

Master in Political Ecology

Academic year: 2018-2019

THE EJ ATLAS

Instructor

Joan Martínez-Alier
Institute of Environmental Science and Technology
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Structure

Lectures will be largely based on the EJAtlas (www.ejatl.org), a unique project of ICTA UAB which started in 2012. The EJAtlas reached 2500 conflict cases by July 2018 with data sheets of 5 to 6 pages. It is an instrument for research in comparative political ecology, and it supports the global movement for environmental justice.

Evaluation

- a) Discussion on the ICTA UAB film (subtitled in English) by Beatriz Rodriguez-Labajos et al, "Aquí nos vamos a quedar" (in youtube).
- b) Filling in two new cases in the EJAtlas (approved by JMA), by groups of two or three students.

Programme outline

1. Origins of Environmental Justice in the USA in the 1980s.

Cases of "environmental racism" in the EJAtlas (e.g. Mossville, Louisiana and other cases in the USA; "Nego fugido" (Bahia) and others in Brazil). Coloniality, racism, environmental justice in the Americas (discussion of the article by Iokiñe Rodríguez and Mirna Liz Inturias, Conflict transformation in indigenous peoples' territories: doing environmental justice with a 'decolonial turn', 2018).

2. The EJAtlas in India. Origins of the notion of "environmentalism of the poor".

Ramachandra Guha and "The Unquiet Woods" 1989 - who takes the HANPP in the Himalayas?

Brototi Roy. A panorama of ecological distribution conflicts in India, based on the EJAtlas (article in Ecología Política 55, 2018).

3. Social metabolism, commodity extraction frontiers, ecological distribution conflicts, and valuation languages.

Leah Temper et al, Mapping the frontiers and front lines of global environmental justice: the EJAtlas, J. of Political Ecology. 2015..

4. The industrial economy is not circular, it is entropic: this is why there are so many environmental injustices.

J. Martinez-Alier et al, Is there a global environmental justice movement? *J. Peasant Studies* 43(3), 2016. b) Scheidel A., et al. Ecological distribution conflicts as forces for sustainability: an overview and conceptual framework. *Sustainability Science*. 2017.