

Inquiry into the Natural World

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In this course, students will have the opportunity to explore differing views of the environment through poems, novels, essays, case studies, film clips, audio recordings, and photographs. Through critical examinations of issues such as wise use, sustainability, and conservation, to name a few, students will broaden their knowledge of the complex relationship between humans and the natural world. In turn, their views of the environment and their place within it will hopefully be challenged. Students will be encouraged to explore each course topic as it relates to their particular interests or chosen major, thus enriching the diversity of viewpoints expressed in seminars. Selections from various literary genres and media will enable students to explore how different forms of communication enrich the environmental debates of yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Emphasis will be placed on researching, constructing arguments, and presenting interdisciplinary issues effectively.