

### **EAS 593: Human Dimensions of Global Change**

**Summary from Seminar 2:** The introduction to Part V, Chapter 23, and Chapter 24 contextualize geo-environmental change as rooted in the Global North demand for cheap food and cheap energy. This condition, according to Part V, is responsible for environmental degradation. In Chapter 23, Meyer and Turner, focus on scale (as geographers often do) asking us to consider the impact of scale on consumption. For example, the I=PAT formula (Impact=sum of population, affluence, and technology) while an adequate descriptor on a global-level, it is much less adequate on a regional or local level. Finally, Chapter 24, Emel *et al*, offered a helpful snapshot of the different theses that have evolved around resource consumption and the environment. These theses position us as individuals to describe our relation with the resources and the natural environment. We discussed a number of these theses, and will return to these again. Thanks for this discussion.

### **Seminar 3: February 2, 2007**

For Seminar 3, the following are required readings for Feb 2 class:

Chapter 25 (Jones)

Chapter 26 (Adams)

Chapter 27 (Dalby)

We will use the following questions to guide our discussion in class next Friday.

1. Jones (p 401) draws attention to ‘pollution’. Returning to scale, answer the question asked by Jones as to ‘whether the big issue of pollution and its control is scientific and *global* or political (non-technical) and *local*. Is scale a useful means of delineating big issues of pollution?
- 2a. Adams is pretty critical of sustainable development. Support or contest one of his arguments against sustainable development.
- 2b. Given the (apparent) shallowness of sustainability and sustainable development has it offered us anything of real use?
- 3a. Dalby raises our attention to the importance of ‘governance’. What is meant by governance? Is there a tangible definition? Is governance the same as government?
- 3b. Dalby is suggesting here a different governance structure to overcome global environmental crises. Suggest what that governance structure might look like?

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

This is **International Week** – a reminder of an event of significance to this class.

TOPIC: The Consequences of Arctic Climate Change

DATE: Wednesday, Jan 31<sup>st</sup> TIME: 7:30-9:00 pm

SPEAKER: Dr Mark Nuttall, Dept of Anthropology

LOCATION: Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex E1-003 (west of our Computing Science classroom building)