

Nature Politics Power



GEOG 673.101 **Ecological Politics &** **Political Ecologies**

Spring 2023
Tuesdays, 6:30-9:10

LA 2330
Jeremy Tasch

Nature exists, as does its production, construction, representation, use and degradation. So too do the constructs of ecology, politics, economics, and culture. Consequently, we will critically examine the relationships among the ideas of nature, culture, politics, and society. In so doing, we will try to answer how and why economic structures, power, and nature-society relations drive environmental change.

As we investigate whose use, claims to, and/or perceptions of the environment prevail and why, much of the seminar's theoretical framing will derive from political ecology and much of our critique will concern sustainable development. Students will lead class discussions, submit brief reaction essays, and conduct primary research on a question or theme appropriate for the seminar.