

EDSU 712/912

Political Ecology
 3 credits
Spring Term

Online Course



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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Faculty** | **Email** | **Phone** | **Office Hours (Online)** |
| Dr. Pam Bork | pbork@uwsp.edu | 715-570- 4314 | By appointment |

# Course Schedule – Please put the synchronous online dates on your calendar

Synchronous Dates: January 26, February 2, February 9, February 16, March 9, April 6

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Central Time

Presentations dates: April 20, April 27, May 4 (You will be assigned to one of these nights for your presentation)

Individual meetings can be scheduled at any time.

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| **DATE** | **Activity** | **Location** |
| January 26  | Introduction to Political Ecology | Synchronous |
| February 2 | History and Equity, Inclusivity and Diversity Issues in Political Ecology | Synchronous |
| February 9 | Topic Selection/Developing a Position | Synchronous |
| February 16  | Developing a Position Paper | Synchronous |
| March 9  | Developing a Draft Policy  | Synchronous |
| April 6 | Creating a Presentation  | Synchronous |
| April 20 | Presentations | Synchronous |
| April 27 | Presentations | Synchronous |
| May 4 | Presentations  | Synchronous |

# Communicating with your Instructor

Standard protocol is to allow 24-48 hours for a return communication. We are usually quicker than this!  There is no shortage of ways to get a hold of me and please reach out to me.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **EMAIL:** The quickest and most reliable way to reach us is by email at:  |
|  | **CALL:** Call our offices any time. Leave a voicemail if we do not answer.  |
|  | **VIDEO:** We can set up a Skype, Zoom or other video call upon request |
|  | **IN PERSON:** We are available for in person meetings on request. |

**Communicate Clearly**: Your emails should be clear, concise, and professional so that your issues can be responded to effectively. Include the entire thread of an ongoing email conversation so that your instructor can recall the history of your issue without searching for other emails you have sent. Sign off with your first and last name. We will not open attachments without messages or messages that are illegible.

## Office hours

Individual meetings can be arranged through an email request, phone call, and/or can be conducted online via synchronous video.

# Course Information

## Course Description

The purpose of the course is to provide an overview of the interdisciplinary nature of political ecology as it relates to the field of educational sustainability. In addition, students will be expected to demonstrate an in-depth understanding on a specific topic in political ecology. This topic will be researched through a multifaceted lens, exploring the possible concepts of environmentalism, social justice, Socio political ecology, geography, cultural or others. For the signature assessments, students will research a topic of their choice to create a position paper, draft policy, and an oral/visual presentation.

Synchronous and asynchronous discussions will provide an opportunity for students to gain and share knowledge, experience, and feedback through the learning activities. Synchronous and asynchronous discussions are a required component of this course. Students are expected to be in attendance for the synchronous times. All absences should be discussed in advance with the professor.

The course is structured so that the modules and discussions have been sequentially developed to build off the prior learning for each learning segment. Students must complete module one before continuing with modules two, three, and four.

## Program/Course Learning Outcomes (PLO)

*A learning outcome is a statement that describes what a student will know (knowledge), be able to do (skill), and/or value/appreciate (disposition) as a result of a learning experience.*

Students will understand that:

1. Political ecology encompasses environmental, cultural, socio-ecological and ecological wellness.
2. Students will understand that the complexity of governmental economic, political and social policies influence the natural world.
3. Students will understand that they can have a role in advocacy and practice in the everyday world.
4. Student will understand that political ecology explores equity, diversity, inclusivity and social justice issues.

## Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)

*A learning outcome is a statement that describes what a student will know (knowledge), be able to do (skill), and/or value/appreciate (disposition) because of a learning experience.*

Students will be able to:

SLO 1: Evaluate relevant research and readings in political ecology on the topic of their choice.

SLO 2: Create a position on their topic.

SLO 3: Evaluate existing policies that influence and are relevant to their topic of interest.

SLO 4: Create a visual and oral presentation (10-12 minute) presentation that integrates evaluation of research, their position, and relevant policies on their topic of interest.

## Program Artifacts

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Core Projects** | **Brief Description** | **Program Learning Outcomes Met (#)** |
| Attendance | Attendance and Participation in Synchronous Seminars | 1, 2, 3, 4 |
| Discussions  | Online discussion posts | 1, 2, 3, 4 |
| Pos. Framework | Cumulative chart to gather research and facts | 1 |
| Position Paper | Position paper on topic of choice | 1, 2 |
| Draft Policy  | Draft policy in appropriate format on topic of choice | 1,3 |
| Presentation  | Oral/Visual presentation with supplemental materials |  1,2, 3, 4 |

## Evaluation/Points for assignments

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Core Projects** | **Description** | **Points**  |
| Attendance  | 2 points for each of the 7 synchronous sessions | 14 |
| Discussions | 5 points for each of the 5 discussion posts | 25 |
| Pos. Framework | 10 points for completed Positionality Framework | 10 |
| Position Paper  | 25 points (see rubric description) | 24 |
| Draft Policy | 10 points (see rubric description) | 10 |
| Presentation  | 25 points (see rubric description) |  15 |

## Required Course Materials

Students will be given articles and other course resources on Canvas.

Making Political Ecology, Hopper Education, 2004

Reimagining Political Ecology, Duke University Press, 2006

Research articles

# Technology

## Technology Guidelines

This course requires posting of work online that is viewable only by your classmates. None of the work submitted online will be shared publicly. Some assignments require account creation for online programs. Your academic records (grades, student IDs, personal identification information) will not be shared by the instructor of this course. Confidentiality of student work is imperative, so you should not share the work of your peers publicly without their permission. By participating in these assignments, you are giving consent to sharing of your work with others in this class and you recognize there is a small risk of your work being shared online beyond the purposes of this course. If you elect to not participate in these online assignments due to confidentiality concerns, then an alternate assignment will be offered to you.

## Protecting your Data and Privacy:

UW-System approved tools meet security, privacy, and data protection standards. For a list of approved tools, visit this website. <https://www.wisconsin.edu/dle/external-application-integration-requests/>

Tools not listed on the website linked above may not meet security, privacy, and data protection standards. If you have questions about tools, contact the UWSP IT Service Desk at 715-346-4357.

Here are steps you can take to protect your data and privacy.

* Use different usernames and passwords for each service you use
* Do not use your UWSP username and password for any other services
* Use secure versions of websites whenever possible (HTTPS instead of HTTP)
* Have updated antivirus software installed on your devices

## Course Technology Requirements

View this website to see [minimum recommended computer and internet configurations for Canvas](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10721).

You will also need access to the following tools to participate in this course.

* webcam
* microphone
* printer
* a stable internet connection (don't rely on cellular)

## UWSP Technology Support

Visit with a [Student Technology Tutor](https://www3.uwsp.edu/tlc/Pages/techTutoring.aspx)

Seek assistance from the [IT Service Desk](https://www3.uwsp.edu/infotech/Pages/ServiceDesk/default.aspx) (Formerly HELP Desk)

* IT Service Desk Phone: 715-346-4357 (HELP)
* IT Service Desk Email: techhelp@uwsp.edu

## Canvas Support

Click on the button in the global (left) navigation menu and note the options that appear:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Support Options | Explanations |
|  | Use **Ask Your Instructor a Question** sparingly; technical questions are best reserved for Canvas personnel and help as detailed below.  |
|  | **Chat**ting **with Canvas Support (Student)** will initiate a *text chat* with Canvas support. Response can be qualified with severity level. |
|  | **Contact**ing **Canvas Support via email** will allow you to explain in detail or even upload a screenshot to show your particular difficulty.  |
|  | Calling the Canvas number will let Canvas know that you're from UWSP; phone option is available 24/7.  |
|  | **Search**ing **the** [**Canvas guides**](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701) connects you to documents that are searchable by issue. You may also opt for [**Canvas video guides**](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-3891)**.**  |
|  | If you have an idea for Canvas that might make instructions or navigation easier, feel free to offer your thoughts through this **Submit a Feature Idea** avenue.  |

*All options are available 24/7; however, if you opt to email your instructor, s/he may not be available immediately.*

## Canvas Student Training Course

Self-train on Canvas through the [Self-enrolling/paced Canvas training course](https://uws.instructure.com/enroll/FNRAL8)

## Netiquette Guidelines

Netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online. Your instructor and fellow students wish to foster a safe online learning environment. All opinions and experiences, no matter how different or controversial they may be perceived, must be respected in the tolerant spirit of academic discourse. You are encouraged to comment, question, or critique an idea but you are not to attack an individual. Working as a community of learners, we can build a polite and respectful course community.

The following netiquette tips will enhance the learning experience for everyone in the course:

* Do not dominate any discussion.
* Give other students the opportunity to join in the discussion.
* Do not use offensive language. Present ideas appropriately.
* Be cautious in using Internet language. For example, do not capitalize all letters since this suggests shouting.
* Popular emoticons such as ☺ can be helpful to convey your tone but do not overdo or overuse them.
* Avoid using vernacular and/or slang language. This could possibly lead to misinterpretation.
* Never make fun of someone’s ability to read or write.
* Share tips with other students.
* Keep an “open-mind” and listen to ideas that are different from yours.
* Be willing to express your minority opinion—everyone’s perspective is valued.
* Think and edit before you push the “Post Reply” button.
* Do not hesitate to ask for feedback.
* Using humor is acceptable.

Adapted from:

Mintu-Wimsatt, A., Kernek, C., & Lozada, H. R. (2010). *Netiquette: Make it part of your syllabus*. Journal of Online Learning and Teaching, 6(1). Retrieved from <http://jolt.merlot.org/vol6no1/mintu-wimsatt_0310.htm>

Shea, V. (1994). Netiquette. Albion.com. Retrieved from: <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/book/>.

# Grading

## Inclusivity Statement

It is our intent that students from all diverse backgrounds and perspectives be well-served by this course, that students’ learning needs be addressed both in and out of class, and that the diversity that the students bring to this class be viewed as a resource, strength and benefit. It is my intent to present materials and activities that are respectful of diversity: gender identity, sexuality, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, nationality, religion, and culture. Your suggestions are encouraged and appreciated. Please let me know ways to improve the effectiveness of the course for you personally, or for other students or student groups.

If you have experienced a bias incident (an act of conduct, speech, or expression to which a bias motive is evident as a contributing factor regardless of whether the act is criminal) at UWSP, you have the right to report it using this [link](https://www3.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Bias-Hate-Incident.aspx). You may also contact the Dean of Students office directly at dos@uwsp.edu.

## Confidentiality

Learning requires risk-taking and sharing ideas. Please keep your classmates’ ideas and experiences confidential outside the classroom unless permission has been granted to share them.

## Grading Scale

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 94 – 100% =A  | 84 – 86% = B  | 74 – 76% = C  | 64 – 66% = D |
| 90 – 93% = A-  | 80 – 83% = B-  | 70 – 73% = C- | 60 – 63% = D- |
| 87 – 89% = B+  | 77 – 79% = C+  | 67 – 69% = D+ |  < 60% = F |

## Attendance and Participation

We will schedule synchronous seminars with a minimum of a 2-week notice. If you cannot attend, we will upload a video with a couple of questions for you to complete to make up for the lack of attendance.

## Incompletes

Incompletes are last resort and can be given if minimal work needs completion. You cannot take an incomplete for no or little work completed. The grade will reflect this effort. Please speak with instructor regarding procedure for incompletes.

## Late Work

Assignments submitted after the due date will be docked points, one point for each day it is late. Any extenuating situations should be discussed with your professor.

## Absences due to Military Service

As stated in the UWSP Catalog, you will not be penalized for class absence due to unavoidable or legitimate required military obligations, or medical appointments at a VA facility, [not to exceed two (2)](https://www3.uwsp.edu/veteran-services/Pages/short-term-leave.aspx) [weeks](https://www3.uwsp.edu/veteran-services/Pages/short-term-leave.aspx) unless special permission is granted by the instructor. You are responsible for notifying faculty members of such circumstances as far in advance as possible and for providing documentation to the Office of the Dean of Students to verify the reason for the absence. The faculty member is responsible to provide reasonable accommodations or opportunities to make up exams or other course assignments that have an impact on the course grade. For absences due to being deployed for active duty, please refer to the [Military Call-Up Instructions for Students](https://www3.uwsp.edu/veteran-services/Pages/Call-Up-Guidelines.aspx).

# Other Policies

## Academic Honesty Policy & Procedures

**Student Academic Disciplinary Procedures**

UWSP 14.01 Statement of principles

The board of regents, administrators, faculty, academic staff and students of the university of Wisconsin system believe that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental to the mission of higher education and of the university of Wisconsin system. The university has a responsibility to promote academic honesty and integrity and to develop procedures to deal effectively with instances of academic dishonesty. Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others’ academic endeavors. Students who violate these standards must be confronted and must accept the consequences of their actions.

UWSP 14.03 Academic misconduct subject to disciplinary action.

(1) Academic misconduct is an act in which a student:

(a) Seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization or citation;

(b) Uses unauthorized materials or fabricated data in any academic exercise;

(c) Forges or falsifies academic documents or records;

 (d) Intentionally impedes or damages the academic work of others;

(e) Engages in conduct aimed at making false representation of a student's academic performance; or

(f) Assists other students in any of these acts.

(2) Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to: cheating on an examination; collaborating with others in work to be presented, contrary to the stated rules of the course; submitting a paper or assignment as one's own work when a part or all of the paper or assignment is the work of another; submitting a paper or assignment that contains ideas or research of others without appropriately identifying the sources of those ideas; stealing examinations or course materials; submitting, if contrary to the rules of a course, work previously presented in another course; tampering with the laboratory experiment or computer program of another student; knowingly and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above, including assistance in an arrangement whereby any work, classroom performance, examination or other activity is submitted or performed by a person other than the student under whose name the work is submitted or performed.

## Care Team

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is committed to the safety and success of all students. The Office of the Dean of Students supports the campus community by reaching out and providing resources in areas where a student may be struggling or experiencing barriers to their success. Faculty and staff are asked to be proactive, supportive, and involved in facilitating the success of our students through early detection, reporting, and intervention. As your instructor, I may contact the Office of the Dean of Students if I sense you are in need of additional support which individually I may not be able to provide. You may also share a concern if you or another member of our campus community needs support, is distressed, or exhibits concerning behavior that is interfering with the academic or personal success or the safety of others, by reporting [here](https://www3.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Anonymous-Report.aspx).

## Clery Act

The US Department of Education requires universities to disclose and publish campus crime statistics, security information, and fire safety information annually. Statistics for the three previous calendar years and policy statements are released on or before October 1st in our [Annual Security Report](https://www3.uwsp.edu/dos/clery/Documents/ASR-ASFR.pdf). Another requirement of the Clery Act, is that the campus community must be given timely warnings of ongoing safety threats and immediate/emergency notifications. For more information about when and how these notices will be sent out, please see our [Jeanne Clery Act](https://www3.uwsp.edu/dos/clery/Pages/default.aspx) page.

## Commit to Integrity

As a student in this course (and at this university) you are expected to maintain high degrees of professionalism, commitment to active learning and participation in this class and also integrity in your behavior in and out of the classroom.

## Confidentiality

Learning requires risk-taking and sharing ideas. Please keep your classmates’ ideas and experiences confidential outside the classroom unless permission has been granted to share them.

## Copyright infringement

This is the act of exercising, without permission or legal authority, one or more of the exclusive rights granted to the copyright owner under section 106 of the Copyright Act. Each year students violate these laws and campus policies, putting themselves at risk of federal prosecution. For more information about what to expect if you are caught, or to take preventive measures to keep your computing device clean, visit our [copyright page](http://libraryguides.uwsp.edu/copyright?hs=a).

## Dropping UWSP Courses

It is the student’s responsibility to understand when they need to consider unenrolling from a course. Refer to the UWSP [Academic Calendar](https://www3.uwsp.edu/regrec/Pages/calendars.aspx) for dates and deadlines for registration. After this period, a serious and compelling reason is required to drop from the course. Serious and compelling reasons includes: (1) documented and significant change in work hours, leaving student unable to attend class, or (2) documented and severe physical/mental illness/injury to the student or student’s family.

## Drug Free Schools and Communities Act

The Drug Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA) requires institutions of higher education to establish policies that address unlawful possession, use, or distribution of alcohol and illicit drugs. The DFSCA also requires the establishment of a drug and alcohol prevention program. The Center for Prevention lists information about alcohol and drugs, their effects, and the legal consequences if found in possession of these substances.[Center for Prevention – DFSCA](https://www3.uwsp.edu/dos/cfp/Pages/dfsca.aspx)

## Emergency Procedures

* In the event of a **medical emergency call 9-1-1** or use campus phone [list location in room or nearest your classroom]. Offer assistance if trained and willing to do so. Guide emergency responders to victim.
* In the event of **a tornado warning**, **proceed to the lowest level interior room** without window exposure at [list primary location for shelter closest to classroom,]. See [www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures/other/floor-plans.aspx](http://www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures/other/floor-plans.aspx) for floor plans showing severe weather shelters on campus. Avoid wide-span structures (gyms, pools or large classrooms).
* In the event of **a fire alarm**, **evacuate the building** in a calm manner. Meet at [state logical location to meet 200 yards away from building]. Notify instructor or emergency response personnel of any missing individuals.
* **Active Shooter – RUN. HIDE. FIGHT.** If trapped, hide, lock doors, turn off lights, spread out and remain quiet. Call 9-1-1 when it is safe to do so. Follow instructions of emergency responders.
* See UW-Stevens Point Emergency Procedures at [www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures](http://www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures) for details on all emergency response at UW-Stevens Point.”

## \*Equal Access for Students with Disabilities

UW-Stevens Point will modify academic program requirements as necessary to ensure that they do not discriminate against qualified applicants or students with disabilities.  The modifications should not affect the substance of educational programs or compromise academic standards; nor should they intrude upon academic freedom.  Examinations or other procedures used for evaluating students' academic achievements may be adapted.  The results of such evaluation must demonstrate the student's achievement in the academic activity, rather than describe his/her disability.

*If modifications are required due to a disability, please inform the instructor and contact the* [*Disability and Assistive Technology Center*](https://www3.uwsp.edu/datc/Pages/default.aspx) *to complete an Accommodations Request form.  Phone: 346-3365 or Room 609 Albertson Hall.*

## FERPA

The [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act](https://www3.uwsp.edu/regrec/Pages/ferpa.aspx) (FERPA) provides students with a right to protect, review, and correct their student records. Staff of the university with a clear *educational need to know* may also have to access to certain student records. Exceptions to the law include parental notification in cases of alcohol or drug use, and in case of a health or safety concern. FERPA also permits a school to disclose personally identifiable information from a student’s education records, without consent, to another school in which the student seeks or intends to enroll.

Lecture materials and recordings for [insert class name] are protected intellectual property at UW-Stevens Point. Students in this course may use the materials and recordings for their personal use related to participation in this class. Students may also take notes solely for their personal use. If a lecture is not already recorded, you are not authorized to record my lectures without my permission unless you are considered by the university to be a qualified student with a disability requiring accommodation. [Regent Policy Document 4-1] Students may not copy or share lecture materials and recordings outside of class, including posting on internet sites or selling to commercial entities.  Students are also prohibited from providing or selling their personal notes to anyone else or being paid for taking notes by any person or commercial firm without the instructor’s express written permission. Unauthorized use of these copyrighted lecture materials and recordings constitutes copyright infringement and may be addressed under the university's policies, UWS Chapters 14 and 17, governing student academic and non-academic misconduct.

## Help Resources

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| **Tutoring** | **Advising** | **Safety and General Support** | **Health** |
| Tutoring and Learning Center helps with Study Skills, Writing, Technology, Math, & Science. 018 Albertson Hall, ext 3568 | Academic and Career Advising Center, 320 Albertson Hall, ext 3226 | Dean of Students Office, 212 Old Main, ext. 2611 | Counseling Center, Delzell Hall, ext. 3553. Health Care, Delzell Hall, ext. 4646 |

## Religious Beliefs Accommodation

It is UW System policy ([UWS 22](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/uws/22)) to reasonably accommodate your sincerely held religious beliefs with respect to all examinations and other academic requirements.

You will be permitted to make up an exam or other academic requirement at another time or by an alternative method, without any prejudicial effect, if:

* There is a scheduling conflict between your sincerely held religious beliefs and taking the exam or meeting the academic requirements; and
* You have notified your instructor within the first three weeks of the beginning of classes (first week of summer or interim courses) of the specific days or dates that you will request relief from an examination or academic requirement.
* Your instructor will accept the sincerity of your religious beliefs at face value and keep your request confidential.
* Your instructor will schedule a make-up exam or requirement before or after the regularly scheduled exam or requirement.
* You may file any complaints regarding compliance with this policy in the Equity and Affirmative Action Office.

## Title IX

UW-Stevens Point is committed to fostering a safe, productive learning environment. Title IX and institutional policy prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, which includes harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. In the event that you choose to disclose information about having survived sexual violence, including harassment, rape, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking, and specify that this violence occurred while a student at UWSP, federal and state laws mandate that I, as your instructor, notify the Title IX Coordinator/Office of the Dean of Students.

Please see the information on the [Dean of Students webpage](https://www3.uwsp.edu/DOS/sexualassault) for information on making confidential reports of misconduct or interpersonal violence, as well as campus and community resources available to students. For more information see the [Title IX page.](https://www3.uwsp.edu/hr/Pages/Affirmative%20Action/Title-IX.aspx)