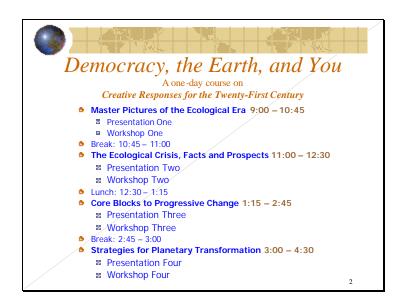


"Democracy, the Earth, and You" is a one-day course on Creative Responses for the Twenty-First Century. This course has been prepared by staff and friends of Realistic Living, a non-profit educational organization.

The framers of this course assume that the ecological crisis has become the central emergency within which all other challenges cohere. This course is also about: world-wide poverty; global economic tyranny; the dissolution of democracy through big money control; misinformation through advertising, public-relations propaganda, and political spins; the oppression of women; the oppression of racial and cultural groups; and terrorism as both a policing challenge and a signal that critical planet-wide conditions need to be corrected.



Each of these sessions will contain a presentation designed to stimulate our thinking and give order to our discussion. Following each presentation a group process will be conducted that allows each person to share his or her own vision, feelings, doubts, passions, or questions about these topics. We will emphasize listening to one another and opening ourselves to the diversity of views and wisdom which characterizes these controversial arenas. It will not be the purpose of this course to arrive at a consensus or to manipulate any person to take a particular position on these issues. The aim of this course is to discern the facts of our times more clearly, to honor our own personal experience, to encourage each person to build his or her own overviews, and to inspire honest and open dialogue.