**Hugh Crawford**

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**LMC 3308: Environmentalism and Ecocriticism**

**Course Prerequisites:** ENGL 1102

**Core Area/Attributes:** Humanities

**Course Description**:

Surveys the emergence of ecocriticism as an analytical framework for interpreting the verbal and visual rhetorics of environmentalism in both western and nonwestern cultures.

Learning Outcomes:

* Students will be able to describe relationships among languages, philosophies, cultures, literature, ethics, or the arts.
* Science and Technology Knowledge Construction: Students will understand that scientific and technological innovation occurs in a social context, and they will be able to recognize how the social influences scientific and technical discourses.
* Textual/Visual Analysis: Students will learn to read, analyze, and interpret not only cultural projects such as film, literature, art, and new media, but also scientific and technical documents.
* Interpretive Frameworks: Students will become familiar with a variety of social, political, and philosophical theories and be able to apply those theories to creative and scientific texts, as well as to their own cultural observations.

**Required Texts**:

1. Bruno Latour *The Politics of Nature*
2. Jack Kerouac *Big Sur*
3. Paul Metcalf *Waters of the Potowmack*
4. Henry Beston *Outermost House*
5. PDF files in T-Square resources folder

**Graded Assignments**:

Two Tests @ 20% each 40%

Final Project 40%

Final Examination 20%

**Attendance and Participation Policy:**

Class attendance is mandatory.

First of all, participation assumes presence; that is, you must show up to class on time on a regular basis. You are allowed three free absences to do with as you please.  Beginning with your fourth absence, your overall *final* grade will be lowered by 50 points for each absence. For example, a 920 (A) would become an 870 (B) if you were absent four times.

*If you miss six or more classes, you run the risk of failing the course as a whole.* If you have an illness or family emergency that prevents you from attending class, contact the instructor as soon as possible by email. If you are late for class, it is your responsibility to make sure that you are not recorded as absent. If you miss a class for any reason, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed *before* the next class.

In addition to attendance, your participation grade will be based on the following criteria:

      Doing the readings and assignments

      Actively participating in class discussions and assignments

      Actively participating in all small-group activities (workshops, etc.)

Your participation grade will be negatively affected by any forms of behavior that disrupt the classroom experience, including:

      Failure to do the readings

      Failure to be courteous to others when talking in class or posting online

      Disrupting class in nonverbal ways (Reading the paper, checking your cell phone, doing homework, or sleeping in class. If you get caught doing these things you will be counted absent for the day.)

**Students with Disabilities:**

Any student who feels that he or she may need an accommodation for any sort of disability, please make an appointment to see me during office hours. Students with disabilities should also contact Access Disabled Assistance Program for Tech Students (ADAPTS) to discuss reasonable accommodations. For an appointment with a counselor, call 404-894-2564 (voice) or 404-894-1664 (voice/ TDD) or visit Suite 210 in the Smithgall Student Services Building. For more information, please [visit the ADAPTS website](http://adapts.gatech.edu/).

**Academic Honesty and Integrity:**

All work you turn in for this class must be your own work, with all outside reference sources properly cited and acknowledged. According to Section 3 of the [Academic Honor Code](http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18b.php),

Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. The immediate objective of the Honor Code is to prevent any students from gaining an unfair advantage over other students through academic misconduct. Academic misconduct is any act that does or could improperly distort student grades or other student academic records. Such acts include but need not be limited to the following:

* + Possessing, using, or exchanging improperly acquired written or verbal information in the preparation of any essay, laboratory report, examination, or other assignment included in an academic course;
  + Substitution for, or unauthorized collaboration with, a student in the commission of academic requirements;
  + Submission of material that is wholly or substantially identical to that created or published by another person or persons, without adequate credit notations including authorship (plagiarism);
  + False claims of performance or work that has been submitted by the claimant;
  + Alteration or insertion of any academic grade or rating so as to obtain unearned academic credit;
  + Deliberate falsification of a written or verbal statement of fact to a member of the faculty so as to obtain unearned academic credit;
  + Forgery, alteration, or misuse of any institute document relating to the academic status of the student.

While these acts constitute assured instances of academic misconduct, other acts of academic misconduct may be defined by the professor.

Students must sign the Honor Agreement affirming their commitment to uphold the Honor Code before becoming a part of the Georgia Tech community. The Honor Agreement may reappear on exams and other assignments to remind students of their responsibilities under the Georgia Institute of Technology Academic Honor Code.

**A Further Note about Plagiarism:**

According to Dictionary.com, [plagiarism](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/plagiarism?s=t) is defined as:

1. an act or instance of using or closely imitating the language and thoughts of another author without authorization and the representation of that author’s work as one’s own, as by not crediting the original author;
2. a piece of writing or other work reflection such unauthorized use or imitation.

In addition, other instances of plagiarism include, but are not limited to, putting a quotation around an entire article, and citing it, and turning that “quoted” article in as your work; cutting and pasting more than 10% of your paper; improperly citing sources including forgetting to include a source on your works cited page or within the body of your texts; imitating the arguing style of another author without attribution; buying and turning in a paper from a term paper mill; forgetting to use quotation marks for a direct quotation; paraphrasing materials from a source without proper documentation; etc.

Students who engage in academic dishonesty may receive a zero on the assignment or fail the course. In addition, the instance will be reported to the Dean of Students who may take further action. If you have any questions involving these or any other issues regarding plagiarism, the Academic Honor Code, or what constitutes appropriate academic integrity, please talk to me or visit the [Academic Honor Code website](http://www.honor.gatech.edu/).

**Week-by-Week Schedule**:

Week 1 **Nature in essays and poetry:** Emerson, Thoreau, Stevens

Week 2 Thoreau, Wordsworth, Frost and Williams

Week 3 **Historical Perspectives:** Cronon, Serres

Week 4 **Hour Test #1,** Latour-- Introduction

Week 5 Latour, cont.

Week 6 Latour, cont. Bennett (pdf)

Week 7 Metcalf, Part 1

Week 8 Film: *The New World,* Metcalf

Week 9 Finish Metcalf

Week 10 **Hour Test #2,**  Heidegger

Week 11 Heidegger, Ingold, Proennke (PDFs and film)

Week 12 George Emerson, Maloof, Beston (intro)

Week 13 Beston cont.

Week 14 Kerouac

Week 15 Kerouac cont., exam review, **Final Projects Due**

**Final Examination**