

## ED 136: Green Works – Term Paper

**Required Meeting:** You must schedule an appointment to meet in week 8 or 9 (5/20/24-5/31/24) to discuss paper plans. Bring a rough draft/outline, the more work that you do the better we can help you. (10% of paper grade is for coming prepared to the appointment)

**Done Reading Book:** May 17, 2024 at beginning of class (3:00 pm). Be ready to discuss all of the possible paper topics this day.

**Paper Due:** Friday, June 7, 2024 at beginning of class (3:00 pm).

The term paper must not be longer than 5 pages (12 point font and double-spaced).

For any of the topics suggested, you will be expected to integrate some of the concepts and ideas discussed in class with concepts from *Ecotopia: The Notebooks and Reports of William Weston* by Ernest Callenbach. This is both a research and perspective paper. You must cite at least two external (not read in class) resources to support your arguments or provide factual evidence supporting the development of your themes.

### Choose one of the following topics:

1. What are the factors that lead towards the widespread adoption of a solution to a sustainability challenge (for example, reducing the electricity needed to light buildings)? Compare and contrast a solution used in *Ecotopia* to one that is currently in consideration in the U.S. today **and** discussed in class (lighting, solar, green buildings, electric vehicles). Discuss the roles of factors such as cost, availability of resources, technical merits, marketing, media, public perception, and infrastructure needs.
2. In *Ecotopia*, we learn about the Ecotopian society and its efforts towards sustainability through the eyes of U.S. reporter. Imagine that you are an Ecotopian reporter who is sent to the current day United States to report on this nation's efforts in sustainable technologies. Choose a green technology currently in use or under development (**and** discussed in class) in the U.S., and give the Ecotopian perspective on this technology. Include observations and interpretations of the science behind the technology, the "green-ness" of the technology, political and legal aspects, and the social impact of and reaction to that technology.
3. Compare and contrast the school systems in *Ecotopia* and the United States. Do each of these systems adequately prepare the next generation of scientists to develop green technologies? How does each system prepare students to be green citizens? Consider curriculum, instructional methods, educational facilities, and the role of students and the community in education.

### Bibliography and Citations

Your paper must include a bibliography and in-text citations. For references to *Ecotopia*, provide the page number(s). Be consistent your bibliography and reference format.

## **Grading Criteria**

We have identified a list of guidelines that we will use to evaluate your paper. Use these to help guide you in the writing process.

### **Pre-Paper Meeting (10 points)**

\_ / 5: Attendance.

\_ / 5: Written preparation.

### **Paper (90 points)**

#### Content (70 points)

\_ / 20: Topic clearly defined (Clear thesis statement and scope).

\_ / 30: Topic adequately addressed using evidence-based arguments.

\_ / 10: Use of ideas and concepts from class.

\_ / 10: Use of ideas and concepts from *Ecotopia*.

#### Presentation (20 points)

\_ / 10: Spelling, grammar, and formatting.

\_ / 10: External sources included in bibliography and cited throughout the paper.