FLR 410/510
Folklore of Activism
Winter 2011

Dr. John Baumann
Office Hours: T, Th 5:30-7:00

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course will explore the richness, complexity, and power of activist expression. With a core focus on radical environmentalism, we will consider a wide variety of issues within social and environmental justice activism. Influential justice-based philosophies, case studies, history, and current issues will be the means through which we attempt to ascertain an overview of the myriad forms of social and environmental activism. Topics will include corporate roles in environmental degradation, sustainable agriculture, forestry in the Pacific Northwest, radical environmental responses, public perceptions of “green” action, policy-making, and social/environmental philosophies.

REQUIREMENTS:
Due to the intensive nature of the course, students are expected to attend all classes. Students must keep up with the reading schedule, and should come to class prepared with questions and comments daily. Students should take notes during class to augment reading notes.

EVALUATION:
Grades will be based on

1. Weekly response papers. A total of ten 1-2 page response papers must be submitted in order to earn the full grade for this aspect of evaluation. These response papers must be sent electronically to the instructor (baumann@uoregon.edu) every Saturday by 5 pm. Writing should reflect critically and personally on the week’s discussions and readings. Please, no scathing judgements. Try to crawl inside the writings and discussions and find something of value. Each response paper should address a minimum of 4 pages of articles/essays (3 points each - 30 points total)

2. Midterm Essay Exam (30 points)

3. One short paper summarizing your radical environmentalism project. You will present an overview of your project to the class. Projects are open to student imagination, but you may wish to develop a public presentation, give a teach-in to the campus or local community, organize a resistance activity, or any number of possibilities. Group work is encouraged. Professor approval required. Write a short (minimum five pages) summary of the action, reflecting on the experience. Due before class on Tuesday, March 1. (30 points)
4. Class participation and attendance. This means MORE than just showing up. You are expected to read all the materials, and come to class with questions and comments. To help the participation grade, students are encouraged to bring in news items correlating to class discussions. If you are shy, use this safe space to move through it. There are no dumb questions or comments – we will respectfully consider all perspectives and opinions. (10 points)

All papers should be properly cited, and will be graded on both content and style.
I reserve the right to change the requirements of the course.

Folklore of Activism: Course Schedule
Readings are due on the date listed.

READING
Jan
4 No Reading

6 Context
Environmental Performance Index 2010 Map
Environmental Rankings Countries 2010
United States Ranks 28th on Environment, a New Study Says.htm
Nelson - An Amalgamation of Wilderness Preservation Arguments (20)
Speth - A New American Environmentalism

11 History and Society
Carson Silent Spring excerpt
Chim Blea - The Heritage of Western Civilization
Best and Nocella - A Fire in the Belly of the Beast- The Emergence of Revolutionary Environmentalism
Uncommon Ground (Nature as Community: The Convergence of Environment and Social Justice 298-320)

13 Tactics
A Declaration of Sustainability – Hawken
Taylor - Religion, Violence and Radical Environmentalism- From Earth First! to the Unabomber to the Earth Liberation Front 1-28
Infoshop Mediaguide - What you don't know on the Internet
OrganizeToWin (Peruse, Scan, Assess)
Direct Action links
18 **Anarchy**  
Abbey - Theory of Anarchy  
ABCsOfAnarchy  
Manes - Ascent to Anarchy 6(7)21(aug86)  
MacDougall - Humans As Cancer  
Unabombers Manifesto (Peruse, Scan, Assess)  
**What Is Primitivism?**

20 **Animism and Connection**  
Abram interview NPR  
Abram - Magic, Animism and the Shaman's Craft from Encyc. of Religion and Nature  
Abram - Returning To Our Animal Senses  
Lopez - The Language of Animals  
Harvey - Animism Today from Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature  
Chim Blea - On Domestication (Cat Tracks) 3(3)2(mar83)  
Innes - Testimony of Graham Innes  
Robinson Jeffers - The Answer

25 **Paganism**  
Harvey - Paganism from Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature  
Drengson - Paganism, Nature, and Deep Ecology 8(5)19-20(may88)  
Manes - Paganism as Resistance 8(5)21-22(may88)  
Harris - Dragon Environmental Network from Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature  
Plows - Donga Tribe from Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature  
Taylor - Resacralizing Earth- Pagan Environmentalism and the Restoration of Turtle Island

27 **Earth First!**  
Taylor - Earth First! and Earth Liberation Front  
Bari - 1990 A Year In The Life Of Earth First! -Timber Wars (67-81)  
Zakin - Coyotes and Town Dogs Prologue (1-11)  
Taylor - Animals in the Woods  
Bari - Breaking Up Is Hard To Do - Timber Wars (55-59)-1 (Dave leaves)  
Foreman and Morton - Good Luck Darlin' It's Been Great 10(8)5(sep90)

Feb 1 **Monkey-Wrenching**  
Bari - The Secret History of Tree Spiking  
Abbey-Ecodefense  
CM - An Appraisal of Monkeywrenching 10(3)30(feb90)  
Foreman - Strategic Monkeywrenching  
Foreman - Whither Monkeywrenching? 10(1)32(nov89)  
Hellenbach - The Future of Monkeywrenching  
Jensen - What Goes Up Must Come Down
3  
**Earth Liberation Front**

*Burning Rage of a Dying Planet* - Google Books

*A Burning Rage Pt 1* video

*Green With a Vengeance* video

*Igniting a Revolution - Earth Liberation Front (part I)* video

*Igniting a Revolution - Earth Liberation Front (part II)*

*Earth Liberation Front* video

*CNN Exclusive* video

Ecoterrorism Suspected in House Fires in Seattle Suburb

ELF folks arrested

Grigoriadis - *The Rise & Fall of the Eco-Radical Underground*  *RollingStone*(july07)

Luers - *From Protest To Resistance*

Rasmussen - *Green Rage*  *Orion*(jan-feb07)

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8  
**Eugene**

Abraham - *Flames of Dissent* - *EugeneWeekly*(Nov-Dec06)

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10  
**Paul Watson/Sea Shepherd/The Issue of “Violence”**

Best - Paul Watson and Sea Shepherd from Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature

Watson - *Sea Shepherd* - *Bringing Justice to the High Seas*

Foreman - *Earth First! and Nonviolence*  3(7)11(sep83)

Foreman - *Violence and Earth First!*  (editorial)2(4)4(mar82)

McFarlane&Echt - *Cult of Nonviolence*  18(1)3,17(nov-dec97)

Roselle - *Movement Building Basics* - Please Open to Michael 3-16  18(4)8(mar98)

response to *Cult of Nonviolence*

Regan - *How to Justify Violence*

Wolke - *On Violence*  3(7)12(sep83)

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15  
**Toxins, Biotech, Meat Production, Bioregionalism**

Common Courage Reader - Invisible Threat, Food Fight, Against The Grain, Are You The One in Eight?

1. Fagin/Lavelle/CPI – The Invisible Threat: Toxic Deception 190-200

2. Stauber/Rampton – Food Fight (Mad Cow) 201-208

3. Lappé/Bailey – Intro of Against The Grain (biotech) 209-223

4. Clorfene-Casten – Are You The One In Eight? (Breast Cancer/toxins) 224-228

McGinnis—Bioregionalism

Taylor - Snyder and The Invention of Bioregionalism from Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature

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17  
**School of the Americas**

SOA overview

What Is The SOA-WHINSEC

Solomon/Cohen – School of the Terrorists…Near CNN HQ in Atlanta 272-274
Protest Music
Evolution of The Protest Song
The Music of Protest
Tracking the Sound of Revolution

Indigenous Peoples
Hayes - Hopi to Rainforest Action Network from Encyc Religion and Nature
Globalization- Effects on Indigenous Peoples
Loeffler - Black Mesa
Emenhisre - G - O Road
Peterson - Indigenous Activism and Environmentalism in Latin America from Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature
Taylor - Earthen Spirituality or Cultural Genocide

Globalization and The Global Justice Movement
Korten globalization articles (Explore in-depth)
Welton/Wolf – Global Uprising
Service – Our Sacred Duty 2-6
Dixon – The Roots of My Resistance 12-19
Global Exchange/Public Citizen – The Global Rule Makers 20-24
Starr – Art and Revolution 33-37
Sellers – Ruckus Society 42-44
Organizing a New Generation of Activists 45-52

Globalization and The Global Justice Movement
Yuri The Yaba – Yabasta 53-56
Warcry – My Family Wears Black: A Manifesto on Militancy and Anarchism in the Anti-Globalization Movement 60-66
Redden – COINTELPRO 67-72
Manigo – Weeks of Rage 84-87
Swearingen – No Picnic: Campaign Against Environmental Racism 118-120
Shapiro – Factory Farms, Slaughterhouses, and Laboratories 172-175
Klein – Branded 194-199
Hill – Surviving the Storm 224-228
Starhawk – Lifelong Activism 262-264
8  **Global Backlash**  
IFG - Alternatives to Economic Globalization 42-46  
Heckscher - Historical Resistance to Economic Globalization 86-91  
Gélinas - The Pillars of the System (overview econ global) 106-111  
Ericson - The Conscious Consumer: Promoting Economic Justice through Fair Trade 188-191  
Masih/Underwood - Presentation and Acceptance of Reebok Youth in Action Award 199-200  
Subcomandante Marcos - Our Word Is Our Weapon 258-261  
The Cochabamba Declaration on Water: Globalization, Privatization, And The Search for Alternatives 273  

10  **Religious Right**  
Diamond – School Days, Rule Days (right wing home schooling) 248-253  