

# ENVIRONMENTAL ANTHROPOLOGY

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The relationship between human beings and their environment has a long history as the human race itself. This environmental anthropology course addresses the most recent environmental issues from an anthropological perspective:

-devastating fires and floods are not so much “natural disasters” but the very consequences of various political, economic and social actions.

-deforestation did not start and cannot be stopped overnight.

-biodiversity loss does not affect only one remote local community but it has global implications.

-traditional knowledge of the local communities does not contradict formal natural sciences, but it can be a powerful tool in efficiently addressing the environmental problems today.

- “Sustainable development”, “Tourism” and “conservation” can end up being just buzz words in accessing funds if not properly understood and used.

This environmental anthropology course is the first and only one in Romanian academic environment to discuss all these issues and to offer the students the analytic tools for a complex understanding of the human-environment relationship and the ways it can be used in tackling real-life cases.

### **Topics:**

1. Environmental Anthropology: introduction
2. The State, Power, and Control of environment
3. Protected areas, local communities, and sustainable development
4. Biodiversity and traditional ecological knowledge
5. Natural resource management: institutions, actors and policies
6. “Natural disasters”, eco-systems and cultural systems.
7. Political Ecology: concepts and perspectives
8. The Western Landscape
9. Tourism, development and environment
10. Local communities and climate change
11. Indigenous people, colonialism and the State
12. Research project presentation

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