

GEOGRAPHY, ENVIRONMENT, AND SOCIETY

TUE 9:00-11:30 AM

Instructor: Dr. Marina Karides
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course considers the interactions of geography, society, and environment. We examine the impact of global economic forces on our environment, and how different geographies — urban, island, forest, agriculture, and ocean — are shaped by social action. We also review map-making as a socially constructed phenomena. Embedded in the course is the consideration of indigenous approaches to environment and society including Kanaka 'Oiwi, the native Hawaiian people, and a focus on Italy and the Tuscany region. The course also recognizes how social identities, such as race and gender, inform our opportunities and access to resources and environment. The last portion of the course is dedicated to identifying arenas and strategies of environmental action on a global, national, and local scale.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

Sophomore standing or higher

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Familiarity with concepts and theories in geography and social and environmental change
- Gain awareness of social, environmental, and resource debates.
- Articulate an inter-disciplinary and spatial approach that will enable you to analyze environmental, social, and resource issues from a critical perspective
- Evaluate social inequalities and how they are shaped by the environment and society while exploring your own cultural values and biases
- Identify avenues of social action for addressing environmental and social injustices
- Communicate orally and effectively to a diverse audience by demonstrating verbal and non-verbal delivery techniques.
- Develop oral presentations that promotes clarity of the environment-society connection and promotes interest in environmental problems.

COURSE GRADING

The grading components in this course are divided into the following percentages:

20%	Class Participation/Reading Across the Discipline
40%	Oral Presentations (Report and Analysis) (3)
20%	Midterm Exam
20%	Final Exam (2)

The LdM grading scale is based on the following standard point system:

93-100 = A	87-89 = B+	77-79 = C+	60-69 = D
90-92 = A-	83-86 = B	73-76 = C	0-59 = F
	80-82 = B-	70-72 = C-	

STUDENT ASSESSMENT

Class Participation/Reading Across the Discipline: Given the nature of the course, it is important for students to contribute regularly and productively to class discussions and activities. These are grounded in assigned readings, class lectures, and visits. Readings should be done prior to the class for which they are assigned; class notes should be well organized; visits should be concluded by writing a quick note summarizing points of interest and impressions. In-class contributions are a significant part of the CP grade. Positive contributions are those that advance the discussion by formulating meaningful questions, presenting new ideas or insights, building on classmates' comments, or presenting counterpoints in a respectful way. Positive in-class contributions are grounded in the notion of community. Students should listen respectfully when others talk, both in groups and in class; reply to e-mail correspondence whenever appropriate; and contribute to group and class dynamics by eliciting feedback from others and helping to keep the class discussions and/or group activities on task. Please feel free to ask questions and clarify concepts.

Consider that physical presence alone is NOT class participation.

Grades for participation are determined by the instructor and reference the following criteria:

- Attendance and Preparation
- Level of Engagement
- Contributions to Class Community

This is a discussion-oriented class that requires participation and encourages debate and discussion among students. You should present your perspective in a thoughtful and considerate manner and be tolerant of the perspectives of others. Throughout the course you will be engaging in reading across the discipline (RAD) assignments. Reading and discussion is a central component for success in this course. The questions guiding RAD assignments are designed to facilitate your comprehension. You will use your RAD to engage in small group and larger class discussions. Therefore, RAD assignments require students to be in attendance for points to be earned. **RAD submissions must be provided by 5 pm the day prior to class meeting** as I will use them to organize our discussion. There are no late submissions for RADs.

Oral Presentations (Report and Analysis) will focus on synthesizing your out of class experiences in this course with core concepts. Further directions will be supplied with the goal that you develop skills to relay social and environmental issues to a general audience. Students must satisfactorily complete the oral communication assignments to pass the course with a "D" or better.

Midterm and Final Exams You will be provided a 5 short essay questions per final and midterm. You will be asked to self-evaluate the knowledge gained throughout the course in the final. If you keep up with the course readings, complete written assignments and participate in class discussion and trips you should find the questions direct and answerable within the time provided. The exams are open notes (not open book).

LDM TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

All courses at LdM creatively and effectively incorporate active learning strategies into teaching. In a course focused on active learning, teachers are invested in students' success, and students are truly engaged in the learning process—they grapple with the course material by working collaboratively on problems, and are constantly processing what they are learning.

In LdM courses, the learning process is promoted through critical thinking, effective communication, and hands-on experience. Students are asked to think critically, in order to boost their understanding and contribute to making their class into a “community of inquiry”. They are encouraged to give voice to their ideas, fostering a skill they can apply in any setting, academic or not. Finally, LdM students learn by doing. As a result, they develop their problem-solving skills, increase their retention rate, and enhance their engagement.

COURSE READINGS/RESOURCES

Readings, visual, and audio materials will be available digitally. You will need regular access to a **computer** that can run Mac OSX or Win XP or higher. Make sure you also have a method to back up your work such as an USB (jump) drive, external hard drive, or cloud storage. Your computer should include working speakers or you may choose to use headphones.

Make sure your computer has the most recent version of an Internet browser that includes all the necessary plug-ins that adds specific abilities to larger software applications. For example, you may need to add or update a plug-in to watch one of the required visual materials.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Please keep in mind that the contents of individual classes may be slightly modified according to the progress of the class.

LESSON	TOPIC	ACTIVITY	READING
1)	Introductions and Orientation	Introductions View and Discuss: “The Story of Stuff”	“A Short Definition of Human Geography” https://researchguides.dartmouth.edu/human_geography “We will make them hear us: Millions of Youths Around the World Strike for Action” https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/2019/09/20/millions-youth-around-world-are-striking-friday-climate-action/

2)	Meanings of Sustainability	Discussion RAD 1 <u>Overview: Oral (Report and Analysis) Presentations Guidelines</u>	Fisher. 2015. "Hawaiian Culture and Its Foundation in Sustainability" in <i>Thinking Like an Island</i> . University of Hawaii Press. Netti, Giulia. 2019. "Sustainability in the Hearts of Italians; Sustainability Mindset" in <i>Social Innovations & Inclusion of Development Goals</i> .
3)	Geographies of Globalization	Discussion RAD 2	El Fisgón. 2002. <i>How to Succeed At Globalization: A Primer for the Roadside Vendor</i> . NY: Metropolitan Books. (Graphic non-fiction) <u>Listen:</u> "Globalization: The Rise and Fall of And Idea that Swept the World." 2017. <i>The Guardian Podcast</i> .
4)	The Politics of Map-making	Visit: The Sala delle Carte Geografiche in Palazzo Vecchio, Piazza della Signoria 13 euros (entrance and reservation fee) RAD 3	"Politics and Cartography: The Power of Deception Through Distortion" <i>Carnegie Ethics On-line Monthly Column</i> Jeremy Crampton and John Krygier. 2006. "An Introduction to Critical Cartography" <i>ACME: AN International E-Journal for Critical Geographies</i> Carlton, Genevieve. 2015. "The Commerce of Cartography: Printing, Price, and Francesco Rosselli". In <i>Worldly Consumers: The Demand for Maps in Renaissance Italy</i>
5)	Hydro-Geographies and Society	Reflection and Discussion of Visit/Map-making	Heggie, John. 2019. "The Leaky Boot: Where is Italy's Water Going?" <i>National Geographic</i>

		<p><i>Where Our Water Goes</i> (Florence) documentary with National Geographic photographer Gabriele Galimberti</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>RAD 4</p> <p>1: Oral Presentations (Globalization and Sustainability)</p>	<p><u>Listen:</u> Ayana E. Johnson, “A Love Story for the Coral Reef Crisis” Ted Talk</p> <p><u>View:</u> <i>Flow</i>. 2008. Directed by Irena Salina.</p>
6)	Trees and Forests	<p><u>Forest Walk:</u></p> <p>Ponte a Mensola and Settignano (weather and transport permitting)</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>RAD 5</p> <p>Preparation for Midterm</p>	<p>Ashley Junger. “Saving the Forest for the Trees: Deforestation is Threatening Critical Ecosystems Around the World” <i>Earthwatch</i></p> <p>Mauro Agnoletti, Francesco Piras, Martina Venturi, Antonio Santoro. 2020. “Cultural values and forest dynamics: The Italian forests in the last 150 years” <i>Forest Ecology and Management</i>.</p> <p><u>Listen:</u> “Shubendu Sharma: Using Cultural and Historical Knowledge to Support Regenerative Reforestation” <i>Green Dreamers Podcast</i></p>
7)		MIDTERM EXAM	
		MIDTERM BREAK	
8) FRIDAY	Race, Immigration, and Society	<p><i>Fire at Sea</i>. 2016. Directed by Gianfranco Rosi.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>RAD 5</p>	<p>Camilla Hawthorne. 2021. “L’Italia Meticcica? The Black Mediterranean and the Racial Cartographies of Citizenship.” In <i>The Black Mediterranean: Bodies, Borders, and Citizenship</i>, pp. 169-198</p>
9)	Islands: Environmental and Social Issues	<p><i>A Sardinian Surf Documentary: Back to the Roots</i>. 2019. Filmmaker, Gianluca Fortunato.</p>	<p>Ayozé Corujo Hernández. 2019. “The Identity of the Canary Islands: A Critical</p>

		<p>2021. "As High Temperatures Hurt Sicily's Food Production Rising Sea Levels Threaten Housing" PBS.org</p> <p>2: Oral Presentations (Water, Woods, and Culture)</p> <p>RAD 6</p>	<p>Analysis of Colonial Cartography" <i>Shima</i></p> <p>Epeli Hau'ofa. 1993. "Our Sea of Islands" in <i>A New Oceania: Rediscovering our Sea of Island</i></p> <p><u>View:</u></p> <p>Kathy Jetnil-Kijiner's video poems "Tell Them" and "Dear Matafele Peinem"</p>
10)	Gender, Sexuality, Culture (Food and Art), and Place	<p>Benstad, Anna. 2017. "In Florence, They're Bringing the Work of Women Artists Out of the Basement" <i>The World</i></p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>RAD 7</p>	<p>Counihan, Carole. 2014. "Women, Gender, and Italian Food Activism" in <i>Food Activism, Agency, Democracy, and Economy</i>.</p> <p>Marina Karides. 2017. "The Women Cooperatives of Lesbos" in <i>Sappho's Legacy: Convivial Economics on a Greek Isle</i>.</p> <p><u>Listen:</u></p> <p>"Besotted with Beefcake: A Michelangelo Story." <i>History is Gay Podcast</i>, episode 33.</p>
11)	Food Systems, Part I	<p>Discussion</p> <p>RAD 8</p> <p>3. Oral Presentations (Race, Gender and Place)</p>	<p>Scanlon, Jenkins, and Peterson. 2010. "The Scarcity Fallacy" <i>Contexts</i></p> <p>Phiip McMichael. 2009. "A Food Regime Genealogy" <i>The Journal of Peasant Studies</i> 139-169.</p> <p><u>Listen:</u></p> <p>"The Poetry of Sacred Food Culture, Conversations with Simon Ortiz" <i>Native Seed Podcast</i></p>
12)	Food Systems, Part II	<p>Discussion</p> <p>RAD 9</p> <p>*Optional: Vegetable Garden Tour at Spannocchia, Tuscany, Friends of Spannocchia (We will determine interest, date, and time prior)</p>	<p>"Our History." www.slowfood.com</p> <p>Brunori, Rossi and Malandrin. 2011. "Co-producing Transition: Innovation Processes in Farms Adhering to Solidarity-based Purchase Groups (GAS) in Tuscany,</p>

			Italy." <i>International Journal of Sociology of Agriculture & Food</i> , 18: 1: 28–53. <u>Listen:</u> "On My Plate Challenge of Slow Food: What is Fair Food? Rome, Paris, New York" SlowFood Youth Network Podcast
13)	Strategies of Action: Global, National or Local and Grassroots	Di Ronco, Anna. 2021. "What happened when Italy criminalised environmental protest" www.theconversation.com <u>View:</u> "Halau Takes Action on Rapid Ohia Death" Discussion RAD 10 Preparation for Final 4. Oral Presentations: Food Systems	Camilla Hawthorne and Angelica Pesarini. 2020. "Making Black Lives Matter in Italy: A Transnational Dialogue." <i>Public Books</i> Robinson Myers. 2017. "How the US Protects the Environment, From Nixon to Trump," <i>The Atlantic</i> Zamponi L. 2018. "From Border to Border: Refugee Solidarity Activism in Italy Across Space, Time, and Practices." In <i>Solidarity Mobilizations in the 'Refugee Crisis</i> .
14).		FINAL EXAM	

NB: Should the instructor be unavailable, a substitute teacher will give the scheduled or a prepared alternative lecture at the regular class time.

Make-up classes are always mandatory since they are part of the course program.

SITE VISITS/FIELD TRIPS

The Sala delle Carte Geografiche in Palazzo Vecchio, Piazza della Signoria

The Feminist Library (in planning)

Ponte a Mensola and Settignano (weather and transport permitting)

*Optional: Vegetable Garden Tour at Spannocchia, Tuscany, Friends of Spannocchia

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

All materials will be available digitally

ADDITIONAL COURSE COSTS

Est. 13 euros (entrance and reservation fee) The Sala delle Carte Geografiche in Palazzo Vecchio, Piazza della Signoria

Est. 10 euros transportation costs to parks

LDM COURSE POLICIES

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is mandatory for a successful learning experience at LdM.

See “Academic Regulations” for the exact number of absences allowed.

Being a once-a-week class:

- If THREE classes are missed, the Final Grade will be lowered by 1 full grade.
- If FOUR or more classes are missed, the Final Grade will be an “F” and 0 Credits will be awarded.
- Missed in-class activities (including, but not limited to, quizzes, exams, etc.) cannot be made up and will be graded F.

PUNCTUALITY

Punctuality is mandatory at LdM.

- Any tardiness, including leaving during class without notice, not showing up on time after the break, or leaving early, will impact the participation grade and the Final Grade.
- Three late arrivals or the equivalent (10 to 20 minutes) will result in 1 full absence in the attendance count.
- Missing more than 20 minutes will be considered the equivalent of 1 full absence.

Please note: It is the student’s responsibility to catch up on any missed work and to keep track of his or her absence/tardiness.

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSIONS

Late submissions of assignments, including papers, are **not** accepted. If an assignment is submitted after the deadline, the grade for the assignment will be an F = 0 points, which may adversely impact the Final Grade of the course.

SCHEDULING CONFLICT

If, on occasion, a class has a scheduling conflict with another class (due to a simultaneously scheduled make-up class, site visit, etc.), the student is required to inform both instructors IN ADVANCE, allowing the two instructors to share a written excuse for the class that will be missed. Even though an absence may be excused, students must be aware that there is no possibility of making up any assessed in-class activities they may have missed and no refund will be given for pre-paid visits/field trips. Keep this in mind in order to make a responsible decision about which class to attend.

ETIQUETTE

- No food or drinking is allowed in museums; in religious places, shoulders and knees must be covered.
- Classrooms are to be left neat and clean. Students must take proper care of available equipment and materials and promptly report any damage or loss.
- Drinking/eating during class/site visits is not allowed. Electronic devices (cell phones, Smartphones, iPods, iPads, laptops, etc.) must be switched off during class, unless otherwise instructed.

Please note: Instructors who find that a student’s behavior is inappropriate will seek to talk to him/her immediately; if the behavior continues, the instructor is required to contact the appropriate LdM authority.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

- ✓ **All student work will be checked for plagiarism.**

According to the LdM Rules of Conduct, “Violations include cheating on tests, plagiarism (taking words or

texts, works of art, designs, etc., and presenting them as your own), inadequate citation, recycled work, unauthorized assistance, or similar actions not explicitly mentioned.” Assignments and projects are specific to individual courses; presenting the same work in two different courses (including previous courses) is considered recycling and is unacceptable.

Why is plagiarism bad?

- ✓ It’s unethical.
- ✓ The student will fail the paper and possibly the course.
- ✓ Professors are required to report it.
- ✓ The student will be put on academic probation.
- ✓ The student *might* even be dismissed from college.

Bottom Line: **Students MUST cite the sources they use!**

NB: Should issues of academic dishonesty arise the faculty member will adhere to the relevant LdM policy and report any suspected cases to the LdM Dean of Students for disciplinary review.

USEFUL STUDENT RESOURCES

INTERNAL RESOURCES

LdM Library | Library Catalog

Via dell’Alloro, 13

Head Librarian: Federico Fiorentini | Assistant Librarian: Arnaldo Albergo

Hours: 9:00 am - 8:00 pm M-F

- No open shelf. Spacious reading room. Copies: 5¢ per page

CAMNES ‘Pecorella’ Library (Near Eastern, Aegean and Mediterranean antiquity)

Via del Giglio, 15

- See Website for volume reservations and appointments

EXTERNAL RESOURCES

Free Online Resources (gathered on the LdM Library homepage)

- Reliable and mostly scholarly resources in anthropology, archaeology, art & architecture, classics, conservation, education, environmental science, epigraphy, fashion design, film, food & nutrition, forensic psychology, history, holocaust studies, Italian language & literature, Jewish studies, Medieval & Renaissance studies, music, numismatics, papyrus, philosophy, politics & government, religious studies, women’s & gender studies.

Libraries in Italy (gathered on the LdM Library homepage)

- Important research libraries

University of Florence Library | Library Catalog

Via Micheli, 2 (**Architecture**). Hours: 8:30-19:00 M-F

Piazza Brunelleschi, 4 (**Language and Literature**). Hours: 8:30-19:00 M-F

Via della Pergola, 56 (**Art History**). Hours: 9:00-19:00 M-F

Via S. Salvi, 12 (**Psychology**). Hours: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm M,W,F; 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Tu, Th

Via Bolognese, 52 (**Philosophy**). Hours: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Tu,W,Th

Via del Proconsolo, 12 (**Anthropology**). Hours: 8:30 am – 6:00 pm M-Th; 8:30 am – 2:00 pm

Viale Morgagni, 67/a (**Mathematics**). Hours: 8:30 am - 6:00 pm M-Th; 8:30 am – 2:00 pm

Via G. Bernardini, 6 (Sesto Fiorentino) (**Sciences – Physics, Chemistry**). *Hours:* 8:30 am – 6:00 pm M-Th; 8:30 am – 2:00 pm F

Via delle Pandette, 2 (**Social Sciences – Business, Economics, Politics**). *Hours:* 8:30 am – 7:00 pm M-F

- Apply for daily library access: [Access request](#)

Biblioteca delle Oblate | [Library Catalog](#)

Via dell’Oriuolo, 24 -- *Hours:* 14:00-22:00 M; 9:00-24:00 Tu-Sat -- *Access:* ID

- This is a public library with generous opening and computer hours; it is usually open until midnight (Tu-Sat).

Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze | [Library Catalog](#)

Piazza dei Cavalleggeri, 1-- *Hours:* 8:15-19:00 M-F; 8:15-13:30 Sat -- *Access:* ID

- Houses modern books in all fields as well as many medieval manuscripts and other rare and unique materials.

Biblioteca del Museo Galileo (Museo di Storia della Scienza) | [Library Catalog](#)

Piazza dei Giudici, 1 – *Hours:* 9:00 am – 4:30 pm M-F; 9:00 am – 1:00 pm Sat – *Access:* Letter of presentation and passport

- Houses a large number of books and periodicals in the history of science.

Biblioteca delle Arti e dello Spettacolo (Library on Fine and Performing Arts)

-- books and periodicals on Painting, Sculpture, Architecture, Decorative Arts, Applied Arts, Theatre, Music, Cinema; mainly in English and Italian

--take a photo-ID card

--Search for books online on <https://www.fondazionefrancozeffirelli.com/bliblioteca-delle-arti-e-dello-spettacolo/>

Open: Tuesday-Friday, 10.00-13.00; 15.00-18.00; Saturday 10.00-13.00

Fondazione Franco Zeffirelli - Piazza di San Firenze, 5 (near piazza della Signoria). Tel. 055 281038