"MAKE CLIMATE A CONVERSATION"

Earth Month 2020—Digital Class Resources to Cover the Topic of Climate Action

1. WEBINARS AND DIGITAL EVENTS DURING EARTH MONTH 2020

For a full list of resources and event updates, please visit: www.seattleu.edu/earthmonth

- **TUE 04/07, 6:00-8:00PM: National Webinar for Higher Education "Solve Climate by 2030"**
  52, university-hosted webinars, one in every state of the country will focus on state and local solutions to help solve climate by 2030. Attend WA State Event here. Templates will be provided for follow-on discussion.

- **WED 04/22, all day: Global Celebration of 50th anniversary of Earth Day and first Digital Earth Day**
  Participate in a global digital mobilization, organized by the Earth Day Network. Digital events will include virtual protests, social media campaigns, online teach-ins and more. Find a full scope of digital actions at earthday.org.

- **WED 04/22, 11:00AM-12:00PM and 2:00PM-3:00PM: EARTH TALKS at Seattle University (via Zoom)**
  An online Earth Day event with 5-min presentations by faculty and students on their research, initiatives and projects to advance sustainability on campus and in our communities. "Bring" your class to the event by Zooming in!

- **WED 04/29, Noon-2:00PM: Washington Higher Education webinar "Taking Action for Climate Change" (via Zoom)**
  Earth Month webinar organized by WAHESC (Washington Sustainability in Higher Education Coalition) focused on "Taking Action for Climate Solutions" with an emphasis on student perspectives.

2. COVID-19 and Climate Change

Many additional resources focused on the intersection between COVID and climate change will likely become available in the coming weeks. If you find a good resource, please share with cejs@seattleu.edu and we will update this list.

- **COVID and Climate in the News**: Recent weeks have seen many interesting pieces highlighting similarities between the COVID and climate crises. Notable examples include an op-ed in *Time* by Christiana Figueres, past executive secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, as well as pieces in *National Geographic*, *GRIST*, *Scientific American*, *Project Syndicate*, *Public Radio International*, A Green Stimulus to Rebuild our Economy and *Wired*.

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3. CLIMATE CHANGE 101

- **Climate Reality Project's "Climate Change 101"**
  https://www.climaterealityproject.org/climate-101
  Basic facts of Climate Change (1 min); video "Climate 101" with Bill Nye (5min); FREE "Climate 101" e-book (12pp)
- **Citizens' Climate Higher Education "Climate Change: Five Key Facts" slideshow**
  https://citizensclimatehighered.org/presentations/
  A simple overview of the science behind climate change, its potential consequences and solutions (15 min PPT)
- **QUIZ**: Climate facts about the Climate Crisis (5-10 min)
- **QUIZ**: How Much Do You Know about Weather and Climate? (5-10 min)
- **QUIZ:** Calculate your Ecological Footprint (10 min) and discuss its impact on climate change (20 min)
  The calculator estimates the natural resources it takes to satisfy our standard of living and suggests possible courses of action to change resource consumption, which could serve as the topic of discussion for students.
- **QUIZ**: Climate Change Attitudes Quiz using the Six America's Super Short Survey (SASSY).
  Students can take the survey in 3-4 min.; then discuss how their attitudes compare with those of the broader population. The site also provides maps describing regional variability in attitudes regarding climate change.
- **"States at Risk": Show the local risk of climate change within each state**
  Pick a state on the U.S. map and find out what the top risks are each state faces from climate change. The report card breaks down the U.S.'s preparedness to tackle climate change by state and risk.
- **"What will climate feel like in 60 years?": Interactive map**
  Identify the location in North America where present climate is most like the future climate of most major U.S. cities.
- **"Carbon's Casualties"**: **New York Times series exploring how climate change is displacing people around the world**
  Interactive multimedia eight-part series providing video footage, photographs, and written reports about the very real impacts communities are facing around the world. Could be modified into an activity of eight small groups.
- **Confronting Climate Change in King County: Infographic series**
  What does climate change mean for King County? What is King County doing about it? How can you take action?
- **Interactive activity: You are what you Wear:** Objective of this activity is to learn where our clothes come from and the impact of consumerism on climate change.
- **Want to go more in-depth? Consult the "Climate Literacy and Energy Awareness Network" resources in Teaching About Climate and Energy.** Easy-to-read explanations of science and policy, designed to step college-level students through the key principles of climate and energy.
- **Interested in saying current on Climate? Consider consulting the blogs RealClimate, Skeptical Science, and, for local flavor, the Cliff Mass Weather Blog** (note that a wide range of viewpoints are represented on these sites—so their inclusion here does not represent endorsement by Seattle University)

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4. CLIMATE CHANGE SOLUTIONS

- **PROJECT DRAWDOWN: "Most Comprehensive Plan to Reverse Global Warming"**
  - "Real Time with Bill Maher": Interview with Paul Hawken about Project Drawdown (8 min)
  - "Drawdown: A comprehensive Plan to Reverse Global Warming": Paul Hawken presents Project Drawdown and top solutions (30 min)
  - Project Drawdown website: Assign students to read one of the top 20 solutions. Report back to class through a discussion or informal presentation: Why is it a solution? How will it affect climate change?
  - QUIZ Project Drawdown: Rank climate solutions from most important to least important. Find out the correct order along with a description of how and why each solution will affect climate change. Solutions are color coded according to whether they can be implemented by individuals, corporations, or legislators.

- **NATURAL CLIMATE SOLUTIONS**
  - Watch the following short video with environmental activists Greta Thunberg and George Monbiot highlighting the need to protect, restore and use nature to tackle the climate crisis.
  - "Climate Change: Will millions more trees save the planet?": BBC article investigating how much carbon dioxide trees really pull in from the atmosphere and what happens to a forest over the decades.
  - "Natural Climate Solutions": Videos and case studies to learn how natural climate solutions draw on the power of nature to reduce emissions, remove CO2 from the atmosphere, and store it in natural systems.

- **INDIVIDUAL ACTIONS THAT HELP REDUCE OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT**
  - While we are often strongly interested in individual action, it may be worth facilitating a conversation about the pressing need for systemic change to combat climate change. This can be facilitated using What YOU can do about climate change, a 12-min video by Our Changing Climate.
  - Read the HuffPost's "10 life changes that will actually make a difference for the environment" and RealLeaders' 10 solutions to reverse global warming
    Discuss in class: Which habits seem hard to change and why? What life changes will you make?
  - The Carbon Footprint of Your Diet: The two infographics in the article lend themselves to an easy analysis and discussion of how our dietary choices impact the environment.
  - Check out the "sustainable living" page on the CEJS website with more tips, resources, and suggested media.