

**Pol S 177: Comparative Environmental Politics
UC Santa Barbara - Summer B 2015**

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Lecture: MTWR 1230-135
North Hall 1109
Office Hours: 2-3 MTW

Course Description:

This course explores one of the most salient issues in contemporary politics, the global environment. As populations grow, economies expand, and technology advances, environmental issues have continued to become both more critical and politically contentious. This course takes a global approach to these issues by exploring how individuals, governments, and the global community contribute and respond to environmental issues. Environmental problems cross national borders at will and so this course will explore the dynamics of environmental politics at differing levels of analysis. Using this approach contributes to a more integrated and comprehensive understanding of the drivers of environmental problems and their possible solutions.

Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course you will

- understand the political factors that drive environmental degradation and protection.
- identify and evaluate the rules and structures, both formal and informal, that drive environmental behavior.
- apply frameworks for exploring politics at the individual, national, and global level for analyzing an environmental issue of your choice.
- improve communication, writing, and critical analysis through incorporation of feedback.

Requirements and Grading:

Expert Analysis Paper

The bulk of your grade in this course will be comprised of a session long writing assignment on an environmental issue area of your choosing. You will become an expert in this issue area and throughout the quarter critically analyze it at each level of analysis. The first component consists of two shorter papers (4-5 pages). The first will explore your issue area at the individual level and the second, at the national level. The final paper(12-15 pages), due at the end of the quarter will examine the issue at all three levels of analysis. This will entail incorporating feedback from your first two papers, adding the international level, and combining all three into a holistic paper explaining the politics of your chosen environmental issue. Points

will also be awarded for bringing in drafts for peer feedback in class. Details of the assignment will be provided during the first week.

Quizzes

At the end of each section of the course you will complete an online quiz assessing your knowledge of the readings and lecture material. The quizzes will be completed on gauchospace and will consist of a combination of multiple choice, fill in the blank, and short answer questions. Once made available, you will have 36 hours to start each quiz. Once opened, you will only have one hour to complete the quiz. Please make sure you will have a distraction free environment. Quizzes will be open book and open note, but you must complete them alone.

Participation and Attendance

The remainder of the points will be dispersed between regular attendance at lecture and your participation in class activities and discussion. This is a relatively small course that allows for more discussion and in-class activities. Please come prepared, having done the readings, and ready for a variety of activities.

Grading

Expert Analysis Paper (60)

Topic Selection & References	1
Intro paragraph #1	1
Intro and outline #2	1
Rough draft	3
Peer feedback	4
Paper #1	10
Paper #2	10
Final Research Paper	30

Quizzes(30)

Individual level	10
National level	10
International level	10

<u>Attendance and Participation(10):</u>	<u>10</u>
	100

Policies:

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory. If you have a conflict on the same day as a quiz or a paper please email me BEFORE lecture and we will find an alternative solution. Emails received after lecture will be

DSP: Please be sure to register with DSP and inform me that you are a DSP student at the beginning of the quarter. You will receive all necessary accommodations, but

please do not wait until the last second to make these arrangements.

Email: I will check my email from the hours of 9 am - 5 pm, but am not available on weekends. Please come see me in person, before or after lecture, during office hours, or at another scheduled time.

Academic Integrity: Cheating will not be tolerated. All students are will be held to the highest standards of UCSB's code of academic integrity. All cases will be referred to campus authorities.

Grade Appeals: if you wish to appeal a grade you must wait 48 hours after you receive the grade and send me a 1 page email specifying why you believe your grade is incorrect.

Assignment Submission: Your papers will be submitted on gauchospace and in hard copy at the beginning of class. For every 24 hours the assignment is late you will receive a 10% reduction in the grade. After 72 hours late the grade becomes a zero.

How to do well in this course:

- Show-up
- Stay up-to-date
- Think critically
- Be creative and have fun

Readings

The bulk of the readings are available on gauchospace. True to the environmental theme of the course, I have not requested a reader be produced. We will use one book for this course: [Paul Steinberg; Who Rules the Earth?](#) I know books get expensive, so I tried to pick one that is both affordable and worth keeping around. Hard copies are available in the bookstore and at last check online for around \$29. A kindle version is available on Amazon for around \$13. A copy is also on reserve at the library.

Course Schedule:

The course can be usefully divided into three parts. We will begin with a discussion of individuals. Then move on to the dynamics of environmental politics at the national level. We will finish at the international level. Each section will begin with readings centered broadly on causes of environmental issues. The second half will explore different approaches to solutions and the political dynamics therein.

Date	Topic	Readings	What's Due
8/3	Introduction and Syllabus Review	Steinberg ch. 1 "Recycling is not Enough"	
8/4	Environmental Politics and the Drivers of Environmental problems	Vitousek et al. "Human Domination of the Earth's Ecosystems"	
Individuals as Political Actors			
8/5	Environmental Psychology I	Brick and Conrardy "Why Doesn't the Public Respond to Climate Change"	
8/6	Environmental Psychology II	Griskevicius "Going Green to be Seen"	
8/10	Public Opinion and The Environment: Global Warming	Krosnick et al. "What Americans Think about Climate Change"	Topic Selection and bibliography
8/11	Environmental Values	Muir "A Near View of the High Sierra" selections Pope Francis "On Care for Our Common Home" p 1-14	
8/12	Political Consumerism	Copeland and Smith "Consumer Political Action on Climate Change"	Paper #1 Intro Paragraph
8/13	Individuals vs Institutions	Maniates "Save the World"	quiz #1
National Politics			
8/17	Comparative Environmental Politics	Steinberg and VanDeveer "Comparative Environmental Politics in a Global World"	
8/18	Domestic Institutions and the Environment	Steinberg ch.6 "A Planet of Nations"	paper #1 due
8/19	Agenda Setting: United States	Downs "Issue attention cycle"	
8/20	Green Parties: Germany	O'Neill "Political Parties and Meaning of Greening"	
8/24	Environmental Movements	Layzer "Love Canal: Hazardous Waste and the Politics of Fear"	Paper #1 Returned
8/25	Economics and the Environment	Steinberg ch. 5 "The Big Trade" Krugman "Building a Green Economy"	
8/26	The Environment and Development:	Najam "Why environmental politics looks different from the South"	

8/27	Environment and Development: China	Lewis and Gallagher "Energy and Environment in China"	Quiz #2
International Politics			
8/31	Global Environmental Governance	Clapp and Dauvargne "Brief History of international Environmental Cooperation"	Paper #2 Intro and outline
9/1	State Sovereignty	Harris "What's Wrong with Climate Politics"	
9/2	Why States Ratify	Bernauer et al 2010 "A comparison of Domestic and International Sources of Global Governance Dynamics" Kerry "China, America and Our Warming Planet"	Paper #2 Due
9/3	Guest Lecture: TBD		
9/7	Global Governance beyond Treaties	Wapner "Politics Beyond the State"	Paper #2 Returned
9/8	Multiple Levels of Governance	Betsil "Climate Change: Complex Multilevel Governance"	Final Paper draft due
9/9	Paper Feedback and Review Session	No reading assigned today	Paper Feedback
9/10	What have we learned?	Kingsolver "Reasons for Hope" Steinberg ch 11 "Paper, Plastic, or Politics?"	Quiz #3
9/11	Final Paper Due in Class		Final Paper Due