The way humans view the natural world provides a potent underpinning for their sense of reality. In the modern era “the environment” has most often been explored and described scientifically, and, as a consequence, technological solutions are often sought for problems that have social and cultural origins. This course will explore the variety of ways nature has been defined, both historically and cross-culturally, to provide insights into the assumptions humans have made about nature and about themselves. Of particular concern will be the contribution women have made to alternative ways of viewing, understanding, and expressing their relationships to natural environments. Topics to be covered include the historical association of women with nature; the instrumental view of nature; the rise of environmentalism; ecofeminism; and nature writing.

**Required Readings:**


An additional package of readings will be available at a small cost.

**Course Requirements:**

- Tutorial Participation: 10%
- First Essay (5 pages): 20%
- Second Essay (10 pages): 30%
- Book Review -Oral Presentation: 20%
- Final Exam (Scheduled): 20%

**Prerequisite:** WS 101 or 102 (may be taken concurrently)