



Environmental Issues from the Perspectives of Natural Scientists and Social Scientists

Spring 2008 ISP and ISS Courses

ISP 221 – Earth Environment and Energy, sect 001
Professor Richard Brandenburg

Study the flow of energy through the earth's basic systems, the basic nature of energy and entropy, and consider how they relate to the physical and life processes of the environment. Learn about energy and global warming, weather and climate, ocean tides and currents, ice caps, glaciers, and sea ice.

ISS 310 – People and the Environment, sect 009
Professor Craig Harris

Study issues related to the interaction of socio-cultural and ecological systems, how social systems are related to the environment and how the environment is altered by those social systems, the relation between the geography of nation-states and the extent of ecosystems, and how climate influences our social choices and political destinies.

Common topics include:

- How Viking expansion westward 1000 years ago into Greenland and North America was ended by a relatively minor change in the global climate
- How the appearance of cities, and therefore human civilization, was triggered 8000 years ago in Asia, the Middle East, Africa, and Central America by the last big global climate change

Weekly Schedule

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday*
10:20a		ISS-310		ISS-310	ISS-310
10:40a		10:20a-11:40a		10:20a-11:40a	10:20a-11:10a
11:00a		100 Packaging		100 Packaging	105 South Kedzie
11:20a	ISP-221	Building	ISP-221	Building	ISP-221
11:40a	11:30a-12:20p		11:30a-12:20p		11:30a-12:20p
12:00p	105 South Kedzie		105 South Kedzie		105 South Kedzie

* Friday classes are team taught

Enrollment in both courses is required. To enroll send an email with your name and PID to mwalsh@msu.edu.

Why sign up?

- Courses will be connected in an interesting manner and address similar topics from differing perspectives
- Will show how natural scientists and social scientists understand, identify, and address major environmental issues including sustainability, climate change, and energy resources
- Will satisfy one half of the Integrative Studies requirement in the Sciences as well as the Social Sciences