Marine Fisheries Policy
GLOBAL FISHERIES: Human-Environment Interactions in Marine and Coastal Ecosystems
Department of Human Ecology
Spring Semester 2020

Course Information
Number Section: 374-428-01
Meeting Time: (class meets once a week, Thursday 2.45 hrs)
Location: Blake 131
Website: Canvas

Instructor
Victoria C. Ramenzoni
Cook Office Building, Office 211.
Victoria.Ramenzoni@rutgers.edu
Office Hours: by appointment.

Marine Fisheries Policy

Introduction
During this course, we will explore major theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of human environmental interactions in coastal and marine landscapes. We will explore classic, contemporary, and cutting-edge research articles from different disciplines such as Anthropology, Sociology, Human Geography, Economics, Fishery Sciences, and Natural Resource Management. Our goal will be to identify the major approaches that have been proposed to understand how societies and environments can reciprocally influence each other. Through this process, we will also examine the status of key issues in the management of coastal and marine resources we rely on, challenges to their sustainable use, and potential pathways into the future.

The class will be framed around two principles:

1) Marine and coastal ecosystems are complex socioecological systems that can show emerging behaviors. Through feedback mechanisms and processes of interaction at different scales and among different components, new unpredictable conditions may arise. In short, we are approaching a moving target.

2) Managing natural resources is tantamount to managing people. We require multidisciplinary approaches to effectively anticipate and adapt to new conditions.

During this class, I strongly encourage the critical consideration of conceptual definitions such as environment, culture, society, and landscape. Critical in this instance means that we will not take any assumptions or explanations for granted. In class, we will reconstruct the historical and epistemological context in which definitions and argumentations are used and how they have been applied in resource use policies.

Objectives: What’s in for me?
If all goes well, at the end of this course you would have gained a new theoretical and analytical toolbox that will help you understand how different societies and cultures can influence and be influenced by coastal and ocean environments. Hopefully, you may be able to transpose some of these insights and skills into your own work.

- New skills and abilities in identifying the different uses of marine and coastal environments by human societies, and the resulting patterns of environmental modification and/or trajectories of degradation.
• New skills and abilities in identifying the many societal and cultural configurations that result from interacting with coastal and marine environments.

• New skills in identifying past, current, and emerging threats to coastal and marine landscapes.

Thematic
• Review and evaluate major theoretical and applied frameworks for explaining human-environmental interactions, coastal and marine ecosystems persistence and change.
• Consider human adaptation, and cultural and behavioral variation across different ecologies and spatial and temporal scales.
• Explore and discuss theoretical tools and methodological techniques for studying landscapes (from qualitative studies, to reconstructions and statistical models).
• Discuss the application of theoretical frameworks into different resource management tools and policies.

Instructional
• To expose students to different approaches in the field of socioecological systems, human ecology, and natural resource management policies, including historical and contemporary works, with a keen eye on social science contributions to management.
• To train students to be more effective readers and engage in discussions, to be able to identify major theses and limitations in other perspectives, to identify benefits and ways to move forward in addressing obstacles.
• To train students to be more effective in written and oral presentation, argumentation and facilitation techniques.
• To train students in the development of a thematic literature review and annotated bibliography.

Assignments

1) DISCUSSION LEADER
You will be responsible for leading discussion in one session (see topics below) next to a partner. This requires the formulation of a reading guide with questions for the class you are assigned to lead or co-lead. The guide has to be elaborated with your partner and submitted 3 days ahead of the appointed session (Tuesday before).

2) BOOK: Choose a book discussing a fishery of your interest and prepare for discussion.

3) EXAMS
You will be responsible for two short essays (1800 words) addressing questions posed by the instructor. Essays should include a critical consideration of the readings and issues explored in the class.

4) FINAL
You will be responsible for developing a short and to the point research paper (4000 words, without citations), on a topic of your choosing. The term paper offers students (1) the opportunity to explore a topic of their choosing in greater depth, and (2) an exercise in scientific critical writing. Topics should pertain to the themes discussed in the class. The paper is something you should be working on throughout the quarter. The assignment will have several parts and due dates. More specifics of the assignment will be provided in a separate handout.
In the meantime, the paper has to include an extension/intervention component which can take the shape of direct recommendations for action on a particular issue. **To complete the full assignment: You will be required to submit a short statement describing the research problem you will address, its relevance, and your plan for generating the recommendations (800 words), an annotated bibliography (no less than 10 additional peer-reviewed sources), a first draft for revisions (optional), and a final draft at the end of the course.**

**On writing conventions and citation style:**
All written materials for this class will be typed and consistently formatted. For issues of style beyond general document formatting refer to the current APA/MLA norms. Use American word spellings. If you need any help on managing citations and software, please do not hesitate to reach out. I advise the use of Zotero or any other reference manager for your project.

**Grades**
To get an A, you are required to have at least 94 points. To get a B, you should score somewhere between 85 and 83, and a C anywhere between 73 and 75. A D is any score between 63 and 65. You will fail if you score below 60.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Participation by leading/assisting discussion.</td>
<td>10 points</td>
<td>By choice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research problem statement</td>
<td>5 points</td>
<td>2/13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take Home Exams</td>
<td>20 points each</td>
<td>3/12 and 4/23</td>
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<td>Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>10 points</td>
<td>3/26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Discussion</td>
<td>10 points</td>
<td>3/5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>25 points</td>
<td>5/7</td>
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<td><strong>100 points</strong></td>
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Extra points will be awarded for participation and during extra-credit assignments (10 points). So, you can still make an A even when you don’t get perfect scores on the class assignments.

**Expectations and Requirements:**
- Punctual attendance.
- Active participation in class.
- On-time submissions (you will lose points for not submitting on time…)
- DO THE READINGs and Do your own work!
- Compliance with Rutgers policies for ethical conduct. Each student is responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.

**Participation:**
The instructor recognizes that talking in public may be easier for some while difficult for others. All of this said, you are strongly encouraged to take part in discussions, state your informed opinion (based on arguments from the class materials and
evidence-based articles or case studies), and challenge any assumptions that you may find compelling or wrong.

**Late Assignments/Make-ups:** Can I take an exam late or submit an assignment late? Not unless you have a really good reason—trouble with the law, unforeseen illness or death, savage attack by wild geese, etc. Whether a make-up assignment will be permitted, and its format, are at the discretion of the instructor. If at all possible, please contact the instructor before the due date, or alternatively, within the following 24 hours.

**Attendance:** Class attendance is very important, both for individual benefits and for the collective social benefits that come from class discussion. As an added incentive to participate, you will lose (0.5 %) class points for each class you miss. Doctors’ notes, obituaries, and attendance to academic conferences are the only justifiable excuses for missing class. If weather, vehicle maintenance issues, heartache, sickness, etc. cause you to miss class, the instructor will be sympathetic, but you will not earn attendance points.

Learning disabilities: Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations in order to participate in course activities or meet course requirements should contact the instructor or designate during regular office hours or by appointment. Rutgers has many resources that we can rely upon, but this requires some planning. So meeting with the instructor is the best way we can make the most out of available resources.

**Course Readings**

Textbooks (Can be purchased online on your vendor of preference. Get the ebook version and save a tree in the process.)


### Readings by Week

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/23</td>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Syllabus and Documentary. “Troubled Waters” by Matthew Judge and Robert Crane. <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YACTNvuijQY&amp;t=452s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YACTNvuijQY&amp;t=452s</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/6</td>
<td>Week 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Session</td>
<td>Readings</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/5</td>
<td>Book Session: Discussing Fishery Case Studies.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/12</td>
<td><strong>Take Home Exam 1 DUE.</strong> CLASSE Cancelled: University closed due to COVID-19</td>
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3/19 | SPRINGBREAK


4/30 Governance Metrics: Ecosystem Services and Human Wellbeing. Exploring valuation of natural resources and compensatory mechanisms (MARES).


5/7 Reassessing Management for the Future. FINAL PAPER DUE.

