The environmental justice movement seeks greater participation by marginalized communities in environmental policy, and equity in the distribution of environmental harms and benefits. This course will examine the meaning of “environmental justice,” the history of the movement, the empirical foundation for the movement’s claims, and specific policy questions. Although environmental justice is a transnational movement, our primary focus is the United States.

This course satisfies the Social Inquiry, QRE, and Intercultural Domestic Studies curricular requirements.

**Required Texts:**

- McGurty, Eileen. *Transforming Environmentalism*
- Other readings posted on moodle

**Assessment:**

- Paper #1: 30%
- Paper #2: 30%
- Group case study project: 30%
- Participation: 10%

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Class 1:** Introduction

**Case Studies of Environmental (In)Justice**

**Class 2:** Foundations of Environmental Injustice
- Denton & Massey, *American Apartheid* Ch. 4 and pp. 130-142
- Cole and Foster, *From the Ground Up: Environmental Racism and the Rise of Environmental Justice Movement*. Ch. 2-3
Class 3: History of the Environmental Justice Movement
McGurty, *Transforming Environmentalism*, ch. 1-3
Smith, Case Studies: An Introduction

Class 4: McGurty, *Transforming Environmentalism*, ch. 4-end.

Class 5: Bullard, *Dumping in Dixie*, Ch 1, 3, 4

Class 6: Lerner, *Diamond*, Ch 1-6

Class 7: Lerner, *Diamond*, Ch. 7-end

Class 8: Freudenberg et al, *Catastrophe in the Making*, Prologue -- ch.5

Class 9: Freudenberg, *Catastrophe*, ch 6-end

***Case study groups will schedule a meeting with reference librarian Kristin Partlo during week four ***

Class 10: Designing Good Case Studies
Case Studies: An Introduction (again)

***Case selection due in class ***

**What is “Justice”?**

Class 11: Justice and collective responsibility
Smith, Kimberly, “Theories of Justice: An Introduction”

Class 12: Cont.

Class 13: Environmental and racial justice
Bullard, African American Historical and Cultural Perspectives on EJ
Principles of Environmental Justice
Schlosberg, “The Justice of Environmental Justice,” in Moral and Political Reasoning in Environmental Practice, ed. Light & de-Shalit

Class 14: Restorative Justice and Collective Responsibility
Moltchanova, Anna “Gulf Coast Crisis: National Identity and Collective responsibility”

Class 15: Environmentalism and EJ

***Paper #1 due in class***
***First peer evaluations for group project due***
Class 16: Bullard, *Dumping in Dixie*, ch. 2, 5

Class 17: cont.
Cutter, Susan, Issues in Environmental Justice; Role of Geographic Scale in Monitoring Environmental Justice; Setting Environmental Justice in Space and Place [All from *Hazards, Vulnerability and Environmental Justice*]

Class 18: UCC study, Toxic Wastes and Race


Class 20: Social Vulnerability
Cutter, Susan. The Geography of Social Vulnerability: Race, Class and Catastrophe
Cutter et. Al., Social Vulnerability to Environmental Hazards

**Recommended: May 17 Convocation with Food Activist LaDonna Redmond

Applying the EJ framework

Class 21: Fukushima case study: Can the EJ framework apply to Japan?
Curtis, Tohoku Diary (in Natural Disaster and Nuclear Crisis in Japan, ed. Kingston 2012)
Cousins, Temporary Refuge

Class 22: Cont.
Shrader-Frechette, *Nuclear Catastrophe, Disaster Related Environmental Injustice, and Fukushima, Japan*
Aldrich “Networks of power: institutions and local residents in post-Tohoku Japan” (in Natural Disaster and Nuclear Crisis in Japan, ed. Kingston 2012)

***Paper #2 due in class***

Class 23: Flint Water Crisis
“The science behind the Flint water crisis: corrosion of pipes, erosion of trust,” Conversation blogpost by Terese Olson (Civil engineering, UM-Ann Arbor)
“Flint’s water crisis is a blatant example of environmental injustice,” Conversation blogpost by Robert Bullard (Texas Southern University)
“Flint’s Water Crisis is no accident.” Lederman, from In These Times.

Class 24: EJ and Native Americans: River of Renewal

Class 25: Rights for Nature?

***First Draft of Case Study to be posted on moodle forum. Second peer evals due***

Class 26: Case study workshop

**EJ and the Arts**

Class 27: The Poetics of Environmental Justice
   Patterson, We Know This Place
   Mos Def, New World Water
   West, Diamonds from Sierra Leone Remix

Class 28: Conclusion: Discussion of case studies

***Final draft of Papers #1 and #2 due in class

***Case study due Saturday June 8 at noon, with your final peer evaluations***