



TEXTS: Robert Gottlieb, *Forcing the Spring: The Transformation of the American Environmental Movement*, Island Press 2005

Philip Shabecoff, *A Fierce Green Fire*, Island Press, 2003

All readings are required. You may purchase new or used books; these books are also on reserve in the library. Articles are available online. Please let me know if you have any difficulty accessing them.

GRADING: Class attendance, participation, homework assignments and any quizzes 20%; group discussion leader: 10%; Community engaged learning project (CEL) project 30% (including CEL project worksheets); CEL project presentation 10%

DISABILITY RESOURCES: The University of Rochester, this course, and I are committed

(The

Rachel Bauch  
2020 (interview with Rue Mapp from Outdoor Afro)

25, 2019

ck farmers in 1920. Why have they

The Nation, June 26, 2017

*CEL Project Worksheet 1*

**Sept 15      Conservation: What's the future of Conservation Movement?**

Lecture: \_\_\_\_\_, the Wilderness Act, the Great American Outdoors Act, the

Student Led discussion: Return the National Parks to the Tribes?

1. What is

of Native peoples historically in shaping and tending the land and the role of the land in their cultural and religious life?

2. What is traditional ecological knowledge and why is this growing in importance with groups like The Nature Conservancy and some government agencies?
3. What is Treuer recommending regarding the future of the tribes and the parks and why?
4. How is the Biden Administration planning to work with the tribes on public lands acquisition and management?
5. How do you think the conservation movement and conservation organizations should evolve to meet the challenges of the present and the future?

CEL Project: Check in

Reading:

*Conservation reflection (Blackboard) due Sept 15*  
*CEL project worksheet 2*

**Sept 22      Second wave ~ Environmental Movement**

Lecture: 1970s Environmental Decade and Introduction to Environmental Movement

Student led discussion:

1. What was the first Earth Day about? Who organized it? Why did it get such a strong turnout? How does the first Earth Day fit in the context of other movements, such as the civil rights, peace and feminist movements?
- 2.

2020

Dina Gilio-  
Mar. 6, 2017)

The Story of 535: Building an inclusive green economy  
putting [#FrontlinesFirst](#)

*Alsen and Emmell case study (Blackboard) due  
CEL*

Science in the Crosshairs (Science Friday, October 14, 2016)

Bill Birchard, *Nature's Keepers: The Remarkable Story of How The Nature Conservancy Became the Largest Environmental Organization in the World* (Jossey-Bass 2005), Ch. 3

*CEL worksheet 5*

**Oct. 13**                      **Role of Grassroots Activism**

Lecture: Grassroots action

Guest speaker: Clayton Cox (invited)

Student Led discussion:

1.



Depending on your movie, read:

<https://www.umass.edu/pubaffs/chronicle/archives/00/08-25/decheke41.html>

Lecture: role of litigation

Student led discussion

1. In your movie, who filed litigation and why? What were they hoping to achieve? What kinds of harms were the plaintiffs suffering? Why?
2. What role did government agencies play, if any? What role did environmental groups or activists play, if any?
3. What did watching this movie and reading the accompanying article tell you about the pros and cons of litigation as a tool for environmental change?

*CEL Project Worksheet 7*

**Oct. 27**

**Money**

Guest speaker: David Wolfe, consultant and former EDF scientist (invited)

Class discussion:

1. How do environmental groups get and use money?
2. How do we fund/finance addressing big issues, like climate change at scale?
3. What do you see as the potential and limits of market-based solutions, like investment in natural infrastructure?
4. Are there innovative approaches that could help address

**Nov. 3            CEL Project presentations**

**Power point presentations on group projects.** Be sure to email me your Power point presentation before class. **Final group project due.**

**No reading assignment; final community engaged learning project is due and in class power point presentation on your project**

**Nov. 10            Role of Lobbying and Politics**

Lecture: Agencies, Congress, state legislatures, laws and environmental programs, and role of lobbying by non-profits

Guest Speaker: Jennifer Breitinger, Owner Breitinger & Associates (invited)

Class Discussion:

1. What is the role of lobbying for environmental non-profits? Why do they lobby agencies and legislatures?
2. In a time of strong political polarization, do you think the role, goals and objectives of lobbying for environmental groups should change or is it even more important to continue this work?

**Nov. 17**      **Sustainability and Environmentalism**

Lecture: Sustainability, environmentalism, social entrepreneurs and B Corps

Guest Speaker: (invited)

Paper: check in

Student Led Discussion:

1. What is sustainability? How does this relate to environmentalism? What are the key indicia of sustainability? What is greenwashing? Where are the decision-points for sustainability (shoppers, manufacturers, retailers, sup
2. What role should non-profits play? What is the difference between a green business and a non-profit working on sustainability issues? What expectations do you have of each?
3. this shape your idea of what is sustainable housing and where should it be located? Who should decide? What role should grassroots activists and non-profits play?
4. What is Van Jones saying about the dangers of creating an eco-elite? How might considerations of equity and inclusivity impact sustainability advocacy, such as housing, food, transportation, and clothing?

Reading:

for the Future, 2019

When the housing crisis slammed into a wealthy suburb, one public servant took a beating for embracing a radically simple

**Nov. 24**      **No class: Happy Thanksgiving!**

**Dec. 1**      **Biodiversity Crisis**

Lecture: Biodiversity Crisis and environmental movement

Student Led Discussion:

1. What is the biodiversity crisis? Is this an issue the general public is aware of? Is there broad public concern about the biodiversity crisis? Is the biodiversity crisis conflated with the climate crisis?
2. Are there environmental justice considerations to the biodiversity crisis?
3. What do you think are the key reasons to protect biodiversity?
4. What role should environmental and conservation groups play in addressing the biodiversity crisis?
5. Which groups are most active in addressing the biodiversity crisis? What do you think are the strengths and weaknesses of their approaches?

6. What might be some innovative, inclusive approaches to address the biodiversity crisis? How does this address competing considerations, such as development, food and housing?

Paper: check in. Outline due.

Reading:

*A Fierce Green Fire*, Chapter 13

**Paper is due. Hand in your paper in class.**