



Ethics, People, and Environment

A free, five-day, intensive course on Environmental Ethics,

with Emeritus Professor Warwick Fox,

*Author of A Theory of General Ethics
& Toward a Transpersonal Ecology.*

Department of Environment,
University of the Aegean,
Mytilene, Greece, May 30-June 3, 2011.

For further information & reservations, please contact: Dr. Iosif Botetzagias, iosif@aegean.gr

Course Title:

Ethics, People, and Environment: Which Way Forward? An Intensive Introduction to Environmental Ethics

Course Tutor:

Warwick Fox is Emeritus Professor of Philosophy, University of Central Lancashire, UK. He has published widely in environmental philosophy, is represented in leading anthologies and encyclopaedias in the area, has served on the editorial advisory boards of some of the leading journals in the area (including *Environmental Ethics* and *Environmental Values*), and his books include *Toward a Transpersonal Ecology: Developing New Foundations for Environmentalism* (State University of New York Press, 1995, and Green Books, UK, 1995), *Ethics and the Built Environment* (ed., Routledge, 2000), and *A Theory of General Ethics: Human Relationships, Nature, and the Built Environment* (The MIT Press, 2006).

Nature and Structure of the Course:

Ethics concerns 'the values we should live by' and the question of the values we should live by in regard to our relationship with the world around us – our environment – is assuming increasing importance at the current stage of our planetary history. This course will therefore introduce you to the wide range of ideas and approaches that have been developed in the emerging field of environmental ethics. As befits a philosophically oriented course, this course will not attempt to tell you *what* to think. Rather, it will provide you with a wide range of ideas and concepts that you can *use* in order to reflect on these important issues in a more informed and detailed way.

The course will be taught in five 2-3 hour sessions over the week of Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June. Do not be scared by the 'philosophical' nature of this course: it assumes no prior knowledge of ethics or environmental ethics, but it does aim to give you a good introductory grounding in the range of ideas and approaches that are being developed within the field of environmental ethics.

Subject to the time available – including the need for group discussion – we will aim to cover the following each day:

Session 1: An introduction to ethics; the history of Western attitudes towards the nonhuman world; and the main *instrumental* (or *use* or *resource-based*) value approaches we have taken to the world around us. (This is a lot to cover and may spill over a little into the second session.)

Session 2: The influential ‘radical ecology’ approaches of *deep ecology* and *ecofeminism*.

Session 3: The leading approaches to *animal ethics* together with consideration of cutting-edge research on the interior lives of animals.

Session 4: The main approaches to *life-based ethics* and *ecosystem integrity* (or *holistic*) ethics.

Session 5: The need for a *General Ethics* (i.e., an ethics that includes not only interhuman ethics and the ethics of the natural environment but also the ethics of the human-constructed – or built – environment) together with an introduction to Warwick Fox’s *theory of responsive cohesion*, which represents the first example of a General Ethics.

Requirements:

A very good listening comprehension as well as an ease in expressing yourself in English **are essential**, since both the lectures and the ensuing discussions will be in English. Otherwise, there are no requirements for attending the short course.

Prospective participants should send Dr. Iosif Botetzagias, Department of Environment, University of the Aegean [email: iosif@aegean.gr, tel./fax. (+30) 22510 36294] a short letter of interest including:

- Name & Contact details
- Academic studies & current affiliation
- Proof of English comprehension
- A paragraph or so explaining why you wish to attend the particular intensive course

The **deadline** for receiving the letter of interest is: Saturday, April 30, 2011.

The successful candidates will be informed shortly after the deadline.

Logistics:

- This intensive course does not have fees.
- The participants' travel and accommodation expenses cannot be subsidized.
- The course's venue is the Department of Environment, University of the Aegean, Mytilene, Greece (Monday, May 30 – Friday, June 3, 2011).
- Teaching sessions will be held daily, lasting between 2 to 3 hours.