

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
Undergraduate Course Outline 2015-16**

Philosophy 2035F: Nature, Ecology and the Future

At Home on the Earth: Becoming Native to Our Place

Eited by David Landis Barnhill

Limits to Growth: The 30-Year Update

by Donella H. Meadows, Jorgen Randers, Dennis L. Meadows

The Corporation: The Pathological Pursuit of Profit and Power

by Joel Bakan

No-One Makes You Shop at Wal-Mart: The Surprising Deceptions of Individual Choice

by Thomas Slee

OBJECTIVES

This course aims to provide a transformative learning experience, by giving students tools for confronting and rethinking deep ethical and epistemological problems about the future. Several concrete objectives serve this overall aim. These include:

- x Giving students a basic understanding of several theoretical frameworks for analyzing global environmental problems, and the interrelations and limitations of these frameworks.

- x Providing students with models and opportunities for practicing honest and careful exploration of and response to difficult conceptual, ethical and epistemological problems.

- x Encouraging the integration of the intellectual insights from the course material with students' emotional, social, practical and creative lives through art production, blogging and field excursion.

- x Training students in effective articulation and communication of their thinking in both formal and informal writing, in discussion, and in designing and performing group presentations.

REQUIREMENTS

Classes will combine lectures and class discussions, with an emphasis on student participation. Students will contribute a blog post to an online forum. Two papers will be assigned (one about midterm, one close to the end of term).

These elements will be weighted as follows:

Paper I:	20%
Paper/Project II:	30%
Blog Post:	15%
Leading Discussion:	20%
Participation:	15%

AUDIT

Students wishing to audit the course should consult with the instructor prior to or during the first week of classes.

The **Department of Philosophy Policies** which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in Philosophy courses is available in the Undergraduate section of the Department of Philosophy website at <http://uwo.ca/philosophy/undergraduate/proceduresappeals.html>. It is your responsibility to understand the policies set out by the Senate and the Department of Philosophy, and thus ignorance of these policies cannot be used as grounds of appeal.