Final considerations
This course will introduce students to:

1. the major environmental problems facing human societies;
2. the key social science disciplines and their contribution to the field of environmental studies;
3. the methodologies used by these disciplines and the way they shape understanding of nature/society relations;
4. the importance of ethics and leadership in the developing environmental solutions.
Organization:

1. Keywords and concepts
2. Disciplines and tools
3. Applications to cases
What is environmental studies?

A relatively new, interdisciplinary field of studies examining nature/society relations, environmental problems and solutions.
Keywords and concepts

1. Environmental studies: Social science
2. Natural science and ecology
3. Humanities and ethics
Keywords and concepts

1. Environmental studies: Social science
2. Natural science and ecology
3. Humanities and ethics
4. Institutions, individuals
5. Nature, culture
6. Sustainability! And Speth’s 8 transitions!
Disciplines and tools

1. Disciplines, domains
   a. focus and disregard

2. The value of interdisciplinary approaches
   a. The evolution of thinking over 30 years
      (recall parallels between Sundstrom/Brook)

3. Environmental ethics
   a. Why care?
   b. What to care about?
   c. How do help others care?
Applications

1. The strengths & weaknesses of interdisciplinary studies
2. Expert knowledge: power +/-
3. Social learning and team problem solving
Cases

1. Agrofood: agroecology, sustainability GR...
2. Biodiversity: hotspots, ESS, reasons to care
3. Water: management, politics, health, social learning
Things to read and link:

1. Speth’s 8 transitions (ch. 8-10)
2. My Introduction, ch 1
3. ***Bingham ch 4 (case studies 141-145, 149-154, 162-168)***
4. ***Bingham ch 8 (case study 300-314)***
5. Wilson ch 7
6. Postel on water
7. The pdfs of lectures in this section