**Course Description:** This five-week course will provide students with the knowledge to understand how built environments, ecological degradation, water privatization and land confiscation have structured racial inequality in the 20th century. Students will read about the contingent relationships between race, class and economic development that have made people of color and Indigenous populations vulnerable to environmental racism. Together, we will examine the core methods and theories that environmental justice advocates have employed to contest racial, class, gendered and sexual hierarchies. In so doing, we will analyze how anti-racism has challenged mainstream environmentalism to consider how ecological crises negatively impact people of color. With this interdisciplinary approach, students will read scholarly debates within the fields of environmental studies, ethnic studies, sexuality studies, and Indigenous studies.

**Accommodations:** I wish to make this course as accessible as possible to students with disabilities or medical conditions that may affect any aspect of course assignments or participation. If you require specific accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible. Also, if you prefer to be called by a different name than the one with which you are enrolled, I will also be happy to accommodate.

**Classroom Policy:** a) Restricted laptop use, no wi-fi b) Each assignment must be submitted on time, late submissions are **not** accepted, and c) All assignments must be completed in order to receive a course grade.

**Guiding Principles:** Along with the UCSD Principles of Community, the following guidelines are the basis for meaningful discussions.
- Assume nothing
- Respect is key
- Support your arguments by engaging the texts

**Course Requirements**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance/Participation: 25%</td>
<td>94-100 A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Response papers: 20%</td>
<td>90-93 A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm: 20%</td>
<td>86-89 B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final project: 25%</td>
<td>83-85 B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film paper: 10%</td>
<td>80-82 B-</td>
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<td>76-79 C+</td>
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**Grading Scale:**
- A: 94-100
- A-: 90-93
- B+: 86-89
- B: 83-85
- B-: 80-82
- C+: 76-79
- C-: 73-75
- D+: 66-69
- D: 63-65
- F: 0-60
Attendance & Participation (25%): Students must come to all class meetings having read required material and prepared to discuss readings in depth. Students will be expected to select a class meeting where they will present on the readings for that assigned day. Every unexcused absence after one missed class will automatically result in a 10% deduction from your final letter grade. Lateness is unacceptable.

Critical response papers (20%): Two 2-3 double spaced papers, submit via TED

Critical film paper (10%): Critical film review paper, submit via TED

Midterm (20%): Answer prompt that will be provided, submit via TED

Final project and presentation (25%): Handout with instructions will be distributed during second week of the quarter

Required Texts: *All readings are available via TED, accessible at http://ted.ucsd.edu

PART I: Environmental Racism

Week 1: Racialization of Built Environments
- Mon. 7/1: Introduction to class
- Wed. 7/3: *Lisa S. Park and David N. Pellow,” Racial Formation, Environmental Racism, and the Emergence of Silicon Valley”, p. 403-424
  *Laura Pulido, “Rethinking Environmental Racism”, p. 12-40
- Fri. 7/5: Critical response paper due, submit via TED by 5:00pm

Week 2: Contamination, Water Rights and Land Conflict
  *William Deverell, “Chapter 3: Remembering a River,” p. 91-128
- Fri. 7/12: Midterm due, submit via TED by 5:00pm

PART II: Environmental Justice

Week 3: Critical Responses to Unnatural Disasters
  *Curtis Marez, “What is a disaster?”, p. ix-xi
  *Sunni Patterson, “We Know This Place”, p. 719-721
  *Jordan T. Camp, “We Know This Place: Neoliberal Racial Regimes and the Katrina Circumstance”, p. 693-717
  *Zenia Kish, “My Fema People: Hip Hop as Disaster Recovery in the Katrina Diaspora,” p. 671-692
- Fri. 7/19: Critical film paper due, submit via TED by 5:00pm

Week 4: Environmental Degradation Under U.S. Militarism and Prisons
  *Winona LaDuke, “The Military and the Land”, p. 31-74
*Doug Brugge and Rob Goble, “The History of Uranium Mining and the Navajo People”, p. 1410-1419

- Wed. 7/24: *Rose Braz and Craig Gilmore, “Prisons and Environmental Justice in Recent Prison Organizing”, p. 95-111
  *Saed, “Prison Abolition as an Ecosocialist Struggle,” p. 1-5

- Fri. 7/26: Critical response paper due, submit via TED by 5:00pm

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 5: Gender and Sexuality in Environmental Justice Activism</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Mon. 7/29: *Andrea Smith, “Chapter 3: Rape of the Land”, p. 55-78</td>
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<td>*Joe Bandy, “Reterritorializing Borders: Transnational Environmental Justice Movements on the U.S./Mexico Border”, p. 80-103</td>
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<td>• Wed. 7/31: *Greta Gaard, “Toward a Queer Ecofeminism”, p. 21-44</td>
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<td>*Noel Sturgeon, “The Power is Yours, Planeteers!’ Race, Gender and Sexuality in Children’s Environmental Popular Culture”, p. 262-276</td>
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<th>Final</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Fri. 8/2: Final project and presentation, 11:30am-2:30pm in SSB 103</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Bibliography


Camp, Jordan T. “We Know This Place: Neoliberal Racial Regimes and the Katrina Circumstance.” *American Quarterly* 61, no. 3 (2009), p. 693-717.


Marez, Curtis. “What is a disaster?” *American Quarterly* 61, no. 3 (2009), p. ix-xi

Patterson, Sunni. “We Know This Place.” *American Quarterly* 61, no. 3 (2009), p. 719-721.


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**Majoring or Minoring in Ethnic Studies at UCSD**

Many students take an Ethnic Studies course because the topic is of great interest or because of a need to fulfill a social science, non-contiguous, or other college requirement. Often students have taken three or four classes out of interest yet do not realize how close they are to a major, a minor, or even a double major. An Ethnic Studies major is excellent preparation for a career in law, education, medicine, public health, social work, counseling, journalism, government and politics, international relations, and many other careers. If you would like information about the Ethnic Studies major or minor, please contact:

Daisy Rodríguez, Ethnic Studies Department Undergraduate Advisor
858-534-3277 or d1rodriguez@ucsd.edu or visit www.ethnicstudies.ucsd.edu
Student Consent for Release of Student Information

I hereby authorize the UCSD Ethnic Studies Department to return my graded final examination/research paper by placing the examination/research paper in a location accessible to all students in the course. I understand that the return of my examination/research paper as described above may result in the disclosure of personally identifiable information, that is not public information as defined in UCSD PPM 160-2, and I hereby consent to the disclosure of such information.

Quarter: ____________________________
Course: ETHN 103: Environmental Racism
Instructor: Stevie Ruiz
Student I.D.#: ____________________________
Print Name: ____________________________
Signature: ____________________________