

SOCI 437¹

Issues in Environmental Sociology and Climate Change: Navigating our Relationship to the Climate Crisis

Instructor: Ashley Berard, aberard@uvic.ca

Course Description:

The climate crisis is happening now, and sociologists are uniquely posed to understand, deconstruct, and tackle the path forward. This seminar is based upon an in-depth examination of sociological theories, concepts, and ideas that will provide us with tools to discuss climate change and environmental destruction. The course material will reflect the societal moment we find ourselves in, considering re-emergent epistemologies and ontologies, political activism, and social justice. Key topics will include; Indigenous and feminist knowledge systems, climate disaster experiences, grassroots initiatives, corporate power, our personal connection to nature, and possibilities for more just and livable places for current and future generations.

Meeting Times:

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:30-5:45

Course Format:

Seminar, students are expected to attend prepared for in-class discussion, student presentations, and an open mind to engage with various perspectives.

Course Pre-requisites:

Minimum fourth-year standing; and declared Honours or Major in Sociology; or permission of the department.

Required Resources May Include:

There is no textbook for this course. All required readings will be listed in the course syllabus and will be available via Brightspace. Material will include journal articles, textbook chapters, videos, lectures, and art.

¹ Please note that this online outline is only intended to give an overall and approximate sense of the course. A detailed course outline will be made available for all registered students on the first day of class. Only those outlines are to be considered official.