

Disasters and the Environment Comprehensive Exam Reading List Updated Spring 2022

Preface:

As per the Graduate Policy Handbook, “minimal preparation for written examinations includes mastery of material on the reading lists provided by exam committees. However, reading lists are merely guidelines and should not be considered as the sole basis for examinations...For each area of expertise, the candidate is expected to be: up-to-date with the literature in the field at the time of the exam, able to discuss the most important controversies, issues and problems (in both theory and methodology) that exist in the field, and capable of evaluating existing theory and methodology and suggesting new direction of effort.”

Many of the below works are edited volumes that include summarizing chapters on a broad range of issues (e.g the Handbooks of Disaster Research) or sole authored work that points to key issues extensively citing the work of other scholars (e.g. Disasters: A Sociological Approach). You should be familiar with the work in these collections and overviews, as well as how they relate to key findings, issues, debates or ideas, and have a general sense of emerging issues and debates in recently published articles in environmental and disaster sociology. All chapters in edited volumes should be reviewed and considered carefully.

*We are reconsidering how to better separate readings by section, particularly in Disasters, Environment & Health and Environment & Risk. Note that general Environmental Sociology readings are included in both. Please do not let these subheadings (or those elsewhere on the list) limit your perspective on how all the readings across the sections interact with each other.

Disasters

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Helsloot, I., Boin, A., Jacobs, B., and Comfort, L.K. eds. 2012. *Mega-Crises: Understanding the Prospects, Nature, Characteristics, and the Effects of Cataclysmic Events*. CC Thomas Publishers.

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Peacock, Walter G., B. H. Morrow, and H. Gladwin. 1997. *Hurricane Andrew: Ethnicity, Gender, and the Sociology of Disasters*. W. G. New York: Routledge.

Peek, Lori, Tricia Wachtendorf, and Michelle Annette Meyer. 2021 Sociology of Disasters. In *Handbook of Environmental Sociology*, (Eds. B. Schaefer Caniglia, A. Jorgenson, S.A. Malin, L. Peek, D.N. Pellow and X. Huang, X.), pp. 219-241. Springer, Cham.

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Quarantelli, E.L. 1966. "Organization under stress". In Robert C. Britson (ed.) *Symposium on Emergency Operations* Santa Monica: System Development Corporation, 3-19.

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Quarantelli, E. L. 2005. "Catastrophes are Different from Disasters: Some Implications for Crisis Planning and Managing Drawn from Katrina." Disaster Research Center. Article # 404.

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Rodriguez, Havidan, Joseph Trainor, and William Donner. 2018. *Handbook of Disaster Research*. 2nd edition. New York: Springer.

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Disasters, Vulnerability, and Development

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Bankoff, Greg, Georg Frerks, and Dorothea Hilhorst. 2004. *Mapping Vulnerability: Disasters, Development, and People*. London: Earthscan.

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Hartman, Chester and Gregory D. Squires. 2006. *There is No Such Thing as a Natural Disaster: Race, Class, and Hurricane Katrina*. New York: Routledge.

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