

Minnesota State University Moorhead

HIST 379: Environmental History

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 10 - People/Environment, Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

This course is a study of the history of humankind's interactions with the environments focusing on the past 500 years. Special attention will be paid to the non-Western world. Topics include global interconnectedness and the spread of disease, the relationship between trade, modern economics, and sustainable development, natural disasters, and the rise of the ecological movement. MnTC Goal 5 and 10.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 01/11/2010 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Introduction to Environmental Studies
2. Environmental History 1500-2000
3. Commodities
4. Twentieth Century Environment

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Become familiar with the role of humans in producing new ecosystems throughout the world, the motivations behind humans' decisions to interact with nature and each other, and the effects that environmental change has had on the peoples and ecosystems of the world.
2. Developed skills as an environmental historian by analyzing environmental change and formulating arguments about the power relations in humanity's interactions with nature.
3. Learned strategies to do academic research, use proper citations, and use citation managers, like Zotero.
4. Written a major academic paper with arguments, using evidence.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 10 - People/Environment

1. Explain the basic structure and function of various natural ecosystems and of human adaptive strategies within those systems.
2. Discern patterns and interrelationships of bio-physical and socio-cultural systems.
3. Describe the basic institutional arrangements (social, legal, political, economic, religious) that are evolving to deal with environmental and natural resource challenges.
4. Evaluate critically environmental and natural resource issues in light of understandings about interrelationships, ecosystems, and institutions.
5. Articulate and defend the actions they would take on various environmental issues.

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
3. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted