

Syllabus

Seminar: Ecoterrorism 520 / Spring 2007

Course Director

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Office Hours

Office hours are held on Tuesday and Wednesday from 1600 to 1700, or by appointment.

Time

Classes are held on Wednesday from 1300 to 1600.

Location

Library of the Center for Animals and Public Policy.

Description

This course is the second of two seminars for exploring human-animal relations. The theme of this seminar is ecoterrorism. Since the tragedy of 9-11, terrorism has moved to the front of the social agenda. Part of this concern is directed at something called ecoterrorism. While the meaning and use of this term is strongly contested, it is increasingly applied to animal rights and environmental groups. The two most commonly mentioned in North America are the Animal Liberation Front and the Earth Liberation Front, respectively. Indeed, the federal government has labeled ecoterrorism the gravest domestic terror threat in the US – a claim that is cheered by some and derided by others. Whether you agree or not with the government's position, it is clear that 'ecoterrorism' is now a core (if controversial) issues for the public in general and the animal and environmental protection movements in particular. For this reason alone, it provides a golden opportunity to explore certain public policy dimensions of human-animal studies.

As you will discover, the study of ecoterrorism raises fascinating and disturbing questions. What is terrorism, and how has it influenced global and local politics geographically and historically? Is there a single response we ought to hold on political violence, or are their diverse ethical, legal and social perspectives to consider? What is the role, justification and critique of political violence in the animal and environmental movements? And in a democratic society, how can we balance legitimate concern for civil liberties, an open political system, as well as health and safety?

To explore these and other questions, we shall first look at the question of terrorism in historical, moral and political perspective. We then address the academic literature on animal and environmental terrorism, both pro and con. We end the course by examining the context and substance of the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act of 2006 (AETA). A signature piece of legislation in the US ‘war on terror’, AETA is defended as a tool to protect life and property, or dismissed as an infringement on civil liberties and the democratic process. By the end of this course, you will have enough insight and information to make up your mind about the many meanings, implications and responses to ecoterrorism.

Grading

Your learning is assessed through a set of papers, projects, presentations, exercises and/or tests. Grades are assigned using the A (plus) system (e.g. A, B+, B, C+, C, D+, D and F). Excellent course participation offers the opportunity to bump your grade into a higher level (e.g. B+ to A), while poor participation may drop it to a lower level (e.g. A to B+). Please see my *Course Policies* on TUSK for further information.

Texts

- o Best, Steven, and Anthony Nocella (ed.) (2004) *Terrorists or Freedom Fighters? Reflections on the Liberation of Animals*. New York: Latern Books.
- o Liddick, Donald (2006) *Eco-Terrorism: Radical Environmental and Animal Liberation Movements*, Westport: Praeger.
- o Spiegelman, Art (1986) *Maus, A Survivors Tale I: My Father Bleeds History*, New York: Pantheon.
- o Townshend, Charles (2002) *Terrorism: A Very Short Introduction*, New York: Oxford University Press.
- o Vaughan, Brian K., and Nico Henrichon (2006) *Pride of Baghdad*, New York: DC Comics.

Online and Reserved Readings

In addition to texts, other readings are available online at TUSK. Occasionally, some readings will be on reserve in the Center Library or Webster Library. Please note that readings may be added throughout the term, and will be announced in class.

Nota Bene

The content and schedule of this syllabus may be changed at any time. Revisions and other course materials are available under the appropriate heading on TUSK.

AGENDA

<p>Week 01, starts 15 Jan. <i>MLK Holiday</i> is Mon.</p>	<p>Terrorism</p> <p>Townshend, Charles (2002) Ch 1. The Trouble with Terrorism, <i>Terrorism: A Very Short Introduction</i>, New York: Oxford University Press, 1-19.</p> <p>Townshend, Charles (2002) Ch 2. Crusaders and Conspirators,</p>
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	<i>Terrorism: A Very Short Introduction</i> , New York: Oxford University Press, 20-35.
Week 02, starts 22 Jan	<p>Townshend, Charles (2002) Ch 3. The Reign of Terror, <i>Terrorism: A Very Short Introduction</i>, New York: Oxford University Press, 36-52.</p> <p>Townshend, Charles (2002) Ch 4. Revolutionary Terrorism, <i>Terrorism: A Very Short Introduction</i>, New York: Oxford University Press, 53-73.</p>
Week 03, starts 29 Jan	<p>Townshend, Charles (2002) Ch 5. Nationalism and Terror, <i>Terrorism: A Very Short Introduction</i>, New York: Oxford University Press, 74-95.</p> <p>Townshend, Charles (2002) Ch 6. Religious Terror, <i>Terrorism: A Very Short Introduction</i>, New York: Oxford University Press, 96-113.</p> <p>Townshend, Charles (2002) Ch 7. Counterterrorism and Democracy, <i>Terrorism: A Very Short Introduction</i>, New York: Oxford University Press, 114-140.</p> <p>TERRORISM TEST is taken on Friday via TUSK.</p>
Week 04, starts 05 Feb	<p>Animal and Environmental Terrorism</p> <p>Liddick, Donald (2006) Ch 1. Criminality in the Environmental and Animal Rights Movements, <i>Eco-Terrorism: Radical Environmental and Animal Liberation Movements</i>, Westport: Praeger, 1-12.</p> <p>Liddick, Donald (2006) Ch 2. History and Philosophy of Radical Environmentalism, <i>Eco-Terrorism: Radical Environmental and Animal Liberation Movements</i>, Westport: Praeger, 13-22.</p> <p>Eco-terrorism, www.wikipedia.org.</p>
Week 05, starts 12 Feb	<p>Liddick, Donald (2006) Ch 3. History and Philosophy of the Animal Rights Movement, <i>Eco-Terrorism: Radical Environmental and Animal Liberation Movements</i>, Westport: Praeger, 23-38.</p> <p>Liddick, Donald (2006) Ch 4. Animal Rights Criminality, <i>Eco-Terrorism: Radical Environmental and Animal Liberation Movements</i>, Westport: Praeger, 39-54.</p> <p>Eco-terrorism, www.sourcewatch.org.</p>
Week 06, starts 19 Feb.	Liddick, Donald (2006) Ch 5. Criminality in the Radical

<p>Presidents Holiday is Mon.</p>	<p>Environmental Movement, <i>Eco-Terrorism: Radical Environmental and Animal Liberation Movements</i>, Westport: Praeger, 55-68.</p> <p>Liddick, Donald (2006) Ch 6. Structure and Modus Operandi of Radical Movements, <i>Eco-Terrorism: Radical Environmental and Animal Liberation Movements</i>, Westport: Praeger, 69-80.</p>
<p>Week 07, starts 26 Feb</p>	<p>Liddick, Donald (2006) Ch 7. A Profile of Eco-Warriors and Animal Liberationists, <i>Eco-Terrorism: Radical Environmental and Animal Liberation Movements</i>, Westport: Praeger, 81-98.</p> <p>Liddick, Donald (2006) Ch 8. The Future of Eco-Terrorism and Animal Liberation, <i>Eco-Terrorism: Radical Environmental and Animal Liberation Movements</i>, Westport: Praeger, 99-116.</p> <p>ANIMAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL TERRORISM TEST is taken on Friday via TUSK.</p>
<p>Week 08, starts 05 Mar <i>Spring Break</i></p>	<p>No Classes</p>
<p>Week 09, starts 12 Mar</p>	<p>Liberators or Terrorists?</p> <p>Smallwood, Scott. (2005) Speaking for the Animals, or the Terrorists, <i>Chronicle of Higher Education</i>, http://chronicle.com/weekly/v51/i48/48a00801.htm.</p> <p>Best, Steven and Anthony Nocella (2004) Behind the Mask: Uncovering the Animal Liberation Front, in Steven Best and Anthony Nocella (ed.) <i>Terrorists or Freedom Fighters? Reflections on the Liberation of Animals</i>. New York: Latern Books, 9-63.</p> <p>Peruse:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Animal Liberation Front, www.animalliberationfront.com. ○ ALF Press Office, www.animalliberationpressoffice.org. ○ Earth Liberation Front, www.earthliberationfront.com
<p>Week 10, starts 19 Mar</p>	<p>Stallwood, Kim (2004) A Personal Overview of Direct Action in the United Kingdom and the United States, in Steven Best and Anthony Nocella (ed.) <i>Terrorists or Freedom Fighters? Reflections on the Liberation of Animals</i>. New York: Latern Books, 81-90.</p> <p>Bernstein, Mark (2004) Legitimizing Liberation, in Steven Best and Anthony Nocella (ed.) <i>Terrorists or Freedom Fighters? Reflections on the Liberation of Animals</i>. New York: Latern Books, 93-105.</p> <p>Coronado, Rod (2004) Direct Actions Speak Louder than Words,</p>

	<p>in Steven Best and Anthony Nocella (ed.) <i>Terrorists or Freedom Fighters? Reflections on the Liberation of Animals</i>. New York: Latern Books, 178-184.</p> <p>Dawn, Karen (2004) From the Front Line to the Front Page - An Analysis of ALF Media Coverage, in Steven Best and Anthony Nocella (ed.) <i>Terrorists or Freedom Fighters? Reflections on the Liberation of Animals</i>. New York: Latern Books, 213-228.</p> <p>Peruse:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Several other chapters of your choice. ○ Animal Liberation Front, www.wikipedia.org. ○ Earth Liberation Front, www.wikipedia.org.
Week 11, starts 26 Mar	<p>Guest – Steve Chase (Professor, Antioch –New England) Title – ‘Green Shadows: A Cautionary Tale of Radical Green Politics Gone Very Wrong’</p> <p>Regan, Tom (2004) How to Justify Violence, in Steven Best and Anthony Nocella (ed.) <i>Terrorists or Freedom Fighters? Reflections on the Liberation of Animals</i>. New York: Latern Books, 231-236.</p> <p>Watson, Paul (2004) ALF and ELF - Terrorism Is as Terrorism Does, in Steven Best and Anthony Nocella (ed.) <i>Terrorists or Freedom Fighters? Reflections on the Liberation of Animals</i>. New York: Latern Books, 279-287.</p> <p>Best, Steven and Anthony Nocella (2004) Defining Terrorism, in Steven Best and Anthony Nocella (ed.) <i>Terrorists or Freedom Fighters? Reflections on the Liberation of Animals</i>. New York: Latern Books, 361-377.</p> <p>Peruse:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Definitions of Terrorism, www.wikipedia.org <p>Enrichment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Well-Trained Activist, http://eaop-blog.blogspot.com. ○ Environmental Advocacy and Organizing Program, Antioch University – New England, http://www.antiochne.edu/es/eao.
Week 12, starts 02 Apr	<p>Guest – Ronnie Copeland (Professor Emeritus, Holyoke Community College). Title – ‘From <i>Maus</i> to <i>Pride of Baghdad</i>: Animals in Graphic Novels’</p>

	<p>Vaughan, Brian K., and Nico Henrichon (2006) <i>Pride of Baghdad</i>, New York: DC Comics.</p> <p>Spiegelman, Art (1986) <i>Maus, A Survivors Tale I: My Father Bleeds History</i>, New York: Pantheon.</p> <p>Peruse:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Nature in Legend and Story (NILAS), www.h-net.org/~nilas. o H-Animal, http://www.h-net.org/~animal. <p>Enrichment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <i>V for Vendetta</i> (2006) on DVD. <p>LIBERATORS OR TERRORISTS TEST is taken on Friday via TUSK.</p>
<p>Week 13, starts 09 Apr</p>	<p>Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act (AETA) of 2006</p> <p>Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act, www.wikipedia.org</p> <p>American Civil Liberties Union (2006) ACLU Letter to Congress Urging Opposition to the Animal Enterprise Act, S 1926 and H.R. 4239, www.aclu.org.</p> <p>Anonymous (2006) Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act, S.3880, Washington D.C.: US Government Printing Office.</p> <p>Hummell, Katrina A. (2004) The American Legislative Exchange Council's Attack on Civil Liberties. Washington, DC: Defenders of Wildlife, 1-25.</p> <p>Potter, Will (2006) Analysis of the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act, H.R. 4239, S. 3880. www.GreenIsTheNewRed.com/blog/aeta-analysis-109th.</p> <p>Potter, Will (2006) Analysis of AETA as Passed, www.greenisthenewred.com/blog/s3880-analysis.</p> <p>Potter, Will (2006) Guest Editorial: The Chilling Effect, <i>Satya</i>, www.satyamag.com/dec06/edit.html.</p> <p>Potter, Will (2006) Congressional Testimony. In 'Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act', <i>Hearing before the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security of the Committee on the Judiciary</i>, Washington D.C.: US Government Printing Office, 20-39.</p>

	<p>Enrichment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stop AETA, www.stopaeta.org ○ Green is the New Red, www.stopaeta.org ○ Dennis Kucinich (D-OH), opponent of AETA in the HoR, www.kucinich.house.gov
<p>Week 14, starts 16 Apr. <i>Patriots Holiday</i> is Mon.</p>	<p>American Civil Liberties Union (2006) ACLU Urges Needed Minor Changes to AETA, But Does Not Oppose Bill (S. 3880, the “Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act”). Washington, DC: American Civil Liberties Union, http://www.aclu.org/safefree/general/27356leg20061030.html.</p> <p>American Legislative Exchange Council (2003) ALEC Offers Legislation to Fight Domestic Terror by Animal and Eco-Extremist Groups [Press Release], Washington D.C.: American Legislative Exchange Council, www.alec.org.</p> <p>Center for Consumer Freedom (2006) New Law Scares the Animal Rights Fringe. It Should [Press Release]. Washington, DC: Center for Consumer Freedom, www.consumerfreedom.org.</p> <p>James Jarboe (2002) The Threat of Eco-Terrorism. Domestic Terrorism Section Chief, Counterterrorism Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Congressional Testimony before the House Resources Committee, Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health, 12 Feb 2002, www.fbi.gov/congress/congress02/jarboe021202.htm.</p> <p>Lewis, John (2004) Statement on Eco-Terrorism. Deputy Assistant Director, Counterterrorism Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee, 18 May 2004, www.fbi.gov/congress/congress04/lewis051804.htm.</p> <p>National Association of Biomedical Research (2006) Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act [Various Materials]. Washington, DC: National Association of Biomedical Research, www.nabr.org.</p> <p>Satchell, Michael (2004) Legal Concerns: ALEC Looks to Turn Animal Activists into Domestic Terrorists [HSUS Backgrounder Paper]. Washington DC, Humane Society of the United States, www.hsus.org.</p> <p>Enrichment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), www.alec.org ○ National Association for Biomedical Research (NABR),

	<p>www.nabr.org</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Tom Petri (R-WI), sponsor of AETA in the HoR, http://www.house.gov/petri <p>AETA TEST is taken on Friday via TUSK.</p>
Week 15, starts 23 Apr	<u>Study Week</u>
Week 16, starts 30 Apr	<u>Finals</u>