Social Science Perspectives on Environmental Issues

This module aims to widen students' knowledge of a variety of topical and/or scientifically important or controversial environmental issues, to encourage students to look at environmental studies from the perspectives of the several social science disciplines (sociology, social policy, political science, anthropology and law), to make connections between questions stimulated by their own individual disciplinary backgrounds and those raised in the course, and to reflect critically upon the advantages and limitations of the various perspectives. The module covers a variety of topics which include: the nature of environmental issues; the rise of environmental consciousness and environmentalism; the social construction of risk and environmental justice; global warming, climate change and energy policy; sustainable development and ecological modernisation; ecotourism; ecology, conservation and development; environmental policy and law.

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