

## **BENVES01: The Political Ecology of Environmental Change (2005/2006)**

**Duration: Three hours**

**Answer TWO questions only, one from each section. All questions carry equal marks. You are advised to spend an equal amount of time on each question.**

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### **SECTION A**

1. 'The ecological degradation caused by modernisation has only been accentuated under globalisation'. Discuss in relation to a particular process (or processes) of ecological degradation associated with modernisation.
2. Critically assess the significance, within the environmental debate, of the notion of 'Limits to Growth'.
3. Does the pursuit of sustainability require working *with* or *against* the market?
4. Analyse the relationship between environmental problems and the issue of poverty.

### **SECTION B**

1. Political ecologists assume that environmental problems facing the 'Third World' are not simply a reflection of policy and market failure but rather a manifestation of broader economic and political forces associated with the spread of capitalism. Discuss this assertion.
2. What is a new social movement? Explain the existence of environmental justice movements and environmental movements. Why do they arise, what are their main characteristics and differences, where do their strength lay, how do they seek social change?
3. Critically assess the potentials and constraints of ALL of the following to the effectiveness of environmental policies and explain if there are any alternatives to them.
  - a) Voluntary mechanisms
  - b) Regulation
  - c) Government expenditure
  - d) Market mechanisms
4. Evaluate the principal success and failures of ONE international environmental agreement after 1990 (e.g. the Framework Convention on Climate Change (1992) and 'Kyoto Protocol' (1997)) and discuss the measures that are necessary to ensure compliance.

**END OF PAPER**