Bemidji State University

SOC 3925: People of the Environment: Sociology Perspective

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3
Lecture Hours/Week: 0
Lab Hours/Week: 0
OJT Hours/Week: *.*
Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 08 - Global Perspective, Goal 10 - People/Environment

Examines the relationship between society and the environment. Emphasis on political and economic institutions and the consumer lifestyle and values. Considers how the treadmill of production affects ecosystems and discusses possible solutions to environmental problems. [Core Curriculum Goal Area(s) 8 & 10]

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 07/30/2023 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Built Environments
2. Environmental Movements
3. Human Activity Impacts
4. Natural Environments
5. Social Environments
6. Social Processes
7. Technological Environments

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. demonstrate understanding of the growing interdependence of nations and peoples.
2. improve understanding of today's complex environmental challenges through examination of the interrelatedness of human society and the natural environment.
3. develop integrative and critical thinking about environmental issues as informed by knowledge of both bio-physical principles and socio-cultural systems.
4. develop the ability to apply a comparative perspective to cross-cultural social, economic and political experiences.
5. examine empirical data and the identify patterns of social inequality that result in the unequal allocation of resources.
E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 08 - Global Perspective
1. Describe and analyze political, economic, and cultural elements which influence relations of states and societies in their historical and contemporary dimensions.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of cultural, social, religious and linguistic differences.
3. Analyze specific international problems, illustrating the cultural, economic, and political differences that affect their solution.
4. Understand the role of a world citizen and the responsibility world citizens share for their common global future.

Goal 10 - People/Environment
1. Explain the basic structure and function of various natural ecosystems and of human adaptive strategies within those systems.
2. Discern patterns and interrelationships of bio-physical and socio-cultural systems.
3. Describe the basic institutional arrangements (social, legal, political, economic, religious) that are evolving to deal with environmental and natural resource challenges.
4. Evaluate critically environmental and natural resource issues in light of understandings about interrelationships, ecosystems, and institutions.
5. Propose and assess alternative solutions to environmental problems.
6. Articulate and defend the actions they would take on various environmental issues.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT
   As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION
   None noted