This course will introduce students to recent anthropological debates in Mexico on rural development, ecological conservation and socio-environmental conflicts. Our aim is twofold: first to reinsert politics into apolitical discussions of rural development and ecology conservation by unsettling common sense understandings of development and participatory development, rural poverty, environment conservation, biodiversity and nature, the Indigenous community and the communal landholding. Second, to present and analyze outstanding socio-environmental conflicts in Mexico related to genetically modified organisms, renewable energies, protected natural reserves and water and forest management from a political ecology approach.