

# Bemidji State University

## **GEOG 3532: Political Ecology**

### **A. COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: \*.\*

Lab Hours/Week: \*.\*

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

Political ecology utilizes a necessary geographical perspective to understand and analyze the biophysical processes that shape issues otherwise inadequately conceptualized as political, economic or social. This spatial understanding developed by political geographers reveals relationships of the ecological and the political that are simultaneously mutually reinforcing and, often, mutually antagonistic. Prerequisite: GEOG 3531 or consent of instructor.

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 08/25/2014 - Present

### **C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS**

1. Introduction to political ecology
2. Political ecologies of agriculture and food security
3. Political ecologies of land use change and deforestation
4. Political ecologies of wildlife and fisheries
5. Political ecologies of natural disasters and climate change
6. Critique of political ecology

### **D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)**

1. . be able to describe the historical development of political ecology as a sub-discipline of Geography, one especially relevant to BSU's signature themes of civic engagement and environmental stewardship.
2. . be able to analyze the roles of the key concepts of nature and power in contemporary issues of human interaction with the physical environment. Students will be able to critique political ecology in order to advance their awareness of the need for engagement with environmental issues in terms of policy and fieldwork practice.

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

None

### **F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

As noted on course syllabus

### **G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted