COURSE DETAIL

THE RISE AND FALL OF THE HUMAN EMPIRE? THE HISTORY OF ANTHROPOCENE

Country
United Kingdom - Scotland

Host Institution
University of Edinburgh

Program(s)
Intern: Scotland,University of Edinburgh

UCEAP Course Level
Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)
History

UCEAP Course Number
138

UCEAP Course Suffix

UCEAP Official Title
THE RISE AND FALL OF THE HUMAN EMPIRE? THE HISTORY OF ANTHROPOCENE

UCEAP Transcript Title
HIST OF ANTHROPOCEN

UCEAP Quarter Units
8.00

UCEAP Semester Units
5.30

Course Description

Since the formation of the Earth 4.5 billion years ago, no era has witnessed so much environmental change as the past five hundred years, merely a moment in the history of our planet. Industrialization, capitalism, and the insatiable need for more and more "things" has unleashed uncontrollable destructive forces. This course focuses on a number of key developments to consider two related questions. First, how have humans altered the Earth's systems - climate, atmosphere, ecosystems, oceans, and landscape? Second, what are the implications of these changes for human society and the relationship between humans and the other species that inhabit this planet? The coverage begins in the late 15th century with the Columbian Exchange of diseases, crops, ideas, animals, and people between the Old World and the New World in 1492. It then investigates a number of critical issues relating to land use and the production of food, the exploitative relationships between humans and other species and the impact of industrial capitalism, urbanization and the use of fossil fuels as the main source of energy. The final section of the course focuses on the post-1945 world, exploring consumer capitalism, the development of the environmental movement in the 1960s and 1970s, and concludes with an assessment of the current climate crisis.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
HIST10469

Host Institution Course Title
THE RISE AND FALL OF THE HUMAN EMPIRE? THE HISTORY OF ANTHROPOCENE

Host Institution Course Details
http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/22-23/dpt/cxhist10469.htm

Host Institution Campus University of Edinburgh
Host Institution Faculty School of History, Classics and Archaeology
Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department
Course Last Reviewed 2022-2023

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