

# **ESPM 24 - GLOBALIZATION, SWEATSHOPS, TOXICS, AND YOU**

## **Spring 2004**

<http://courseweb.berkeley.edu/courseweb/pub/courses/2004/SP/ESPM/24/004>

### Class Sessions:

Wednesday 10-11 a.m.  
139 Mulford Hall  
CCN: 30451

Prof. Dara O'Rourke  
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Office Hours: Tuesday 3:00-5:00 p.m.  
130B Giannini Hall

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This seminar will examine where and how the things you consume and use everyday – jeans, shoes, computers, coffee, food, plastics, etc. – are produced, the environmental and social impacts of producing and consuming all of this stuff, and efforts to reduce pollution, sweatshops, and other adverse impacts of global production. Students will analyze both the structure and control of global supply chains and their personal connections to these systems.

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

Students will be expected to:

1. Read all of the assigned readings before class.
2. Actively participate in class discussions.
3. Complete four short assignments during the semester:
  - Tracking your consumption;
  - Surveying your friends about their clothing and sweatshop issues;
  - Analyzing the “ecological footprint” of your consumption;
  - Analyzing options for reducing environmental, health, and labor impacts of production and consumption.

### **EVALUATION:**

The course will be graded Pass/Not Pass. This grade will be based on class participation and completion of four assignments.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS**

The readings will be available either on the web or in the course reader. The reader will be available for sale from Odin Readers (through Ned's on Bancroft) and on reserve in the CNR Resource Center, 260 Mulford Hall.

## SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS

Readings marked with an (\*) are provided in the course reader. Others are available on the web.

### Jan 21 - Introduction to the Course

No readings.

### Jan. 28 – Globalization and You

Joseph E. Stiglitz (2002), “Globalism’s Discontents,” *The American Prospect* vol. 13 no. 1, January 1 - January 14, 2002, available at: <http://www.prospect.org/print/V13/1/stiglitz-j.html>

(\*) Klein, Naomi (1999), “New Branded World,” in *No Logo – Taking Aim at the Brand Bullies*, New York: Picador, pp.: 3-26.

PBS (2001), “Hunting For Cool” on-line video at: PBS Frontline Special, “Merchants of Cool:” <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/cool/view/>

### Feb. 4 – Global Production

(\*) Barnet, Richard and John Cavanaugh (1994), “Mass Production in Postmodern Times,” in *Global Dreams – Imperial Corporations and the New World Order*, New York: Touchstone, pp.: 259-282.

Gereffi, Gary, (2001), “Global Sourcing in the U.S. Apparel Industry,” *Journal of Textile and Apparel, Technology and Management*, 2, 1 (Fall), available at: [http://www.soc.duke.edu/~ggere/web/gereffi\\_global\\_sourcing\\_in\\_us\\_apparel.pdf](http://www.soc.duke.edu/~ggere/web/gereffi_global_sourcing_in_us_apparel.pdf)

PBS (1992), “Winners and Losers”, video in Made in America series.

### Feb. 11 – Impacts on the Environment and Workers

(\*) French, Hilary (2000), “Coping with Ecological Globalization,” Chapter 10 in *State of the World 2000*, The Worldwatch Institute, New York: W. W. Norton, pp: 184-202.

(\*) Barnet, Richard and John Cavanaugh (1994), “The New Division of Labor and the Global Job Crisis,” in *Global Dreams – Imperial Corporations and the New World Order*, New York: Touchstone, pp.: 283-309.

### Feb. 18 – Clothes

Maquila Solidarity Network (2001), “How Our Clothes Are Made,” available at: <http://www.maquilasolidarity.org/resources/garment/labour-label.htm>

(\*) Press, Eyal (1997), “Sweatshopping,” in Ross (ed.) *No Sweat*, New York: Verso, pp: 221-226.

(\*) Lopez, Steve (2003), “The Real Cost of that \$8.63 Polo Shirt,” *The Los Angeles Times*, November 26.

## **Feb. 25 – Shoes**

(\*) Ryan, John and Alan Thein Durning (1997), “Shoes,” in *Stuff – The Secret Lives of Everyday Things*, Seattle, WA: Northwest Environment Watch, pp.: 26-32.

Locke, Richard, (2002), “The Promise and Perils of Globalization: The Case of Nike,” MIT IPC Working Paper 02-008, Cambridge, available at: <http://web.mit.edu/ipc/www/02-008.pdf>

Personalize your Nikes...the saga: <http://www.cleanclothes.org/companies/nike01-02-16.htm>

## **March 3 – Computers**

(\*) Ryan, John and Alan Thein Durning (1997), “Computers,” in *Stuff – The Secret Lives of Everyday Things*, Seattle, WA: Northwest Environment Watch, pp.: 43-52.

Cook, Christopher D., and A. Clay Thompson (2000), “Silicon Hell,” *The San Francisco Bay Guardian*, April 26, 2000, available at: <http://www.sfbg.com/News/34/30/siliconhell.html>

Goldberg, Carey (1998), “Where Do Computers Go When They Die?” *The New York Times*, March 12, 1998, available at: <http://www.ce.cmu.edu/GreenDesign/comprec/nytimes98/12die.html>

## **March 10 – The Internet**

Leahy, Stephen (2000), “E-commerce: friend or foe of the environment?” *Environmental News Network*, Monday, December 11, 2000, available at : [http://www.enn.com/features/2000/12/12112000/ecommerce\\_40648.asp](http://www.enn.com/features/2000/12/12112000/ecommerce_40648.asp)

Hendrickson, Chris, H. Scott Matthews and Luis Ochoa (2000), “Environmental Implications of E-Commerce, the Internet and the New Economy,” available at: <http://www.ce.cmu.edu/GreenDesign/gd/Research/ecommerce.pdf>

## **March 17 – Food**

(\*) Schlosser, Eric (2001), “The Most Dangerous Job,” and “What’s In the Meat,” in *Fast Food Nation*, New York: Houghton Mifflin Co. pp.:169-224.

## **March 24 – NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK!**

## **March 31 – Genetically-Modified Foods**

BBC (2003), “GM Foods – Risks and Benefits” (read pages on “Human Health,” “Environment,” and “Developing World”), at: [http://www.bbc.co.uk/science/genes/gm\\_genie/risks\\_and\\_benefits/index.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/science/genes/gm_genie/risks_and_benefits/index.shtml)

Talcott, Sasha (2000), “Activists Ruin Crops at Research Center,” *The Daily Californian*, Friday, May 26, 2000, available at: <http://www.dailycal.org/article.asp?id=2647&ref=search>

## **April 7 – Coffee**

(\* Ryan, John and Alan Thein Durning (1997), “Coffee,” in *Stuff – The Secret Lives of Everyday Things*, Seattle, WA: Northwest Environment Watch, pp.: 7-12.

Neuffer, Elizabeth (2001), “The Shadow of Globalization: The Coffee Connection,” *The Boston Globe*, July 29, 2001, available at:

<http://www.globalexchange.org/campaigns/fairtrade/coffee/news2001/bostonglobe072901.html>

## **April 14 – Chemicals and Plastics**

(\* Roe, David and William Pease (1998), “Toxic Ignorance,” *The Environmental Forum*, May/June, pp.: 24-35.

Friends of the Earth (2002), Plastics Briefing,

<http://www.foe.co.uk/pubsinfo/briefings/html/20011220155157.html>

Check out toxics in your neighborhood by entering your zip code at: <http://www.scorecard.org>

## **April 21 – Oil and Gas**

O’Rourke, Dara and Sarah Connolly (2003), “Just Oil?: The Distribution of Environmental and Social Impacts of Oil Production and Consumption,” *Annual Review of Environment and Resources*, vol. 28, pp. 587-617, available at:

<http://arjournals.annualreviews.org/eprint/iuJbzdPIs4vcNtheIcmf/full/10.1146/annurev.energy.28.050302.105617>

## **April 28 – Transforming Production and Consumption**

Hawken, Paul, Amory Lovins, and L. Hunter Lovins, (1999) “Making the World,” *Natural Capitalism*, Boston: Little, Brown and Company, pp.: 62-81, available at:

<http://www.natcap.org/sitepages/pid20.php>

(\* McDonough, William and Michael Braungart (2002), “Putting Eco-Effectiveness into Practice,” in *Cradle to Cradle*, New York: North Point Press, pp.: 157-186.

## **May 5 – Summary and Ways Forward???**

(\* Klein, Naomi (1999), “Consumerism versus Citizenship,” in *No Logo – Taking Aim at the Brand Bullies*, New York: Picador, pp.: 3-26.

Oxfam (2002), “Making Trade Work for the Poor,” in *Rigged Rules and Double Standards – Trade, Globalization, and the Fight Against Poverty*,

<http://www.maketradefair.org/stylesheets.asp?file=03042002174753>