PHIL 349: Environmental Philosophy
Winter 2019

Time and place
8:30-10:00 Wednesday and Friday, 680 Sherbrooke Room 2020

Instructor
Greg Mikkelson, 514-398-8630
Office hours: 10:00-11:30 Wednesday, Leacock 913

Course description
Ecological problems ramify daily, posing questions about what to do and why. Adequate answers to such questions demand not only scientific knowledge, but also wisdom about humanity's place in nature. This course will help students cultivate such wisdom, through an introduction to environmental ethics, as well as related topics in environmental science and political ecology.

Required readings
Available at The Word bookstore, 469 Milton Street
Available through MyCourses

All other readings

Course requirements
Class participation: 10%
Do all the readings before class, and come prepared to discuss them.
Quiz: 10% of grade

Friday January 5th, on the environmental science section of the course

Essay and debate
Many class sessions feature a debate between students, for and against a proposition formulated by the instructor and related to the readings for that week. The essay conveys the arguments you plan to make in your debate.

Essay: 20%
1,000-1,500 words of text (excluding title page, tables, figures, bibliography, etc.), double-spaced:
Must include word count.
1. At least two weeks before your debate, bring a complete first draft of your essay to class, and send it electronically to the other participant(s) in your debate for feedback.
2. Re-write the essay in light of this feedback, and bring a hard copy of the revised paper to my office hours the week before your debate. (If you cannot make those hours, we can arrange to meet elsewhen.)
3. Re-write the paper again in light of my comments, and submit it to me via e-mail the day of the debate.

Debate: 20%
The grade is for the debate as a whole. In other words, all debaters get the same grade, no matter who wins. (The essays are graded individually.)

Final exam: 40%