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| **Global Environmental Politics**  GVPT 306  University of Maryland/ Spring 2016  Course Times: T & TH 12:30-1:45pm  Course Location: Tydings 1102 | |
| Jennifer Hadden  Email: jhadden1@umd.edu | Office: Chincoteague 3117H  Phone: 301-405-1770  Office Hours: T & TH 3-4pm |

**Course Description**

Why is it so difficult to develop solutions to global environmental problems? Environmental problems often require extensive scientific knowledge, and involve risk and uncertainty. Existing incentives for different kinds of behavior can channel individuals and states away from environmental protection. The structure of political decision-making may disadvantage environmental activists. In this course, we explore three processes of environmental policy development – identifying problems, negotiating solutions, and implementing agreements – through a range of case studies. These include whaling, ozone depletion, and especially global climate change. We will ask: under what circumstances do countries negotiate treaties to resolve important environmental problems, and when are these agreements effective? Who participates in this process, and how? How can future agreements be improved?

**Learning Outcomes**

This course will serve as an introduction to the study of global environmental politics. By the end of the semester you should have a good idea how environmental treaties are made, and will have a solid understanding of several concrete cases of environmental decision-making. This includes work on a comparative essay about the determinants of effective environmental policy-making as well as two policy-relevant writing assignments.

**Course Prerequisites**

This course requires that students have already completed GVPT 200, an introductory course in international relations. I will assume a basic familiarity with key concepts and approaches in this field.

**Course Texts**

*Books:*  The following books will be used extensively in the course, and are available for purchase at the Bookstore. If ordering online, please pay particular attention that you get the most recent edition, as the latest versions are substantially revised. Copies will also be held on reserve at the library.

* Chasek, Pamela S., David L. Downie, and Janet Welsh Brown. 2013. *Global Environmental Politics, 6th edition*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press.
* Conca, Ken and Geoffrey D. Dabelko (eds.). 2014. *Green Planet Blues: Four Decades of Global Environmental Politics*. 5th Edition. Boulder, CO: Westview Press.

**Course Logistics**

*Attendance and Participation:* I expect students to attend every class, and will take attendance. If you have an emergency or medical problem and must be absent, please notify me in advance. It is your responsibility to inform me in advance if you will be absent in order to attend religious observances. I also expect you to arrive on time and stay until class ends. Repeated absences will result in grade penalties. I also expect students to show up ready to discuss the readings assigned for that session. Effective participation consists of making thoughtful comments and asking good questions, as well as actively engaging with classroom debates.

If you are going to miss class when a paper or in-class assignment is due and would like your absence to be excused, you are required to email me regarding your absence in advance of the class and bring documentation to support your excused absence on the day you return. The standard absence policy (one sick absence permitted without a health center note) does not apply to days where we have scheduled papers and assignments to turn in.

*Blackboard:* We will be using the Blackboard website every week. The site is available at: [www.elms.umd.edu](http://www.elms.umd.edu) . You must make sure you are enrolled in our course - please let me know if you have any problems. I will be posting documents, schedule revisions, and other important information on blackboard.

*Office Hours and Email:* I will be holding office hours Tuesdays and Thursday 3-4pm. You should make an appointment in advance to see me. If you are having difficulty with the course or need to discuss particular assignments or accommodations you might require, it is your responsibility to meet with me during this time. I am also happy to reply to questions via email: [jhadden1@umd.edu](mailto:jhadden1@umd.edu).

**Assignments and Grading**

*Assignments:* This course has three main assignments:

* Policy Memo: You will be asked to write a policy memo making concrete recommendations. A template for the memo and instructions will be distributed on September 8th. The memo will be due in class on September 29th.
* Project Proposal: You will be asked to work as a team to develop a project proposal for a (fictitious) grant application. Your team will be responsible for presenting - both orally and in writing - a practical, catalytic, cost-effective proposal. The assignment will be distributed on October 13th and the final proposal will be due on November 3rd.
* Research Paper: You will be asked to write an independent research paper, in which you will draw on two cases of environmental decision-making to come up with hypotheses about why treaties succeed or fail. Your final product will be 10-12 pages. You will receive detailed instructions on how to complete this paper on November 8th. Your final paper will be due on December 19th.

*Grade Breakdown:* Your grade will be a combination of your scores on these assignments, as well as your course participation:

20% Policy Memo

25% Project Proposal

40% Research Paper

15% Participation

*Late Work:* For written assignments I subtract one letter grade per day (24 hours) that the paper is late. All assignments are due at the beginning of class, and should be submitted in hard copy. Classroom assignments cannot be made up.

*Format for Papers:* All papers must be typed, with the exception of work that we do in class. Papers should be formatted in 12 point Times New Roman font, double-spaced, stapled, with one inch margins on all sides. Your name, the date, and the assignment name should appear on the first page in the top left corner. Subsequent pages should have your last name and page number in the top right corner.

*Plagiarism:* Plagiarism is a serious offense at UMD, and can be ground for dismissal from the university. Plagiarism constitutes knowingly misrepresenting someone else’s work as your own. This does not just apply to things like buying a paper off the internet; knowingly appropriating another author’s quotes or ideas can also qualify as plagiarism. The University’s plagiarism policy can be found on the web site of the Office of Student Conduct at: <http://www.inform.umd.edu/jpo/>. Please familiarize yourself with this policy, and ask any questions you may have in advance of submitting your work. Professors are required to bring all cases of suspected plagiarism to the attention of the OSC. Penalties include automatic course failure and an explanatory note on the student’s transcript indicating that he or she has violated the rules of academic integrity.

*Classroom Behavior:* As always, I expect that everyone in our class will be treated with dignity. I will not accept disruptive or disrespectful behavior. Cell phones must be turned off before class, and food is not allowed. Drinks are ok, as long as they do not become a distraction. In class, laptop computers may be used, but email, chat and other programs that might disrupt your learning or that of those around you must be disabled.

*Disabilities*: In compliance with UMD policy and equal access laws, I am available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations that you may require as a student with a disability. If you have a documented disability or feel that you need an assessment, you should contact

Disability Support Services (0126 Shoemaker Hall). The rules for eligibility a may be reviewed on the DSS web site: <http://www.counseling.umd.edu/DSS/receiving_serv.html>. Each semester, students with documented disabilities should apply to DSS for accommodation request forms, which you can provide to your professors as proof of your eligibility for accommodations.

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| **Overview Course Calendar** | |
| **Identifying Global Environmental Problems** | |
| Aug 30/ Sept 1 | Course Overview  Introduction to Global Environmental Problems |
| Sept 6/8 | Identifying and Classifying Environmental Problems  Case: Politics of Black Carbon |
| Sept 13/15 | International Anarchy and Regimes  State Sovereignty and Environmental Protection |
| Sept 20/22 | States and Bargaining  International Environmental Institutions |
| Sept 27/29 | Global Commons Problems (and Solutions)  Policy Roundtable: How to Reduce Black Carbon? [Assignment One Due] |
| **The Politics of Climate Change** | |
| Oct 4/6 | The Problem of Climate Change  Negotiations: Rio to the Kyoto Protocol |
| Oct 11/13 | Negotiations: Kyoto to Copenhagen  Film Screening and Discussion |
| Oct 18/20 | Negotiations: Copenhagen to Paris  Next Steps: Paris Implementation |
| Oct 25/27 | NGOs and Social Movements  Simulation Prep |
| Nov 1/3 | Multi-National Corporations  Simulation: Post-Paris Politics |
| **Comparing Cases of Environmental Policy Making and Implementation** | |
| Nov 8/10 | Cases of Environmental Policy: The Montreal Protocol [Assignment Two Due]  Comparing Environmental Regimes: Tools of Analysis |
| Nov 15/17 | Library Research Visit  **No Class – Work on Paper** |
| Nov 22 | Cases of Environmental Policy: Post-Montreal Ozone Protection  **Thanksgiving Break** |
| Nov 29/Dec 1 | Cases of Environmental Policy: Whaling  Cases of Environmental Policy: Whaling |
| Dec 6/8 | Paper Workshop and Discussion  Course Summary |
| Dec 19 | Final Paper Due |

**Readings and Assignments**

Readings are to be completed before the start of each class. To aid in your understanding, please do the readings in the order that they are listed on the syllabus. Readings marked as ‘CDB’ are from Chasek, Downie, and Brown (eds.) *Global Environmental Politics, 6th Edition*. Readings marked as ‘GPB’ are from Conca and Dabelko (eds.) *Green Planet Blues: Four Decades of Global Environmental Politics, 5th Edition*. All other readings are available on Blackboard.

Identifying Global Environmental Problems

**August 30: Course Overview**

* Read the syllabus and plagiarism policy
* Access and familiarize yourself with the Blackboard website
* The Economist. 2011.“Welcome to the Anthropocene.” [On Blackboard]

**September 1: Introduction to Global Environmental Problems**

* Meadows et al. “The Limits to Growth.” In GPB.
* Castro, Joao de Araujo. 2010. “Environment and Development: The Case of the Developing Countries.” In GPB.
* Lomborg, Bjørn. 2001. “Things are Getting Better.” In *The Skeptical Environmentalist*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, p. 3–33 (read 1-12, 32-33).
* Browse the United Nations Environment Programme’s Global Environmental Outlook 5 website, especially the press release and summary: <http://www.unep.org/geo/pdfs/geo5/GEO5-Global_PR_EN.pdf>

Recommended

* Schneider, Stephen et al. “Misleading Math about the Earth: Science Defends Itself Against the Skeptical Environmentalist.” *Scientific American*, January 2002, p. 61-71.

**September 6: Identifying and Classifying Environmental Problems**

* Young, Oran. 1994. “International Environmental Governance.” In *International Governance: Protecting the Environment in a Stateless Society.*
* The Economist. 2012. “Atmospheric Governance.” Available online: <http://www.economist.com/blogs/freeexchange/2012/12/anthropocene?zid=313&ah=fe2aac0b11adef572d67aed9273b6e55>

Recommended

* Mitchell, Ron. 2010. “The International Emergence of Environmental Problems.” In *International Politics and the Environment*.

**September 8: Case: The Politics of Black Carbon**

* U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. “Executive Summary: Report to Congress on Black Carbon.” [On Blackboard]
* Browse the Climate and Clean Air Coalition website, including the page on black carbon: <http://www.ccacoalition.org/en/slcps/black-carbon> and reading each of the Initiative pages (11 total): <http://www.ccacoalition.org/en/initiatives>

**September 13: International Anarchy and Environmental Regimes**

* CDB, p. 19-30
* Patterson, Michael. 2005. “Theoretical Perspectives on International Environmental Politics.” In M. Betsill, K. Hochstetler and D. Stevis (eds.) *Palgrave Advances in International Environmental Politics.* New York: Palgrave Macmillan, p. 82-112.

**September 15: State Sovereignty and Environmental Protection**

* Conca, Ken. 2010. "Rethinking the Ecology-Sovereignty Debate." In GPB.
* Peluso, Nancy Lee. 2010. “Coercing Conservation.” In GPB.

**September 20: States and Bargaining**

* CDB, p. 49-58
* Sprinz, Detlef and Tapani Vaahtoranta. 1994. The Interest-Based Explanation of International Environmental Policy. *International Organization* 48 (1):77-105 (read only 77-95).
* Chasek, Pamela. 2007. “U.S. Policy in the UN Environmental Arena: Powerful Laggard or Constructive Leader?” *International Environmental Agreements* 7:363-381.

**September 22: International Environmental Institutions**

* CDB, p. 59-85
* Kanie, Norichika. 2010. “Governance with Multilateral Environmental Agreements: A Healthy or Ill-Equipped Fragmentation?” In GPB.
* Hale, Mark. 2010. “Life After Rio.” In GPB.

Recommended

* Najam, Adil. 2003. “The Case Against a New International Environmental Organization.” *Global Governance* 9(3): 367-384.

**September 27: Global Commons Problems (and Solutions)**

* Hardin, Garret. 2010. “The Tragedy of the Commons.” In GPB.
* Buck Cox, Susan. 1985. “No Tragedy of the Commons.” [Blackboard]
* Basturo, Xavier and Elinor Ostrom. 2010. “Beyond the Tragedy of the Commons.” In GPB.

Recommended

* The Economist. 2012. “How to Stop Fishermen Fishing.” Available at: <http://www.economist.com/node/21548240>

**September 29: Policy Round Table: How to Address Black Carbon**

[No Reading, Prepare Presentations]

The Politics of Climate Change

**October 4: The Problem of Climate Change**

* Roberts, David. “Climate Change is Simple.” Watch here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A7ktYbVwr90>
* Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. 5th Assessment Repot, Summary for Policy-Makers. Available here: <https://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar5/syr/AR5_SYR_FINAL_SPM.pdf>

**October 6: Global Climate Change Politics: From Rio to the Kyoto Protocol**

* CDB, p. 151-161
* Read the Kyoto Protocol [On Blackboard].
* Prins, Gwyn and Steven Rayner. 2007. “Time to Ditch Kyoto.” *Nature* 449(25): 973-975.

**October 11: Global Climate Change Politics: From Kyoto to Copenhagen**

* CDB, p. 161-167
* Read the Copenhagen Accord [On Blackboard].

**October 13: Film Screening and Discussion, *The Island President***

* Carrington, Damon. 2013. “The Maldives is the Extreme Test Case for Climate Change Action. *The Guardian.* Available at: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/damian-carrington-blog/2013/sep/26/maldives-test-case-climate-change-action>
* Bajaj, Vikas. 2012. “Climate Prophet in Hot Water.” Available at: <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/04/01/movies/the-island-president-and-mohamed-nasheed-of-the-maldives.html>

**October 18: Global Climate Politics: From Copenhagen to Paris**

* CDB, 167-170
* Browse the CAIT Climate Data Explorer, especially the U.S. INDC: <https://cait.wri.org/indc/#/>
* Read the Paris Agreement. Available here (pg. 20-31 only): <https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2015/cop21/eng/l09.pdf>

**October 20: Next Steps: Paris Implementation**

* [Reading to be determined after UNGA]

**October 25: NGOs and Social Movements**

* CDB, p. 85-94
* Hadden, Jennifer. *Networks in Contention.* Chapter 1: The Copenhagen Moment. [On Blackboard]
* Hale, Thomas. “All Hands on Deck: The Paris Agreement and Nonstate Climate Action.” *Global Environmental Politics* 16(3): 12- 22. [On Blackboard]

**October 27: Simulation Prep**

* Prepare for discussion by reading about your organization

**November 1: Non-State Actors: Multinational Corporations**

* CDB, p. 94-100
* “The New Business Imperative” Valuing Natural Capital.” In GPB.
* Browse the website of the Tropical Forest Alliance: <https://www.tfa2020.org/>

**November 3: Simulation: Post-Paris Politics**

[No reading, prepare for presentations]

Comparing Cases of Environmental Policy-Making and Policy Implementation

**November 8: The Montreal Protocol**

* CDB, p. 106-120
* Barrett, Scott. 2007 “How Not to Repeat the Mistakes of the Kyoto Protocol.” Available online at: <http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/how-not-repeat-mistakes-kyoto-protocol>

# Pilke, Roger 2012. “Technology Was the Key Factor in Saving the Ozone Layer.” Available at: <http://www.chinadialogue.net/article/show/single/en/5297>

# Recommended

* Benedick, Richard Elliot. 1998. *Ozone Diplomacy*. Washington, DC: The World Wildlife Fund and the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy, Georgetown University. Read only:“Chapter Five: Forging the US Position.”

**November 10: Comparing Environmental Regimes: Tools of Analysis**

* CDB, p. 237-281
* Green, Michael. *The Art of Reasoning*. Chapter 15: Inductive Generalizations. [On Blackboard]

**November 15: No Scheduled Class**

* Individual reading based on case selection

**November 17: Climate Politics in Marrakesh (Virtual Lecture)**

* [Lecture and Reading will be posted on Blackboard]

**November 22: Post-Montreal Ozone Protection**

* [Reading to be determined after the Kigali meeting]

**November 24 [Happy Thanksgiving!]**

**November 29: Cases of Environmental Policy: Whaling**

* CDB, p. 188-196
* Peterson, M. J. 1992. “Whalers, Cetologists, Environmentalists and the International Management of Whaling.” *International Organization* 46 (1):147-86 (read only p. 147-156).

**December 1: Cases of Environmental Policy: Whaling**

# New York Times. 2010. “Under Pressure, Commission Discusses Lifting Whaling Ban.” Available at: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/06/22/world/22whale.html?emc=eta1&_r=0>.

# The Guardian. 2012. “Quota Market Could Save Whales.” Available at: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2012/jan/11/whale-tradable-quotas>

# The International Court of Justice. Summary of Whaling in the Antarctic (Australia v. Japan: New Zealand intervening). Available at: <http://www.icj-cij.org/docket/files/148/18160.pdf>

# The Guardian. 2015. “Australia Slams Japan’s Decision to Resume Whaling.” Available at: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/nov/29/australia-slams-japans-decision-to-resume-antarctic-whaling>

**December 6: Paper Workshop and Discussion**

* Individual reading based on case selection

**December 8: Course Review and Summary**

* CDB, p. 321-339
* Clapp, Jennifer and Peter Dauvergne. 2011. “Paths to a Green World? Four Visions for a Healthy Global Environment.” In *Paths to a Green World: the Political Economy of the Global Environment*. Cambridge: MIT Press, p. 227-245.

**December 15: Final Paper Due , 12pm in 3117H Chincoteague Hall**