

English 492/Environmental Science 492
Literature of the Environment
Spring, 2001

Noland
Office: Morton 127
Hours: 1-2 MWF and by appointment.

Policy Statement

We will be looking at texts that concern themselves with the relationships between humans and the non-human natural world. Since this class is part English and part Environmental Studies, we will undertake multiple tasks: engaging in, analyzing and responding to literary art; noticing the ways in which our readings help illuminate contemporary environmental dilemmas; using the foregoing to help create our future. To that end, **active** participation in all facets of the course is imperative.

Texts:

Notes from the Shore. Ackerman.

Desert Solitaire. Abbey.

Young Men and Fire. MacLean.

The Song of the Dodo. Quammen.

Other readings will be assigned during the semester.

Grading:

Responses	30%
Two shortish papers	20-30%
Two projects	30%
Class participation	10-20%

Attendance:

You really should attend every class, though there will be no penalty for missing up to three. Four to six absences will adversely affect your grade, and over six absences are grounds for failure.

General:

Please be in class by 10 am, having **thoroughly** prepared any assignments, written or reading, for that day. All work must be completed to pass the class, and I am under no obligation to accept any late work, though I understand the exigencies of life.

Provisional first syllabus:

Jan 8 Introduction to course.

Jan 10 Read Ackerman's "Prologue" and "Har

Jan 12 Ackerman's "Osprey."

Jan 15 Martin Luther King Day

Jan 17 Ackerman's "Between the Tides" and "The Crab's Tail" (Read these at the beach).

Jan 19 "Five Fathoms."

Jan 22 "The Great Marsh."

Jan 24 "The Strange and the Wonderful."

Jan 26 "Seeds of Mischief" and "Spindrift"; first response due.