

# Bemidji State University

## HST 2925: People and the Environment: Environment and History

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: \*.\*

Lab Hours/Week: \*.\*

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 10 - People/Environment

An examination of past interactions between human society and the natural world in what is now the United States. Issues to be discussed in the course include Native American resource management; the ecological effects of the arrival of Europeans, Africans, and Asians in North America; resource exploitation in the industrial era; the preservationist and conservationist movements; and the historical roots of current environmental problems. Liberal Education Goal Area 10.

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 09/03/2002 - Present

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. The Nature of Science; Economics, Politics and Worldviews
2. Evolution and Extinction
3. Ecology
4. Population
5. Biodiversity
6. Food and Soil
7. Water
8. Energy
9. Risk and Toxicology
10. Climate change
11. Waste

### D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. gain a greater understanding of the relation between human societies and their environments, particularly institutional arrangements that shape and/or reflect the cultural values underlying humans' interaction with their environs
2. improve their ability to critically assess environmental issues and discussions about those issues by examining arguments and source materials
3. learn to effectively develop, support, and communicate their own ideas, interpretations, positions, and arguments.

## **E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies**

### Goal 10 - People/Environment

1. Explain the basic structure and function of various natural ecosystems and of human adaptive strategies within those systems.
2. Discern patterns and interrelationships of bio-physical and socio-cultural systems.
3. Describe the basic institutional arrangements (social, legal, political, economic, religious) that are evolving to deal with environmental and natural resource challenges.
4. Evaluate critically environmental and natural resource issues in light of understandings about interrelationships, ecosystems, and institutions.
5. Propose and assess alternative solutions to environmental problems.

## **F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

As noted on course syllabus

## **G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted