OUR GLOBAL BACKYARD — UGS 303
TTH 1230 – 130PM, BUR 116 — FALL 2011

INSTRUCTOR:	DR. KELLEY CREWS ("DR. K")
EMAIL:	KAC @ UTS.CC.UTEXAS.EDU
OFFICE HOURS:	THURSDAY 130PM – 3PM & BY APPT
OFFICE:	GRG 228, 232.5909 (2.5909)
TA:	MARIO CARDOZO
EMAIL:	MCARDOZO @ MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU
OFFICE:	GRG 206 (HOLZ LAB)
OFFICE HOURS:	TUESDAY 5PM – 7PM, FRIDAY 2PM-4PM
LAB / RECITATION:	SECTION 1, 64840: FRIDAY 10 – 11, BUR 128
	SECTION 2, 64845: FRIDAY 11 – 12, BUR 128
	SECTION 3, 64850: FRIDAY 12 – 1, BUR 128

USE OF EMAIL AS OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE**: All students should familiarize themselves with UT's official email student notification policy. It is the student's responsibility to keep UT informed as to a current email address as well as to check email on a frequent and regular basis for routine as well as time-sensitive communication. For further information see* ***http://www.utexas.edu/its/policies/emailnotify.html

BLACKBOARD:** All class assignments, readings, supporting materials and announcements will be housed on the course's Blackboard site, accessible via* ***http://courses.utexas.edu

***HONOR CODE**: Students are required to familiarize themselves with and follow all UT Academic Integrity policies and Standards of Conduct, including but not limited to 1) neither giving nor receiving assistance in tests is acceptable and 2) turning in the same paper for two classes' assignments is not acceptable. Failure to comply with these and all other UT Academic Integrity policies will result in penalization to the furthest extent of UT policy. These policies are available at* **http://registrar.utexas.edu/catalogs/**

DISABILITIES**: Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259,* ***http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/

***RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS**: By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.*

TEXT: None! A variety of multimedia materials will be shown in class and/or posted on Blackboard.

DESCRIPTION: Understanding the pressures on the world's environments and people is of paramount importance to maintaining global resources for current and future generations. Many of the most challenging environmental conflicts today present transboundary problems, where either the source of environmental bad or impacted peoples straddle administrative and political boundaries. Simultaneously many human populations around the world suffer from food and political security issues that seemingly negate their ability to engage with global environmental concerns despite the clear linkages between human health and environmental quality. Meanwhile, the world's population and consumption continue to increase, though the disparity of living quality among peoples and countries also increases. This dilemma only heightens the importance and urgency of addressing coupled environmental issues such as global warming and industrialization, agricultural production and water quantity/quality shortages, and ecosystem quality and human health. Understanding global environmental problems can be contextualized as issues that have both local impacts as well as opportunities for local solutions. First we will build global geographic literacy and work to understand differences in developed versus developing states. Second, we will turn our attention inward to assess US and Texas on the same issues, building an understanding of the similarities, differences, and potential synergies of local to global human-environment interactions. This course will tackle the science and technology of understanding these reciprocal through a series of case studies in both industrialized and developing states, emphasizing throughout the impacts of globalization on bringing Texas to the world and the world to our own backyard.

ATTENDANCE & GRADING: In addition to a formal attendance grade, students are responsible for all materials presented in class, in discussion/lab, and posted online; there are ***no make-ups***. Laptops are **NOT** allowed in class during lectures without explicit instructor authorization. There will be a **mandatory** final exercise during the final exam time: **Friday, December 9th, 9am – 12m**. Lab reports are due the following week unless otherwise indicated. All assignments are due at the ***beginning*** of class/lab on the assigned day. Late assignments will ***not*** be accepted. Students may **only** attend their assigned discussion section; absolutely NO switching of section times is permissible. Students are expected to be in section and ready to go at the beginning of section time. Late students must catch up on their own, and tardiness resulting in failure to complete in-class or related components in class or discussion section will count as a zero. Final grades for the class will be whole grade only (no plus or minus grading), as shown below and comprised of the following components:

GRADING COMPONENTS:		**FINAL GRADE SCALE:**
10%	Discussion Group - Participation	**10%** 90.0
20%	Discussion Group – Exercises	**20%** 80.0 – 89.9
20%	Final (Fun!) Exercise	**20%** 70.0 – 79.9
50%	Daily Exercises (drop lowest two)	**50%** 60.0 – 69.9
	Quizzes, writing, peer & group work	F: ≤ 59.9

❖ **NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS, NO MAKE-UPS, AND NO EXCEPTIONS.** ❖

(EXTREME SITUATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED, BUT LET ME KNOW AS SOON AS A SITUATION ARISES. HOLIDAY TRIPS ARE NOT A COMPELLING REASON.)

Course Schedule (subject to amendment based upon class progress):

UGS 303 Fall 2011 Schedule				
Date		**Lecture**	**Discussion Section**	**Quote**
August	25	Overview, Syllabus	**NO CLASS**	What starts here changes the world. -- *University of Texas*
September	30 1	Globalization / Shepherd Commodity Chains, Permit Trading	Food; Visit from Nourish International (service)	You are what you eat.** -- *Anthelme Brillat-Savarin*
	6 8	Mock "Congress" exercise Visit LBJ Museum - **Gem # 1**	Representation	Observations always involve theory. -- *Edwin Hubble*
	12	***UGS Lecture Series: Mon evening, 9/12 @ Bass Concert Hall: Film & Student Filmmaking***		
	13 15	Watch Identity film (***District 9***) Finish and discuss film	Identity	I am a freeman, an American, a United States Senator, and a Democrat, in that order. -- *Lyndon B. Johnson*
	20 22	Turner's Landscapes, Ecosystems Consumption & Sustainability	Niche	Infinite growth of material consumption in a finite world is an impossibility. -- *E.F. Schumacher*
	27 29	Watch ***The Unforeseen*** (portion) Environmental Ethics & Trade-offs	Environmental Footprints	That land is a community is the basic concept of ecology, but that land is to be loved and respected is an extension of ethics. -- *Aldo Leopold*
October	4 6	Visit Waller Creek - **Gem # 2** Sustainable Landscapes / Cities	(Re)designing Campus, Dr. Steven Moore, Berlin	Maybe we can show government how to operate better as a result of better architecture. -- *Frank Lloyd Wright*
	11 13	Ecological Footprints (Re)designing your habits	Car Pollution on Campus	Thank God men cannot fly, and lay waste the sky as well as the earth. -- *Henry David Thoreau*
	18 20	MDGs - How are we doing? World's Problems -- and Solutions	Lyrics	Global poverty is a powder keg that could be ignited by our indifference. -- *William J. Clinton*
	25 27	International Poverty / Wealth Domestic & Texas Poverty / Wealth	Faces of Poverty	Open markets offer the only realistic hope of pulling billions of people in developing countries out of abject poverty, while sustaining prosperity in the industrialized world. -- *Kofi Annan*
November	1 3	Watch ***Wooden Camera*** (portion) Paths & Choices; Vote on WPS favouri	Time Capsule	I have prepared one of my own [timecapsules]. I have placed some rather large samples of dynamite, gunpowder, and nitroglycerin. My time capsule is set to go off in the year 3000. It will show them what we are really like. -- *Alfred Hitchcock*
	8 10	Who has Standing? WPS # 1	Ransom Center & Censorship, **Gem # 3**	If we don't believe in freedom of expression for people we despise, we don't believe in it at all. -- *Noam Chomsky*
	15 17	WPS # 2 WPS # 3	Thanksgiving / Traditions	All the problems we face in the United States today can be traced to an unenlightened immigration policy on the part of the American Indian. -- *Pat Paulsen*
	22 24	**NO CLASS**	**NO CLASS**	**All great change in America begins at the dinner table. -- *Ronald Reagan***
December	29 1	Watch 11th Hour (in part) Wrap-up, Final Exercise review, Evaluations	Prepping for the Final Exercise - Role Research; Evaluations	I want you to be concerned about your next door neighbor. Do you know your next door neighbor? -- *Mother Theresa*
	9	**Final Exercise, Friday the 9th, 9am - 12m**		**Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover. -- *Mark Twain***

**"Dis-moi ce que tu manges, je te dirai ce que tu es." [Tell me what you eat and I shall tell you what you are]. This quote appears in "Physiologie du Gout, ou Meditations de Gastronomie Transcendante, 1826", ("Physiology of Taste, or Meditations on Transcendental Gastronomy). It was written by French doctor and gourmand, Anthelme Brillat-Savarin.