

CANG 9205 Human Dimensions of Climate Change

Level C1

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CONTENT

Climate change is now considered the single largest threat to human society. Together with habitat alteration and destruction, climate change has already resulted in significant loss of lives and livelihoods, spread of diseases and a severe decline in global biodiversity. Not only are the causes of climate change well established, but also are many solutions identified at local, regional and global scales. Yet, the implementation of solutions is slow and lacking the urgency they demand. This class will explore some of the reasons why this existential crisis is often being ignored at the individual, national and international levels. We will explore the importance of science / science communication, societal structures and human behaviors, and develop ways to overcome these obstacles to real change and immediate action.

ASSESSMENT

Final: 30%

Participation in class: 30%

Short essay (class 1): 10%

group essay (class 6/7): 10%;

group discussion (class 6/7): 20%