

Philosophy 3510 Environmental Ethics Spring 2012

Dr. Sherlock

T/H 12:00 Main 006

Office 202 E HRS T/H 9—11:30 Wed 3—5  
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Text Reading Packet

Requirements 2 take home midterms, a final and two 4 page essays

Each essay and each midterm will be graded on a 100 point scale. The final will be passed out the last week. It will be worth 200 points. My grade scale is attached to this syllabus.

Goals for the class

1. learn about the approaches to ethics that have been well developed in the philosophical tradition of western civilization
2. learn about major approaches to valuing nature and animals in the field of environmental ethics
3. see how these approaches are rooted in religious and moral frameworks developed in our civilization

Outline of Class

Introduction January 10

I Basic Ethics Jan 12—26

II. Foundations :Nature and the Sacred Jan 31—Feb 9

Bible, Thoreau, Hoffer, White, Denig, Dennis

III Economic Arguments Feb 14—23

Hardin, Edwards, Sagoff,

IV Land Ethics Feb. 28—March 1

Leopold, Rodman

V. Aesthetic Arguments March 6—20

Hargrove, Carlson

VI Animal Moral Standing March 22—April 5

Singer, Regan, Frey, Cohen

VII Endangered Species April 10

Russow

VIII Exotic Species April 12

Sagoff

IX Climate Change April 19--24

Readings passed out

Conclusion April 26

January 10 Intro

January

12 ethics

17 Ethics

19 ethics

24 ethics

26 ethics

Foundations

31 Lynn white

February

2 Denig and the Bible

7 Thoreau

9 Hoffer /Dennis

Economic Approaches

14 Hardin

16 Edwards

21 Monday Classes

23 Sagoff

The Land Ethic

28 Leopold

March

1 Rodman

Aesthetic Approaches

6 Hargrove

8 Carlson

Spring Break March 10—18

20 Hargrove and Carlson

Animal Moral Standing

22 Singer

27 Reagan

29 Frey

April

3 Cohen

5 Animal Moral Standing Summary

Endangered Species

10 Russow

Exotics

12 Sagoff

17 Precautionary Principle

Climate Change

19 IPCC Summary

24 Coalition Statement

## 26 Conclusion

## Test and Papers Dates

Remember papers should only be 4 pages

## TESTS

1. passed out February 16  
DUE February 28
- 2 passed out March 28  
DUE April 10

## Papers

1. Due February 16  
TOPICS :

Respond to Dennis' argument for privatizing wilderness

OR

Take a stand either the Biblical view of God and creation or Thoreau's view

2. Due April 17

TOPICS:

Respond to Frey's argument about why animals have no rights

OR

Russow's argument about why only some species have worth

## Grade Scale

600 points possible

600—570 A  
569—530 A-  
529—515 B+  
514—485 B  
484—465 B-  
464—450 C+  
449—430 C  
429—400 C-

## Grading Grid

Spelling errors 1 point off for each

Grammar errors 2 points off for each

Clarity 3 points off for each error

Organization 3 points off for each error

Conclusion. If you don't take a stand and give reason(s) 7 points off