

SEEP SYLLABUS

Course title:	Social Ecological Economics I			
Teacher(s):	Clive Spash, Corinna Dengler, Colleen Schneider			
Course credit:	ECTS: 5		Hours per week: 2	
Semester	<input type="checkbox"/> S1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S2	<input type="checkbox"/> S3	<input type="checkbox"/> S4
Expected prior knowledge	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Teaching method(s):	Reading sessions, lectures, group work, student-led debates, film nights			
Type(s) of evaluation:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exam		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written report	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Participation / Presentation		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group project	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other			
Short course description	<p>This course is design for SEEP students interested in learning about heterodox economic approaches to the social-ecological crises. The social economic aspect includes issues of agency-structure, power relations, the role of corporations and the counter role of environmental and social movements. The focus is on the core theoretical concepts that have been developed over time within social ecological economics including how this relates to other heterodox fields of economics and related fields of knowledge such as eco-feminism, political ecology and environmental ethics. Connections will be drawn to the underlying philosophy behind ideas and their ontological and epistemological aspects.</p> <p>The course probes these concepts and ideas and critically analyses their development, content and meaning. The central approach of the course is based around readings. Each week core readings will be set and discussed in class. Allocated readings will be discussed in class on a pre-set topic and the discussion initiated around questions set the week before (or earlier). Students should be prepared to informally present on the contents of the papers and problems and issues they raise. Students will submit four brief one-page answers to pre-set questions covering two sets of readings. These are to be submitted online prior to class.</p> <p>A student-led debate will be held during the course where all students will be expected to participate in different ways (e.g. make short presentations, engage their opponents as a team, question from the floor).</p> <p>There will also be two film nights. Films relating to the course will be watched and followed by a Q&A and discussion session in free format. This is part of the attendance requirements.</p>			
Topics (summary keywords)	Ecological economics, biophysical reality, (limits to) growth, ethics, power, (eco-)feminisms, decoloniality, resistance			
Selected readings:	<p>Spash, C. L. (Ed.), 2017. Routledge Handbook of Ecological Economics: Nature and Society. Abingdon and New York: Routledge.</p> <p>Spash, C.L., 1999. The development of environmental thinking in economics. Environmental Values 8, 413-435.</p> <p>Spash, C.L., 2011. Social ecological economics: Understanding the past to see the future. American Journal of Economics and Sociology 70, 340-375.</p> <p>Mayumi, K. T. (2017). Thermodynamics: Relevance, implications, misuse, and ways forward. Routledge Handbook of Ecological Economics, 89-98.</p>			

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- Devictor, Vincent. 2017. 'The Biophysical Realities of Ecosystems'. In *Routledge Handbook of Ecological Economics: Nature and Society*, edited by C. L. Spash. Taylor & Francis.
- Kallis, G., Kostakis, V., Lange, S., Muraca, B., Paulson, S., & Schmelzer, M. (2018). Research on degrowth. *Annual Review of Environment and Resources*, 43, 291-316.
- Giampietro, M. (2019). On the circular bioeconomy and decoupling: implications for sustainable growth. *Ecological economics*, 162, 143-156.
- Dengler, C. (2022). Critical Realism, Feminisms, and Degrowth: A Plea for Metatheory-Informed Pluralism in Feminist Ecological Economics. *International Journal of Pluralism and Economics Education*.
- Oksala, J. (2018). Feminisms, Capitalism, and Ecology. *Hypatia*, 33(2), 216-234.
- McShane, K. (2017). 'Intrinsic Values and Economic Valuation'. In C. L. Spash (ed), *Routledge Handbook of Ecological Economics: Nature and Society*, pp.237-245. Abingdon: Routledge
- Spash, C. L. (2010). 'The brave new world of carbon trading'. *New Political Economy* 15 (2): 169-195.
- Spash, C. L. (2015). 'Bulldozing biodiversity: The economics of offsets and trading-in Nature'. *Biological Conservation* 192 (December): 541-551.
- Acosta, A. (2013): Extractivism and Neoextractivism: Two Sides of the Same Curse. In: M. Lang/D. Mokrani (eds.), *Beyond Development: Alternative Visions from Latin America*, pp. 61-86, Quito: RLS.
- Deonandan, K., Tatham, R. & Field, B. (2017). Indigenous Women's Anti-Mining Activism: A Gendered Analysis of the El Estor Struggle in Guatemala. *Gender & Development*, 25(3), 405-419.
- Scheidel, A., Del Bene, D., Liu, J., Navas, G., Mignorría, S., Demaria, F., Avila, S., Roy, B., Ertör, I., Temper, L. & Martínez-Alier, J. (2020): Environmental conflicts and defenders: A global overview. *Global Environmental Change*, 63, 102104.