



Instructor: Chester

Semester: Fall 2015

**HIST120/ESPM160AC
Final Exam**

Part I: Identifications (10 Points)

Instructions: Choose *only two* of the Identifications below to answer. Each ID is worth five points. Analyses of identifications should take the form of a short essay, roughly five to ten sentences in length. You may not use bullet points; rather, you should write full sentences that are part of a larger paragraph. Your essays must provide relevant details, dates, and an extended explanation of the identification's significance for understanding of American Environmental and Cultural History.

-John Wesley Powell
-Suburbanization

-Hurricane Katrina
-Iranian Oil

-Gifford Pinchot

Part II: Essay One (30 Points)

Instructions: Choose *only one* of the prompts below to answer. You must use a *minimum of three* of the Identifications attached to the prompt in your essay answer. Essays should be between four and seven paragraphs in length.

1) How have women actively shaped the environmental history of the United States since the late nineteenth century? In your answer, explain how gender analysis complicate and enrich American cultural and environmental history.

-Alice Hamilton
-Jane Addams

-Noxious New York
-Silent Spring

-Love Canal

2) How did rising fears about the harmful effects of industrial chemicals and radioactivity contribute to public pressure for policy reforms protecting the public health from environmental pollution? Did activists, writers, scientists, and the media played in portraying specific threats. Specifically address how secrecy, distrust, uncertainty and resort to alarmist narratives that exaggerated these threats? How did secrecy, distrust, and uncertainty shape these fears?

-Three Mile Island
-CERCLA

-Issue-Attention Cycle
-Silent Spring

-Downwinders



Part III: Essay Two (60 Points)

Instructions: Answer *only one* of the prompts below. Make sure your answer addresses the entire prompt. Your essay should provide both introductory and concluding paragraphs that summarize and synthesize your larger argument. Your essay must present sufficient detailed evidence to demonstrate your arguments. **All answers should draw extensively from both lectures and readings.** There is no maximum length for your essay. However, well-argued and well-supported essays will probably be *at least eight paragraphs long*. Length will vary significantly based on an individual's preparedness and their ability to write clearly, concisely, and concretely.

- 1) Compare and contrast the experiences of American Indians on reservations and/or Adirondackers with both African Americans in Chicago and communities of color in New York City. How do the environmental histories of these communities differ? What is the nature of environmental injustice or environmental racism in each case, and how have the actions of local, state, and federal governments contributed to it? How have these distinct communities responded to these disproportionate hazards and injustices over time and space?
- 2) Explain the role of science in the rise of conservation in the United States using the case of rainbow trout. Should the successful spread and propagation of rainbow trout be viewed as a story of scientific progress or another example of the hubris of human attempts to control nature in the larger context of American environmental history? How does the story of rainbow trout fit into a larger and more complex history of race, ethnicity, class and gender relations in the American conservation movement?
- 3) What has been a more important influence on the development of new energy transport systems in the United States: the economic strategies of businessmen or the distinct material properties of different forms of energies? In what ways have energy transitions reshaped work routines and the specific working conditions of laborers employed by energy industries? In your essay, address both the causes and consequences of these multiple energy transitions from the nineteenth century through the end of twentieth century.