

Here is a partial list of paper topics from the 2006-2012 Historical Ecology classes.

AIDS In Southern Africa: Historical Influences
Challenge of Deforestation in Turkey
Human Disturbance in Haiti – focusing on three periods in Haitian history
Depletion of ground water reservoirs in the American Southwest
The introduction of agriculture, disturbance to soil characteristics, and the evolution of tree communities in Central Europe. – linking changes in landscape and biotic communities to the way agriculture was first introduced
Anthropogenic burning and Forest management before and following European colonization of the Pacific Northwest. – an award winning paper on how landscapes were managed by Native Americans differently than modern forest managers with significant consequences
Salmon farming and ecological health in the Pacific Northwest – looking at how the practice of salmon farming is having unintended consequences on the ecological dynamics of surrounding marine environments.
Water Shortages in Jordan
Change in the mode of subsistence of a South India tribal group from one of a mixture of hunting-gathering and shifting agriculture to that of settled agriculture
Land Degradation and Desertification in South Africa
“Private reindeer are immortal:” 20th century in the history of reindeer herding in Russia
Perched on the Edge: A Historical Ecological Study of the Lake Victoria Ecosystem (history of management practices and rapid ecological change)
A History of White-tailed Deer Hunting in the Ohio River Valley
Deer Infecting Cattle (historical ecology of disease transfers and flawed management of domestic bovine TB and Chronic Mass Wasting diseases (“mad cow”)
History of agricultural intensification and GMO attitudes in France and U.S. (a comparative analysis)
The Historical Ecology of Seattle’s Urban Green Spaces
China’s changing policy by comparative analysis of two earthquakes: 1976 Tangshan VS 2008 Wenchuan
GM Seed Usage and Farmers in Oaxaca, Mexico
Historical Ecology and the Duwamish River Watershed
Construction of the Aswan Dams: From Early History to the Future (policy and historical ecological changes)
The Environmental Impact of Refugee Camps: The Dadaab Camps of Eastern, Kenya
Introduction and ecological impacts of Feral pig, Coqui frog and Mongoose in the Hawaiian Islands.
Duwamish shaman James Zakuse and the changing political and ecological landscapes of the Montlake region in the mid 19th century.
Amazon Rainforest Depletion and Indigenous System
Comparison of two intentional communities for common pool resource management on Seattle’s Eastside.
Resiliency Music: Tracking the Historical Relation between Traditional Music, People, and Agro-ecological Systems through the Process of Mechanization in Japan and Thailand

Release and Reorganization in The Elwha River Watershed
Amazon Rainforest Depletion and Indigenous System
Becoming Rigid: Resilience, (In)flexibility, and the Colonial Transformation of
Environmental Risk in Kivalina, Alaska.
Effects of paradigmatic shifts on ecological and cultural resilience in the South Seattle
Region
Centrally Planned Disaster: Water Management & Resiliency in the Aral Sea Region
Deconstructing the Emerald City (comparison of the image and historical practice of
sustainable development in Seattle)
Analysis of the Lopez Island Resiliency Project
Effects of the “Green Revolution” in Punjab, India
Forest Gardeners of the Puget Sound: Traditional Low Level Food Production and
Permaculture
Hanford: From Hyperbolic Discounting to Careful Risk Assessment
The Effect of the Elwha and Glines Canyon Dams on the Elwha River’s Salmon
Populations
Social Networks, Migration, and the Role of Food (undocumented Hispanic farmers in
Washington state)
The Cultural Ecology of Hops Production in the Yakima River Valley, WA
Lake Washington: How the Ship Canal Changed Everything
Degradation and Restoration in the Skagit and Quinault River Systems: Concepts and
Perspectives in a Changing Climate
The Cost and Value of Carkeek Park: The effects of urbanization of the park and how that
related to the values of the region
The Quinault Indian Nation: Susceptible or Resilient Cultural Values Surrounding
Blueback Sockeye Salmon
Risk & Relational Ecologies in the Historic Food System of Puget Salish Territory
Nuclear Energy: Friend or Foe?

Other Possible Paper Themes:

Urban green space
Methodological integration – how to use historical and archaeological sources in historical
ecology
What is a natural state?
Water and population growth in India (or other regions of the world)
War and the environment
Seed preservation and ownership
Biodiversity and sustainability
Megafarming transformations to landscapes
GMOs and “naturalness”
Disease landscapes/ecology
Food origins and distribution systems
Water rights
Chemical pollutants and effects on ecosystems
Population growth
Global change (climate etc).