

Sample Essay Assignment

Environmental Studies 303: Human Ecology and Sustainability

Instructor: Rebekah Green, rebehak.green@wwu.edu

Take home essay #3. 10 points, 4% of grade.

DUE IN MODULE 10, AUGUST 1

Write a 700 word essay on one of the two questions below. Clearly label with the **essay question number** to which you are responding. You are welcome to use resources in addition to those assigned or presented in class, but the latter should not be ignored. All sources should be cited in text and in bibliography using a standard style (APA preferred, but not required). Write clearly, conveying, organizing and supporting your main ideas using direct and correct prose.

There will be a 10% deduction for every 24 hour period that the paper copy of the essay is turned in late.

Choose either question 1 or 2:

1. How do Wackernagel and Hardin propose creating a sustainable global society? How are their concerns and solutions similar or different? Base answers on a careful examination of Wackernagel, Hardin, Ostrom and other class material and readings.

2. What assumptions does Hardin use about human nature when discussing issues of commons management? Where was Hardin right or wrong about human nature? Critically examine his proposed solutions to issues discussed in his article in light of a careful examination of class materials and multiple class readings, including Ostrom.

Assessment:

Essays will be assessed on the degree to which they answered the questions posed, the degree to which you successfully used multiple readings (at least five class readings; this does not include lectures or films this time, though including these material can strengthen your argument), and the degree to which your essay is well-written, free from grammatical errors and typos.