

Democracy, the Earth, and You

creative responses for the twenty-first century

*This is a report on the completion of a one-day course
by the Staff and Friends of Realistic Living.*

The Symposium, a research group initiated by the staff of Realistic Living, spent over a year designing this course. The entire construct for this course is available free for your use. The course can be used for personal study or it can be taught by anyone willing to master and teach it. This one-day program consists of four presentations, each followed by a group process using the skills of pristine listening, honest sharing, and constructive dialogue.

Here are the titles of the four sessions plus the major subtopics covered in each:

1. Master Pictures of the Ecological Era

- Thinking for Ourselves about Reality
- Society out of Balance with Person and Planet
- From the Cenozoic to the Ecozoic Era
- Telling the Universe Story

2. The Ecological Crisis, Facts and Prospects

- The Sixth Extinction and the Importance of Ecological Diversity
- Global Warming and the Importance of Stabilizing the Climate
- The Population Explosion and the Importance of Stabilizing Population
- Planetary Exhaustion and the Need for a New Mode of Society

3. Core Blocks to Progressive Change

- Obsolete Economics
- Corporations Rule our Lives
- The Demise of Democracy
- The Public Relations War on Truth
- Whence Comes our Hope?

4. Strategies for Planetary Transformation

- Is There a Winning Strategy?
- Democratic Governance rather than Corporation Rulership
- Global Cooperation rather than Corporate Globalization
- Local Innovation rather than Monopolistic Uniformity
- Concluding Words on Doing Our Part

The aim of this course is to assist people:

1. To overcome the belief that it is too difficult to think through fresh master overviews of the world in which we live.
2. To work through reluctance to give up comforting misinformation and to experience the tragic yet glorious truth of the actual challenges of our times.
3. To work through doubts that anything can be done about challenges of this magnitude.
4. To embrace the glory of being overwhelmed by tasks that are clearly too big for us and for which we all are woefully unprepared.

This course is designed to be taught by one or two teachers in one day, two sessions before lunch and two after. It can also be taught on four evenings, condensed to some shorter period, or expanded.

To secure the constructs for this course go to the following **Web Site Address** and you will see a list of seven files: the overview and workshops, four talk scripts, and two files containing handout sheets.

<http://www.RealisticLiving.org/PDF/DEY/>

To read these files you need a PDF reader. If you do not have one you can receive an Adobe Acrobat reader free by going to: www.adobe.com/prodindex/acrobat/readstep.html

A PowerPoint presentation of this course is also available. For more information on this contact us at: DEY@RealisticLiving.org