GEOGRAPHY 330: SEMINAR
CULTURAL & POLITICAL ECOLOGY, LAND–CHANGE & SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE

T 2:50–till Libbey Lounge

Spring 2004
B. L. Turner II

CONTENT
This seminar examines human–environment geography as it has evolved through the lens of cultural and political ecology, and, more recently, into the highly interdisciplinary arenas of land–change science and sustainability science.

SEMINAR STATEMENT
A seminar is a shared intellectual experience in which the instructor and students inform one another. Ideally, the instructor operates as a tutor, charting the course and serving as a navigational aid. The students are the drivers, and the degree to which they are driven determines the success of experience. Preparation is essential. All assigned readings must be digested before the class in question and an annotated bibliography of the readings handed in for those readings at the beginning of class. Teams are assigned to lead each class discussion.

One of the most important lessons of graduate education and essential arts of scholarship is that of “respectful critique” learning to appreciate the strengths and identify the weakness of other works.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS
Three writing assignments will be giving during the course, complete with word limits. Formal social science writing is stressed: the rigor of logic and evidence and the conciseness of language. Belief alone is insufficient; verbiage distracts. Strunk and White’s Element of Style is recommended reading. Instructions are provided below.

COURSE SCHEDULE
Jan. 26 → Overview
Feb. 2 → Spiral of Approaches–Interests: Retrospective
Feb. 9 → Distal Antecedents: European Roots to Berkeley and Chicago
Feb. 16 → Cultural Ecology 1: Systems and Adaptation
Feb. 23 → Cultural Ecology 2: Behavior and Decision Making
Mar. 1 → No class [first assignment due]
Mar. 8 → Spring break
Mar. 15 → AAG meetings
Mar. 22 → Political Ecology: Critical-Structures
Mar. 29 → Political Ecology: Gender and Alternatives
Apr. 5 → Hybrid Ecologies
Apr. 12 → Integrated Land Science
Apr. 19 → No class [second assignment due]
Apr. 20 → Sustainability Science
May 3 → Completing the Spiral? New Cultural Geography
May xx → [final assignment due]

READINGS
Spiral of Approaches-Interests: Retrospective

Distal Antecedents: European Roots to Berkeley and Chicago

Geog. 330-Spring 04

Cultural Ecology: Systems and Adaptation 
Moran, E., ed. 1990. The Ecosystem Approach in Anthropology: From Concept to Practice. 

Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. [C. 1–2]

*Cultural Ecology: Behavior and Decision-making*


*Political Ecology: Structures and Social Relation of Power*


Eclectic, Not Political, Ecologies?


Perspectives and Local Expressions. New York, Routledge. Chaps. to be announced


Integrated Land–Change Science


*Sustainability Science*


Completing the Spiral? New Cultural Geography


