SOCI 437
Issues in Environmental Sociology and Climate Change

Instructor: Dr. Martha McMahon

Brief Course Description: The social sciences have been relatively marginalized in climate change research and policy. This course examines sociological analysis of the sources of climate change and environmental destruction and makes the case that without engaging the social sciences and sociology in particular efforts at mitigation and adaption will be unsuccessful and exacerbate both social inequality and injustice and be deadly for many in the more-than-human world.

The course material explores efforts at social change including emerging and re-emerging epistemologies and ontologies and diverse knowledge systems. These include new feminisms and different indigenous knowledge that disrupt the human/nature divides of modernist thinking and open spaces for alternative framings of the issues, creating opportunities for future more liveable and just worlds for humans and the more-than-human.

Course Pre/Co-requisites:
Minimum third-year standing; and declared Honours or Major in Sociology; or permission of the department.

Required Reading


This online outline is only intended to give an overall sense of the course. Detailed course outlines will be made available for all registered students on the first day of class. Only those outlines are to be considered official.