



Environmental Discourse and Practice: A Reader

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This book brings together a set of readings that throw light on the relationship between people and the environment.

- Provides both historical background and an analysis of key debates and theories
- Based on tried and tested classroom teaching material
- Uses the idea of "environmental discourses" to explain human-environmental relationships

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Editorial Review

Review

"the *Reader* is a thought-provoking and useful contribution to explorations of the human ideas about and behaviour toward a fragile and ever-changing environment." *Hilda Kurtz, University of Georgia, The Professional Geographer, November 2002*

From the Back Cover

This book provides an introduction to the broad relationship between people and environments, the emergence of environmental thought and practice and the importance of environmental ideas in wider social and political discourses. The authors introduce the concept of "environmental discourses" - explanations of the world around us - to help readers understand why human-environmental relationships take on the forms that they do.

The book provides an historical grounding in environmental thought, an appreciation of current concerns and an understanding of why environmental issues are linked with some of the most important contemporary social movements. The authors demonstrate that the environment is as much a social construct as it is a physical presence. They highlight the social production of space, place and the environment and argue that the environment is partly a product of social institutions and plays an active role in cultural representation, political discourse and national identity.

Environmental Discourse and Practice provides students with an essential introduction to environmental studies, history and ethics from a critical social science perspective.

About the Author

Lisa M. Benton teaches Geography and Environmental Studies at Colgate University. She is the author of *The Presidio: From Army Post to National Park* (1998) and numerous articles in such journals as *Environmental Ethics*, *Environment and Planning* and *Urban Geography*.

John Rennie Short is Professor of Geography at Syracuse University. Amongst his publications are *The Humane City* (1989), *Imagined Country* (1991), *Human Settlement* (1993) *The Urban Order* (1996), *New Worlds, New Geographies* (1998) and *Representing the Republic* (1999).

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