**Course Title**: WORLD ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY  
**Course Code**: HST2261  
**No. of Credits/Term**: 3  
**Mode of Tuition**: Sectional  
**Class Contact Hours**: 3 hours per week  
**Category of Major Prog.**: Elective  
**Prerequisite(s)**: None  
**Co-requisite(s)**: None  
**Exclusion(s)**: None

**Brief Course Description**  
This course addresses the fundamental issues in world environmental history. We will consider three areas: human interaction with the natural world, the shifting attitudes toward nature, and the impact of human perceptions and actions on the world landscape.

**Aims**  
This course will help students to become familiar with current world environmental concerns and problems.

**Learning Outcomes**  
1) Familiarity with some of the themes and issues in world environmental history  
2) Improved critical reading and analytical skills  
3) Improved English-language writing ability  
4) Improved historical research abilities

**Indicative Content**  
I. Introduction  
A. Interpreting Environmental History  
B. Major Concepts and Themes  

II. Pre-Columbian Views of Relations between Man and Nature  
A. Nature vs Culture  
B. Judaism  
C. Christianity  
D. Islam  
E. Confucius and Mencius  
F. European Ideas  
G. African Perceptions  
H. Native Americans  

III. Agricultural Revolution and Impact on Environment  
A. Early Man and Environment  
B. The Creation and Management of Hydraulic Resources in India and China  
C. The Rise of Cities and Civilization in the Near East  
D. The Mediterranean and Ecology  
E. Egypt and Agriculture  

IV. Industrial Revolution and Ecological Imperialism  
A. Ecological Roots of Industrialization  
B. Industrial Revolution and Environmental Impact  
C. Nature as Commodity  
D. The “Columbian Exchange:” Disease, Plants, and Animals  
E. The Environment and Colonialism in Africa and the Americas
F. Population, Deforestation, and Land Use in Asia

V. The Philosophy of Ecology
   A. Evolution and Ecology: the Romantic and Darwinian Models
   B. Ecology and Science
   C. The Ecosystem Concepts

VI. The Origins of Conservation in North America
   A. Modernizing the Landscape
   B. Discovering Pollution
   C. Forests and the Conservation Movement
   D. Conservation, Preservation, and Environmentalism

VII. Environmental Justice
   A. Environmental Justice Movements
   B. Africa
   C. Latin America
   D. The U.S.
   E. Asia

VIII. Global Environmentalism
   A. World Environmental Crises
   B. UNCED and International Efforts
   C. Environmental Politics and Environmental History
   D. Conclusion

Teaching Method
We will devote two class meetings each week to lectures and one meeting to discussing the selected readings.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes
Outcome 1 will be assessed written assignments and tests. Outcomes 2 and 3 will be developed and assessed through the short essays, term paper, handouts, in-class exercises and the essay sections of the midterm and final exam. Outcome 4 will be developed and assessed in the term paper.

Assessment
Continuous Assessment 100%

Required Readings
Selected Readings from the following:

Supplemental Readings:


唐納德.沃斯特(著), 侯文蕙(譯), 《自然的經濟體系：生態思想史》, 北京：商務印書館，1999。

劉翠溶(等編), 《積漸所至：中國環境史論文集》，台北：中研究院經濟所，1995。