

## Course Syllabus

1. **Program of Study** Bachelor of Arts (Social Science)  
**Faculty/Institute/College** Mahidol University International College
2. **Course Code** ICSO 262 / ICSS 362 **Course Title** Global Resources
3. **Number of Credits** 4 (**Lecture / Lab**) (4-0)
4. **Prerequisite (s)** None
5. **Type of Course** Elective Course for International Studies Concentration
6. **Trimester / Academic Year** First trimester every second year

### 7. Course Description

The availability, distribution and uses of the world's resources; food, water, land, soil, minerals, energy, fisheries etc., Resource depletion and optimal usage. Public policies, international agreements and business needs as related to the production, distribution and exchange of resources. Relevant technological and scientific development. Future prospects.

### 8. Course Objective (s)

- (i) To give students an overview of the dimensions and characteristics of global resources distribution, usage patterns and disposition.
- (ii) To increase students awareness of resource mal-distribution, problems of misuse and environmental impacts, disparities between have and have-not nations and regions and the role of such resource regulating organizations as the WTO.

### 9. Course Outline

Week	Topic		Instructor
	Lecture	Hour	
1	Mini-history of resource demands	4	De' Ath
2	Resource impacts caused by population increases and changes in technology	4	
3	Economic and political influences resource distribution and end-usage patterns	4	
4	Energy	4	
5	Natural resources	4	
6	Environmental impacts of unwise use of hydrocarbons, chemicals etc	4	
7	Financial flows and investments	4	
8	Changes in scales of resource depletion and styles of consumption and wastage	4	
9	International and national (bilateral) agreements influencing resource flows	4	
10	Prospects for key resources such as energy	4	
11	Challenges for the implementation of global control and equitable access to resources	4	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	

NB. The lecturer reserves the right to vary the topics as he sees fit.

**10. Teaching Method (s)**

Lectures, discussions, and weekly student presentations, visiting experts from Canada, Thailand etc.

**11. Teaching Media**

White board, visuals, and weekly current handouts.

**12. Measurement and evaluation of student achievement**

Grades are given on a percentage basis and then converted into standardized letter grades as required by MUIC. If the student's percentage / grade is borderline, a consideration is given to the student's attendance record, class participation (particularly in the weekly presentations) and punctuality.

**13. Course evaluation**

Evaluation is based on a detailed, mid-term outline for an end-of-term research paper and of course on the specialized topic in the final research paper itself. A handout has many suggestions for topics. The mid-term outline is worth 30% and the final paper, 70%.

**14. Reference (s)**

Dryzek, John S., *Debating the earth : the environmental politics reader*, Oxford University Press, 1998 (Call # 363.705 D286D).

UNDP, *World resources 2000 - 2001 : people and ecosystems, the fraying web of life*, World Resources Institute, 2000 (Call # 363.7 W927).

Also current and specialized handouts on various topics in journals, public media and in UN documentation are given out in each class. The purchase of a ringback folder for these and Internet downloads is recommended.

**15. Instructor (s)**

Dr. Colin E De'Ath

**16. Course Coordinator**

Dr. E Jones