

Environmental history

Basic information

Lukáš Dolák, MSc, PhD

Péter Szabó, MSc, PhD

Teaching methods and schedule

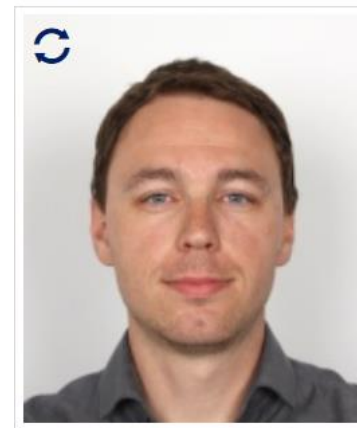
- **Lectures**

- theoretical lectures combining blended learning, group discussions
- voluntary attendance (strongly recommended)
- time allocation: 2-hour lessons/week
- schedule: Thursday, 1 PM, room Z5 (building No. 4)

Teachers and contacts

- [Mgr. Lukáš Dolák, Ph.D.](#)
 - lecturer, contact person
 - office hours: anytime by prior email arrangement

- [Mgr. Péter Szabó, Ph.D. M.A.](#)
 - lecturer
 - office hours: anytime by prior email arrangement



Course objectives

- **Familiarization** with the relationship between human society and the European landscape in the last 12 000 years
- **Discovering** a comprehensive and systematic approach to environmental history that contributes to coping with the consequences of **recent regional** and **global** environmental problems
- **Gaining** the necessary **knowledge** and **overview** of past and current activities in the field of environmental history

Syllabus

1. Introduction into environmental history (L. Dolák)
2. Data sources and methods in environmental history (L. Dolák, P. Szabó)
3. People and nature in prehistory (P. Szabó)
4. Environmental history: global perspective (L. Dolák)
5. Ancient civilizations: their rise and fall (L. Dolák)
6. Climate matters: an influence of climate variability on human societies (L. Dolák)
7. Forests from global and regional perspectives (P. Szabó)
8. Environmental history of the Czech Republic (L. Dolák)
9. A matter of climate change (L. Dolák)
10. Historical climatology (L. Dolák)
11. Environmental migration (L. Dolák)
12. Milestones of environmental history (L. Dolák)

Assessment methods

- Written test based on theoretical lectures, practical tasks and homeworks' outcomes
- Success limit: 60 %

Literature (recommended)

- ELLIS, E. C. et al. (2021): People have shaped most of terrestrial nature for at least 12,000 years. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 118, 17, e2023483118.
- BÜNTGEN, U. et al. (2011): 2500 Years of European Climate Variability and Human Susceptibility. *Science*, 331, 6017, 578–582.
- LJUNGQVIST, F. C. et al. (2021): Climate and society in European history. *WIREs Climate Change*, 12, 2, e691.
- HOFFMANN, Richard C. *An environmental history of medieval Europe*. First published. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014. xvii, 409. ISBN 9780521876964.

Literature (recommended)

- HUGHES, J. Donald. Environmental problems of the Greeks and Romans : ecology in the ancient Mediterranean. Second edition. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2014. x, 306. ISBN 9781421412115.
- MCNEILL, John Robert a Peter ENGELKE. The great acceleration: an environmental history of the anthropocene since 1945. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Belknap press of Harvard university press, 2014. 275 stran. ISBN 9780674545038.
- MCNEILL, J. R. and ROE, A. ed. (2013): Global environmental history: an introductory reader. London: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, 449. ISBN 9780415520539.

Questions?

Introduction

- Please, introduce:
 - yourself
 - your background
 - and your expectations from your study at Masaryk University and this course