

# EDUCATION FOR ECOLOGICAL SECURITY IN A MULTICULTURAL WORLD

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## Course Description

A seminar for the exploration of peacemaking in four areas of needed protection for our earth and her political and economic systems today:

Relationship with the Earth.  
Relationship with Each Other,  
Relationship between Economic and Ecological Security,  
Governance and Ecological Security.

Attention focuses on preparing teachers and future leaders to educate and lead in these four critical areas. The understanding of multiculturalism is being mandated in many school systems now. Projects and ways to write curricula on educational, multicultural, and ethical dimensions of these topics will be explored.

**Dr. Anele Heiges** is a Dominican Sister who represents the International Public Policy Institute at the United Nations, is part of the Theology faculty and a former campus minister at Saint Peter's College in Jersey City. Dr. Heiges received her doctorate in Religion and Education from Columbia University Teachers College and has taught every grade in elementary and high school, as well as college courses. In the early 1990's she coordinated national and international communications for the U.N. Education for All Global Process. Dr. Heiges later became the first national coordinator of the campaign to End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism (ECPAT). Teaching, spiritual retreat work, social ministry and work in U.N. conferences and committees has provided expertise in difficult areas of world religions, ecology, human rights, spirituality, women's issues, economic issues, race and multicultural diversity.

**Dr. Ven. Chung Ok Lee**, representative of Won Buddhism International to the United Nations and Head Minister of Manhattan Won Buddhist Temple. Dr. Lee has been a public school teacher and received a Ph.D in Religious Education from New York University. She has served as an International President of the Parliament of World's Religions, President of the Committee of Religious Non-Governmental Organizations at the United Nations, and the Values Caucus. Dr. Lee is a spiritual teacher, peace activist and scholar. She has written various publications and delivered keynote addresses on topics concerning women, environment and ecology, social development, global ethics race, interreligious work, Buddhism and spirituality in many international conferences.

Dr. Heiges and Dr. Lee will team-teach the course to explore educational and ethical dimensions of ecological security in a multicultural world.

## Course Reading

Global Education Associates. *Ecological Security in an interdependent World*, Breakthrough Magazine, Fall 1989.

Flynn, Eileen P., *Cradled in Human Hands: A Textbook on Environmental Responsibility*. Sheed and

Ward: Kansas City, 1991. (In MSMC bookstore)

Gore, Al. *Earth in the Balance: Ecology and the Human Spirit*. A Plum Book: New York, 1993.

Republic of Korea. *Seoul Declaration on Environmental Ethics*. 1997.

Selected xeroxed materials to be handed out a week in advance.

Recommended texts: (On reserve in MSMC library)

Commission on Global Governance. *Our Global Neighbourhood*. Oxford University Press, 1995.

Mische, Patricia. *Ecological Security and the United Nations System: Past, Present and Future*. Global Education Associates, 1998.

Muller, Robert. *Birth of a Global Civilization*. Anacortes, WA: World Happiness and Cooperation, 1992.

Sahtouris, Elisabet. *GAIA: The Human Journey From Chaos to Cosmos*. New York: Pocket Books, 1989.

Schindler, Craig and Lapid, Gary. *The Great Turning*. Santa Fe, NM: Bear & Company, 1990.

United Nations. *Agenda 21. Report of the Rio Summit*. 1992.

Wink, Walter. *Engaging the Powers: Discernment and Resistance in a World of Domination*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 1992.

### **Seminar objectives:**

- 1) To become sensitive teachers and leaders for ecological security in multicultural aspects of our world.
- 2) To gain knowledge about how to teach on crucial environmental, justice and governance issues.
- 3) To formulate curricula regarding the above topics.
- 4) To discover ways for integrating lifestyle into alignment with survival needs of the planet.

Each class will have two segments:

- 1) Input
  - a) Presentation by professors.
  - b) Class interaction process by students.
  - c) Oral student presentation. made prior to the final two classes. Presentations will include current TV, magazine, newspaper articles, articles obtained via internet or selected sharing of weekly journals.
- 2) Educational application
  - a) Develop skills to form course projects based on input.
  - b) Use the knowledge, critical thinking and ethical understanding gained to develop the course project.
  - c) Give two-minute review at each class closing to see what was helpful; what was not helpful.

### **Teaching tools and technology usage:**

- 1) Pertinent videos, followed by class discussion
- 2) Selected audiocassette segments, followed by class discussion
- 3) Integration of internet information
- 4) Guest lecturers from the United Nations, non-governmental groups and local community.
- 5) Keep weekly journals based on personal reflections and experiences. (In his text Al Gore writes about his own journey.)

### **Seminar requirements:**

- 1) Weekly reading from required texts and xeroxed materials.
- 2) On-time weekly attendance.

3) Weekly journals that reflect your growing awareness and experience of multicultural, educational and ethical dimensions of ecological security. (Due March 10 and April 21)

4) Written research project in ed. application. (Due May 5; 15-20 pages)

a) Choose a topic from within the course.

b) Research data about your topic in light of both global and local perspectives.

c) Create curricula on educational, multicultural and ethical dimensions of your topic.

d) May consult with class professors early in the semester regarding your project progress.

5) Oral presentations.

6) Written final examination.

### **Grading:**

Final examination (May 12) 25 %

Oral research in ed. applic. presentations (Apr. 28 & May 5) 15 %

Written research project in educational application (Due May 5) 30 %

On-time attendance and class participation 15%

Journal and current news presentations 15 %

Full credit cannot be given for late work.

**Attendance policy:** Students are expected to attend and participate in all seminar classes. Please contact the college office when an unavoidable absence must occur. Listen to the local radio stations for announcements of emergency closing of the college due to weather conditions.

## **Course Schedule**

### **PREAMBLE:**

#### **introduction and seminar overview**

-intro. of class member

-review of syllabus and texts

-update Kyoto Conference on Global warming

-intro video, "The Earth Covenant"

-group discussion

-2 mintue wrap-up

-period of silent meditation

### **RELATIONSHIP WITH EARTH:**

#### **Educational and Multicultural Dimensions of Relationship with the Earth**

-video, "A New Creation Story" Michael Dowd

-*Ecological Security in an interdependent World*, pg.31-33

-*Seoul Declaration on Environmental Ethics*, pg. 1-3

-*Earth in Balance*, Al Gore, Forward, Intro, Chapter 13, pg xi-xx; 1-16; 238-265

-group discusses curricula development regarding multicultural relationship with the earth

#### **Bioregions in an Educational Scheme**

-guest speaker: Lorelle Elcock, O.P.

-environmental readings from Schumaker Institute

-readings from Genesis Farm

-video

-*"the Ecoregional Framework for a Global Environment Education"* Educational and Social Analysis, Susan Ahearn

-group discusses educational implications of bioregions

#### **Nature and Culture: Multicultural dimensions**

- Earth in the Balance*, pg. 19-163
- Ecological Security in an Interdependent World*, pg 54-67
- video, "*Canticle to the Cosmos: A New Prosperity*", Brian Swimme
- group creates curricula content regarding nature and culture

## **RELATIONSHIP WITH EACH OTHER**

### **The Earth Covenant/ Earth Charter**

- guest speaker: Eileen Gannon, O.P.
- Ecological Security*, pg. 7-19, 31-33
- Cradled in HUman Hands*, pg. 1-38
- Process the skills necessary to teach about Earth Covenant/ Earth Charter

### **Multicultural Dimensions of Conflict Resolution**

- "*On the Threshold: Environmental Changes as Causes of Acute Conflict*" Homer Dixon
- UNESCO Culture of Peace Program
- Role play scenarios in Dixon's work
- Do group discussion about how Dixon's work relates to a classroom or school situation

### **A New Common Purpose: the Whole Life System**

- Earth in Balance*, pp. 168-181; 197-237, 269-294
- Seoul Declaration on Environmental Ethics*, pp. 2-4, 7-10, 12-14
- video, excerpts from "The Global Brain," a newly understood basis for caring and compassion
- develop curricula on the Whole Life System or environmental sound lifestyle

### **Spring Break**

## **RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ECONOMIC AND ECOLOGICAL SECURITY**

### **A New Concept of Global Security**

- Earth in the Balance*, pp. 182-196
- Cradled in Human Hands*, pp. 109-138
- Ecological Security*, pp.22-38
- video, excerpt from "*Environmental Justice*"
- role play situations of security

### **Earth-Friendly Economics**

- Ethics and Agenda 21*, pp. 59-96
- Earth in Balance*, pp. 295-360
- video, excerpts from, "A Matter of Interest"
- 50 Ways to Save the Environment*
- Develop curricula regarding earth security

## **GOVERNANCE AND ECOLOGICAL SECURITY**

### **Governance and Ecological Security**

- guest speaker: Pierre Quiblier, united Nations Environment Programme
- Ethics and Agenda 21*, pp. 1-38
- Seoul Declaration on Environmental Ethics*, pp. 6-14
- Develop curricula regarding utilization of electronic media

### **Public Awareness: The Role of Civil Society for Ecological Security at Local, nAtional and Global Levels**

- Earth in the Balance*, pp. 361-373
- Cradled in Human Hands*, pp. 140-154
- "*Environment Education for Sustainable Societies and Local/ Global Responsibility*"
- Schumacher College: International Centre for Ecological Studies
- dialogue about educational aspects of networking with significant groups

## **ETHICAL DIMENSIONS OF ENVIRONMENT**

### **Ethical Dimensions of Environment: Sharing Responsibility**

- Ecological Security*, pp. 39-53
- Cradled in Human Hands*, pp. 42-69
- ethics and Agenda 21* , pp. 39-58

-create classroom activities and curricula to save the environment  
-finalize semester projects  
**oral presentations**  
**final examination**

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- Betz, M. *Making Life Choices: How Personal Decisions Shape Our World*. New York: Paulist Press, 1992.
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- Conlon, J. *Earth Story, Sacred Story*. Mystic, CT: Twenty-third Publications, 1994.
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- Rockefeller, Steven C. and Elder, John C., ed. *Spirit and Nature: Why the Environment is a Religious Issue*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1992.
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- Schindler, Craig and Lapid, Gary. *The Great Turning*. Santa Fe, NM: Bear & Company, 1990.
- United Nations Environment Programme. *Ethics and Agenda 21: Moral Implications of a Global Consensus*, 1994

### 2. Relationship with the Earth

- Barnaby, Frank, ed. *The Gaia Peace Atlas: Survival to the Third Millennium*. New York: Doubleday, 1988
- Bender, L. and Bruno, L. *Global Resources*. Opposing Viewpoints Series. San Diego: Greenhaven Press, 1991.
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- Nature and Culture*, Breakthrough, "On bioregions," Global Education Associates
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Mcphee, J. *The Control of Nature*. New York: FS&G, 1989.

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### **3. Relationship with Each Other**

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Gore, Al. *Earth in the Balance: Ecology and the Human Spirit*. A Plum Book: New York, 1993.

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*Hunger, 1994*. Fourth Annual Report on the State of World Hunger. Silver Spring, MD: Bread for the World Institute, 1993.

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### **4. Relationship Between Economic and Ecological Security**

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*World Resources: A Guide to the Global Environment. The Urban Environment 1996-97.* A joint publication of the World Resources Institute, UNEP, UNDP, and the World Bank. Oxford University Press, 1996.

## **5. Governance and Ecological Security**

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Cleveland, H. *Birth of a New World: An Open Moment for International Leadership.* San Francisco: Jossey-Bass publishers, 1993.

*The Global Commons: Policy for the Planet.* New York: The Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies, 1981.

Dorm, A.W. *The Case for a United Nations Verification Agency.* Ottawa: Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security, 1990.

Gore, Al. *Earth in the Balance: Ecology and the Human Spirit.* A Plum Book: New York, 1993.

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