

Water in a Changing World

Convened by: Laurie Patton, Dean, Arts & Sciences
Lead Instructor: Dean Urban, Nicholas School of the Environment

ENVIRON/EOS 390, ENVIRON593.08; Tuesdays 6:15-8:45 pm

Spring 2013

Course Summary

The focus of this course is on water and change. The storyline begins with various perspectives on water and cultural identity from the viewpoints of history, religion, and art. The story then moves to water and the roles it plays in various systems (natural, socioeconomic, urban). These sessions will consider competing demands on water in a changing world and how change propagates through systems. Finally, the course turns to change itself: decision-making under uncertainty and how we adapt to change more generally.

<i>Schedule</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
Jan 15	Course Introduction	Laurie Patton: The university course Dean Urban: Water in a changing world (overview)
22	People and water	Keval Kaur Khalsa (Dance): Water and dance (video/discussion) Kristine Stiles (Art): Water in contemporary art
29	People and water	Sucheta Mazumdar (History): Sacred rivers Will Willimon (Divinity): Water and Christianity
Feb 5	Water and systems	Susan Lozier (Nicholas): The water cycle: global patterns Dennis Clements (Medicine): Global patterns and human health
12	Water and systems	Jim Salzman (Law): Drinking water—a history Sallie Deutsch/Gunther Peck (History): Water and social change
19	Water and systems	Emily Bernhardt (Biology): The urban stream syndrome Jim Heffernan (Nicholas): Macroscale homogenization of cities
26	Systems and change	Rob Jackson (Nicholas): Climate change implications Norman Wirzba (Divinity): Change, vulnerability, and equity
Mar 5	Systems and change	Avner Vengosh (Nicholas): Fracking and groundwater Marva Price (Nursing): Water and health disparities Amy Pickle/Ryke Longest (Nicholas Institute/Law): Regulating speculation: law and politics
12	<spring break>	
19	Systems and change	Martin Doyle (Nicholas): Water resource infrastructure Marc Jeuland (Sanford): Economics and policy solutions
26	Systems and change	Ana Barros (Pratt): Climate variability and disasters Erika Weinthal (Nicholas): Water and international conflict

Apr	2	Systems and change	Martin Smith (Nicholas): Short-term coastline protection Brad Murray (Nicholas): Long-term coastline change
	9	Change and people	John Payne (Fuqua): Decision-making under uncertainty Priscilla Wald (English): Changing language and stories of water
	16	Retrospection	Dean Urban and Laurie Patton: Plenary discussion
	23		[term papers due]