

**American Environmental History
Spring 2009**

Examiner: Dan Flores

Native Americans and American Nature:

Shepard Krech III, *The Ecological Indian: Myth and History* (1999).

Richard White, *Roots of Dependency: Subsistence, Environment, and Social Change Among the Choctaws, Pawnees, and Navajos* (1983).

Keith Basso, *Wisdom Sits in Places*(1997).

Theodore Binnema, *Common and Contested Ground: A Human and Environmental History of the Northwestern Plains*(2001).

European and Global Antecedents:

Clive Ponting, *A Green History of the World: The Environment and The Collapse of Great Civilizations*(1991).

Alfred Crosby, *The Columbian Exchange: Biological and Cultural Consequences of 1492* (1972).

Max Oelschlaeger, *The Idea of Wilderness: From Prehistory to the Age of Ecology* (1991).

The Romantic Age and the Cult of Nature:

Theodore Steinberg, *Down to Nature: Nature's Role in American History*(2002).

Paul Shepard, *Man in the Landscape: A Historic View of The Esthetics of Nature*(1973).

Leo Marx, *The Machine in the Garden*(1964).

Lee Clark Mitchell, *Witness to a Vanishing America: The 19th Century Response*(1981).

Carolyn Merchant, *Reinventing Eden: The Fate of Nature in Western Culture*(2003).

Environment and the American West:

Patricia Limerick, *The Legacy of Conquest: The Unbroken Past of the American West* (1987).

Wallace Stegner, *Beyond the Hundredth Meridian: John Wesley Powell and the Second Opening of the West*(1954).

William Cronon, *Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West*(1991).

Donald McMillan, *Smoke Wars: Anaconda Copper, Montana Air Pollution, and the Courts, 1890-1920*(2000).

Henry Nash Smith, *Virgin Land: The American West in Symbol and Myth*(1950).

Annette Kolodny, *The Lay of the Land*(1975).

Dan Flores, *The Natural West: Environmental History in the Great Plains and Rocky Mountains* (2001).

Richard White, *'It's Your Misfortune and None of My Own': A New History of the American West* (1991).

William Goetzmann, *Exploration and Empire: The Explorer and the Scientist in the Winning of the West* (1966).

Walter Prescott Webb, *The Great Plains: A Study in Institutions and Environment* (1931).

Hal Rothman, *Devil's Bargain: Tourism in the 20th-Century American West* (1998).

Liza Nicholas, et al., eds., *Imagining the Big Open: Nature, Identity, and Play in the New West* (2003).

Bioregional Environmental Histories:

Richard White, *Land Use, Environment, and Social Change: A History of Island County, Washington* (1979).

William DeBuys, *Enchantment and Exploration: The Life and Hard Times of a New Mexico Mountain Range* (1985).

Robert Schneiders, *Big Sky Rivers* (2004).

Yi-Fu Tuan, *Topophilia: A Study of Environmental Perception, Attitudes, and Values* (1974).

William Cronon, *Changes in the Land: Indians, Colonists, and the Ecology of New England* (1983).

Tom Wolf, *Colorado's Sangre de Cristo Mountains* (1999).

Tracy Stone-Manning and Emily Miller, eds., *The River We Carry With Us: Two Centuries of Writing From the Clark Fork Basin* (2002).

Conservation Origins: Progressive Era and New Deal:

Samuel Hays, *Conservation and the Gospel of Efficiency: The Progressive Conservation Movement, 1890-1920*(1969)

George Perkins Marsh, *Man and Nature* (1864).

Donald Worster, *Dust Bowl: The Southern Plains in the 1930s* (1980).

Richard Lowitt, *The New Deal and the West* (1981).

Don Baldwin, *The Quiet Revolution: Grass-Roots of Today's Wilderness Preservation Movement* (1972).

Wildlife and Water:

Richard Nelson, *Heart and Blood: Living With Deer in America* (1997).

Donald Worster, *Rivers of Empire: Water, Aridity, and the Growth of the American West* (1985).

Marc Risner, *Cadillac Desert* (1985).

Tim Palmer, *Endangered Rivers and Conservation* (1987).

Mark Harvey, *A Symbol of Wilderness: Echo Park and the American Conservation Movement*(1994).

Richard White, *The Organic Machine* (1995).

Donald Pisani, *To Reclaim a Divided West: Water, Law, and Public Policy, 1848-1902* (1992).

---, *Water and American Government: The Reclamation Bureau, National Water Policy, and the West, 1902-1935* (2002).

Paul Shepard, *The Others: How Animals Made Us Human* (1996).

E.O. Wilson and Dan Perlman, *Conserving Earth's Biodiversity* (1999).

Parks and Forests: I haven't read anything in this category, so recommend the best or most useful stuff. Here are my guesses.

Michael Williams, *Americans and Their Forests: A Historical Geography* (1989).

Char Miller, ed., *American Forests: Nature, Culture, Politics* (1997).

Richard Tucker, *Insatiable Appetite: The United States and the Ecological Degradation of the Tropical World* (2001).

Energy, Cities, and Politics Since WWII:

Samuel Hays, *Beauty, Health, and Permanence: Environmental Politics in the U.S., 1955-1985*(1987).

Samuel Hays, *A History of Environmental Politics Since 1945* (2000).

Donald Worster, *To The Ends of The Earth: 20th Century Environmental Issues* (1989).

Jacqueline Switzer, *Green Backlash: The History and Politics of Environmental Opposition in the United States* (1997).

Ecology (the science) and Environmentalism (the social movement):

Rachel Carson, *Silent Spring* (1962).

Donald Worster, *Nature's Economy: The Roots of Ecology* (1976).

Anna Bramwell, *Ecology in the 20th Century: A History* (1989).

Frederick Buell, *From Apocalypse to Way of Life: Environmental Crisis in the American Century* (2003).

John Bliese, *The Greening of Conservative America* (2002).

James Speth, *Red Sky at Morning: America and the Crisis of the Global Environment* (2nd edition, 2005).

Daniel Botkin, *Discordant Harmonies: A New Ecology for the 21st Century*(1990).

Biography and Autobiography:

Frederick Turner, *Rediscovering America: John Muir in His Time and Ours*(1985).

John McPhee, *Encounters With the Archdruid*(1971).

John Foster, *Marx's Ecology: Materialism and Nature* (2000).

Vera Norwood, *Made From This Earth: American Women and Nature* (1994).

Char Miller, *Gifford Pinchot and the Making of Modern Environmentalism* (2002).

Peter Wild, *Pioneer Conservationists of Western North America* (1978).

Richard Etulain, ed., *Western Lives: A Biographical History of the American West* (2004).

Topical Treatments:

Sociobiology & Biophilia:

Robert Wright, *The Moral Animal: The New Science of Evolutionary Psychology* (1994).

Stephen Pinker, *Blank Slate: The Modern Denial of Human Nature* (2002).

Edward Wilson, *On Human Nature*(1978) or *Consilience* (1999).

Matt Ridley, *Nature and Nurture* (2003).

Ethne Barnes, *Diseases and Human Evolution* (2005).

Fire:

Stephen Pyne, *Year of the Fires! The Story of the Great Fires of 1910* (2001).

Gender & Ecofeminism:

Virginia Scharff, ed., *Seeing Nature Through Gender* (2003).

Climate & History:

Stewart Udall, *The Quiet Crisis and The Next Generation* (1988).

Elizabeth Kolbert, *Field Notes From a Catastrophe* (2006).

Wilderness & Public Lands:

Roderick Nash, *Wilderness and the American Mind* (4th edition, 2002).

Paul Sutter, *Driven Wild: How the Fight Against Automobiles Launched the Modern Wilderness Movement* (2002).

Environmental Philosophy:

Paul Shepard, *Nature and Madness* (1982).

---, *The Tender Carnivore and the Sacred Game*(1973).

George Sessions, ed., *Deep Ecology For the 21st Century* (1995).

American Nature Writing and Literature:

Richard Nelson, *The Island Within* (1991).

John McPhee, *Coming Into the Country* (1991).

Alan Weltzien and Susan Maher, *Coming Into McPhee Country: John McPhee and the Art of Literary Nonfiction* (2003).

Edward Abbey, *Desert Solitaire: A Season in the Wilderness*(1968).

---, *The Monkey Wrench Gang*(1977).

---, *Hayduke Lives*(1990).

Rick Bass, *Winter*(1992).

David James Duncan, *My Story As Told By Water*(2001).

Henry David Thoreau, *Walden* (1854).