History 345 explores the dynamic field of environmental history. Units in this interdisciplinary course will address environmental issues in vastly different historical settings, ranging from the Pre-Columbian world to the modern, industrial U.S. The central theme of environmental history is the multifaceted and fluid relationship between nature and human beings over time. Thus, we will examine the ways in which humans have influenced, and been influenced by, the natural world in North America. How has the environment shaped peoples' lives, worldviews, and daily interactions? Conversely, how have human beings perceived and altered the landscapes around them, and what have been the consequences? Exploring recent trends in the field, each week we will focus on interrelated topics involving humans, ideas, identities, and the environment. Examples include studies of Native and colonial Americans; wilderness as a place and an idea; race, class, and gender; labor; marketing and consuming nature; the American West and Pacific Northwest; conservation and preservation; urban environmental history; “green” government; anti-environmentalism; and comparative environmental history. Required texts: Ted Steinberg, *Down to Earth: Nature’s Role in American History*, 3rd edition (New York: Oxford University Press, 2013); Richard White, *The Organic Machine: The Remaking of the Columbia River* (New York: Hill and Wang, 1996).