GREEN PRODUCTION, JUST PRODUCTION?
(POLS 692, Fall 2011, W, 1:00-3:50)

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I. Goals: During the last several years the greening of the economy has reemerged as a focus of national and global politics, such as the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. This seminar will focus on greening the economy from the angle of production and will ask what constitutes green production but, also, fair and equitable production. The focus on production is a deliberate move that seeks to balance the recently more prominent attention to consumption in the belief that production forces us to address questions of responsibility and social power more directly. However, the seminar will also address consumption-based strategies that explicitly aim at greening production.

II. Evaluation. Your evaluation will be based on submitting five precis (of which the four best will be counted), (7.5% of your grade each); class facilitation and participation (30%); and a research project (40%).

III. Research Project. A central goal of this seminar is to help you refine and advance your research. This is going to be a multistage process. At each stage you will receive comments from me and all or some of your colleagues. I will post detailed guidelines for the research project in the class material tool of RamCt.

IV. Precis. You are expected to submit five précis of about 500 words each. I will count only the four best ones. You should write a précis for each seminar session that you facilitate. Please spread your précis and avoid producing two consecutive précis more than once. Distribute copies of your précis to everyone through RamCt email by 9am on the day of the seminar. Precis should provide frequent and appropriate references to the readings. Please see suggestions below.

V. Facilitation: Each one of you should facilitate discussion in at least four seminar sessions, no two of which should be consecutive. The facilitators for each week should meet to prepare in advance an outline that will bring out the main issues of the readings (please suggestions below). Please avoid summaries since everyone will have read the same material. Creative activities are encouraged.

VI. Weekly Discussions. All seminar participants will then have the chance to comment and add (including the reasons why they agree with what has already been said). Please be prepared to participate whether you have written a précis or not. While quality of contributions is more important than quantity you should contribute every week and frequently. The value of a seminar is not only to engage issues that we feel strongly or confident about but, equally importantly, to engage issues and views on which we feel less certain. I would ask that those of you who are more comfortable talking in public to be attentive to the class dynamics.

VII. Guidelines for Facilitation, Precis and Class Discussions. The suggestions that follow are intended for a series of articles, chapters and shorter research monographs which will be the sources of information for this class.

1. What is the central theme, issue or debate of the readings? The goal here is to organize the readings around one or more key ideas. The fewer these are, the better. The organization that could result may be one of direct disagreement, different framings, synergies, conceptual or historical continuum of views on a subject and so on. Your goal should be to identify one or two organizing concepts that are central to the readings and that allow you to address all them readings.
2. Are the arguments and evidence of the various authors clear and persuasive? Here we will go into some detail into each author's views. If the article or chapter is empirical we will treat it in the same fashion as we will examine them in terms of questions, evidence, method and answers.

3. How do the themes, issues, or concepts raised by a particular week’s readings relate to previous readings or other material you are familiar with?

4. What is your view about the readings in terms of any other criterion that you find important.

VIII. Readings. The readings for this class consist of articles, chapters, position papers and short monographs. Chapters from books, articles from journals we do not subscribe to or other material that is not available electronically will be posted on RamCt. Articles in journals we subscribe to electronically can be accessed directly. For material available on the web I will provide the links under the weblinks tool of RamCt.

The readings are organized along theoretical themes rather than specific issue areas. However, I have sought to include readings that collectively address a number of specific categories of productive activities: agriculture/food, energy, manufacturing. Moreover, I have sought to use readings that collectively address questions of work, inputs, processes and outputs.
Schedule:

August 24  Introduction
Rationale for Seminar


PART I: SETTING THE PARAMETERS

August 31  Green Economies


Brookings Institution (2011) Sizing the Clean Economy: A National and Regional Green Jobs Assessment. (Web and Research and Advocacy Weblink)


September 7  Sustainability and Growth


Daly, Herman. 2008. A Steady-State Economy. Submission to UK Sustainable Development Commission. [SD LM]


**Research Ideas Due (please email them)**

**September 14**  
No meeting due to professional travel

**PART II: MAPPING PRODUCTION: FROM PRODUCERS TO POLITICAL ECONOMIES**

**September 21**  
Producers


**September 28**  
Chains and Networks


**September 30 (F) Footprints, Unequal Exchange, Divisions of Labor**


**Research Questions Due**

**October 5 Valuations**


Heinzerling, Lisa and Frank Ackerman (2002) *Pricing the Priceless: Cost-Benefit Analysis of Environmental Protection*. Georgetown Environmental Policy and Law Institute, Georgetown University Law Center. [MP LM]


**Research Questions Discussed**
October 12  
Transitions and Unexpected Consequences


PART II: GREENING PRODUCTION: FROM PRODUCTS TO POLITICAL ECOLOGY

October 19  
Eco-efficiency and Industrial Ecology


October 21  
From CSR to Civil Regulation


**October 26  Industrial Policy**


**October 31 (M)  Short Research Proposals Due**

**November 2  Employment/Social Policy**


Brookings Institution (2011) *Sizing the Clean Economy: A National and Regional Green Jobs Assessment*. (Web and Research and Advocacy Weblink)


**Short Research Proposals Discussed**

**November 9** From Environmental to Ecological Modernization


**November 16** Research

**November 30** Presentations of Research

**December 2 (F)** Presentations of Research

**December 7** Presentations of Research

**December 14** Research Product Due.