

**University of Guam – Unibetsedat Guahan**

**Course Syllabus**

**College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences (CLASS)  
Division of English and Applied Linguistics (DEAL)**

**EN450 Environmental Literature (3)  
Spring 2025 F2F: W 4-6:50pm**

**Catalog Description:** This course offers intensive trans-disciplinary study of major environmental literary modes as part of the history of ecocriticism in the United States, in the region, and on Guam. It also examines how the environmental movement has shaped and continues to reshape the academy, physically and philosophically.

**Prerequisite(s):** Any 200-level EN course or consent of the instructor

**Textbooks:**

- Ernest Hemingway. *The Old Man and the Sea*. New York: Scribner, 1995. ISBN# 978-0-684-80122-3 (GPO Bestseller))
- Louise Erdrich. *Tracks*. New York, Harper Perennial, 2004. ISBN# 978-0-060-97245-5

**Learning Objectives for Students:** By the end of this course students will

- Understand the stylistic, narratological, and structural elements of the assigned texts
- Be able to analyze and evaluate the environmental, sociocultural, and cognitive implications of the assigned texts
- Recognize the theoretical foundations and basic critical arguments of literary ecocriticism
- Discuss and articulate ecocritical themes in a variety of modalities

## Schedule

Course Introduction and Syllabus	1
Ecocriticism: Foundational Texts	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Joseph Meeker “The Comic Mode”</li><li>• Neil Evernden “Beyond Ecology”</li><li>• Ursula K. Le Guin “The Carrier Bag Theory of Fiction”</li><li>• Cheryll Glotfelty “Bioregionalism”</li></ul>	
Ernest Hemingway <i>The Old Man and the Sea</i>	4
Louise Erdrich <i>Tracks</i>	6
Course Conclusion	

## Course Assessment:

• Homework and quizzes	25%
• Eco-Journal (14 entries)	25%
• Group Presentations	25%
• In-class Final Exam (Essay)	25%

## Course Policies:

- Attendance is mandatory. Any student missing more than 2 classes will not receive a passing grade in the course. Punctuality is highly recommended. Do not leave class early without notifying me beforehand.
- Attending class without the textbook may be counted as an absence.
- Any excused absences must be prior approved and documented.
- Cell phones and other electronic devices must not become distractions.
- No children of students may attend class.
- Late homework assignments will be discouraged. There will be no makeups of missed quizzes, presentations or the final exam. There will be no “incompletes” given at the end of the semester.
- Plagiarism or cheating will be dealt with accordingly. Please consult the UOG Student Handbook.
- Other policies specific to particular assignments will be communicated as necessary.
- Please keep “wandering” to an absolute minimum.

**Instructor:** Dr. David Gugin

**Office:** EC 216D

**E-mail:** dgugin@triton.uog.edu

**Office hours:** T/Th 11-12:30pm, F 9:30-12:30pm, or by appointment

**Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Accommodation Services**

If you are a student with a disability who will require an accommodation(s) to participate in this course, please contact the UOG Student Counseling and Advising Service Accommodations Office to discuss your specific accommodation needs confidentially. You will need to provide me with an accommodation letter from the Student Counseling and Advising Service Accommodations counselor. If you are not registered, you should do so immediately at the UOG Student Center, Rotunda Office #4 (735-2460) to coordinate your accommodation request."

**EN450 Alignment Matrix posted to Moodle.**

**UOG Grading Policy:**

A+ 4.00 98-100% Outstanding Honors-level performance with superior quality and extraordinary distinction.

A 4.00 93-97%

A- 3.67 90-92%

B+ 3.33 87-89% Good: Solid accomplishment, indicating a substantial mastery of course materials and a good command of skills required by the course.

B 3.00 83-86%

B- 2.67 80-82%

C+ 2.33 77-79% Adequate: Students have achieved the level of competency needed for advancing to a subsequent course that has this course as prerequisite.

C 2.00 70-76%

D 1.00 60-69% Deficient: Minimal passing, but not adequate to take a subsequent course that has this course as prerequisite.

F 0.00