Bemidji State University

GEOG 5532: Political Ecology

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION
   Credits: 3
   Lecture Hours/Week: 0
   Lab Hours/Week: 0
   OJT Hours/Week: *.*
   Prerequisites: None
   Corequisites: None
   MnTC Goals: None

   Political ecology utilizes a necessary geographical perspective to understand and analyze the biophysical
   processes that shape issues otherwise inadequately conceptualized as political, economic or social. This
   spatial understanding developed by political geographers reveals relationships of the ecological and the
   political that are simultaneously mutually reinforcing and, often, mutually antagonistic. GEOG 3531/5531
   or consent of instructor.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:  08/25/2014 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS
   1. Critique of political ecology
   2. Introduction to political ecology
   3. Political ecologies of agriculture and food security
   4. Political ecologies of land use change and deforestation
   5. Political ecologies of natural disasters and climate change
   6. Political ecologies of wildlife and fisheries

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)
   1. be able to describe the historical development of political ecology as a sub-discipline of
      Geography, one especially relevant to BSU's signature themes of civic engagement and
      environmental stewardship.
   2. be able to analyze the roles of the key concepts of nature and power in contemporary issues of
      human interaction with the physical environment. Students will be able to critique political ecology
      in order to advance their awareness of the need for engagement with environmental issues in terms of
      policy and fieldwork practice.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies
   None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT
   As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION
   None noted