



## NRES 496/896 - Gender and Cultural Perspectives on the Environment

### Taglines - We Do The Heavy Lifting

**Class Meetings:** Monday: 11:00-11:50 AM Room 163, Hardin Hall

<b>Instructors:</b>	Dr. Donna Woudenberg	Dr. Patti Boehner
<b>Office:</b>	804 Hardin Hall	410 Hardin Hall
<b>Office Hours:</b>	Open Door Policy	By Appointment
<b>Contact:</b>	472-8287 (office)	467-1957 (home)
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#### Required Materials: None

NOTE: Various articles, or reports, or perhaps even a book chapter will be assigned as readings for different lectures throughout the semester. These will be posted on Blackboard, under "Assignments" (left side bar). You will be notified (in class and/or by email) when new assignments are posted, but please check Blackboard regularly for new and/or updated materials and announcements.

#### Course Requisites: None

#### Philosophy:

The goal of this multi-disciplinary course is to increase awareness of differing gender and cultural perspectives of and interactions with natural and managed systems from historical and modern day viewpoints. As human population growth, globalization, global warming, and unsustainable resource use become increasingly pressing concerns, the need for sustainability and equity (justice) in all managed and natural systems is critical. A solid understanding of the human dimensions associated with the above is paramount in order to be able to effectively address these needs.

Gender and cultural perspectives on the environment will be examined, connected to, and differentiated with regard to specific topics, including:

- Human relationships with nature over time
- Natural resource use
- Agriculture and food security
- Science and technology
- Global warming
- Economic development and poverty
- Natural disasters
- Policy, law and human rights
- Religion
- UN Millennium Development Goals

#### Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to better research, understand, articulate, and plan for the incorporation of majority and minority viewpoints, needs and contributions to managed and natural resource systems.

#### Grading (1 Credit option):

	Points	Percent
<b>Attendance</b>	140	33.3%
<b>Blackboard Discussions - open</b>	280	66.7%
<b>Total</b>	420	100%

#### Grading (2-3 Credit option):

Arrange a time to discuss details with instructors

The following grading scale will be used:

96-100% A+	76 - 79% C+
93 - 96% A	73 - 76% C
89 - 93% A-	69 - 73% C-
86 - 89% B+	66 - 69% D+

83 - 86% B  
79 - 83% B-  
Below 60% F

63 - 66% D  
60 - 63% D-

**Attendance:**

(10 points/lecture = 140 total)

Due to the nature of this course (lectures with in-class discussion and participation), attendance is very important. We recognize that you may not be able to attend every class, so we will be taping lectures and discussions each time. Therefore, you will need to listen to taped lectures/discussions (and look over the power point lectures) for any missed class, and submit all assignments for full attendance credit. Be sure you add to the weekly blackboard discussions so your contributions are available to others classmates. An additional assignment may also be required to substitute for any missed in-class activities. You will need to contact one of the instructors as soon as possible when you know of an upcoming absence, or after an emergency absence.

**Blackboard Discussion:**

(20 points/ week = 280 points)

**Discussion Board (open)** – Discussion board submissions are read by all students and instructors and any students and/or the instructors will be able to comment on your submissions. The primary purpose of the discussion board submissions is to assist you in organizing your ideas and providing you with an opportunity to think about what you have learned. Submissions to the weekly discussion board along with web-based and daily course notes will provide a comprehensive record of what you have learned and done in class. For each week, you will need to submit ½ to 1 page of writing to address the specific topic(s) or question(s) discussed in lecture that week.

Feedback will be provided weekly. Point values will be assigned as follows:

**5 points** for completion on time (submit on topic covered in lecture no later than midnight on the Sunday following the lecture; however, earlier submissions are desirable and appreciated, especially since we 1) are asking for interaction with others and 2) will be supplying feedback)

**10 points** for critical thinking [making connections (e.g., to your daily life and/or life experience, to literature/articles, to news stories, etc.), drawing conclusions, describing biases, discussing quality of sources, etc.]

**5 points** for replying/engaging in discussion with at least two other people

**Although you will not be graded on the following “standards,” they are very much appreciated:** proper grammar, clear/organized, easy to read and understand, and few technical errors.

**To access the Discussion Board:**

1. Open your browser
2. Type “http://my.unl.edu” in the address line – enter
3. When the Blackboard screen opens, fill in “Username” and “Password”
4. Username is the first part of your email address (e.g., dwoudenberg2)
5. Password is your “NU ID” number, the 8 digit number found in the lower left hand corner of your “N” card
6. Click on “Gender & Cult: Environment” – should be in upper right-hand quadrant
7. Click on “Discussion Board” in the left side bar – this should take you to the discussion board site

**To submit to the Discussion Board (required – you will be graded on this):**

1. Each week, a new, dated “Forum” will be posted by the instructors. Read through the description/instructions associated with the current week.
2. Click on the dated link at the beginning of the forum – this will take you to a page where you will be able to 1) post your ½ to one page submission for the week, and 2) read the submissions of everyone else in the class.
3. Once you are in the forum, post your submission as a new “Thread.” To do this, look at the tool bar at the top of the page and click on +Thread. A new page will open for you.
4. Add something to the “Subject” line (e.g., Donna’s View) and add your submission in the “message” box. [NOTE: it is strongly suggested that you type your ½ to one page submission in Word, save it in a file on your computer, then cut and paste your text into Blackboard, as Blackboard has a habit of kicking you offline after you have had the window open for awhile – and you may lose all of your work! If you have it in Word, you can work on it for several days, revise and edit as you please, and you will always be able to submit a hard copy if all else fails.]
5. You will have the opportunity to add “Attachments,” such as pictures, articles, or anything you believe may be applicable or of interest, if you wish.

- Once you are satisfied with your submission, click "Submit." You will receive a response letting you know that your posting was successful. If you would like to check and see how it looks, refresh your Blackboard page, click on Discussion Board again, and enter the forum once again. Your submission should show up as a new "Thread;" your subject line should show up in the "Thread" column and Blackboard will automatically put your name in the "Author" column. Check your submission by clicking on your subject line.

To read and respond to other postings **(required – you will be graded on this)**:

- Click on someone else's subject line (again, in the "Thread" column).
- Once you read through their submission, you will have the opportunity to respond by clicking on "Reply" at the bottom right-hand corner of the text box.
- A new window will open – type your response in the text box and click on submit. (Once again, you have the option of typing your response in Word, saving it to a file on your computer, then cutting and pasting your text into Blackboard.)
- You should receive a message again letting you know your submission was successful. You can check as described above – your response will appear under the original authors posting.

**Option:**

**Blackboard Blog Tool** (private, NOT required and NOT graded) – While the discussion board is read by all students and instructors, information submitted to the Blackboard blog tool will be confidential and accessed only by yourself and the instructors. You may want to share personal stories, general frustrations, etc. and we welcome it. We may encourage you to share information that we think are important contributions to course dialogue with your permission only (and we could share it anonymously if you prefer and/or permit)!

**To access and post to the optional Blog Tool:**

- Open your browser
- Type "http://my.unl.edu" in the address line – enter
- When the Blackboard screen opens, fill in "Username" and "Password"
- Username is the first part of your email address (e.g., dwoudenberg2)
- Password is your "NU ID" number, the 8 digit number found in the lower left hand corner of your "N" card
- Click on "Gender & Cult: Environment" – should be in upper right-hand quadrant
- Click on "Tools" in the left side bar.
- Click on "Blog Tool"
- Click on "New Entry" under the "Actions" heading in the right side bar.
- A new window will open. You can type a subject in the "Blog Entry Title" box and type your submission in the text box. (Once again, if your submission is going to be lengthy at all, type in Word first, save it, then cut and paste the text into Blackboard.)
- Click the save button at the bottom left-hand corner of the text box.

Remember that this tool is private and only accessible by you and the instructors. **No comments will be discussed or shared without your permission.**

NRES 496/896 GENDER AND CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES ON THE ENVIRONMENT FALL 2007 SCHEDULE**	
DATE	TOPIC
8/27	Syllabus/Related Paperwork & Course Introduction
9/3	No Class – Labor Day
9/10	History: Human Interactions with Natural and Managed Systems
9/17	History: Knowledge, Culture, & Religious Perspectives
9/24	Contemporary: Human Interactions with Natural and Managed Systems Gender Roles/Perspectives in Developed/Developing Countries Gender Roles/Perspectives in Cultural/Indigenous/Religious Groups
10/1	Contemporary: Development Gender, Environment & Development Globalization/Migration & Displacement

	Population/Reproduction/Health Care
10/8	Contemporary: Legal Aspects Human Rights Property Rights Policy Environmental Justice
10/15	Environmental Movement/Activists
10/22	No Class – Fall Break
10/29	Contemporary: Economics Poverty Economic Development Credit, Microcredit, Enterprise Development
11/5	UN Programs Agriculture and Food Security
11/12	Gender, Science & Technology
11/19	Qualitative and Quantitative Data Collection and Analysis Guest Speaker (Survey Research and Methodology)
11/26	Gender and Field Work Guest Speaker (Sociology/Anthropology)
12/3	Looking to the Future: Millennium Development Goals Global Warming
12/10	Wrap Up – Class Evaluations
12/17	No Class – Have a great holiday break!
**This schedule is subject to change at any point during the semester.	

Revised: September 2007

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