

## **History of Science and Technology and Environmental Problems:**

Major Environmental Problems since the mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century in Japan and the World

**Spring 2014 Fridays:** 10:45-12:15; **Room:** W9-407

Office hours: 10:00-10:40 on Fridays. Other times by appointment.

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### **OUTLINE:**

**Week 1** (April 11<sup>th</sup>): Introduction

**Week 2** (April 18<sup>th</sup>): Science, technology and the environment—overview Endangered Planet (video + discussion)

**Week 3** (April 25<sup>th</sup>): Japan's Lessons on Economy and the environment – Our Pollution Experience (video + discussion)+an introduction to writing essays

**Week 4** (April 2<sup>nd</sup>): Minamata I: organic mercury poisoning (video + discussion)

**Week 5** (May 9<sup>th</sup>): Itai-itai Disease: cadmium poisoning

**No class on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>** (for Suzukake Festival)

**Week 6** (May 23<sup>rd</sup>): Minamata II (discussion+ *Rowing the Eternal Sea*)

**Week 7** (May 30<sup>th</sup>): DDT (pesticides) (*Prometheans in the Lab*: Chapter 8) (reading + discussion)

**Week 8** (June 6<sup>st</sup>): American Experience: Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* (video + reading)

**Week 9** (June 13<sup>th</sup>): Lynn White, "Our Ecologic Crisis"; David Nye, chapter 6.

**Week 10** (June 20<sup>th</sup>): Nuclear Energy I (Excursion to the Daigo Fukuryu Maru)

**Week 11** (June 27<sup>th</sup>): Nuclear Energy II (Into Eternity) (video + discussion)

**Week 12** (July 4<sup>th</sup>): Fukushima Dai-ichi and its local and global implications (video + discussion)

**Week 13** (July 11<sup>th</sup>): Global warming I: (Gore's *Inconvenient Truth* + discussion)

**Week 14** (July 18<sup>th</sup>): Global warming II: James Lovelock, *The revenge of Gaia* (reading + discussion)

**Week 15** (July 25<sup>th</sup>): Mini presentations for a term paper