Ecojustice is the understanding that justice is a matter of both economic and ecological concern, and that both are an integral part of the Gospel. This seminar will enable students to make the connections and see how they are being lived out in both congregations and communities that are addressing the global environmental/economic crisis and trying to do their part to restore creation and enable all life to flourish together on the Earth. Biblical and theological foundations for Creation Care and Ecojustice will be explored, along with the scientific, economic, and ethical dimensions of the crisis and movements toward solutions. We will hear from community and congregational leaders who are doing wonderfully creative and faithful work in Indiana and beyond, and visit green projects.

Requirements:

1. Reading and participation: This is a seminar, so it is especially important that each student do the assigned reading and demonstrate knowledge of its content through thoughtful class participation, which does count in the final grade.

2. Weekly Two-page paper on major issues in reading and discussion: Six papers are required, of no more than 2 pages each: Page 1 is to be a description of the main issues and insights gained from the reading and the discussion of the week. It should not be a list of topics covered, but a summary of what was important and interesting. Do Not use phrases like, “First we talked about, and then we talked about...” Instead, it should be more like, “The most important issue was about sin as loss of trust in God.” Page 1 is also not to include your opinions - that comes on Page 2. Page 2 is your reflections on what was important, your growing edges, your further thinking about key insights.

3. Worship: Each class member will lead the class in 15-20 minutes of worship at the end of class that is meant to help students bring environmental concerns and theology into worship resources.

4. Project: Each student will design a project to be due toward the end of the semester. Proposals should be approved by February 18 (just before reading week), and draft report of the project will be shared with an oral report on one of the last 4 class sessions. The report will give you a chance to get feedback from the class before finalizing it to turn in at the end of the semester. A term paper of 15-20 pages is acceptable, but so are other kinds of projects, such as writing a curriculum for a course on ecojustice in a church, developing a youth project, writing a short story with a paper explaining it, or many others.
**Schedule:**

**January 21**  
First class: Introductions, Papers, Projects, Syllabus  
6:40  Marian College Library Auditorium to hear speaker

**January 28**  
Biblical Grounding: “And the Leaves of the Tree”  
Bring your Bible  
Speakers: Sam Miller, green architect & Imam Michael Saahir

**February 4**  
*Christians, the Care of Creation, and Global Climate Change*  
Part 1: Panel Discussion on Global Climate Change  
Speaker: Dr. Paul Winchester (hopefully)

**Feb. 11**  
Edwards, *Ecology at the Heart of Faith*, chapters 1-4  
Discussion of project Ideas

**Feb. 18**  
Edwards, chapters 5-8  
Speaker: Jodi Perras, IPL, Indy Green Congregations, Epworth UMC

**Feb. 25**  
**Reading Week: No Class**

**March 4**  
*Claiming the Earth as Common Ground*, chapters 1-4

**March 11**  
*Claiming the Earth as Common Ground*, chapters 6-8  
Speaker: David Forsell, Keep Indianapolis Beautiful

**March 18**  
Reports and discussion

**March 25**  
Field event led by Chris Harrell, City of Indianapolis Brownfields

**April 1**  
**Holy Week: no class**

**April 8**  
Reports and discussion

**April 15**  
Reports and discussion

**April 22**  
Reports and discussion

**April 29**  
Exam Week: Make-up Class if Necessary
### C656: Environmental Ethics: Schedule for Projects and Worship:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Project Reports</th>
<th>Worship</th>
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<td>January 28</td>
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<td>April 29</td>
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Bibliography for Environmental Ethics: C656, Spring 1996

Required Reading:


Johnston, Carol. *And the Leaves of the Tree Are for the Healing of the Nations* (Louisville: Presbyterian Church (USA), 1997).

Scott, Lindy, editor. *Christians, the Care of Creation, and Global Climate Change* (Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2008).

Websites

Presbyterians for Earth Care [http://www.presbyearthcare.org/](http://www.presbyearthcare.org/)
Season of Creation [http://www.seasonofcreation.com/about/what/](http://www.seasonofcreation.com/about/what/)
Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology [http://fore.research.yale.edu/](http://fore.research.yale.edu/)

General Bibliography


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Brueggemann, Walter. *The Land: Place as Gift, Promise and Challenge in Biblical Faith*


Cobb, John B. *Sustaining the Common Good: A Christian Perspective on the Global Economy* (Cleveland: Pilgrim, 1995)


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Peters, Ted. *The Cosmic Self* [New Age critique]


Pitcher, Alvin. *Listen to the Crying of the Earth: Cultivating Creation Communities* (Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 1993).


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Scott, Lindy, editor. *Christians, the Care of Creation, and Global Climate Change* (Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2008).


Sheldrake, Rupert. *The Rebirth of Nature: Greening of Science and God*


Sittler, Joseph. *Essays on Nature and Grace*


