

Political Science 350
Environmental Politics: Domestic & International Dimensions
Spring 2017 Semester
MEETING TIME: Mon/Wed 3:55-5:15
LOCATION: Hickman 218
INSTRUCTOR: Adam Knight
CONTACT: adam.knight@rutgers.edu
OFFICE HRS: Wed 2:45-3:45, Douglass Library

The purpose of the course is to familiarize students with the pertinent issues and institutions relating to the politics of the environment and to orient these elements within the greater context of public policy formation. Given the myriad of issues and institutions related to environmental politics, each session of the course will serve to address a particular group of issues and institutions, with our discussions building upon lessons learned in previous sessions. The class shall proceed in two sections. The first section will introduce the environmental issues and actors pertinent to the environmental policy of the United States. The second section shall emphasize the international aspects of environmental politics such as cross-border pollution, international regimes, the effects of trade and competition, climate change, and environmental justice.

The two required texts for this course as follows:

Layzer, Judith. 2016. *The Environmental Case: Translating Values in Policy* [4th edition]. CQ Press.

Rosenbaum, Walter A. 2016. *Environmental Politics and Policy* [10th edition]. CQ Press.

All other course readings will be made available on Sakai.

Attendance: Every absence beyond the first two will result in a 2% deduction from the eventual final grade. Excused absences can be given at the instructor's discretion, if given notice and documentation for why a particular class is missed, but bear in mind that you have a week's worth of classes to miss before your grade is affected—those two excused absences are there in case of emergency already.

Grading:

Participation 100 Points

Each student will be required to submit two discussion questions to the instructor by midnight (roughly) the day of class. These will be used during the class period to help guide the class discussion.

Additionally, the grade will consist of whether I get the feeling that you are engaged with the class. This can mean speaking in class, asking questions and the like, but projecting the sense that you are taking notes and engaging mentally with the material during the lecture and discussion is sufficient.

Midterm 1 (2/18) 200 points

The first midterm exam will cover all material discussed between the beginning of the semester and this date. The exam will consist of two sections—matching and short essay—and will be completed outside of class

Midterm 2 (3/25) 200 points

The second midterm exam will cover all material discussed since the first midterm. While the exam is cumulative, it will primarily emphasize issues discussed since the previous midterm. This exam will follow the same format as the first midterm.

Project (due 4/7; proposal due 3/10) 200 points

- **Cover Letter** 50 points
Students will be required to prepare a letter (one page) to a member of Congress (you can write to a policymaker outside of Congress, but clear it with me beforehand) regarding either a local, domestic, or international environmental issue of their choosing.
- **Brief** 150 points
Students will also be required to prepare a brief, 3-5 page background issue brief for the member of Congress. Additional instructions will be forthcoming.

Final Exam (5/14, TBA) 300 points

The final exam will be posted on sakai on the last day of class and will consist of three essay questions to be answered with 2-3 page responses each (totaling 6-9 pages).

Final grades will be assigned as follows:

900-1,000 A
880-899 B+
800-879 B
780-799 C+
700-779 C
600-699 D
Below 600 F

Makeup Policy:

No exam may be made up without either: 1) a note from your dean explaining your absence; 2) an official e-mail from a Rutgers instructor excusing your for a academically-related field trip; or 3) an absence related to religious observation.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism:

All students, and the instructor, are required and expected to comply with the Rutgers University Code of Academic Integrity, which can be accessed at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/>. Any violations of the policy will be addressed according to existing procedural guidelines.

Electronic Devices and Classroom Environment:

Cell phones and other personal electronic devices must be turned off during class period. Students expecting an emergency phone call should speak with me prior to class. Laptop computers are permitted for note-taking and other class-related purposes, but if they are deemed to cause unacceptable distractions, the instructor reserves the right to suspend their use.

Students with Disabilities:

If you have a documented disability on file with the Office of Student Disabilities, please see me ASAP, so we can make any necessary accommodations.

Syllabus Revision:

This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor if needed. Students will be notified of all pertinent changes in a timely fashion.

Wed, Jan 18—Course Introduction

Syllabus discussed

VIDEO: Earth Days” (*American Experience*, PBS, April 10, 2010), available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cBVGzf-ffl0>

Mon, Jan 23—American Environmentalism: A Historical Perspective

Rosenbaum, Chapter 1, “After Earth Day”

Kraft, Michael and Vig, Norman. “Environmental Policy from the 1970’s to the Twenty-First Century.” *Environmental Policy* pgs. 1-17 [PDF]

Wed, Jan 25—The U.S. Environmental Policymaking Process

Rosenbaum, Chapter 2, “Making Policy: the Process”

Kraft and Vig pgs. 17-35 [PDF]

Mon, Jan 30—Key Actors in the Policymaking Process

Rosenbaum, Chapter 3, “Making Policy: Institutions and Politics”

Layzer, Chapter 1, “A Policymaking Framework”, pp. 1-9

Wed, Feb 1—Ideology, Public Opinion and Partisanship in U.S. Environmental Policymaking Gridlock

Klyza, Christopher McGrory and David J. Sousa. 2008, “Creating the Current Institutional Landscape of Environmental Policymaking” *American Environmental Policy, 1990-2006: Beyond Gridlock*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. [PDF]

Riley E. Dunlap, Aaron McCright, and Jerrod H. Yarosh, “The Political Divide on Climate Change: Partisan Polarization Widens in the U.S.” Sep/Oct. 2016

http://www.environmentmagazine.org/Archives/Back%20Issues/2016/September-October%202016/political_divide_full.html

Smith, Zachary, *The Environmental Policy Paradox*, 6th Ed. 2013, pp. 32-6 [PDF]

RECOMMENDED:

Wood, B. Dan and Arnold Vedlitz. 2007. “Issue Definition, Information Processing, and the Politics of Global Warming.” *American Journal of Political Science* 51(3):552-568. [PDF]

Mon Feb 6—Regulation, Wise Use, and Property Rights: the Anti-Environmental Backlash

Rosenbaum, Chapter 4, “Common Policy Challenges”, 127-145

Rosenbaum, Chapter 5, “More Choice: the Battle over Regulatory Economics”

Layzer, Chapter 13, “Backlash: Wise Use, Property Rights, and Antienvironmental Activism in the 1990s”

Wed, Feb 8—The States as Environmental Actors

Rabe, Barry. “Power to the States: The Promise and Pitfalls of Decentralization.” *Environmental Policy* Ch. 2 [PDF]

Adelman, David E., "Climate Change, Federalism, and Promoting Technological Change," *Beyond Environmental Law: Policy Proposals for a Better Environmental Future*, eds. Alyson C. Flournoy and David M. Driesen, 2010, pp. 199-211 [PDF]

Mon, Feb 13—Midterm Exam 1 Due

Wed, Feb 15— The US and the European Union in Comparative Perspective

Kelemen, R. Daniel and David Vogel. 2010. Trading Places: the Role of the United States and the European Union in International Environmental Politics. *Comparative Political Studies* 43(4):427-456. [PDF]

DeSombre, Elizabeth "The United States and Global Environmental Politics: Domestic Sources of U.S. Unilateralism" [PDF]

Mon, Feb 20— Water Issues in the United States

Layzer, Chapter 6, "Command and Control in Action", 218-236

Layzer, Chapter 15, "Ecosystem-Based Management in the Chesapeake Bay"

RECOMMENDED:

VIDEO: "Poisoned Waters" (*Frontline*, PBS, April 2009), available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tD9XlnQh2Hs>

Wed, Feb 22—Energy Policy

Rosenbaum Chapter 8 "Energy: America's Energy Politics in Transformation"

Mon, Feb 27— Air Pollution in the United States

Layzer, Chapter 6, "Command and Control in Action", pp. 200-218

Layzer, Chapter 14, "Market-Based Solutions: Acid Rain and the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990"

Wed, Mar 1—Global Air and Water Issues

Sullivan, Law. "Debating the Dam: Is China's Three Gorges Project Sustainable?" *The Global Environment* Ch. 13 [PDF]

Mon, March 6—Hazardous Waste in the United States

Layzer, Chapter 3, "Love Canal"

Rosenbaum, Chapter 7, "A Regulatory Thicket: Toxic and Hazardous Substances"

Wed, March 8—Global Pollution and Waste Issues

Downie, David Leonard, Jonathan Krueger, and Henrik Selin "Global Policy for Hazardous Chemicals," *The Global Environment*. Ch. 7 [PDF]

Fri, March 10—Proposal Due

Mon, March 13—Spring Break

Wed, March 15—Spring Break

Mon, March 20—Take Home Exam Due

Wed, March 22—Conservation, Land Management and Biological Diversity in the United States
Rosenbaum, Chapter 9, “635 Million Acres of Politics: the Battle for Public Lands”

Mon, March 27—Global Conservation, Land Management and Biological Diversity Issues
Cashore, Brian. 2006. Forest Certification in Developing and Transitioning Countries...Part of a Sustainable Future? *Environment* 48(9):6-25. [PDF]
Victor, David G. and Jesse H. Ausubel. 2004. Restoring the Forests. <http://phe.rockefeller.edu/restoringforests/>

Wed, March 29—Trade and the Environment

Layzer, Chapter 12, “Trade versus the Environment: Dolphins, Turtles, and Global Economic Expansion”

Esty, Daniel “Economic Integration and Environmental Protection,” *The Global Environment*, Ch 7 [PDF]

Mon, April 3—Biotechnology and Agricultural Trade Issues

“Agricultural Biotechnology Meets International Trade: The US-EU GMO Dispute”, available at http://www.piie.com/publications/chapters_preview/3632/06iie3632.pdf
Norman Borlaug, “Biotech Can Feed 8 Billion”, in *New Perspectives Quarterly*, 24 (4), 2004, http://www.digitalnpq.org/archive/2004_fall/18_borlaug.html

Wed, April 5—Climate Change

Rosenbaum, Chapter 10, “Climate Change, Domestic Politics, and the Challenge of Global Policymaking”

Scott, Jim, “Averting Climate Change: The Need for Enlightened Self-Interest” [PDF]

Fri, April 7—Brief Due

Mon, April 10—Climate Change Continued

Layzer Ch. 12

Kraft, Ch. 8 pp. 285-307 [PDF]

Wed, April 12—Nuclear Energy at Home and Abroad

José Goldemberg, “Nuclear Energy in Developing Countries” [PDF]

Duane Bratt, “Implementing Kyoto in Canada,” [PDF]

Butler, Catherine. 2011. Nuclear Power after Japan: the Social Dimensions. *Environment*, available at <http://www.environmentmagazine.org/Archives/Back%20Issues/2011/November-December%202011/Nuclear-full.html>

Ferguson, Charles D. 2011. Thing Again: Nuclear Power: Japan Melted Down, But that Doesn't Mean the End of the Atomic Age. *Foreign Policy*, available at http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2011/10/11/think_again_nuclear_power

Mon, April 17—The Problem of Oil

Layzer Ch's 14 and 16

RECOMMENDED:

Cherry, Miriam A. and Judd F. Sneirson, “Beyond Profit: Rethinking Corporate Social Responsibility and Greenwashing After the BP Disaster.” *Tulane Law Review*, Vol. 85. [PDF]

Paterson, Matthew. *Understanding Global Environmental Politics*. Ch 5 “Car Trouble.” [PDF]

Wed, April 19—Renewable Energy in the United States

Layzer, Chapter 13, “Cape Wind: If Not Here, Where? If Not Now, When?”

Joshua Green, “The Elusive Green Economy”, <http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2009/07/the-elusive-green-economy/307554/>

Mon, April 24—Global Renewable Energy Initiatives

Victor, David G. and Kassia Yanosek. 2011. The Crisis in Clean Energy: Stark Realities of the Renewables Craze. *Foreign Affairs* 90(4):112-120. [PDF]

Kelly Sims Gallagher and Joanna I. Lewis, “China’s Quest for a Green Economy” [PDF]

Wed, April 26—Environmental Justice and Equity Issues

Rosenbaum, pp. 145-155

Layzer, Chapter 17, “Hurricane Katrina Hits New Orleans: Disaster, Restoration and Resilience”

Layzer, Chapter 4, “Community Activism and Environmental Justice”

Mon, May 1—Future Directions in Environmental Politics and Review

TBD

FINAL EXAM DUE MAY 4