When is one a hunter? When is one a poacher? Can hunters be conservationists at the same time? What do imperialism, colonialism, capitalism, race and gender have to do with whether/when/where one is a hunter or a poacher? Using these questions to frame its concerns, this seminar will examine the global history of nature conservation, focusing in particular on the comparative histories of national parks as well as on human-animal relations around the world. Readings for the seminar will include such primary sources as the writings of famous hunters like Theodore Roosevelt, Frederick Selous, R.J. Cunninghame, and W.D.M. Bell. We will also read naturalists such as Carl Akeley as well as writers like Nadine Gordimer, Ernest Hemingway and George Orwell. The seminar’s chronological and geographical spans are extensive: from the 17th century to the 20th; from Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America to North America. While students will be presented with a range of topics to choose from and primary sources to work with for their papers, they will be encouraged strongly to develop their own topics and to cultivate their own primary sources from any region of the world.