

Philosophy 5410 – **Environmental Ethics and Public Policy:
United States Wilderness Policy**

Professor **J. Baird Callicott**, Ph.D.

Office Hours: **Tuesday 3:30-5:30** and by appointment
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OBJECTIVE

To examine the history of ideas that led to the Wilderness Act of 1964, to review the current debate about the wilderness idea and associated wilderness policy, and to explore future wilderness policy options

TEXTS

Roderick Nash, *Wilderness and the American Mind*, Fourth Edition (Yale University Press, 2001)—ISBN: 0300091222 {WAM}
J. Baird Callicott and Michael P. Nelson, eds., *The Great New Wilderness Debate* (University of Georgia Press, 1998)—ISBN: 0820319848 {GNWD}
Michael P. Nelson and J. Baird Callicott, *The Wilderness Debate Rages On* (pdf manuscript submitted to University of Georgia Press for Fall 2007 publication) {WDRO}

REQUIREMENTS

1. (30%) Weekly **reading quiz**.
2. (30%) Seminar **presentation / lead discussion; participation** in class discussion
3. (40%) **Term paper**
proposal due **March 7**.
paper due **April 30**, Fifteen -20 pages (double spaced, 12 pt font).

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

January 17. Introduction to course and texts.
January 22/24. Origins of the wilderness idea. **Read:** *WAM*, Prologue, Chs. 1 & 2 (pp. 1-43); *GNWD*, Selections from Jonathan Edwards (pp. 23-27); Callicott & Ybarra <http://www.nhc.rtp.nc.us/tserve/nattrans/ntwilderness/essays/puritan.htm>
January 29/31. Early American wilderness philosophy. **Read:** *WAM*, Chs. 3-6 (pp. 44-107); *GNWD*, Emerson selections, Thoreau selections (pp. 28-47).
February 5/7. John Muir era. **Read:** *WAM* Chs. 7-10 (pp. 108-181); *GNWD*, Muir selections, Roosevelt piece (pp. 48-74).
February 12/14. Aldo Leopold and Robert Marshall era. **Read:** *WAM*, chs. 11-12 (pp. 182-237); *GNWD*, Aldo Leopold piece, Robert Marshall piece, Sigurd Olson piece (pp. 75-102).
February 19/21. The Wilderness Act of 1964. **Read:** *WAM*, ch. 13 (pp. 238-271); *GNWD*, the Leopold Report, the Act, Mark Woods piece (pp. 120-153); Blaelock & Fite <http://www.westernlands.org/assets/quid-pro-quo.pdf>.
February 26/28. Third and fourth word views of the wilderness idea. **Read:** *GNWD* Part II (pp. 201-333)
March 5/7. The wilderness idea deconstructed **Read:** *GNWD* Part III (pp. 337-510).

March 12/14. The wilderness idea reconstructed. **Read:** *GNWD* Part IV (pp. 513-690).

March 26/28. The unheralded history of the wilderness idea. **Read:** *WDRO* Part I

April 2/4. Race, class, culture and wilderness. **Read:** *WDRO*, Part II

April 9/11. The latest in the wilderness debate. **Read:** *WDRO* Part III

April 16/18. Beyond the wilderness idea? **Read:** *WDRO*, Part IV

April 23/25. Reserved for paper writing. No reading assignment.

April 30/May2. Reserved for paper writing. No reading assignment.