

SYLLABUS

COURSE: ANTH/REL 444 SPIRITUAL ECOLOGY (Theory) 3 credits

TIME: Spring 2021, asynchronous online course via Laulima website

PLACE: University of Hawai`i @ Manoa

INSTRUCTOR:

Dr. Les Sponsel
Professor Emeritus
Department of Anthropology @ UHM, Saunders Hall 321

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Websites: <http://anthropology.hawaii.edu/people/emeritus/sponsel/>
<http://spiritualecology.info>

ORIENTATION

“Throughout history, it [religion] has expressed the deepest questions human beings can ask, and it has taken a central place in the lives of virtually all civilizations and cultures.... Religion persists and is on the rise, even as scientific and non-religious perspectives have become prominent” (American Academy of Religion, 2015, “Why Study Religion?,” www.aarweb.org).

“The notion that fact can be cleanly separated from value is absurd. The notion that our understanding of the material world can be cleanly separated from our experience of the spiritual world is impossible. The magisteria [science and religion] are mixed, shuffled, irremediably joined” (Bruno Guiderdoni, astrophysicist at the Observatory of Lyon, France) [quoted in *Science and Spirit* May-June 2006 17(3):59].

“Contemporary spiritualities combine practices of particular religious traditions with concern for the global situation and the life of the planet.... are

pluralistic and diverse; they search for a global ethic, are concerned with ecology, encourage the cultivation of healthy relationships, support feminism, and pursue peace.... Given the increasing scholarly attention in conferences and publications to the role of spirituality in contemporary culture, it is clear that the academy has recognized spirituality as a subject of study both within and independent of the study of religion” Mary N. MacDonald, 2005, “Spirituality,” *The Encyclopedia of Religion* (Second Edition), Lindsay Jones, Editor-in-Chief, New York, NY: Thomson Gale 13:8719, 8721.

“... the upsurge of Spirit is the only plausible way to stop the ecological destruction of our planet. Even people who have no interest in a communal solution to the distortions in our lives will have to face up [to] this ecological reality. Unless we transform our relationship with nature, we will destroy the preconditions for human life on this planet” (Rabbi Michael Lerner, 2000, *Spirit Matters*, Charlottesville, VA: Hampton Roads Publishing Company, Inc., p. 138).

“The Environmental crisis requires changes not only in public policy, but in individual behavior. The historical record makes clear that religious teaching, example, and leadership are powerfully able to influence personal conduct and commitment. As scientists, many of us have had profound experience of awe and reverence before the universe. We understand that what is regarded as sacred is more likely to be treated with care and respect. Our planetary home should be so regarded. Efforts to safeguard and cherish the environment need to be infused with a vision of the sacred” (statement from “Preserving the Earth: An Appeal for Joint Commitment in Science and Religion,” *Global Forum*, Moscow, January 1990).

Spiritual ecology refers to scientific and scholarly studies of the vast, complex, diverse, and dynamic arena at the interfaces of religions and spiritualities with environments, ecologies, and environmentalisms. The term spiritual ecology is used simply because it is most inclusive, referring to individual as well as organizational ideas and actions in this arena. Also, it parallels the names of other major approaches within ecological anthropology like historical ecology and political ecology. Although it has deep roots, spiritual ecology is a most exciting and promising new interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary, and transdisciplinary frontier for research, teaching, and practice growing exponentially since the 1990s.

Conducted completely online as an asynchronous course using the Laulima website, this advanced course pursues a systematic anthropological survey and critical analysis of spiritual ecology in historical and cross-cultural perspective. Near the end of the semester religious responses to global climate change will be discussed and finally the COVID-19 pandemic will be considered from the perspective of spiritual ecology.

Through PowerPoint lectures and publications, the instructor will discuss his own research on various aspects of this subject, including his long-term field research on the relationships among Buddhism, sacred places, ecology, and biodiversity conservation in Thailand, for over a decade focusing on sacred caves.

This course is cross-listed as Religion 444 Spiritual Ecology. Students enrolled in the Religion section should use the Anthropology section of the Laulima course website.

FORMAT

The course material will be surveyed with self-explanatory PowerPoint lectures; required readings; student posts on the course website reflecting on the material for each week; and an extensive succession of very carefully selected superb documentary films. *A unique feature of this course is its emphasis on experiential as well as intellectual exploration of spiritual ecology, this accomplished through films.* Films along with the link are listed in the Schedule, many from YouTube.

Students are required to be open minded as well as courteous and professional in class postings. *Students can write anything as long as it is relevant, concise, and polite.* The ideals of academic freedom and democracy apply in this class, even if they are restricted elsewhere. Being concise is very important because, as revealed in the Schedule, there is a wealth of course material to cover in the very limited time available.

In order to facilitate discussion by everyone and more penetrating discussion, every student is required to post on the Laulima course website each week by Saturday one brief but substantial comment (about five sentences). These weekly postings are in lieu of quizzes. *You must prove that you are familiar with the required course material, but far more important than any summary is your own reaction to it.* Students are encouraged to reply to other students in addition, although that is optional. Constructive critical comments and counter-arguments are most welcome. Weekly posts will be graded. The instructor will read and respond collectively to the accumulated comments each Sunday in an email along with a reminder of the coming week's assignment. Students may also receive individual comments from the instructor by email when appropriate.

The only prerequisite for this course is Anth 152 Culture and Humanity or 200 Cultural Anthropology, although 415 Ecological Anthropology, 422 Anthropology of Religion, and related courses such as on religion, ecology, and environmental studies would be helpful background. However, most of all, one

simply needs an *open mind* together with intellectual curiosity and serious commitment, attributes of any reputable scientist or scholar worthy of the title.

Any prerequisites can be waived.

Even though online use also has an environmental impact, in order to help save paper, and therefore trees and forests, beyond Laulima postings online any other written exercises for this course, such as the reflective essay mid-term and final examinations, should be submitted to the instructor via email (sponsel@hawaii.edu) with the subject clearly marked as (444...).

OBJECTIVES

The three primary goals of this course are to:

1. provide a broad, systematic, and in-depth *cross-cultural* survey of the interrelationships between religion/spirituality and nature/ecology/environmentalism with an emphasis on an anthropological perspective;
2. allow each student to penetrate more deeply into the ecology of the religion or other topic of her or his choice with an emphasis on its cultural and natural contexts via optional recommendations (PowerPoints, readings, films, and websites); and
3. provide an inventory of *key resources* on spiritual ecology, including books, periodicals, articles, reference works, films, and websites for present and future study and research. (For example, see Appendix II and the instructor's website <http://spiritualecology.info>).

The learning outcomes for achieving these three objectives will be measured by weekly graded website posts and the mid-term and final essay examinations.

GRADING

The final course grade will be calculated as follows:

1. a *weekly entry* in the Laulima course website of one concise but substantial paragraph (about 5 sentences) of comments on key points for required course material covered that week (required reading, PowerPoint lecture, and/or film, depending on the week) (60%);

2. a *reflective essay* on the first half of the course of 3 pages typed single-spaced for the mid-term examination due February 28 (15%); and
3. a *reflective essay* on the entire course of 5 pages typed single-spaced for the final examination due May 14 (25%). The final should be a revision of the mid-term in response to the instructor's comments and consider course material from the remainder of the semester.

Please see Appendix I in this syllabus for specific guidelines about the mid-term and final examinations.

Student work will be evaluated for:

1. achieving the primary *objectives* of the course;
2. *general knowledge* of all required reading assignments and of all material presented by the instructor in PowerPoint lectures and films, and weekly discussion posts on the Laulima course website;
3. clear, concise, logical, analytical, and critical *thinking*; and
4. regular, active, and meaningful *participation* in weekly postings for class discussion.

Students striving for an A grade should pursue more than the minimum requirements; that is, additional readings, extra films, and/or websites as recommended in the course Schedule and weekly email memos.

Undergraduate and graduate student work will be graded separately, and greater sophistication is expected for the latter including a higher quantity and quality of work. Graduate students are expected to undertake extra readings of their choice in pursuing their own special topical and regional interests.

Like the instructor as reflected in this syllabus, students are expected to take this course very seriously. Anyone who does not do so is wasting their time; thus, they should drop the course immediately instead of waiting until the end of the semester to receive a poor or failing grade.

Extra credit may be earned by reacting in extra posts to some of the optional recommendations in the schedule or by writing a one-page reaction (not summary) to a film, journal article, book chapter, PowerPoint lecture, or class discussion from any of the material covered in the syllabus or website. Five high quality extra credit papers can make the difference for a borderline course grade (e.g., B+ to A-), while ten such papers can elevate the course grade to the next higher level (e.g., B to A). Other alternatives for more extra credit include writing a review of an extra book, or a report based on library or field research; however, the specifics have to be approved in advance by the instructor. Again, optional recommendations in the Schedule can be important. Thus, in principle, with enough high quality work any student can earn an A in this course. However, ultimately, the value of the course for serious students far exceeds any grade and credits.

SPECIAL NEEDS

If any student feels the need for reasonable accommodations because of a disability, then she or he should contact the KOKUA Program in QLCSS 013 (phones 956-7511 or 956-7612), and/or send the instructor an email marked CONFIDENTIAL. The instructor is quite willing to collaborate with any student and KOKUA about needs related to a documented disability.

READING

Every student is required to regularly discuss on the Laulima course website these three textbooks according to the weekly reading assignments in the Schedule and instructor's weekly memo:

Brailovskaya, Tatiana, Executive Editor, 2020 (August), *Faith for Earth: A Call for Action*, Nairobi, Kenya: UN Environment Programme, and Chicago, IL: Parliament of World's Religions. (Free download at: <https://wedocs.unep.org/handle/20.500.11822/33991>).

Macy, Joanna, and Chris Johnstone, 2020, *Active Hope: How to Face the Mess We're in without Going Crazy* (Revised Edition, paperback \$18.95). (The 2012 first edition of this book is available in digital form free online through Hamilton Library, just search for the book title and first author. While the new edition is preferable, the first is sufficient).

Sponsel, Leslie E. 2012. *Spiritual Ecology: A Quiet Revolution* (hardcover \$53, used \$29.94, and Kindle eBook \$42.40). (Although the book is available in the

campus bookstore and from Amazon.com for those who may prefer to have it in hand, it is available in digital form free online through Hamilton Library, just search for the book title and author).

There will also be a few additional required readings posted under the Resources section of the Laulima website as listed in the Schedule and/or instructor's weekly memos. Many of these are articles by the instructor who has published extensively on spiritual ecology and related subjects. They provide especially relevant background for lectures, discussion, and films.

A substantial list of additional resources is provided in Appendix II.

You are encouraged to pursue your individual interests in exploring some of the resources identified, including exploring websites and viewing extra films, many available on YouTube. *Students who take advantage of as many of the resources provided here as feasible will obtain a systematic and thorough overview of the subject.*

Please alert the instructor if there is a problem with any of the links, websites, or other matters.

SCHEDULE

JANUARY 10

Required Readings:

Faith for Earth, pp. 6-71, at <https://wedocs.unep.org/handle/20.500.11822/33991>. [Skim, but read closely about the religion that interests you most and a second religion that you know least about. Note that there are photographs on most pages, so the text is not as long as the page numbers might suggest.]

Sponsel, L.E., 2016, "Spiritual Ecology," *Encyclopedia of Psychology and Religion*. D.A. Lemming, ed., Berlin: Springer Verlag (Second Edition), 3:1718-1723.

Optional Reading:

World Wildlife Fund International, 1986, *The Assisi Declarations: Messages on Man and Nature from Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, and Judaism*, Gland, Switzerland: World Wildlife Fund International.
<http://www.arcworld.org/downloads/THE%20ASSISI%20DECLARATIONS.pdf>

Required Film:

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Spirit and Nature (1991, 88 minutes) Available through UH Manoa streaming video in the Hawai'i Voyager Catalog of Hamilton Library, and also at <https://billmoyers.com/content/spirit-nature/>, and <https://vimeo.com/56784975>

JANUARY 17

PowerPoint Lectures:

Ecology and Spirituality

Dark Green Religion – Bron Taylor (optional)

Required Readings:

Faith for Earth, pp. 72-99.

Sponsel, L.E., 2018, "Ecology and Spirituality," *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Religion*, John Barton, ed., New York NY: Oxford University Press. [Skim pp. 1-35, but read carefully pp. 11-19. Please see the Resources section of the Laulima course website for this and other publications by the instructor and other authors.]

Optional Films:

She's Alive... Beautiful... Finite... Hurting... Worth Dying For (5 minutes)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nGeXdv-uPaw&playnext=1&list=PL25E07314849A25DF&feature=results_video

Soil, Soul, and Society – Satish Kumar (2011, 25 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=-EQ1HtzXxQU>

Spirits of Nature (2011, 5 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=cAMoCQI95EQ>

Bron Taylor interview (2010, 6 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uxIvBZEBS1M&app=desktop>

Bron Taylor, 2015, *Dark Green Religion* (60 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2UtmRLL5e8A>

Bron Taylor, 2014, *Surfing, Nature, and, Spirituality* (3.5 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=48-rkcQsREg>

Optional Websites:

Resurgence Magazine
<http://www.resurgence.org>

Schumacher College
<https://www.schumachercollege.org.uk/>

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion
<https://sssreligion.org/>

Rupert Sheldrake
<https://www.sheldrake.org/>

Terralingua: Unity in Biocultural Diversity
<http://www.terralingua.org>

Optional Readings:

Alper, Becka A., 2015 (November 23), "Millennials are less religious than older Americans, but just as spiritual," *Pew Research Center*
<http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/11/23/millennials-are-less-religious-than-older-americans-but-just-as-spiritual/>

Johnson, William Ted, 2007, "The Spiritual Lives of Great Environmentalists," *Electronic Green Journal* 1(25):1-9.
<http://escholarship.org/uc/item/6jq2x4wh?query=sponsel#page-5>.

Sponsel, L.E., 2014 (April), "Bibliographic Essay: Spiritual Ecology: Is it the Ultimate Solution for the Environmental Crisis," *CHOICE* 51(8):1339-1342, 1344-1348.

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Taylor, Bron, 2007, "Surfing into Spirituality and a New Aquatic Nature Religion,"
Journal of the American Academy of Religion 75(4):923-951.

Taylor, Bron, 2010, *Dark Green Religion: Nature, Spirituality and the Planetary Future*, Berkeley, CA: University of California. [Available free online through Hawai'i Voyager Catalog of Hamilton Library.]

JANUARY 24

PowerPoint Lectures:

Spiritual Ecology Overview

Religious Environmental Activism in Asia (optional)

Required Reading:

Spiritual Ecology: Prologue; Chapter 12 – Supernovas

Required Films:

Journey of the Universe (56 minutes)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TcTz4_IRRSQ

The Overview Effect (2013, 19 minutes)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sKK4dAu_sFo

Optional Films:

Scott Kelly on Infinite Wonder (2018, 7 minutes)

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/this-astronaut-spent-almost-a-year-in-space-and-he-photographed-it>

Gaia (2016, 49 minutes)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bj_fdeZi6-M

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James Lovelock Explains Gaia Hypothesis on The Sacred Balance with David Suzuki (2008, 4 minutes) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=44yiTg7cOVI>

James Lovelock interviewed at age 100 (2019, 90 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MGziltCwDJA>

Roger S. Gottlieb lecture on Religious Environmentalism (95 minutes)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BVpxdd1Oosg>

John Grim on Religion and Ecology (2011, 39 minutes)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=yGJ_r-pEH64

Mary Evelyn Tucker on The Emerging Alliance of Religion and Ecology (2012, 31 minutes) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=15v6f2moleE>

Religion and a new environmental ethic – Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim (2009, 13 minutes) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BG0bQ3SwDI8>

Arne Naess and Deep Ecology (1997, 51 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wf3cXTAqS2M>
http://www.dailymotion.com/video/x8meah_arne-naess_creation

Rupert Sheldrake – Science and Spiritual Practice, Resurgence Talks (2018, 89 minutes) <https://vimeo.com/267385836>

James Miller on Daoism (2016, 10 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z8Jf4cj7L2Y&authuser=1>

Mary Evelyn Tucker interviews Christopher Key Chapple on Jainism and Ecology (10 minutes) <http://fore.yale.edu/religion/jainism/religions-of-the-world-and-ecology-archive-of-conference-materials/unamnh-culminating-conferences/videos/>

Fred de Sam Lazaro, 2020 (February 11), *Troubled Waters: India's effort to clean up sacred but polluted Ganga River*, PBS Newshour (7 minutes)
<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/indias-long-term-effort-to-clean-up-pollution-in-sacred-ganga-river>

Holy (UN) Holy River (Ganges)(2016, 60 minutes)

<https://vagranttimestimes.com/2020/05/24/holy-unholy-river-pete-mcbride-jake-norton-2400kms-down-indias-holy-river/>

Optional Websites:

Allisson, Elizabeth, 2020, "On Ecology and Spirituality," Public Podcast, California Institute of Integral Studies (60 minutes) <https://www.ciispod.com/#/elizabeth-allison/>

Allisson, Elizabeth, 2020, Program Chair, Ecology, Spirituality and Religion, California Institute of Integral Studies
<https://www.ciis.edu/academics/graduate-programs/ecology-spirituality-and-religion>

Emergence Magazine

<https://emergencemagazine.org/>

Foundation for Deep Ecology

<http://www.deepecology.org/>

The Golden Sufi Center - Llewellyn Vaughan-Lee

<https://goldensufi.org/>

Metanexus

<https://www.metanexus.net/>

Overview Institute

<https://overviewinstitute.org/>

The Trumpeter: Journal of Ecosophy [Deep Ecology]

<http://trumpeter.athabascau.ca/index.php/trumpet>

John Grim and Mary Evelyn Tucker – Journey of the Universe, Coursera (free)

<https://www.coursera.org/specializations/journey-of-the-universe>

Optional Reading:

Jain, Pankaj, 2012 (July 12), "The Dharmic Method to Save the Planet," *Huffington*

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Post [https://www.huffingtonpost.com/pankaj-jain-phd/the-dharmic-method-to-sav b 859447.html](https://www.huffingtonpost.com/pankaj-jain-phd/the-dharmic-method-to-sav-b-859447.html)

Safi, Michael, 2017 (October 3), "Hindu festival chokes Indian waterways with flowers and idol debris," *The Guardian*
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/oct/03/hindu-festival-indian-waterways-flowers-idol-debris-yamuna-river>

Sponsel, L.E., 2020, "Religious Environmental Activism in Asia," Norwegian Asian Studies Network Asia Week conference paper.

JANUARY 31

PowerPoint Lectures (optional):

Sacred Trees, Groves, and Forests

Radical Environmentalism

Required Reading:

Spiritual Ecology Chapter 1 - What's in a Tree? Chapter 16 - To Plant a Tree, Wangari Maathai

Required Films:

Butterfly: A Film (Julia Butterfly Hill, 2016, 80 minutes). [Available through UH Manoa streaming video in the Hawai'i Voyager Catalog of Hamilton Library].

Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathai (Green Belt Movement, 2008, 80 minutes)

[<https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=SRTaking%20Root%20&v=G3My-B4NtOI>]

Optional Films:

Earth First! The Politics of Radical Environmentalism by Chris Manes (2011, 59 minutes) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UhTTAVbDEfw>

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If A Tree Falls: A Story of the Earth Liberation Front (2011, 85 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UmZkNNJqr1I>

What if Everyone Planted a Tree on Their Birthday? (2019, 6 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l4XvkQDotoc>

Optional Websites:

Julia Butterfly Hill <https://www.juliabutterflyhill.com/>

Circle of Life Foundation <https://www.circleoflife.org/>

Extinction Rebellion <https://rebellion.global/>

Interfaith Rainforest Initiative <https://www.interfaithrainforest.org/>

<https://www.interfaithrainforest.org/resource-guides/>

Optional Readings:

Chapron, Guillaume, Yaffa Epstein, José Vicente López-Bao, 2019 (March 29), A "Rights Revolution for Nature," *Science* 363(6434):1392-1393.

<https://science.sciencemag.org/content/363/6434/1392?rss=1>

Darlington, Susan M., 1998, "The Ordination of a Tree: The Buddhist Ecological Movement in Thailand," *Ethnology* 37(1):1-15.

Jabr, Ferris, 2020, "The Social Life of Forests," *The New York Times Magazine*

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/12/02/magazine/tree-communication-mycorrhiza.html>.

Keim, Brandon, 2017 (June 7), "Where the churches are forests, too," *Anthropocene Magazine* <http://www.anthropocenemagazine.org/2017/06/where-the-churches-are-forests-too/>

Salmond, Noel, 2006, "Julia Butterfly: Environmentalist as Stylite and Ascetic," *Ecotheology* 11(4):465-480.

Sponsel, L.E., 2016, "Spiritual Ecology and Radical Environmentalism," *Routledge Handbook of Religion and Ecology*, Willis Jenkins, Mary Evelyn Tucker, et al., eds., New York, NY: Routledge, pp. 218-226.

Yadav, Prasenjeet, 2020, "Living Tree Bridges in a Land of Clouds," *NPR*
<https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2020/08/01/892983791/photos-living-tree-bridges-in-a-land-of-clouds>

FEBRUARY 7

Required Reading:

Spiritual Ecology Chapter 2 – Enchanted Nature, Animism; Chapter 3 – The Original Spiritual Ecologist, Indigenous Peoples; Chapter 4 – Ecologically Noble or Ignoble?

Required Film:

Aluna: The Kogi People's Message (2012, 91 minutes). Available through UH Manoa streaming video in the Hawai'i Voyager Catalog of Hamilton Library, and at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ftFbCwJfs1I>.

Optional Films:

Puhipau, et al., *Mauna Kea: Temple Under Siege* (2005, 57 minutes). Available through UH Manoa streaming video in the Hawai'i Voyager Catalog of Hamilton Library, and at <http://oiwi.tv/oiwitv/mauna-kea-temple-under-siege/>.

Fire on the Mountain: A Gathering of Shamans (1997/2016, 106 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9MLdONKfRk>

Winona LaDuke on Land, Life and Culture: A Native Perspective (1999, 48 minutes)
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UXA2zCfxxAw&playnext=1&list=PL8F17DB322139063E&feature=results_vid

Oren Lyons on We Are Part of the Earth (2011, 7 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bSwmqZ272As&list=PL8F17DB322139063E>

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We Have Always Been Animists - Graham Harvey at Harvard University (2019, 67 minutes) <https://cswr.hds.harvard.edu/news/2019/11/07/video-we-have-always-been-animists>

Optional Websites:

Alliance of Mother Nature's Guardians

<http://allianceofguardians.org/en/>

[http://allianceofguardians.org/doc/call2017/AMNG Global-Call-2017-&-Annex EN.pdf](http://allianceofguardians.org/doc/call2017/AMNG%20Global-Call-2017-&-Annex%20EN.pdf)

Indigenous Environmental Network

<https://www.ienearth.org/>

Mount Graham Coalition (Apache)

<http://mountgraham.org/>

Sacred Land Film Project

<http://www.sacredland.org>

Sacred Maua Kea

<https://sacredmaunakea.wordpress.com/about/>

Society for the Anthropology of Consciousness

<https://www.sacaaa.org/aboutsac.html>

Optional Readings:

Sponsel, L.E., 2001, "Is Indigenous Spiritual Ecology a New Fad?: Reflections from the Historical and Spiritual Ecology of Hawai'i," *Indigenous Traditions and Ecology: The Interbeing of Cosmology and Community*, John Grim, ed. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Center for the Study of World Religions, pp. 159-174.

Sponsel, L.E., 2015 (April 9), "Sacred places are an integral part of the human condition," *Honolulu Star Advertiser*, p. A13.

<https://sacredmaunakea.files.wordpress.com/2015/04/sponsel-on-sacred-places-star-advertiser-9-april-2014.png>

Sponsel, L.E., 2010, "Religion and Environment: Exploring Spiritual Ecology," *Religion and Society: Advances in Research*, Simon Coleman and Ramon Sarro, eds., New York, NY: Berghahn Books 1:131-145.

FEBRUARY 14

PowerPoint Lectures:

Buddhist Ecology and Environmentalism

W.S. Merwin (optional)

Sacred Caves (optional)

Required Reading:

Spiritual Ecology Chapter 5 – Natural Wisdom and Action, The Buddha; Chapter 13 – Can a Poet Save Nature? W.S. Merwin

Required Films:

Forest Monks, PBS Religion and Ethics Weekly with Lucky Severson (January 15, 2010, 8 minutes).

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/2010/01/15/january-15-2010-forest-monks/5472/>.

W.S. Merwin: Even Though the Whole World Is Burning (2015, 82 minutes)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K8FjapGvsAM&list=PLhmvCwarVOWxxR20c8_e_rrih78BKGWscm.

Optional Films:

A Buddhist Perspective on the Eco-crisis – David Loy (2012, 6 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1-CmYEyhV4>

His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet on Ecology, Ethics, and Interdependence (2011, 108 minutes) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3HoMIYU9npo>

Thich Nhat Hahn in Conversation with David Suzuki (2018, 59 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CGKo5GQ7oJE>

Buddhism and Ecology - Christopher Ives with Mart Evelyn Tucker (2013, 15 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hBZ5vQgcfFE>

99,999 Trees Project, Wat Nawakaram, Kokyai Village, Nam Phong, Kohn Kaen, Northeastern Thailand (2008, 15 minutes)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SgupUHakXjA>

Amongst White Clouds (2005, 86 minutes)[Buddhist Hermit Masters of China's Zhongnan Mountains] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pH2ozq65yHQ>

Optional Websites:

Merwin Conservancy

<https://merwinconservancy.org/>

Naropa University, Boulder, Colorado

<https://www.naropa.edu/>

Optional Readings:

Allison, Elizabeth, 2017, "Spirits and Nature: The Intertwining of Sacred Cosmologies and Environmental Conservation," *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture* 11(2):197-226.

Allison, Elizabeth, 2019, "The Reincarnation of Waste: A Case Study of Spiritual Ecology Activism for Household Solid Waste Management: The Samdrup Jongkhar Initiative of Rural Bhutan," *Religions* 10:514. <https://www.mdpi.com/2077-1444/10/9/514>

Heller, Natasha, 2020 (November 30),"How Taiwan Uses Buddhist Literature For Environmental Education," *The Conversation* <https://theconversation.com/how-taiwan-uses-buddhist-literature-for-environmental-education-129970>

Sponsel, L.E., and Poranee Natadecha-Sponsel, 2020, "Buddhism and Ecology: Theory and Practice" *Forum on Religion and Ecology*
<https://fore.yale.edu/sites/default/files/files/BEintroduction-Sponsel.pdf>

Sponsel, L.E., 2008, "Buddhism: Environment and Nature," *Encyclopedia of the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine in Non-Western Cultures*, Helaine Selin, ed., The Netherlands: Springer, Second Edition online 1:768-776.

Sponsel, L.E., and Poranee Natadecha-Sponsel, 2004, "Illuminating Darkness: The Monk-Cave-Bat-Ecosystem Complex in Thailand," *This Sacred Earth: Religion, Nature, Environment*, Roger S. Gottlieb, ed., New York, NY: Routledge, pp. 134-144.
(Reprinted from *Socially Engaged Spirituality: Essays in Honor of Sulak Sivaraaksa*,

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David W. Chappel, ed., 2003, pp. 255-270).

Sponsel, L.E., 2015, "Sacred Caves of the World: Illuminating Darkness," *The Changing World Religions Map*, Stan Brunn, and Donna A. Gilbreath, eds., New York, NY: Springer, 1:503-522.

Steinauer-Scudder, Chelsea, 2020 (April 13), "The Poet and the Palm Tree," *Emergence Magazine* <https://emergencemagazine.org/story/the-poet-and-the-palm-tree/>

FEBRUARY 21

PowerPoint Lectures (choose at least one)

Saint Francis of Assisi: Environmental Saint

Lynne White, Jr.: Challenging Christianity and Igniting Ecotheology

Required Reading:

Spiritual Ecology Chapter 6 – Medieval Radical, Saint Francis of Assisi; Chapter 11 – Challenging Christians, Lynn White, Jr.; Chapter 15 – Green Patriarch, Bartholomew I

Required Films:

Keeping the Earth: Religious and Scientific Perspectives - National Religious Partnership for the Environment and Union of Concerned Scientists (1996, 28 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KU2yresk8g>

The Green Patriarch (2009, 42 minutes)

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gFpXuwmlBE>)

Optional Films:

Thomas Berry Speaks (2001, 28 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oSsAAaV2Yo8>

Brother Keith Warner on Franciscan Care for Creation (2010, 6 minutes)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FUrAS1G1-9Y>

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Franz Liszt's St. Francis Preaching to the Birds by pianist Anthony Byrne (2010, 8 minutes)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d2o1HC7OEMI>

The Green Bible (2012, 3 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=K2jGbLtmrEc>

Is God Green? Bill Moyers On America (2006, 50 minutes)

<http://www.pbs.org/moyers/moyersonamerica/green/index.html>

Mountain Top Removal (2006, 8 minutes)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RPixjCneseE&list=PLA48EE6F00EFC3D50>

Optional Websites:

Thomas Berry

<http://thomasberry.org/>

<http://www.greenmountainmonastery.org/about-us/thomas-berry-co-founder/>

Christians for the Mountains

<https://www.christiansforthemountains.org/>

Green Patriarch

<https://www.orthodoxcouncil.org/-the-green-patriarch->

Islamic Foundation for Ecology and Environmental Sciences

<https://www.ifees.org.uk/>

Optional Readings:

Evancie, Angela, 2013 (October 18), "Nuns Living with a New Creed:

Environmentalism," *Atlantic* <http://grist.org/living/nuns-with-a-new-creed-environmentalism/>

"Joint Message of Pope Francis and Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew on the World Day of Prayer for Creation," September 1, 2017,

https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/pont-messages/2017/documents/papa-francesco_20170901_messaggio-giornata-cura-creato.html

Jorgenson, Kiara, 2018 (Spring), "White Blight and the Legacy of Protestant Ecotheology," *World & Word* 38(2):180-189.

Sponsel, L.E., 2017, "Lynn White, Jr., One Catalyst in the Historical Development of Spiritual Ecology," *Lynn White Retrospective after 50 Years*, Todd LaVasseur and Anna Peterson, eds. New York, NY: Routledge/Taylor and Francis, pp. 89-102.

Taylor, Bron, Gretel Van Wieren, and Bernard Daly Zaleha, 2016, "Lynn White Jr. and the greening-of-religion hypothesis," *Conservation Biology* 30: 1000–1009.

[http://www.brontaylor.com/environmental_articles/pdf/Taylor--etal-GreeningofReligionHypothesis_Conbio30.5.1000-1009\(2016\).pdf](http://www.brontaylor.com/environmental_articles/pdf/Taylor--etal-GreeningofReligionHypothesis_Conbio30.5.1000-1009(2016).pdf)

FEBRUARY 28

Mid-Term Essay Examination Due

PowerPoint Lectures (choose a least one)

Henry David Thoreau

John Muir

Required Reading:

Spiritual Ecology Chapter 7 – The Spirit of Walden, Henry David Thoreau; Chapter 8 – Wilderness Disciple, John Muir

Required Film:

John Muir In The New World (2011, 85 minutes)

<https://vimeo.com/185430445>

Optional Films:

Henry David Thoreau's Reflections on Walden Pond (2007, 6 minutes)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b0Quw_RPB0U

Barry Wood on Thoreau's Life at Walden Pond (2010, 83 minutes)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=464a_VYqU0Y

Optional Websites:

John Muir House

<https://www.nps.gov/jomu/index.htm>

Muir Woods

<https://www.nps.gov/muwo/index.htm>

Walden Pond

<https://www.walden.org/property/walden-pond/>

Optional Readings:

Sponsel, L.E., 2018, "Love in/of Nature: Biophilia, Topophilia, and Solastalgia," *Love in the Time of Ethnography: Essays on Connection as a Focus and Basis of Research*, Lucinda Carspecken, ed., Lanham: Lexington, pp. 17-34.

Taylor, Bron, 2020 (December), "Michael Soule (1936-2020) on Spirituality, Ethics, and Conservation Biology," *Conservation Biology* 34(6):1426-1432.

MARCH 7

Required Reading:

Spiritual Ecology – Chapter 17 – Desert Spirituality, Burning Man; Chapter 18 – Avatar, Opening Pandora's Box, James Cameron

Required Film:

Burning Man 2017: How was your first Burning Man? (2017, 14 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hQt8fx3uIkU>.

Optional Film:

Rainbow Gathering (2012, 40 minutes)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=8Wu4H-d_kAI

Optional Websites:

Avatar

<https://www.avatar.com/>

[https://james-camerons-avatar.fandom.com/wiki/Avatar_\(film_series\)](https://james-camerons-avatar.fandom.com/wiki/Avatar_(film_series))

Burning Man

<https://burningman.org/>

<https://burningman.org/culture/philosophical-center/10-principles/>

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MARCH 14

SPRING RECESS

MARCH 21

PowerPoint Lecture:

Tibet

Required Reading:

Spiritual Ecology Chapter 19 – Atheist Spiritual Ecology, David A. Crosby; Chapter 20 - Natural Theology, Alister E. McGrath; Chapter 21 – Secularization of the Sacred, His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet

Required Film:

Devotion and Defiance: Buddhism and the Struggle for Religious Freedom in Tibet (2004, 35 minutes) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4J4uN_a2CfQ

Optional Websites:

His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet
<http://www.dalailama.com>

International Campaign for Tibet
<https://savetibet.org/>

Tibet Environment Watch
<http://www.tew.org>

Tibetan Environmental Network
<http://www.tibet.net/en/diir/enviro/>

Tibetan Government in Exile
<http://www.tibet.com>, <http://www.tibet.net>

Optional Readings:

Sponsel, L.E., 2018, "Spiritual Ecology and Religious Naturalism: Exploring their Interrelationships," *The Routledge Handbook of Religious Naturalism*, Donald A. Crosby and Jerome A. Stone, eds., New York, NY: Routledge, pp. 143-155.

Studley, John, 2019, "Case Study: Perpetuating Tibetan Spiritscapes as Unique Refugia and Exemplars of Spiritual Governance," *IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas* <https://csvpa.org/library/tibetan-spiritscapes/>

MARCH 28

PowerPoint Lecture:

The Great Turning

Required Readings:

Spiritual Ecology Chapter 14 – Reconnecting, Joanna Macy

Active Hope Introduction

Required Film:

Joanna Macy Interview (August 28, 2020, 46 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y9vHc1aqSaM>.

Optional Film:

The Great Turning – Joanna Macy (5 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LwlXTAT8rLk>

Optional Website:

Joanna Macy

<https://www.joannamacy.net/main>

APRIL 4

Required Reading:

Active Hope, Part One, Chapters 1-4

Optional Film:

Joanna Macy: No Self as Good News – Naropa University (2017, 99 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FoxpDNygyM0>

APRIL 11

Required Reading:

Active Hope, Part Two, Chapters 5-8

Required Film:

The Ecological Self: The Work That Reconnects – Joanna Macy (9 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GO9m-criSj4>

APRIL 18

Required Reading:

Active Hope, Part Three, Chapters 9-13

Optional Reading:

Deep Times: A Journal of the Work that Connects

<https://journal.workthatreconnects.org/>

APRIL 25 SPECIAL TOPIC: Global Climate Change and Spiritual Ecology

PowerPoint Lecture:

Global Climate Change

Required Reading (choose at least one of these):

Haluza-DeLay, Randolph, 2014, “Religion and Climate Change: Varieties in Viewpoints and Practices,” *WIREs Climate Change*

Jenkins, Willis, Evan Berry, and Luke Beck Kreider, 2018, "Religion and Climate Change," *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 45:85-108.

Morrison, Mark, Roderick Duncan, and Kevin Parton, 2015, "Religion Does Matter for Climate Change Attitudes and Behavior," *PLoS One* pp. 1-16.

Sachdeva, Sonya, 2016, "Religious Identity, Beliefs, and Views about Climate Change," *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Climate Science* pp. 1-39.

Taylor, Bron, 2015, "Religion to the Rescue (?) in an Age of Climate Disruption," *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture* 9(1):7-18.

Required Film:

Joanna Macy on Leading in a Climate Changed World (40 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QzvBCxdM1TQ>

Optional Films:

How to Save Humankind [James Lovelock at 100 on Gaia] *The Economist* (2019, 8 minutes) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HuGj5n_vYz4

Greta Thunberg TedTalk (2019, 11 minutes)

https://www.ted.com/speakers/greta_thunberg

Greta Thunberg UN Plenary COP-24 (2018, 4 minutes)

<http://youtu.be/Xwnqy51BJNM>

Thunberg, Greta, 2020 (December 14), "5 Years After Paris Agreement, World Is "Speeding in the Wrong Direction" on Climate," *Democracy Now* (6 minutes)

https://www.democracynow.org/2020/12/14/greta_thunberg_paris_agreement_5th_anniversary

Faith and Fact: Climate Change – Bill Moyers interviews Katherine Hayhoe (2014, 25 minutes) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iMJKkweZN6w>

Religious Responses to Climate Change (2012, 108 minutes)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=O1iHL4u9_kw&feature=youtu.be

Sally Bingham on A Religious Response to Global Warming (2010, 11 minutes)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RhPbVbFzj5A&playnext=1&list=PLDE4AC3DDD C2EE953&feature=results_main

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David Attenborough – 60 Minutes Interview (2020, 14 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Li5Xi9mIvDg>

Al Gore on Climate Change at Ted Talks (2006-2020)

https://www.ted.com/speakers/al_gore

Climate Change, Despair and Empowerment with Ross Gelbspan and John Seed (2012, 50 minutes) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FnF_AFnGW3Q

Earth Consciousness and Climate Change – Oren Lyons (2008, 32 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SRz2mih5-JU>

Naomi Klein on “*This changes everything: Capitalism vs. the climate,*” (2016, 60 minutes) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CN_vbJCWT6c

Six Degrees Could Change the World (2015, 75 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EU5tUY3W3WI>

Optional Websites:

Alliance of World Scientists

<https://scientistswarning.forestry.oregonstate.edu/>

Al Gore Climate Reality Project

<https://www.climaterealityproject.org/>

Bill McKibben and 350.org

<http://billmckibben.com/>

<https://350.org/>

Drawdown – Paul Hawken

<https://drawdown.org/>

International Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

<https://www.ipcc.ch/>

Climate Emergency – Forum on Religion and Ecology <https://fore.yale.edu/Climate-Emergency>

Interfaith Power & Light: A Religious Response to Global Warming

<https://www.interfaithpowerandlight.org/>

<https://www.interfaithpowerandlight.org/religious-statements-on-climate-change/>

Sunrise Movement

<https://www.sunrisemovement.org/?ms=SunriseMovement>

Zero Hour

<http://thisiszerohour.org/>

United Nations 2020 (December 12), "Climate Ambition Summit," United Nations

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/12/1079862>

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres – "State of Climate Emergency"

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/12/1079862#SG>

<https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2020-12-12/secretary-generals-remarks-the-climate-ambition-summit-bilingual-delivered-scroll-down-for-all-english-version>

Young Evangelicals for Climate Action <https://yecaction.org/>

Dark Mountain Project

<https://dark-mountain.net/about/manifesto/>

Optional Reading:

Duara, Prasenjit, 2017 (November 7), "Environmental Humanities and Sustainable Modernity in Asia (and Beyond)," *Social Science Research Council SSRC Items*

<http://items.ssrc.org/environmental-humanities-and-sustainable-modernity-in-asia-and-beyond/>

Macy, Joanna, 2019 (August), "Check-in," *Deep Times: A Journal of the Work that Reconnects*

<https://journal.workthatreconnects.org/2019/08/05/check-in-from-joanna-macy/>

Markoe, Lauren, 2017 (April 28), "Environmentalism Bill McKibben talks faith," *Religion News Service*

<https://www.americamagazine.org/faith/2017/04/28/environmentalist-bill-mckibben-talks-faith>

Parliament of the World's Religions, 2016, *Declaration on Climate Change*

<https://parliamentofreligions.org/civicism/petition/sign?sid=4&reset=1>

MAY 2 SPECIAL TOPIC: COVID-19 Pandemic and Spiritual Ecology

Required Readings:

Spiritual Ecology Epilogue

Earth for Faith, pp. 71, 100-101

Required Films:

The Shaman's Message – Davi Kopenawa Yanomami (2020, 2 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EfmVG0Jqo-Y&feature=youtu.be>

The Hidden Promise of Our Dark Age – Joanna Macy (Bioneers)(32 minutes)
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vzmjF1jE2K0>)

Optional Films:

Earth in Balance – James Lovelock on Gaia with David Suzuki (2008, 4 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=44yiTg7cOVI>

Earth, Spirit and Action with John Seed (2012, 59 minutes)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7L-1DwM4bw>

Ecopsychology: Ten Principles (2019, 6 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QuXQHKq3PQE>

An Introduction to the Findhorn Foundation (2008, 8 minutes)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=syRtxAzYbC0>

Towards an Ecopsychology – Theodore Roszak (2010, 11 minutes)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=83VHiA2HhkM>

Holocene (2011, 6 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=TWcyIpul8OE>

Optional Websites:

Bioneers <https://bioneers.org/>

California Institute of Integral Studies
<https://www.ciis.edu/>

Earth Charter <https://earthcharter.org/>

Findhorn Foundation
<http://www.findhorn.org>

Optional Reading:

Robbins, Jim, 2020 (January 9), "Ecopsychology: How Immersion in Nature Benefits Your Health," *Yale Environment 360* <https://e360.yale.edu/features/ecopsychology-how-immersion-in-nature-benefits-your-health>

MAY 14 FINAL ESSAY EXAMINATION DUE

**APPENDIX I: GUIDELINES FOR MID-TERM AND
FINAL EXAMINATION REFLECTIVE ESSAY**

One or more letter grades will be subtracted from the essay examinations grade for failure to adhere to the following guidelines.

Your essays should reflect on the course based on your experience with the course website, lectures, readings, films, and other material. The primary matter to consider is the meaning, significance, achievements, potentials, and limitations of spiritual ecology. You may wish to simply address each of these in turn.

Your essay should be clear and concise, but also substantial and penetrating.

Go beyond generalizations to specifics including particular examples.

Your mid-term essay should be limited to about 3 pages typed single-spaced. Be sure to include introductory and concluding paragraphs. Start each paragraph with a topic sentence identifying the subject or main point of the paragraph. Explicitly identify by number 3-5 main points. Your final essay should be about 5 pages typed single-spaced.

Instead of quotes use paraphrasing, don't waste space. Use the spelling and grammar check on your computer to try to catch any errors in the final draft of your essay, although the grade will be based solely on the relevance and quality of the contents.

You are most welcome to consult with any individual as well as any print and internet resources, although covering the required course material is by far the most important. Just be careful to properly acknowledge any source for specific information, ideas, and the like. Also, be sure to include your own insights, comments, reactions, questions, and criticisms.

Ultimately your essays must be the product of your own individual scholarship and creativity. Any plagiarism will be rewarded with an automatic F for the final course grade and reported to the office of the Dean.

Be careful to cite particular sources for specific information including your course textbooks and other readings, lectures, films, case studies, websites, and class discussions on Laulima. In each reading citation include the author and page (e.g., Taylor 2020, p. 60, or pp. 65-70). Other kinds of sources can be documented as follows: (lecture February 28), (Laulima March 4), (film title), or (personal communication with St. Francis of Assisi, date). It is not necessary to append a bibliography with the full citation of sources, if they are already in the course syllabus or textbooks.

The purpose of the essay is to: (1) convincingly demonstrate your familiarity with the course material; (2) present a critical analysis of it; and (3) discuss your own reactions to it. Your grade will be based on the extent to which you satisfy these three purposes plus the guidelines, grading criteria, and course objectives listed previously in this syllabus.

You should keep a file accumulating a copy of each of your discussion posts from Laulima to use in drafting your reflective essays.

The mid-term reflective essay is due February 28 by 10:00 p.m.

The final reflective essay is due May 14 by 10:00 p.m.

Please send each as an email attachment to the instructor with the subject clearly identified as 444 Mid-term or Final at sponsel@hawaii.edu.

APPENDIX II: SPIRITUAL ECOLOGY RESOURCE GUIDE

The first general textbook on the subject is:

Kinsley, David. 1995. *Ecology and Religion: Ecological Spirituality in Cross-Cultural Perspective*. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall, Inc.

The most recent general text is:

Grim, John, and Mary Evelyn Tucker. 2014. *Ecology and Religion*. Washington, D.C.: Island Press. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=15v6f2moleE>,
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yGJ_r-pEH64.

For a general overview see:

Brailovskaya, Tatiana, Executive Editor, 2020 (August), *Faith for Earth: A Call for Action*, Nairobi, Kenya: UN Environment Programme, and Chicago, IL: Parliament of World's Religions
<https://www.unenvironment.org/resources/publication/faith-earth-call-action>

Free download: <https://wedocs.unep.org/handle/20.500.11822/33991>
[Extensive list of websites with accessible links are on pages 105-107].

Among related complementary books are these:

Bauman, Whitney A, Richard R, Bohannon II, and Kevin J. O'Brien, eds. 2011. *Inherited Land: The Changing Grounds of Religion and Ecology*. Eugene: Pickwick Publications.

_____, et al., eds. 2017. *Grounding Religion: A Field Guide to the Study of Religion and Ecology*. New York: Routledge (Second Edition).

Berry, Thomas. 2009. *The Sacred Universe: Earth, Spirituality, and Religion in the*

Twenty-First Century. New York: Columbia University Press.
<http://thomasberry.org/>.

Bohannon, Richard, ed. 2014. *Religions and Environments: A Reader in Religion, Nature, and Ecology*. New York: Bloomsbury Publishing.

Foltz, Richard C., ed. 2003. *Worldviews, Religion, and the Environment: A Global Anthology*. Belmont: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning.

Gottlieb, Roger S., ed. 2004. *This Sacred Earth: Religion, Nature, Environment*. New York: Routledge (Second Edition).

_____. 2006. *A Greener Faith: Religious Environmentalism and Our Planet's Future*. New York: Oxford University Press.
https://www.wpi.edu/people/faculty/gottlieb#profile-faculty_profile,
<http://users.wpi.edu/~gottlieb>,
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BVpxdd1Oosg>.

Rockefeller, Steven C., and John C. Elder, eds. 1992. *Spirit and Nature: Why the Environment Is a Religious Issue*. Boston: Beacon Press.

Sponsel, Leslie E. 2012. *Spiritual Ecology: A Quiet Revolution*. Santa Barbara: Praeger. <http://spiritualecology.info>.

_____, 2020, *Religious Environmental Activism in Asia: Case Studies in Spiritual Ecology*. Basel, Switzerland: MDPI/Religions
<http://www.mdpi.com/books/pdfview/book/2169>.

Tanner, Ralph, and Colin Mitchell. 2002. *Religion and Environment*. New York: Palgrave.

Taylor, Bron. 2010. *Dark Green Religion: Nature, Spirituality and the Planetary Future*. Berkeley: University of California Press. <http://www.brontaylor.com>,
<http://www.brontaylor.com/blog/>,
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uxlvBZEBS1M8>,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2UtmRLL5e8A>.

Tucker, Mary Evelyn, and John A. Grim, eds. 1993. *Worldviews and Ecology*. Maryknoll: Orbis Press.

Vaughan-Lee, Llewellyn, ed. 2013. *Spiritual Ecology: The Cry of the Earth*. Point Reyes: The Golden Sufi Center.

Watling, Tony. 2009. *Ecological Imaginations in the World Religions: An*

Ethnographic Analysis. New York: Continuum International Publishing Group.

Harvard University Press published the series *World Religions and Ecology* coedited by Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim

(<https://www.hup.harvard.edu/results-list.php?collection=1057>):

Chapple, Christopher Key, ed. 2002. *Jainism and Ecology: Nonviolence in the Web of Life*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

_____, and Mary Evelyn Tucker, eds. 2000. *Hinduism and Ecology: The Intersection of Earth, Sky, and Water*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Foltz, Richard C., Frederick M. Denny, and Azizan Baharuddin, eds. 2003. *Islam and Ecology: A Bestowed Trust*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Girardot, N.J., James Miller, and Liu Xiaogan, eds. 2001. *Daoism and Ecology: Ways Within a Cosmic Landscape*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Grim, John, ed. 2001. *Indigenous Traditions and Ecology: The Interbeing of Cosmology and Community*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Hessel, Dieter T., and Rosemary Radford Ruether, eds. 2000. *Christianity and Ecology: Seeking the Well-Being of Earth and Humans*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Tirosh-Samuels, Hava, ed. 2002. *Judaism and Ecology: Created World and Revealed World*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Tucker, Mary Evelyn, and John Berthrong, eds. 1998. *Confucianism and Ecology: The Interrelation of Heaven, Earth, and Humans*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

_____, and Duncan Ryuken Williams, ed. 1997. *Buddhism and Ecology: The Interconnection of Dharma and Deeds*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

By now there are also several major reference works:

Crosby, Donald A., and Jerome A. Stone, eds. 2018. *The Routledge Handbook of Religious Naturalism*. New York: Routledge.

Gottlieb, Roger S., ed. 2006. *The Oxford Handbook of Religion and Ecology*. New York: Oxford University Press.

_____, ed. 2010. *Religion and the Environment*. New York: Routledge, Volumes 1-4.

Hart, John, ed. 2017. *The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Religion and Ecology*. Boston: Wiley-Blackwell.

Jenkins, Willis, and Whitney Bauman, eds. 2010. *Berkshire Encyclopedia of Sustainability: Volume I: The Spirit of Sustainability*. Barrington: Berkshire Publishing Group LLC.

_____, Mary Evelyn Tucker, and John Grim, eds. 2017. *The Routledge Handbook of Religion and Ecology*. New York: Routledge.

Taylor, Bron, ed. 2005. *Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature*. New York: Continuum Press, Volumes 1-2, <http://www.religionandnature.com/ern/>.

There are also two academic journals focused on this subject:

Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture (2007 -)
<http://www.religionandnature.com/journal/index.htm>
[published by Equinox], and

Worldviews: Global Religions, Culture, and Ecology (1997 -)
<https://brill.com/view/journals/wo/wo-overview.xml>
[published by Brill].

The Forum on Religion and Ecology at Yale University has extensive resources and also publishes a monthly email newsletter:
<http://fore.research.yale.edu>.

(There is a similar organization in Europe <https://www.religion-environment.com/about-the-forum/>).

The International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture was founded in 2006: <https://www.issrnc.org/>.

These articles provide overviews of spiritual ecology:

Sponsel, Leslie E. 2010. "Religion and Environment: Exploring Spiritual Ecology." *Religion and Society: Advances in Research* 1:131-145.

_____. 2014 (April). "Feature Article: Bibliographic Essay - Spiritual Ecology: Is it the Ultimate Solution for the Environmental Crisis." *CHOICE* 51(8):1339-1342, 1344-1348.

_____. 2019. "Ecology and Spirituality." In *The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Religion*. John Barton, ed. New York: Oxford University Press. Online Publication
DOI: 10.1093/acrefore/9780199340378.013.95.