

Trash

Course #	20FTR
Format:	Seminar
Moderator:	Tom Jones
Date and Time:	Wednesday, 9:30-11:30 10 weeks, starting
Location:	Smith College Campus Center, 003
Maximum number of participants:	15
Auditors accepted:	Yes, up to 2

Purpose: This seminar will have two purposes. First, we will research and discuss national and global issues around solid waste management. Second, we will become familiar with local solid waste management issues and relate them to broader global and national issues.

Description: What is the future of recycling? Are we running out of landfill space? Is Zero Waste possible? This seminar will focus on national and global solid waste (i.e. garbage) issues, for example, the status of global recycling markets, current disposal technologies, waste disposal, and pollution. Local issues such as plastics bans, the costs of recycling, and waste reduction initiatives will be addressed by outside speakers, who will welcome questions from and discussions with participants.

Role of participants: Each participant will make a 30-minute presentation on some aspect of solid waste management followed by a 30-minute question and discussion period. I will provide a list of possible topics. Participants will be expected to contribute to discussions.

Resources: The moderator will provide an annotated bibliography for the participants. The participants will be asked to read several short articles the moderator will provide, and read at least one book from the bibliography.

About the Moderator: For twenty years, I worked for an engineering firm as a solid waste management consultant. In this role I helped several states develop their solid waste management plans, conducted waste composition studies, and analyzed the feasibility of proposed landfills and recycling facilities.