

BPOLST 583/BIS 493

International Environmental Policy and Global Equity

Autumn 2009
Mondays, 5:45-10:05, UW1- 051

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Office hours: Mondays and Tuesdays, 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM.

Course description

This course is designed to provide a broad overview of international environmental policy. We will examine the use of regional and global commons such as fisheries, drinking water, the ocean, air, and biodiversity. We will learn how some most important political aspects of international regimes, such as property rights, equity, voting rights, common but differentiated responsibility, new and additional funding are raised and negotiated in international environmental regimes. We will examine how these regimes are adopted, implemented, and enforced and the roles that are played by various countries and non-state actors in this process. We will review the conditions under which environmental degradation and the resulting policies lead to global inequity. Further, we will examine policy solutions available to address this inequity.

I use a seminar approach. I expect students to read the assigned readings prior to the class. This provides for more focused and productive discussion in which core problems and solutions can be clarified, addressed, and evaluated. You will be able to reflect on the assigned readings in short weekly memos. Further, in your research project, you will be able to report on efforts various countries have taken to address their economic development/natural environment/global equity problems (undergraduate students) and to develop a proposal for an original research project addressing the above issues (graduate students).

The course is offered to advanced undergraduate students and graduate students. Most of the readings will overlap, however I have assigned some additional, theoretical, critical, and policy instrument-oriented readings to graduate students (underlined in the weekly schedule). Both undergraduate and graduate students will write memos discussing the assigned readings, report on an international environmental regime, and examine a selected international environmental problem. However, in their memos, graduate students will be expected to devise policy solutions that reflect the reality of the economic, political, and legal environments whereas undergraduate students will be encouraged to experiment with problem solutions without being too concerned about their political, legal and administrative feasibility. Similarly, when devising their research projects, undergraduate students will report on literature and data that already exist

whereas graduate students will develop a research proposal for an original research project.

Course Objectives

The aim of the course is twofold. First, it provides an analytical framework that allows students to examine the sources of the conflict among economic development, the natural environment, and global equity. Second, the course provides students with ample opportunity to experiment with a variety of approaches societies can take to resolve the above conflicts.

Learning Goals

This course will help students develop skills to:

- (1) identify major building blocks of a well-functioning international regime;
- (2) understand potential trade-offs among the natural environment, economic development, and equity;
- (3) identify data and, using these data, explain different environmental and development priorities in countries around the world;
- (4) design a policy approach to address the above controversies;
- (5) persuasively communicate orally and in a written form.

Required Readings

See the alphabetic list of readings at the end of the syllabus. All required readings (other than the required textbook) will be available electronically through the Electronic Reserves (<http://library.uwb.edu/reserve.html> ; see courses BIS493C or BPOLST583), on Blackboard in course documents, or publicly on the Internet. Please note that you will need your UW NetID to access UWB library site.

Online Course Communication and File Exchange

I will use Blackboard course site to post my announcements, share course documents with you, organize on-line discussion forums, administer a quiz, post grades, receive your assignments, and e-mail you. To be able to access the BPOLST 583/BIS 493 Blackboard site (<http://bb.uwb.edu>), you will first have to enroll in this class on the UWB blackboard site. The guidelines on how to enroll in a Blackboard site are appended at the end of this syllabus. Please also read the note about Blackboard e-mails in the same Appendix. If you have any problems accessing Blackboard site, contact the UWB Help desk at IT@uwb.edu or at 425-352-3456.

You will submit all your written assignments electronically at the Blackboard class site. For each assignment, please submit only one file (Word , rtf, or PDF format). This document should include all tables, graphs, references, and notes. To submit a document, use the “digital drop box” option in “tools”. Post your document using the **SEND File** option, NOT the ADD file option.

H1N1 Steps taken in this course

As part of the campus community's shared responsibility for minimizing the possible spread of H1N1 virus this year, it is critical that all students are familiar with the symptoms of **H1N1 Flu described on the UW Bothell website** at <http://www.uwb.edu/flu> . Any student or instructor with flu-like symptoms is encouraged to stay at home until at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever without the use of fever-reducing medications (ibuprofen or acetaminophen). I have built flexibility into the syllabus so that a week's absence (mine or student's) will not jeopardize the learning in this course. Please see my Late Submission section below to understand how deadlines can be adjusted in this course to allow some additional time to recover. If the below adjustments are not sufficient, please contact me to discuss alternative ways to maintain your progress in your courses. If I am sick and need to cancel class, you will be notified via e-mail and Blackboard. I have placed two relevant videos on media reserve. In the event I am not able to teach a class, you will be expected to view the video and write a memo about it.

Late Submission Policy

Our ability to meet deadlines this fall will likely be affected by H1N1 virus. For this reason, I designed the syllabus for this course to allow for some flexibility in assignment submission. You will find these deadline accommodations with each assignment description. It is your responsibility to use these accommodations responsibly. I anticipate students using these accommodations only once in a quarter.

Students with Disabilities

If you believe that you have a disability and would like academic accommodations, please contact Disability Support Services at 425.352.5307, 425.352.5303 TDD, 425.352.5455 FAX, or at dss@uwb.edu. You will need to provide documentation of your disability as part of the review process prior to receiving any accommodations.

Academic Integrity

All written assignments in this class are expected to be students' original work. Incorrect or missing citations, use of other people's work, ideas, data, figures, and other published and unpublished material without acknowledging them correctly, copying portions of text from other authors, incorrectly paraphrasing other authors, or copying text from the internet constitute plagiarism. Any such or other activities of plagiarism will result in lost points for the assignment and will also initiate formal procedures as outlined in the UW Bothell student book.

I expect students to uphold the highest standards of academic conduct pursuant to the University of Washington Student Conduct Code, Section WAC 478-120-020-2(a). I expect that you are familiar with and adhere to the rules regulating academic conduct as outlined by the UW Bothell policies on maintaining academic integrity (www.uwb.edu/academic/policies/Academic_Conduct.xhtml). I encourage you to review the

information on Avoiding Plagiarism on UWB/CCC library home page (<http://library.uwb.edu/guides/research/plagiarism.html>).

Style Manual

Please follow the APA manual for style requirements. These include among others: (1) Typed double spaced, at least 11 point font; (2) One inch margins; (3) Correct spelling; (4) APA citation guide; (5) Page number. For more detailed guidelines, see *American psychological association publication manual* (5th ed.). (2001). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association. (available at the UWB/CCC library writing reference desk-library use only).

Assignments, Evaluation, and Grading

Evaluation and Grading

The grade for this course will be based on the following assignments:

Assignment	Number of assignments	Points per assignment	Total points
Memo	4	10	40
UN Treaty One-page Summary	1	20	20
UN Treaty Presentation	1	10	10
Research Proposal/Country Report	1	40	40
Research Proposal/Country Report Presentation	1	10	10
TOTAL			120

Memos

You are expected to write four memos (600 to 700 words) on assigned readings. You may choose any four weeks during this quarter. The memo will contain the following elements:

- (1) Summary (one paragraph);
- (2) Description of the issues you are addressing (two to three paragraphs): this section provides background information including, but not limited to key facts, arguments, and controversies (policy research methodology or policy problems) that are raised in the readings;
- (3) Recommendation for research (if you address a methodological issue in your memo) or for policy change (if you addressed a policy problem in your memo) (two to three paragraphs).

While undergraduate and graduate students follow the same guidelines, graduate students are expected to write their memo based on a larger set of readings; additional readings for graduate students are underlined in the weekly schedule. If there are no additional

graduate student readings for a particular week, I am expecting graduate students to identify a journal article or white paper that pertain to this week's topics and to their research interest, read it, and incorporate it in the memo. Please do not forget to cite your additional reading.

I will evaluate memos based on two criteria: (1) whether they include all related concepts/arguments from the readings and (2) how clearly they present the concepts/arguments.

You are expected to submit your memos electronically using the BPOLST583 class black board site. To submit a memo, please use the "digital drop box" option in "tools". Post your memo using the SEND File option, **NOT** the ADD file option.

Due: 8:00 AM of the day of the class for which you are writing the memo.

H1N1 deadline extension: No accommodation is needed for this assignment, as students select classes for which they will write a memo. Therefore, it is the students' responsibility to schedule memo writing to allow for H1N1 absence this quarter.

International Environmental Treaty Discussion and One-page Summary

You will examine controversies related to negotiation, acceptance and ratification, and implementation of one of the below-listed UN Environmental Treaties. You are expected to identify sources of information on this treaty yourself. In this presentation, you will also present the data explaining the (1) aggregate extent of the environmental problem addressed in this regime; (2) the changes over the last 20 years. Graduate students are expected to also present data reflecting (3) the differences in relevance of this problem for various groups of countries, depending on their level of economic development and natural resource endowment. You will identify the source of these data yourself. At the minimum, you are expected to use the data available from the following sources:

- (1) UNEP, Global Environmental Outlook Data; <http://geodata.grid.unep.ch/#>;
- (2) UNEP, Division of Environmental Law and Conventions;
<http://www.unep.org/delc/>
- (3) the World Bank, World Bank Development Indicators (available at the UWB library website—see Research Databases);
- (4) The Environmental Performance Measurement Project, Yale University,
<http://www.yale.edu/esi/>).

You will report your analysis in a 5 minute presentation in class. You will sign up for this presentation in the International Treaty Presentation Discussion Forum on Blackboard. You will also write a one-page single spaced summary and post this summary on the Blackboard Discussion Forum. This will allow the class to build a compendium of international environmental regimes.

UN Treaties

- (1) Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution. Geneva, 13 November 1979; with the following protocols: Geneva, 1984; Helsinki, 1985; Sofia, 1988; Geneva, 1991; Oslo, 1994; Aarhus, 1998; Gothenburg, 1999.

- (2) United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Montego Bay, 10 December, 1982; with the following agreements: New York, 1994; New York, 1995.
- (3) Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, Vienna, 22 March, 1985; with the Montreal Protocol 1987 and its amendments: London, 1990; Copenhagen, 1992; Montreal, 1997; Beijing, 1999.
- (4) Basel convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal. Basel, 22 March, 1989; with the amendment from Geneva, 1995.
- (5) Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in Transboundary Context. Espoo, Finland, 25 February, 1991.
- (6) Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International lakes. Helsinki, 17 March, 1992; with the protocol from London, 1999.
- (7) Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents. Helsinki, 17 March, 1992.
- (8) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, New York, 9 May, 1992; with the protocol from Kyoto, 1997.
- (9) Convention on biological diversity. Rio de Janeiro, 5 June 1999; with the Cartagena protocol, 2000.
- (10) United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa. Paris, 14 October, 1994.
- (11) Lusaka Agreement on Co-operative Enforcement Operations Directed at Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora. Lusaka, 8 September, 1994.
- (12) Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses. New York, 21 May, 1997.
- (13) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters. Aarhus, Denmark, 25 June 1998.
- (14) Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides and International Trade. Rotterdam, 10 September, 1998.
- (15) Agenda 21.
- (16) Students may also analyze an international environmental effort that was aimed at negotiating an international convention, but failed. For example, an attempt to negotiate a global forestry convention or a global atmosphere convention.

Due: Presentation due on the day for which the student signed up. Please post a one-page summary in the appropriate discussion forum on Blackboard.

H1N1 deadline extension: If the student is not able to present at the day she/he signed up for, I will expect the student to submit a short power-point file that captures the key elements of the student's presentation. In this case, I will expect the student to post this ppt file within 7 days of the originally scheduled presentation. However, the student will be expected to post the one-page summary as scheduled.

Country Report (Undergraduate Students)

Preparing country reports will enable students to understand large variation in countries' environmental and development priorities as well as their potential impact on formation and implementation of international environmental regimes. You will write a report outlining a country's (1) country's short-term (next 5 years) and long-term (15-20 years) economic development priorities and goals; (2) the country's place in the global market; (3) their political issues at the domestic and international level; (4) demographic and sociological changes taking place in the country; (5) the country's natural resource endowments and (6) key environmental challenges; their (7) commitment to addressing these challenges. You will write a report (1500-2000 words, excluding tables and references) on this country. You will also give a 10 minute presentation of your country study to the class.

I will evaluate the assignment based on the following criteria: (1) Completeness and clarity in presentation of the above issues; (2) Ability to identify, use, and present the relevant, publicly available data; (3) Completeness of incorporation of the feedback received during the oral presentation; (4) Adherence to the length/style guidelines.

Countries:

Brazil, China, Czech Republic, European Union, Germany, India, Japan, Mexico, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Russia, United States, or a country of your choice.

Due: Oral presentation due on November 23rd. Report posted on Blackboard, Digital Dropbox, by Dec. 4, 9:00 AM

H1N1 deadline extension: If the student is not able to present on November 23rd, I will expect the student to submit a short power-point file that captures the key elements of the student's presentation on the date the presentation is due. Clearly, in this case, the student will only receive a very limited feedback.

Given that the written report is due at the end of the quarter, I will not be able to give extension other than the one outlined in the "*Incomplete grade*" policy. If the student is not able to submit this last assignment, I will assign an *Incomplete* grade at that point. I will expect the country report to be submitted by the beginning of the winter quarter, Monday, January 4th, 2010, 9:00 AM. Please e-mail me when you have submitted your assignment. I will read the late assignments during the first week of winter quarter and submit revised grade during the second week of the winter quarter.

Research Proposal (Graduate Students)

You will prepare a research proposal (3000 – 4000 words, excluding bibliography) for a study of an international environmental topic of your choice. The research proposal will include the following items:

- (1) Description of the broader international environmental policy problem;
- (2) Clear statement of the research question/policy problem;
- (3) A brief review of the existing literature on this issue;
- (4) A description of the research/analysis method including:

- a. definition (conceptualization and operationalization) of the dependent variables and independent variables;
- b. review of availability of data, their quality, spatial and temporal scope;
- c. proposed analysis method.

Please submit your proposal electronically using the digital drop box in Blackboard. I will evaluate the assignment based on the following criteria: (1) Completeness and clarity in presentation of the elements of the research design; (2) Ability to identify, use, and present the relevant, publicly available data; (3) Appropriateness of the analytical methodology and data to address the research questions; (4) Completeness of incorporation of the feedback received during the oral presentation; (5) Adherence to the length/style guidelines.

Due: Due: Report posted on Blackboard, Digital Dropbox, by Dec. 4, 9:00 AM

H1N1 deadline extension: If the student is not able to present on November 30th, I will expect the student to submit a short power-point file that captures the key elements of the student's presentation on the date the presentation is due. Clearly, in this case, the student will only receive a very limited feedback.

Given that the written report is due at the end of the quarter, I will not be able to give extension other than the one outlined in the "*Incomplete grade*" policy. If the student is not able to submit this last assignment, I will assign an *Incomplete* grade at that point. I will expect the country report to be submitted by the beginning of the winter quarter, Monday, January 4th, 2010, 9:00 AM. Please e-mail me when you have submitted your assignment. I will read the late assignments during the first week of winter quarter and submit revised grade during the second week of the winter quarter.

Weekly Schedule			
Monday	Topics	Readings	Assignments
10/05 Start at 6:00 PM	Introduction Progress in last 20 years; Vulnerability of People and the Environment	GEO report, Ch. 1 and 7	
10/12	International Environment I Ecosystem Management Harmful Substances	UNEP Year Book, Ch. 1, 2 Axelrod, Downie, Vig, Ch. 7	Memo
10/19	International Environment II Climate Change Disasters and Conflicts Resource Efficiency	UNEP Year Book, Ch. 3, 4, 5 Axelrod, D., V., Ch. 1, 6 <u>Stern (BB)</u>	Memo
10/26	International Environmental Regimes	Axelrod, D., V., Ch. 2, 3, 4 Gallagher, 1, 2, 7 (ERR) <u>Rowlands (ERR)</u> <u>Broadhead (ERR)</u>	Memo Treaty Presentation
11/02	International Environmental Policy Actors: States, NGOs, and For-profit sector	Axelrod, D., V., Ch. 5 Sasser et al. (BB) Levy & Rothenberg (BB) Gunningham et al. (ERR) <u>Wapner (BB)</u> <u>Kollman & Prakash (BB)</u>	Memo Treaty Presentation
11/09	International Equity Equity, technology transfer, trade, globalization, property rights, voting rights	Harris, Ch. 1, 2, 5 (ERR) Paterson (ERR) Thomas and Twyman (BB) <u>Miller & Dolšak (BB)</u>	Memo Treaty Presentation
11/16	Regimes: Implementation, Compliance, and Enforcement	Axelrod, D., V., Ch. 8, 9 Grubb & Neuhoff (BB) Dolšak (BB) Hovi et al. (BB)	Memo Treaty Presentation
11/23	Leaders and Laggards; Country Presentations	Axelrod, D., V., Ch. 10-14 <u>Gwartney et al. (BB)</u> <u>Kütting (BB)</u>	Memo Country Report Presentation
11/30	New Issues: Research Proposal Presentations		Country Report Research Proposal Both due on Dec. 4, 9:00 AM
12/07	Finals week	Class does not meet	

Required Readings

Textbook

Axelrod, Regina S, David Leonard Downie, and Norman J. Vig. (eds.) 2005. *The Global Environment: Institutions, Law, and Policy*. 2nd edition. Washington D.C.: Congressional Quarterly Press.

Readings available on the Electronic Reserve Readings at UWB Library, on Blackboard, and publicly on the Internet (URL given below)

Broadhead, Lee-Anne. 2002. "Reconsidering Utopia." In *International Environmental Politics: the Limits of Green Diplomacy*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers:147-188. (Available on ERR)

Dolšak, Nives. 2009. "Climate Change Policy Implementation: A Cross-Sectional Anlysis." *Review of Policy Research*, 26 (5): 551-570. (Available on BB)

Environment for Development. Chapter 1 in *Global Environment Outlook 4*, Pp. 6-34.
http://www.unep.org/geo/geo4/report/01_Environment_for_Development.pdf

Gallagher, Kevin P. 2004. "Mexico and the Trade and Environment Debates." In *Free Trade and the Environment: Mexico, NAFTA, and Beyond*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1-11. (Available on ERR)

Gallagher, Kevin P. 2004. "Environmental Kuznets Curve for Mexico?" In *Free Trade and the Environment: Mexico, NAFTA, and Beyond*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 12-24. (Available on ERR)

Gallagher, Kevin P. 2004. "Bringing the State Back In: Enabling National Environmental Policy." In *Free Trade and the Environment: Mexico, NAFTA, and Beyond*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 80-93. (Available on ERR)

Grubb, Michael and Karsten Neuhoff. 2006. "Allocation and competitiveness in the EU emission trading scheme: policy overview." *Climate Policy*, 6 (2006): 7-30. (Available on BB)

Gunningham, Neil, Robert A. Kagan, and Dorothy Thornton. 2003."Environmental Management Style and Corporate Environmental Performance." In *Shades of Green: Business, Regulation, and Environment*, Neil Gunningham, Robert A. Kagan, and Dorothy Thornton. Stanford: Stanford University Press: 95-134. (Available on ERR)

Gwartney, J.D., R.G. Holcombe, and R. A. Lawson. 2004. "Economic Freedom, Institutional Quality, and Cross-Country Differences in Income and Growth." *Cato*

Journal, Fall 2004. <http://www.cato.org/pubs/journal/cj24n3/cj24n3-2.pdf> (Also available on BB)

Harris, Paul G. 2001. "Defining International Environmental Quality." In *International Equity and Global Environmental Politics: Power and principles in U.S. foreign policy*, Paul G. Harris. Burlington, VT; Ashgate Publishing Company, pp. 25-43. (Available on ERR)

Harris, Paul G. 2001. "The Earth Summit and International Equity." In *International Equity and Global Environmental Politics: Power and principles in U.S. foreign policy*, Paul G. Harris. Burlington, VT; Ashgate Publishing Company, pp. 44-68. (Available on ERR)

Harris, Paul G. 2001. "International Environmental Equity and U.S. National Interests." In *International Equity and Global Environmental Politics: Power and principles in U.S. foreign policy*, Paul G. Harris. Burlington, VT; Ashgate Publishing Company, pp. 121-139. (Available on ERR)

Hovi, John, Detlef Sprinz, and Arild Underdal. 2003. "The Oslo-Potsdam Solution to Measuring Regime Effectiveness: Critique, Response, and Road Ahead." *Global Environmental Politics*, 3(3): 74-96. (Available on BB)

Kollman, Kelly, and Aseem Prakash. 2001. "Green by Choice? Cross-National Variations in Firms' Responses to EMS-based Environmental Regimes." *World Politics*, 53(April): 399-430. (Available on BB).

Kütting. (2003). Globalization, Poverty and the Environment in West Africa: Too Poor to Pollute? *Global Environmental Politics*, 3(4). (Available on BB)

Levy, David L., and Sandra Rothenberg. 2002. "Heterogeneity and Change in Environmental Strategy: Technological and Political Responses to Climate Change in the Automobile Industry." Chapter 7 in *Organizations, Policy and the Natural Environment: Institutional and Strategic Perspectives*, edited by Andrew Hoffman and Marc Ventresca. Stanford: Stanford University Press. (Available on BB)

Miller, Andrew and Nives Dolšak. 2007. "Issue Linkages in International Environmental Policy: International Whaling Commission and Japanese Development Aid." *Global Environmental Politics*, 7 (1): 69 - 96. (Available on BB)

Paterson, Matthew. 2001. "Principles of Justice in the Context of Global Climate Change." In *International Relations and Global Climate Change*, Urs Luterbacher and Detlef F. Sprinz, eds. Cambridge, the MIT Press, p. 119-126. (Available on ERR)

Rowlands, Ian H. 2001. "Classical Theories of International Relations." In *International Relations and Global Climate Change*, Urs Luterbacher and Detlef F. Sprinz, eds. Cambridge, the MIT Press, p. 43-66. (Available on ERR)

Sasser, Erika N et al. 2006. "Direct Targeting as an NGO Political Strategy: examining Private Authority Regimes in the Forestry Sector." *Business and Politics*, **8** (3): 1-32. (Available on BB)

Stern, Nicholas. 2008. "The Economics of Climate Change." Richard T. Ely Lecture. *American Economic Review: Papers & Proceedings 2008*, 98:2, -37
<http://www.aeaweb.org/articles.php?doi=10.1257/aer.98.2>. (Available on BB)

UNEP Year Book 2009. Available electronically from the United Nations Environmental Program at <http://www.unep.org/geo/yearbook/yb2009/>

Vulnerability of People and the Environment: Challenges and Opportunities. Chapter 7 in *Global Environment Outlook 4*, Pp. 304-355.
http://www.unep.org/geo/geo4/report/07_Vulnerability_of_People.pdf

Wapner, Paul. 1995. "Politics Beyond the State: Environmental Activism and World Civic Politics." *World Politics*, 47(3): 311-340. (Available on BB)