What’s Wrong with the World? How Do We Fix It? 
Perspectives and Solutions from the Environmental Humanities and Social Sciences 

INT 133B, Summer Session B 2019, Monday-Thursday, 12:30-3:20 pm, Phelps 1160

This 8-unit course will be team taught by Ken Hiltner, Professor of English and Director of the Environmental Humanities Center, and John Foran, Professor of Sociology and co-founder of the International Institute of Climate Action and Theory.

This course has 20 scholarships allocated to it. Each is worth $2000. Scholarships will be awarded based on an application that consists of your UCSB transcript (unofficial is fine) and a single-spaced one page essay explaining both a) your financial need circumstances and b) your interest in the course and its themes.

If interested, send the above two documents as attachments by Tuesday, July 2 to foran@soc.ucsb.edu and to hiltner@english.ucsb.edu

In this course, we will investigate the future, asking what might the world look like in the year 2030? What will be the state of climate change? What will schools, cities, agriculture, jobs, nations, energy sources, technology, political systems, international relations, global and local economies, and much more look like? How will people make sense and meaning of their world? What future worlds can we foresee from where we are now, ranging widely and wildly from the awful to the utopian? How will we get to the better worlds we hope to be living in?

Starting with the current political, economic, cultural, and climate crises of Earth and humanity, we consider alternatives to the present system – such as sustainable development, degrowth, transition towns, ecosocialism and ecofeminism, buen vivir, the rights of Mother Earth, and resilience – and our roles in building a far better world by 2030.

We will also consider the ways that climate change is being fiercely debated on the public stage through a careful look at the rhetoric of these debates, to prepare ourselves and each other for being effective, game-changing leaders and advocates for environmental and climate justice.

(Image from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R7k8TegnNfk)

This course will involve immersive, project-based work, such as role playing, creative productions, group projects, field trips, and others. This is not a multiple choice, mid-term and final class! Essential to this course will be a collaborative model of discovering, curating, and analyzing material.