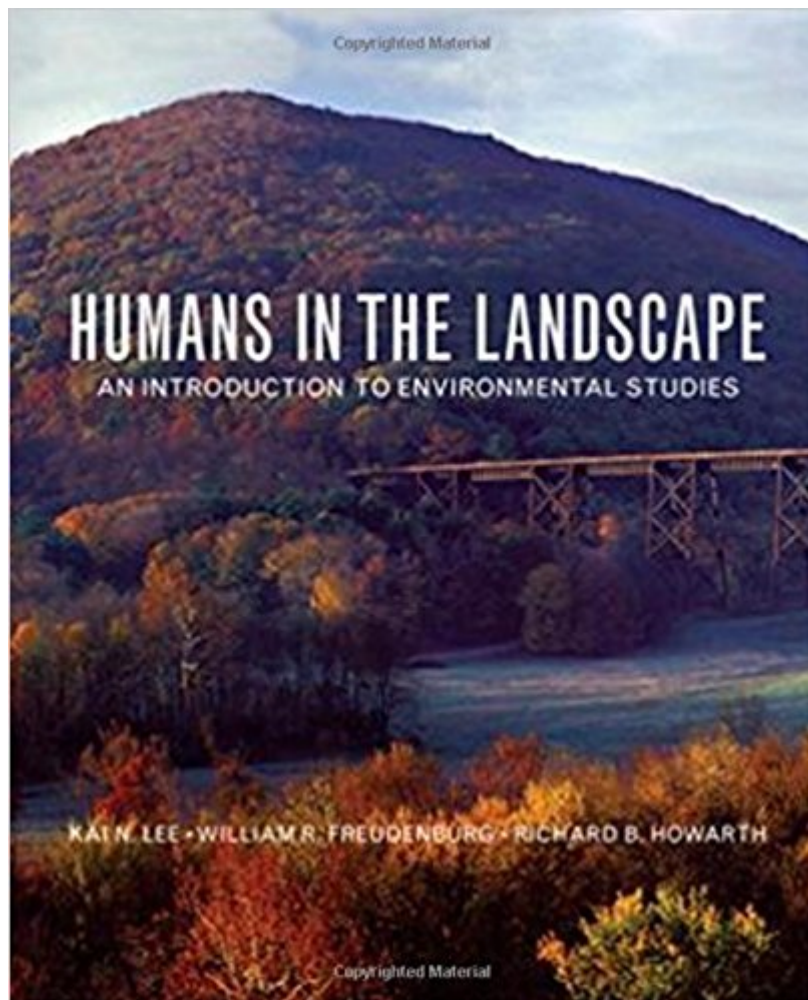




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# Humans In The Landscape: An Introduction To Environmental Studies



## Synopsis

A true synthesis for environmental studies. This is the first textbook to fully synthesize all key disciplines of environmental studies. *Humans in the Landscape* draws on the biophysical sciences, social sciences, and humanities to explore the interactions between cultures and environments over time, and discusses classic environmental problems in the context of the overarching conflicts and frameworks that motivate them.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Kai N. Lee is Rosenburg Professor of Environmental Studies, emeritus, at Williams College, and program officer for science at the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. Kai was trained as an experimental physicist at Columbia and Princeton Universities. He taught environmental studies and political science at the University of Washington before going to Williams to direct its Center for Environmental Studies. In both institutions, he taught the introductory course in environmental studies that forms the basis of this book. Kai is the author of *Compass and Gyroscope* (Island, 1993), a book on adaptive management that has been widely used in graduate courses in environmental science. In his grant making at the Packard Foundation, Kai is developing related means of linking knowledge with action. He has served on more than a dozen committees of the National Research Council, advising government agencies on a range of policies where scientific issues play a critical role. He is currently vice-chair of the NRC's committee to advise the U.S. Global Change Research Program. Earlier in his career Kai was a White House Fellow and he

represented Washington state on the Northwest Power Planning Council. William R. Freudenburg was Dehlsen Professor of Environmental Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), at the time of his death in 2010. He studied at the University of Nebraska, his native state, and at Yale University, earning a Ph.D. there in 1979. He held professorships at Washington State University and the University of Wisconsin before arriving in UCSB in 2002. Bill pursued scholarly interests in risk analysis and rural sociology, and he served as president of the Rural Sociology Society. A popular and devoted teacher, Bill was co-founder of the Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences. He was a prolific author, most recently as coauthor of two studies of the Gulf of Mexico coast, *Catastrophe in the Making: The Engineering of Katrina and the Disasters of Tomorrow* (Island Press, 2009) and *Blowout in the Gulf: The BP Oil Spill Disaster and the Future of Energy in America* (MIT Press, 2010). Richard B. Howarth is Professor of Environmental Studies at Dartmouth College and the Editor-in-Chief of *Ecological Economics*. After receiving an A.B. in Biology and Society from Cornell University in 1985, he pursued an M.S. in Land Resources at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (1987) and a Ph.D. from the Energy and Resources Program at the University of California, Berkeley (1990), where he specialized in the economics of natural resources and sustainable development. Prior to his arrival at Dartmouth in 1998, he held appointments with the Environmental Energy Technologies Division of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and with the Environmental Studies Department at the University of California, Santa Cruz. He has published widely on topics that include theories of intergenerational fairness; the economics of energy efficiency; climate stabilization policy; the valuation and governance of ecosystem services; and the links between economic growth, environmental degradation, and human well-being.

If your college professor is planning to use this textbook, drop the class and find something else in which to enroll. Since enrolling in my Environmental Studies program, this has been the absolute worst textbook I have been required to use. The authors write the entire book in essay format and make far too many generalizations for a college-level textbook. Without more concrete examples, the material is extremely dry. Worse, much of the text contains the authors' opinions where they are trying to persuade the student to their line of thinking instead of allowing the reader to form his/her own opinion based on facts and science. Perhaps the most annoying thing about this textbook is the authors' repetitive use of terms such as "most successful species" and "world without edges." The redundancy as you move from chapter to chapter is blatant and extremely annoying to read. In my opinion, this textbook is the product of three people with PhDs who perceive their education as a

qualification to write a book and pass it off as a good piece of educational literature. They definitely prove one thing... just because you have a PhD does not mean you are qualified to write a book. Please professors, if you are considering a textbook for a sustainability class, steer clear of this one!

I got this book as required for an environmental studies class. It may just be that I have taken an environmental science class prior to reading this text book, but the book seemed to lack new or interesting information that might be considered beyond common knowledge. At times the text even seemed excessively vague and repetitive. Some of the only new information I received from this book was the foundations and progressive development of the environmental movement in the United States. For somebody who lacks any real information about environmental matters- this book may be a good place to start, but if you have any background on the matter- I would recommend finding a more complex textbook.

It's a book, it has knowledge in it. It does not EAT which is GREAT@!@

I was excited to receive this in the mail. I enjoyed the book more than I thought I would. Great condition.

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