we attempt to provide explanations for these phenomena. We will collectively facilitate our work in a convivial and collaborative way, hone the arts of applying theoretical concepts to actual historical and contemporary situations, and make connections between these situations and what we study and what we do.

I agree with Manolo Callahan: “We [should] attempt to convert the competitive atmosphere of the traditional graduate seminar into a site for collective reflection and action. We will **think out loud** as we examine concepts, theoretical frameworks, and specific evidence convivially, constructing new tools as we proceed. Sharing our unique perspectives, histories, experiences, skills, and desires will allow us to acknowledge the resources we ourselves claim as well as the knowledge we hope to share. Given that we will engage difficult and controversial concepts and issues, it will be our shared obligation to maintain an intellectually rigorous and respectful environment. Thus, it is imperative that our engagement be thoughtful and supportive of the views, experiences, expertise, and desires of others at all times.”

Texts

There will be a fairly heavy amount of reading in this course, by any standard. The good news is that *you* decide what and especially how much to read. And, you will find this includes some exciting and inspiring materials you can’t find elsewhere – or your money back (well, not really...)!

There are six required books. You will have to obtain them yourselves, using Amazon or the web. They will cost you about \$52 in all, if you use the pdfs for the Chivers, Angus, and Porritt books.

Danny Chivers, *The No-Nonsense Guide to Climate Change: The Science, the Solutions, the Way Forward*. Oxford: New Internationalist. 2010. Just under \$10 at Amazon. Also pdf.

Ian Angus, *Facing the Anthropocene: Fossil Capitalism and the Crisis of the Earth System*. New York: Monthly Review. 2016. Use the pdf of uncorrected proofs, or buy at Amazon for \$19.

Andreas Malm. *The Progress of this Storm: Nature and Society in a Warming World*. London: Verso. 2018. \$14.55.

Jonathan Porritt. *The World We Made*. London: Phaidon Press. 2013. Pdf

Kim Stanley Robinson. *New York, 2140*. New York: Orbit. 2017. \$12.47

Arturo Escobar. *Designs for the Pluriverse: Radical Interdependence, Autonomy, and the Making of Worlds*. Durham: Duke University Press. 2018. \$24.97.

Along with the books, all other course readings will be posted on our GauchoSpace for the class. Let me know if you have any problems accessing them.

Five Rules for Best Participation [this section was written by Zack King, UCSB scholar-activist]

“1. Think critically and work hard. We’re confronting dire problems faced by humanity. Your critical thinking needs to be turned on – ask questions, be curious, do outside research, question all authority.

2. Don’t just do the reading. Engage with it. Read it, question it, think about it, write on it, talk to your friends and family about it, take it out to dinner, dream about it, whatever you need to do. It’s an important part of these ten weeks and it matters.

3. We’re a community. Be as polite, open-minded, friendly and understanding as you can be. Don’t do anyone’s work for them, but do help them figure out how to do it themselves. Try to make some friends.

4. Everybody talks and everybody listens. One of the most important skills you’ll learn in college is engaging, out loud, with other people whom you may not

know, on the most important issues we as a species face. You need to learn these skills to change the world. There's something in activist circles called "step up, step back." The step back part means, if you've had the chance to speak a great deal, you make an effort to drop back, listen, and encourage others to speak. Step up means, if you're having trouble engaging, you push yourself to speak up and engage.

5. If we're going to make the most of our time together, you'll need to be actively engaged in class. This means that I'd like you to sit toward the front if there is any room. It also means you need to be taking care of yourself - get enough sleep, get enough to eat and drink. Stay healthy. If you're gonna fall asleep, you're better off staying home and catching up later."

[John: it's actually ok to sleep in class if you have to, and I would advise you never to skip class to finish a paper – it's better to finish it after attending class that day.]

Students with Disabilities

This course welcomes and accommodates all interested students. Students with disabilities who require accommodations to fully participate in course activities or meet course requirements should speak to the Disabled Students Program, as well as the Instructor. If you qualify for services through the DSP, please turn in a letter of accommodation to the Instructor. We will do everything possible to accommodate your individual needs. For more information, go to <http://dsp.sa.ucsb.edu/>

Gauchospace

Yes! It is indispensable to our work, so check it regularly – <https://gauchospace.ucsb.edu/> You will be posting your weekly writing to Gauchospace so we may all read each other's work before class meets to discuss the readings.

Course Requirements

Attendance and Participation

Attendance at all class meetings is indispensable for making this course a success for all of us. Class participation will be noted by attendance and participation in class, volunteering on multiple occasions for presenting a reading,

and general engagement with the materials. *It is always greatly to your advantage to attend class.*

I would like to center this course around class discussion and a collective search for new knowledge. To do this, we will share or delegate responsibility so that with each other's help we can cover a lot of ground in terms of the reading, and at the same time read some items with greater attention than usual.

Note: please try to follow the movement principle of “Step up, step back” in our discussions, meaning if you tend to take a lot of turns or make long interventions, be mindful of this and step back from the discussion so that others, and especially those who may not speak as easily, can step up and contribute to the discussion. Or, as CodePink puts it: “Encourage those who don't talk much to speak up, and those who talk a lot to say less” – see more at:

<http://www.codepink4peace.org/article.php?id=103#sthash.kCn9IAy7.dpuf>

Writing

I see no reason to assign a long paper at the end of the term. Let's put all our effort into writing great briefs, having great discussions, and contributing something to the Eco Vista project!

We will accomplish this through a group-centered form of learning and by circulating our weekly briefs to the group *the day before* our discussion (hard as this will probably be for most of us).

A typical brief might develop an *analytical discussion* about some part of the readings and/or the weekly topic. By a critical analysis of the reading, I am thinking of an assessment of a selected aspect or aspects of the week's reading(s), including your own reflection, emotions, or ideas on the issues raised by the reading (your agreement or disagreement, along with the reasons for either; and/or questions you have). Try to take *no more than* two single-spaced pages (12 point Times Roman font please) for your briefs (less can be fine, just write *something* every week), so they can be printed out on one page back-to-back. Why not keep it short and to the point?

The goal is to post weekly briefs on GauchoSpace on Tuesdays (the earlier the better) before 5 p.m., so that we may come to class having read them.

Paper Style and “Grading” Policy

Paper style: The formatting guidelines for all papers in this course are 1” margins all around and 12 point size. I would like all papers single-spaced so that

they use one sheet of paper when I print them out, as I must. For grammar and other writing matters, see John Foran, “Tips for Writers.” *All papers are to be submitted on GauchoSpace.*

Grading system: Since all the paper assignments in this class are short, they will be “graded” on a check minus/check/check plus system, where “v+” is roughly an “A”, “v” is roughly a “B”, and “v-” is roughly a “C.” You may also receive a “split” grade, such as v/v+ or v-/v. You may on occasion even have the good fortune to receive a “v++” which can be thought of as something like “A+.” This is a graduate seminar, so final grades should be in the A to A+ range.

If you have any questions about a grade, please see the person sitting next to you as I don’t want to talk about it – we’re not doing this for the grade...

Writing Resources

We all need to work on our writing skills, continuously; each of us can become better at this. The class GauchoSpace contains several excellent guides on how to write well, by John Foran, Chris Bickel, Manuel Callahan, Arthur McEvoy, and UCSB for Writers. You might want to study at least one of these before every piece of writing you do this quarter, until you feel you have mastered and can practice what they say.

Following the News: Tracking Current Issues

As a series of current “events” and ongoing process, climate change – whether named or not – is always in the news. As the occasion arises, we may discuss current events, so please feel free to share news with the class, especially if you are moved to report on the news for a reaction paper.

Some tips on how to read and analyze the news are found in our GauchoSpace: Rich Kaplan, “Analyzing the News,” and Yousef Baker, “Reading the News on the Middle East.”

As the occasion arises, we may discuss current events, so please feel free to share news with the class by bringing it to the instructors’ attention.

Excellent resources, among others, are:

Grist – *Environmental News, Commentary, Advice* – <http://grist.org/> – “An American non-profit online magazine that has been publishing environmental news and commentary since 1999. Grist’s taglines are ‘Gloom and doom with a sense of humor’ and ‘A beacon in the smog’” – Wikipedia.

EcoWatch – <http://ecowatch.com/> – “EcoWatch is a dedicated platform for environmental news that helps transform the ability of individuals to learn about environmental issues and take action. EcoWatch provides timely access to relevant information that educates and motivates individuals to become engaged in their community, adopt sustainable practices and support strong environmental policy.”

Resilience – <http://www.resilience.org/> – **note: please subscribe to the daily feed!** – “both an information clearinghouse and a network of action-oriented groups. Our focus is on building community resilience in a world of multiple emerging challenges: the decline of cheap energy, the depletion of critical resources like water, complex environmental crises like climate change and biodiversity loss, and the social and economic issues which are linked to these. We like to think of the site as a community library with space to read and think, but also as a vibrant café in which to meet people, discuss ideas and projects, and pick up and share tips on how to build the resilience of your community, your household, or yourself.”

The New York Times – <http://www.nytimes.com> – the paper of record in the U.S.

BBC News – <http://www.bbc.co.uk/> – England and U.K.’s news source of record).

The Guardian – <http://www.guardian.co.uk/> – the United Kingdom’s best newspaper.

Al-Jazeera, world news in English with a critical point of view:
<http://english.aljazeera.net/>

The Real News Network (“daily television news that reports with ordinary people’s interests in mind. The Real News is ... the missing link in the global media landscape”), at <http://therealnews.com/t2/about-us/mission>

Dissident Voices – “an internet newsletter dedicated to challenging the distortions and lies of the corporate press and the privileged classes it serves. The goal of *Dissident Voice* is to provide hard hitting, thought provoking and even entertaining news and commentaries on politics and culture that can serve as ammunition in struggles for peace and social justice”: <https://dissidentvoice.org/about/>

Amy Goodman's *Democracy Now!* – <http://www.democracynow.org/> – the best source of progressive global political journalism in the U.S. They will do extensive coverage of COP21.

Resources on an Earth in Crisis

The following websites are useful sources of information on the climate crisis and on some of the things people are doing about it...

Climate Central – <http://www.climatecentral.org/>

Climate Code Red – <http://www.climatecodedred.org/>

Climate Connections – <http://climatevoices.wordpress.com/>

Climate Debate Daily – <http://climatedebatedaily.com/>

Creative Climate: Stories from a Changing World –
<http://www.open.edu/openlearn/nature-environment/the-environment/creative-climate>

DeSmog Canada – <http://www.desmog.ca/>

The International Institute of Climate Action and Theory (iicat) –
www.iicat.org

Real Climate – <http://www.realclimate.org/>

Skeptical Science – <http://www.skepticalscience.com>

System Change not Climate Change – <http://systemchange.ca>

Youth Climate: Dispatches from the Global Youth Climate Movement –
<http://youthclimate.org/>

Other good websites for news and views on the crisis include *Common Dreams* [<http://www.commondreams.org/>], *Grist* [<http://grist.org/>], *Truthout* [<http://truth-out.org/>], *Truthdig* [<http://www.truthdig.com/>], *Dissident Voice* [<http://dissidentvoice.org/>], *Counterpunch* [<http://www.counterpunch.org/>], and *Salon* [<http://www.salon.com/>].

Soc 265SD: Course Topics and Reading Assignments

Part One: The New Situation

Wednesday, April 4. Week 1: Intro, Chivers, Eco Vista

Wednesday, April 11. Week 2: The Anthropocene: Ian Angus, *Facing the Anthropocene: Fossil Capitalism and the Crisis of the Earth System*

Wednesday, April 18. Week 3: The Climate Future: Andreas Malm, *The Progress of this Storm: Nature and Society in a Warming World*

Part Two: Alternatives

Wednesday, April 25. Week 4: DeGrowth vs Ecosocialism?

Readings on Ecosocialism

System Change Not Climate Change, “What is Ecosocialism?” (September 2014), 1-14

Fred Magdoff and Chris Williams, “Characteristics of an Ecological Society,” chapters 10-12 of *Creating an Ecological Society: Toward a Revolutionary Transformation* (New York: Monthly Review Press, 2016), pp. 233-310.

[Review] Ian Angus, *Facing the Anthropocene: Fossil Capitalism and the Crisis of the Earth System* (New York: Monthly Review. 2016), Part Three: The Alternative.

Readings on Degrowth

Giorgos Kallis, *In Defense of Degrowth: Opinions and Manifestos*. Creative Commons. March 2017. **Just read the parts that look interesting!** I would recommend parts I: The degrowth alternative, III: (De)growth, capitalism, and (eco)socialism, and IV: Politics and policies.

Arturo Escobar, “Degrowth, Postdevelopment, and Transitions: A Preliminary Conversation.” *Sustainability Science* 10 (2015): 451-462.

Jonathan Rutherford, “How Do You Degrow an Economy, Without Causing Chaos?” (May 15, 2017), <http://www.resilience.org/stories/2017-05-15/how-do-you-degrow-an-economy-without-causing-chaos/>

David Schwartzman, “A Critique of Degrowth and Its Politics.” *Capitalism Nature Socialism* 23 (1) (March 2912): 119-25.

Richard Heinberg, “The End of Growth, Seven Years Later” (April 11, 2018), <http://www.resilience.org/stories/2018-04-11/the-end-of-growth-seven-years-later/>

DEBATE:

Kate Raworth, “Why Degrowth has out-grown its own name” (December 1, 2015), <http://oxfamblogs.org/fp2p/why-degrowth-has-out-grown-its-own-name-guest-post-by-kate-raworth/>

Giogos Kallis, “You’re wrong Kate. Degrowth is a compelling word” (December 2, 2015), <http://oxfamblogs.org/fp2p/youre-wrong-kate-degrowth-is-a-compelling-word/>

Wednesday, May 2. Week 5: *Buen Vivir* and Andrea Weber’s essays

Common Readings

World People’s Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth
“Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth,” Cochabamba,
Bolivia (April 27, 2010), 1-3, <http://climateandcapitalism.com/?p=2268>

Pablo Solón, “Is Vivir Bien possible? Candid Thoughts about Systemic Alternatives” (August 2016), <http://lifeonleft.blogspot.com/2016/09/vivir-bien-going-beyond-capitalism.html>

Pablo Solón, “Vivir Bien: Old Cosmovisions and New Paradigms” (February 20, 2018), <http://www.resilience.org/stories/2018-02-20/vivir-bien-old-cosmovisions-and-new-paradigms/>

“Roundtable on Vivir Bien.” *An exchange on Vivir Bien: Old Cosmovisions and New Paradigms* (February 18, 2018), <http://www.greattransition.org/publication/roundtable-vivir-bien>

Andreas Weber and Hildegard Kurt, “Towards Cultures of Aliveness: Politics and Poetics in a Postdualistic Age, an Anthropocene Manifesto.” Originally published by *The Solutions Journal* (December 17, 2015),

<http://www.resilience.org/stories/2015-12-17/towards-cultures-of-aliveness-politics-and-poetics-in-a-postdualistic-age-an-anthropocene-manifesto#>

Presentations

Alberto Acosta, “Rethinking the world from the Perspective of Buen Vivir.” *Degrowth* (January 17, 2017).

David Barkin and Blanca Lemus, “Third World Alternatives for Building Post-Capitalist World.” *Review of Radical Political Economics* 48 (4) (2016): 569-576.

Eduardo Gudynas, “Buen Vivir: Today’s Tomorrow,” *Development* 54 (4) (2011): 441-447.

“Understanding the Native Roots of the Constitutions of Bolivia and Ecuador: The 25 Principles of Good Living.” Source: Vibromancia / The Dawn News / November 11, 2015, <http://www.thedawn-news.org/2017/09/15/understanding-the-native-roots-of-the-constitutions-of-bolivia-and-ecuador-the-25-principles-of-good-living/>

Dan O’Neill, “Is it Possible for Everyone to Live a Good Life within our Planet’s Limits?” (February 8, 2018), <http://www.resilience.org/stories/2018-02-08/is-it-possible-for-everyone-to-live-a-good-life-within-our-planets-limits/> Also published in a more scholarly version in *Nature Sustainability* (1) (February 2018): 88-95, at <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41893-018-0021-4>

Julien Vanhulst and Adrian E. Beling, “*Buen vivir*: Emergent discourse within or beyond sustainable development?” *Ecological Economics* 101 (2014), 54-63.

Bob Thomson, “Pachakuti: Indigenous perspectives, *bien vivir*, *sumaq kawsay* and *degrowth*,” *Development* 54 (4) (2011): 448-54.

Wednesday, May 9. Week 6: Transition Towns, Eco Vista

Please spend some time exploring these websites:

Transition United States –
<http://www.transitionus.org/about-us>

Common Transition Primer website –
<https://primer.commontransition.org/>

Global Ecovillage Network –
<http://gen.ecovillage.org/en/article/what-ecovillage>

Common Readings on Transition Towns:

Stephanie Van Hook, “What is Transition?” (March 14, 2017),
<http://www.resilience.org/stories/2017-03-14/what-is-transition/>

Wikipedia, “Transition Town,”
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transition_town

Ester Alloun and Samuel Alexander, “The Transition Movement: Questions of Diversity, Power, and Affluence,” Simplicity Institute (August 2014),
<http://www.resilience.org/stories/2014-08-18/the-transition-movement-questions-of-diversity-power-and-affluence/>

Erik Lindberg, “Transition Political” (September 7 2017),
<http://www.resilience.org/stories/2017-09-07/transition-is-political/>

Other Readings on Transition Towns:

Erik Lindberg, “On Transition (!)” (August 7, 2017),
<http://www.resilience.org/stories/2017-08-07/on-transition/>

Erik Lindberg, “Deconstructing Transition” (August 21, 2017),
<http://www.resilience.org/stories/2017-08-21/deconstructing-transition/>

Naresh Giangrande, “Seven Lessons on Starting a Worldwide Movement for Change” (February 9, 2018),
<http://www.resilience.org/stories/2018-02-09/seven-lessons-on-starting-a-worldwide-movement-for-change/>

Christopher Lyon interview with Rob Hopkins, “Resilience, Community Action and Societal Transformation” (May 19, 2017), <http://www.resilience.org/stories/2017-05-19/resilience-community-action-societal-transformation-christopher-lyon/>

Common Transitional Reading [get it?]

[Skim for Eco Vista discussion?] Transition Network team, *The Essential Guide to Doing Transition: Getting Transition started in your street, community, town or organisation* (Great Britain, Transition Network, 2016),

Debbie Van Schyndel Kasper, “Redefining Community in the Ecovillage.” *Human Ecology Review* 15 (1) (2008): 12-24.

Common Readings on Eco Vista:

John Foran, “From Isla Vista to Eco Vista: A Design Project in Community Resilience” – grant proposal (March 2018)

The website: ecovistaproject.com

Wednesday, May 16. Week 7: Escobar’s Pluriverses.

Arturo Escobar, *Designs for the Pluriverse: Radical Interdependence, Autonomy, and the Making of Worlds* (Durham: Duke University Press 2018), entire.

Common Readings:

Preface and Introduction (ix-21)

Conclusion (202-227)

“Farewell to Development: An interview with Arturo Escobar” (March 9, 2018),

<https://www.localfutures.org/farewell-to-development-an-interview-with-arturo-escobar/>

Arturo Escobar ,syllabus for ANTH 540: Planetary Crises and Ecological and Cultural Transitions (Spring 2018)

Arturo Escobar interview on the book,

http://rorotoko.com/interview/20180423_escobar_arturo_on_book_designs_pluriverse_radical_interdependence/

Presentations

Part I: Design for the Real World

Chapter 1: Out of the Studio and into the Flow of Sociocultural Life
(25-48)

Chapter 2: Elements for a Cultural Studies of Design (49-77)

Part II: The Ontological Reorientation of Design

Chapter 3: In the Background of Our Culture: Relationalism,
Ontological Dualism and Relationality (79-105)

Chapter 4: An Outline of Ontological Design (105-134)

Part III: Designs for the Pluriverse

Chapter 5: Design for Transitions (137-164)

Chapter 6: Autonomous design and the Politics of Relationality and
the Communal (165-200)

Part Three: Futures

Wednesday, May 23. Week 8: Politics and Economics in the Anthropocene

Readings:

Agency in the Anthropocene Revisited:

Clive Hamilton, “The Rise and Fall of the Super-Agent,” conclusion to *Defiant Earth: The Fate of Humans in the Anthropocene* (Cambridge: Polity, 2017), 136-162.

Politics and Political Theory in the Anthropocene:

Geoff Mann and Joel Wainwright, “Climate X,” final chapter of *Climate Leviathan: A Political Theory of Our Planetary Future* (London: Verso, 2018), 173-197

The New Economics of Kate Raworth:

Kate Raworth, “Seven Ways to Transform 21st-Century Economics — and Economists” (November 5, 2017),
<http://www.defenddemocracy.press/10027-2/>

Kate Raworth’s website: explore it at <https://www.kateraworth.com/>

George Monbiot, “Finally, a breakthrough alternative to growth economics – the doughnut” (July 7, 2017), <http://www.ecologise.in/2017/07/07/finally-breakthrough-alternative-growth-economics-doughnut/>

Social Movements:

John Foran, “System Change Not Climate Change: Radical Social Transformation in the Twenty-First Century,” forthcoming in *Handbook on Social Movements, Revolution, and Social Transformation*, edited by Berch Berberoglu (Palgrave Macmillan). Also available as: “Finding Pathways to a Better Future: A proposal that our movements confront the issue of Political Power, finding new ways to take and use it,” *Radical Ecological Democracy* (December 16, 2017),
<http://www.radicalecologicaldemocracy.org/finding-pathways-to-a-better-future/>

More from and on Escobar:

Arturo Escobar, “Latin America at a Crossroads: Alternative Modernizations, Post-liberalism, or Post Development?” *Cultural Studies* 24 (1) (2010): 1-65,
<http://www.unc.edu/~aescobar/text/eng/escobar.2010.CulturalStudies.24-1.pdf>

Charles Hale, “Comment on Arturo Escobar’s ‘Latin America at a Crossroads’” *Cultural Studies* 25 (3) (May 2011): 459-464.

More on (Just) Transitions:

Just Transition(s) to a Low-Carbon World website: explore it at <https://medium.com/just-transitions> – *The Just Transition(s) Online Forum* is an initiative of the *Just Transition Research Collaborative* that collects stories on the Just Transition to low-carbon development. Bringing together a range of experts working on different aspects of this transition, it

showcases different case studies, narratives and approaches to the Just Transition and their implications for equity and social justice.

Drawdown

David Roberts, “This book ranks the top 100 solutions to climate change. The results are surprising” (February 12, 2018), *A chat with Paul Hawken about his ambitious effort to “map, measure, and model” global warming solutions*, <https://www.vox.com/energy-and-environment/2017/5/10/15589038/top-100-solutions-climate-change-ranked>

Drawdown Solutions website: <http://www.drawdown.org/solutions>

David Bornstein, “A Smorgasbord of Solutions for Global Warming” (April 25, 2018), <https://mobile.nytimes.com/2018/04/25/opinion/a-smorgasbord-of-solutions-for-global-warming.html>

Wednesday, May 30. Week 9: Culture: Cli-fi and solar punk

Websites

Cli-Fi Report, <http://cli-fi.net/> -- Cli-Fi Report (CFR) is a research tool for academics and media professionals to use in gathering information and reporting on the rise of the emerging cli-fi term worldwide.

Cli-Fi Books, <http://clifibooks.com/about/> -- Cli-Fi Books explores climate change themes found in novels, prose, short stories, and other fiction.

Eco-fiction.com, a news site that covers environmental authors’ works via book posts, interviews, reader-submitted reviews, bookshelves and a database, guest posts, and author spotlights. In early 2018 we also launched a new site for authors and readers in a changing world: Dragonfly.eco. Here, authors may submit excerpts of their novels, prose, or nonfiction and participate in a new writer’s workshop.

SOLARPUNK : A REFERENCE GUIDE,

<https://medium.com/solarpunks/solarpunk-a-reference-guide-8bcf18871965> - Solarpunk is a movement in speculative fiction, art, fashion and activism that seeks to answer and embody the question “what does a sustainable civilization look like, and how can we get there?”

Readings

- Javier Sethness, “Toward an Ecologically Based Post-Capitalism: Interview With Novelist Kim Stanley Robinson” (March 17, 2018), <http://www.truth-out.org/opinion/item/43864-toward-an-ecologically-based-post-capitalism-interview-with-novelist-kim-stanley-robinson>
- Stephanie LeMenager, “Climate Change and the Struggle for Genre,” pp. 220-238 in Tobias Meneley and Jesse Oak Taylor, editors, *Anthropocene Reading: Literary History in Geologic Times* (University Park, The Pennsylvania State University Press, 2017).
- Kim Stanley Robinson, “Climate Change Forces Post-Capitalism,” forthcoming in *Climate Futures: Re-imagining Global Climate Justice*, Pp. edited by Kum-Kum Bhavnani, John Foran, Priya A. Kurian and Debashish Munshi.
- Tom Cassauwers, “Sci-Fi Doesn’t Have to Be Depressing: Welcome to Solarpunk” (January 21, 2018), http://www.ozy.com/fast-forward/sci-fi-doesnt-have-to-be-depressing-welcome-to-solarpunk/82586?mc_cid=fbca4ba6c5&mc_eid=a9c2fda3f4
- Adam Flynn, “Solarpunk: Notes toward a manifesto” (September 4, 2014), <http://hieroglyph.asu.edu/2014/09/solarpunk-notes-toward-a-manifesto/>
- D. G. Webster, “Scapegoats, Silver Bullets, and Other Pitfalls in the Path to Sustainability,” *Elementa Science of the Anthropocene* 5, article 7: 1-15, <https://www.elementascience.org/articles/10.1525/elementa.212/metrics/#downloads>
- Joshua Tananbaum, Marcel Pufal, and Karen Tanenbaum, “The Limits of Our Imagination: Design Fiction as a Strategy for Engaging with Dystopian Futures” *Limits* (June 8-10, 2016), <http://computingwithinlimits.org/2016/papers/a10-tanenbaum.pdf>
- Manjana Milkoreit “Imaginary Politics: Climate Change and Making the Future” *Elementa Science of the Anthropocene* 5, article 62: 1-18, <https://www.elementascience.org/article/10.1525/elementa.249/>
- John Feffer, “The Invisible Monster of Climate Change” (July 18, 2017), http://www.tomdispatch.com/post/176309/tomgram%3A_john_feffer%2C_the_invisible_monster_of_climate_change/

David Holmgren, “A History from the Future: A Prosperous Way Down” (June 9, 2016), <https://holmgren.com.au/a-history-from-the-future/>

Wednesday, June 6. Week 10: Jonathan Porritt, *The World We Made*, and Manjana Milkoreit et al, editors, *Everything Change: An Anthology of Climate Fiction*, Conclusion(s), Eco Vista.

Jonathan Porritt, *The World We Made* – core readings to be done by all:

32: Enough!

54: Companies, Cooperatives and Capitalism

111: Defusing the Population Bomb

160: Feeding the World

183: China Shows the Way

189: Putting the World to Rights with EarthCorps

239: Climate Challenges

244: Democracy by Demand

266: The Great Turning

Manjana Milkoreit, Meredith Martinez, and Joey Eschrich, editors. ***Everything Change: An Anthology of Climate Fiction***. Stories from Arizona State University’s 2016 Climate Fiction Short Story Contest.

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* * *

We need to remember that the work of our time is bigger than climate change. We need to be setting our sights higher and deeper. What we're really talking about, if we're honest with ourselves, is transforming everything about the way we live on this planet.

– Rebecca Tarbotton, Executive
Director of the Rainforest
Action Network, 1973-2012,
quoted in Naomi Klein, *This
Changes Everything:
Capitalism versus the Climate*
(New York: Simon and
Schuster, 2014), epigraph

The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.

– Martin Luther King Jr.