

"This is truly a masterpiece as a concise and readable overview of the subject."
— *Leslie E. Sponsel, University of Hawaii at Manoa*

Environmental Anthropology

Third Edition

Environmental anthropologists organize the realities of interdependent lands, plants, animals, and human beings; advocate for the neediest among them; and provide guidance for conservation efforts. But can anthropologists' studies of small-scale systems contribute to policies that address profoundly interconnected global problems? Townsend explores this question in her concise introduction to environmental anthropology.

After a historical overview of the field, Townsend transitions to a closer look at global environmental issues, including such topics as rapid expansion of the world economic system and inequality, loss of biodiversity and its implications for human health, and injustices of climate change, resource extraction, and toxic waste disposal. The final chapters caution that meaningful change requires social movements and policy changes in addition to individual actions.

"This, in my view, is the best text for introductory course in human ecology or ecological anthropology. It is one of those rare books that will influence students for the rest of their lives." — Thomas N. Headland, *Summer Institute of Linguistics*

"This splendid book should be most welcome as an effective and efficient introduction to one of the important areas of specialization in anthropology." — Jim Weil, *Hamline University and the Science Museum of Minnesota*

"Brevity and clarity are among Townsend's virtues in writing. This field is rapidly expanding and has a rich history. Yet, with considerable skill, she is able to succinctly explicate the subject's essence and promise." — *American Anthropologist*

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