

HNRS 3035  
Fall 2020

# Environmental Issues: Underlying Causes and the Role of Humans

Instructor: Dr. Dominique G. Homberger

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Place: TBA French House

Time: Tu/Th 12:00 noon – 1:30 pm

## Course Description:

The course will guide participants from an understanding of the evolutionary and cultural history of the human species and its effects on the ecology of this Earth to a deeper understanding of the ethical dimensions of human actions.

The course will present overviews of (1) the physical characteristics of this earth; (2) some of the salient anatomical, physiological and behavioral characteristics of the human species; (3) the geographical expansion and adaptations of the human species; (4) some of the ecological effects of the human species; and (5) ethical considerations of modern human society, including the role of personal and collective responsibility and choice in our current complex, challenging and changing world.

Lectures will be supplemented by required readings from books, articles from the primary and secondary scientific literature, and news media items to facilitate energetic and fearless discussions.

Students will be expected to write essays on a research topic of their own choice and produce a capstone slide presentation on insights gained in this course.



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_human\\_migration#/media/File:Spreading\\_homo\\_sapiens\\_la.svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_human_migration#/media/File:Spreading_homo_sapiens_la.svg)



<http://www.wallpapers13.com/natural-landscape-background-79595/>



<https://twistedifter.com/2011/11/top-25-cities-with-most-high-rise-buildings/>