

School of Sustainability
SOS 321
Policy and Governance in Sustainable Systems
Line # 70703
T Th 3:00-4:15
GLOS 101



Instructor:

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Office Hours:

Tues 12:30-2:30 pm
Other times by email appt.

TA office hours and location:

Coor 6677
Thurs 12:30-2:30pm

Course Description

This course examines the political and administrative processes at play in the management, use, and protection of the environment, involving different stakeholders from local to global levels, and through policy and governance in multiple forms. Relevant laws, policy tools, and institutions are examined, with a focus in the first half of the class on US policymaking, and in the second half of the class on global policymaking.

Course Objectives

At the end of the course, students will understand the history of environmental and sustainability policy, and will have learned to think analytically about policy-making. Students are expected not only to become more familiar with policy development in the US and globally as a multi-dimensional process but also to develop independent and critical thinking on the tradeoffs involved in environmental policy-making at all levels. Students will see how real world sustainability issues work by paying particular attention to energy and climate change issues and policy of current importance (e.g. natural gas drilling, the Gulf Oil spill, the Senate climate change bill, etc).

To meet these goals, the course focuses on three primary activities: (1) core readings, lectures and discussion on aspects of environmental policy; (2) periodic individual and shared written assignments on substantive issues; and (3) real world examples through films and guest lectures that highlight the issues involved in environmental policy-making.

Course Requirements

Pre-requisites: You must have completed SOS 110, and SOS 111 (or PUP 190), with a grade of C or better. There are no exceptions. Please see the SOS advisor if you are unclear on pre-requisites.

Required Reading

There are two required texts for the course, available at the ASU bookstore and other online bookstores. Please ensure you get the right edition. The texts are:

Vig, N. and M.E. Kraft (2010). *Environmental Policy: New Directions for the Twenty-First Century*. Washington: CQ Press. 7th edition.

Chasek, P.S., D.L. Downie, and JW Brown (2010). *Global Environmental Politics*. Boulder: Westview Press. 5th edition.

I also suggest that to get the most out of this class, you become regular readers of at least one or more environmental policy-oriented blogs that consolidates and comments on current news in this field. Many of these sites allow you to subscribe via email or RSS feed to get updates as they happen. Some suggestions include:

<http://energy.nationaljournal.com/>
<http://green.blogs.nytimes.com/category/politics-and-policy/>
<http://blogs.ft.com/energy-source/>
<http://legalplanet.wordpress.com/>
<http://e360.yale.edu/>
<http://dotearth.blogs.nytimes.com>
<http://www.rff.org/wv/default.aspx>
<http://greenlaw.blogs.law.pace.edu/>

Requirements & Grading

There will be a fairly intense amount of reading spread throughout the semester. Please budget your time for homework that you can devote the necessary time to staying up to date with the readings. Students are expected to do all of the required readings for the assigned dates and to be prepared to discuss them in class. I will give 10 reading quizzes throughout the semester to ensure that you are preparing for class.

Assignments and their points are listed in the table below. Dates and details will be finalized throughout the course. Please discuss with the instructor or TAs if any assignment or due date is unclear.

Grades

There are 100 points that are possible to achieve in the work in this class. I will grade according to the following scale. (According to university policy, C- and D+ are not available.) Cutoffs are firm, especially the use of pluses and minuses.

Grading Scale

A 90 - 100

A-	89
B+	88
B	80 - 87
B-	79
C+	78
C	70 - 77
D	60 - 69
E	- 59

Assignments

The points you will be graded on in the class include the following assignments:

Assignment	Points (100 total)	Due Date
Reading quizzes (10 total)	20	Throughout the semester; will be announced 1 week in advance.
Group Class Notes Wiki Page	10	48 hours after date assigned, by 5pm
Speaker or Film Review	15	One week after speaker/film of choice, 5pm
Policy brief	20	Nov. 16
Final exam	25	Dec. 9
Attendance & discussion	10	All semester

Written Assignments:

Written assignments are to be turned in on Blackboard in the designated slot. This means assignments are NOT to be emailed to the instructor, or given to me in class, or dropped off at my mailbox, etc. Any assignment not turned in to Blackboard begins to be considered late immediately following the time in which it was due. **Late assignments will be penalized 5 points per day late;** there are no exceptions.

Written assignments must meet the following requirements

1. The paper must be typed in 12 point font and be spaced no more than 1.5 spaces.
2. The paper must be in standard APA bibliographic format.
3. The paper must be in Microsoft Word document form (.doc).
4. The file name of the document you upload must be in the form of: YourlastnameSOS321(Name ofspeakerorFilm)Review.doc and YourlastnameSOS321PolicyBrief.doc.
5. Papers should be proofed carefully, and please pay attention to readability and writing style, as well as to content.

-- **Speaker or Film Review:** We will have up to three guest speakers throughout the semester, and two films. You will choose one speaker's talk or one film to review in a written paper, summarizing the main points and key concepts learned (but you may not choose a film or speaker on the day in which you were in charge of the class notes Wiki page below, so as to prevent double dipping on assignments). It should be around 5 pages and due no later than one week after the class session in which the speaker/film you chose spoke/was shown. The paper should, at a minimum, discuss the key points the speaker/film made and the issues that emerged, provide a meaningful commentary on issues raised by the talk/film, and provide an

analysis of the context and content of the speaker/film's messages, particularly with regard to the themes of the class and textbook readings, such as the link between theories of environmental policy as discussed in readings and "real-world practice" that emerged in the talks/films.

-- **Policy Brief.** You will write a 5 page (minimum) policy brief on an environmental policy (either US, international, or global) of your choice. Your policy brief will provide a brief but complete history of the selected policy, a timeline and description of how the policy was placed on the agenda, who was involved in it (stakeholders and interest groups), what policy alternatives were considered, what compromises were made, how the policy was implemented and in what form (i.e. tax, regulatory, budgetary, etc), how the policy is enforced and by whom, and provide an evaluation of the outcomes, paying attention to what metrics are used to evaluate this policy (i.e. cost-benefit analysis, etc). The policy brief is due Nov 16 by 5pm on the appropriate submission site on Blackboard. The brief will be discussed further in class.

-- **Class notes Wiki page.** You will be asked to write a collaborative wiki page among up to 5 students for one class session which summarizes and analyzes that class's work and readings. Dates will be chosen the first week of class. The wiki page is located at <http://sos321.wikispaces.asu.edu> Further instructions on the content of the class notes is located on the wiki site. Your group must have a final wiki page in place no later than 48 hours after the class you are assigned.

Exams

There will be 10 reading quizzes to ensure you are keeping up with the readings, and a final. The reading quizzes will be announced one week in advance and posted on Blackboard, where they are to be taken BEFORE coming to that day's class. Content and format of the final will be discussed in class.

Blackboard Information

This course will have a Blackboard site. The site will contain the syllabus, and I will post on the website announcements, class notes and PowerPoint presentations, and some assigned readings. The website is only a supplemental aid, and not a replacement for attending class.

Attendance and Make-ups

Attendance and participation are an important part of making the class work. Excessive absences will detract from your grade. Attendance will be taken at each class. If you cannot attend a class it is YOUR responsibility to obtain notes, syllabi changes, assignments etc. from another student and/or Blackboard and our wiki page. If you know you will have to miss class in advance because of something beyond your control (NOT, for example, a routine appointment), let one of the TA's know (with relevant documentation) in advance. Make-up after the fact is available only for a documented emergency (doctor's note and/or dean's excuse). Students who will miss class due to an athletic competition or other official university events are required to follow official ASU policies if they wish to make up an assignment. You must notify a TA immediately in this circumstance, and at that time we can make arrangements for turning in missed work. Those who fail to do so will not be accommodated.

Withdrawals and Incompletes

Please see me if you feel you will need to withdraw from the class. You will need to follow ASU rules on dates for withdrawal. I will not give incompletes for this course, except for extreme and ongoing situations such as family problems or illnesses that you or an immediate family member suffer that would make it impossible for you to come to class. Documentation is required. For more information, please see:

<http://www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/usi/usi203-09.html>

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in any shape or form. If you are unclear on what constitutes dishonesty, please see <http://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity/policy/StudentObligations>. Dishonesty includes any forms of plagiarism, cheating on tests, turning in the same work for more than one class, passing off another's work as your own, and other things. **I have a zero tolerance policy on academic dishonesty: An initial incident will result in the student receiving no credit for the assignment. A second incident will result in a failure in the class, and a grade of XE is an option for cases in which I feel there has been serious misconduct. *It is your responsibility to be aware of what plagiarism is, and not to do it in any shape or form.*** There may be additional university consequences, including expulsion.

Other Policies

Please note the following.

1. There is no extra credit work.
2. The classroom is a place of mutual respect. Everyone is expected to treat each other and his/her questions and comments with civility. Cell phones must be off or on silent. Please, no text messaging, surfing websites, reading outside material, and the like during class. If you are using a computer during class I reserve the right to ensure you are using it for class purposes.
3. Announcements and instructions throughout the course (in class and on Blackboard) will amplify, supplement, and possibly change the syllabus. The student is responsible for keeping up-to-date on these announcements and for understanding any changes.
4. Email is a medium that should be used carefully. I do not answer emails immediately and especially not on nights and weekends, so be aware that emailing me the night before an assignment is due is not acceptable. Please plan ahead and try to make use of my office hours, not email, for more complicated or in-depth discussions. Questions regarding attendance and assignments should be directed at the TAs first.
5. Qualified students with disabilities who will require disability accommodations in this class are encouraged to make their requests to the instructor at the beginning of the semester. NOTE: Prior to receiving disability accommodations, verification of eligibility from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) is required. Disability information is confidential. Students who feel they will need disability accommodations in this class but have not registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) should contact DRC immediately. Their office is located on the first floor of the Matthews Center Building. DRC staff can also be reached at (480) 965-1234 (V) or 480-965-9000 (TTY). For additional information visit: www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/ed/drc. Their hours are 8:00am to 5:00 pm., Monday through Friday.

Outline and Schedule of Class Periods and Readings

This schedule is subject to change;
refer to announcements in class and on Blackboard

* Indicates readings that will be posted on-line. The rest are from the required books.

Aug 19. Overview of class

Aug 24. Introduction to Policy and Governance

*Kraft, M. 2011. Environmental problems and politics. In *Environmental Policy and Politics*. 5th ed. P 1-25.
Longman, Boston

Aug. 26. Film: Gasland, part 1

* Lustgarten, A. (2009). Buried Secrets: Is Natural Gas Drilling Endangering U.S. Water Supplies?
ProPublica.org

* Lustgarten, A. (2009). Officials in Three States Pin Water Woes on Gas Drilling. *ProPublica.org*

* Lustgarten, A. (2008) New Mexico Battles Feds to Stop Gas Drilling Near an Aquifer. *ProPublica.org*

Aug 31. Film: Gasland, part 2

*Lustgarten, A. (2009) State Oil and Gas Regulators Are Spread Too Thin to Do Their Jobs. *ProPublica.org*

*Lustgarten, A. (2009) Colorado Towns Take Extra Measures to Protect Their Water From Gas Drilling.
ProPublica.org

*Shankman, S. and Abrahm Lustgarten (2010) Congress Launches Investigation Into Gas Drilling Practices.
ProPublica.org

* Lustgarten, A. and N. Kusnetz (2010) New York Senate Passes Temporary Ban on Hydraulic Fracturing.
ProPublica.org

Sept 2. History of US Environmental Policy

Chapter 1 in Kraft and Vig

Sept 7: Federal Policymaking in the US

Chapter 5 in Kraft and Vig. Read 99-105, then read Miller below, then go back and read 105-124.

*Miller, N. 2009. Legislation: Leveling the playing field and leveraging the process. In *Environmental Politics: Stakeholders, Interests and Policymaking*. 2nd ed. P 16-34. London, Routledge.

*D. Leonhardt. 2010. Overcome by Heat and Inertia. *The New York Times* July 20.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/21/business/economy/21leonhardt.html?ref=climate-and-energy-legislation>

*Hulse, C. and Herszenhorn, D. 2010. Democrats Call Off Climate Bill Effort. *The New York Times* July 22.
<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/23/us/politics/23cong.html?ref=climate-and-energy-legislation>

Sept 9: Environmental movements and stakeholders

Chapter 3 in Kraft and Vig

* Pooley, E. 2010. In Wreckage of Climate Bill, Some Clues for Moving Forward. *Yale360 online*.

<http://e360.yale.edu/content/feature.msp?id=2299>

Sept 14. Executive Branch Policymaking

Chapter 4 in Kraft and Vig

- * Skim text of 1969 National Environmental Policy Act.
- * OMB Watch. 2010. White House Seeks More Transparent Environmental Reviews.
- * NRDC. 2010. An Assessment of the Obama Administration's First-Year Environmental Record.

Sept 16. The Current Regulatory Environment

* Kraft, M. 2011. Environmental protection policy: controlling pollution. In *Environmental Policy and Politics*. 5th ed. P 115-162. Longman, Boston.

Sept 21: The Rule-making Process

*US EPA. *Regulations. A Vital Tool for Protecting Public Health and the Environment*

<http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/anpr.html>

* Read the guidance to small businesses for a new GHG rule at:

<http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/downloads/infosheets/smallbusinessguide.pdf>

* Go to regulations.gov. Type in EPA-HQ-OAR-2008-0318. Look at the documents that are filed with this rulemaking, including public comments, notices, rules, and proposed rules. Read a few randomly selected public comments.

* Also read through a few current rules up at :

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/oepi/RuleGate.nsf/content/allrules.html?opendocument>

*Burtraw, D et al. 2010. Greenhouse Gases and the Clean Air Act: A Useful Option for the Short Term. *Resources for the Future Weekly Policy Commentary*.

Sept 23: Energy policy

* Sperling, D. and D. Gordon. 2009. Aligning big oil with the public interest. In *Two Billion Cars: Driving Toward Sustainability*. Oxford University Press.

*Kocieniewski, D. 2010. As Oil Industry Fights a Tax, It Reaps Subsidies. *The New York Times* July 3, 2010.

* Selection from Kraft, M. 2011. Energy and Natural Resource Policies. In *Environmental Policy and Politics*. 5th ed. P 1-25. Longman, Boston

* CRS summary of Energy Policy Act of 2005.

* Zeller, T. (2010) Minerals Service Had a Mandate to Produce Results. *New York Times*.

Sept 28: The Role of Science in Policy

Chapter 7 in Kraft and Vig

* Miller, N. 2009. Uncertain Science – Uncertain Politics. In *Environmental Politics: Stakeholders, Interests and Policymaking*. 2nd ed. P 131--148. London, Routledge.

* UCS. 2008. *Interference At The Epa: Science And Politics At The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*. Union of Concerned Scientists.

* Wang, M. (2010) Scientists Allege Federal Gov't Tried to Muffle Plume Findings. *ProPublica.org*

Sept 30 Enforcement

*Selections from CPR. 2009. *Regulatory Dysfunction: How Insufficient Resources, Outdated Laws, and Political Interference Cripple the 'Protector Agencies'*. Center for Progressive Reform.

* Selections from CPR. 2010. *Obama's Regulators: A First-Year Report Card*.

* Knutson, R. and Wang, M. 2010. A Mystery: When Did Gov't Exempt Gulf Drilling from Detailed Enviro

Reviews? <http://www.propublica.org/blog/item/a-mystery-when-did-govt-exempt-gulf-drilling-from-detailed-enviro-reviews>

* Broder, J. 2010. Drilling Permits for Deep Waters Face New Review. *The New York Times*, Aug 16.

Oct 5. Policymaking in the Courts

Chapter 6 in Kraft and Vig

* Documents related to the 2007 Supreme Court ruling in Massachusetts vs. EPA:

http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/endangerment/downloads/EndangermentFinding_LegalBasis.pdf

http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/endangerment/downloads/EndangermentFinding_FAQs.pdf

<http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/endangerment/downloads/endangerment-factsheet.pdf>

Oct 7. Traditional vs. New Approaches to Regulation

* Fiorino, 2006. How did we get here? Explaining environmental regulation. In *The New Environmental Regulation*. Pp 27-57. MIT Press, Cambridge.

Oct 12. Voluntary and Participatory Governance

Chapter 10 in Kraft and Vig

Oct 14. Economics and Markets in Environmental Policy

Chapter 9 in Kraft and Vig

* Hubacek, K. et al. 2008. Future generations: Economic, legal and institutional aspects. *Futures* 40: 413-423.

*Brown, M. 2010. Feds work to put a price tag on oil spill damage. *Associated Press*, Jul 22, 2010

Oct 19: State-level Policymaking in the US

Chapter 2 in Kraft and Vig

* Doughman, P.M. 2007. California's Climate Change Policy: Raising The Bar. *Environment* 49 (7) pp. 34-43.

* Egelko, B. 2010. AB32 to face 2 challenges on November ballot. *SFgate*, July 26, 2010).

Oct 21: Bringing Sustainability Back In

*Selections from: *The Future of Environmental Protection: The Case for a National Environmental Legacy Act*

* Selections from: *Environmental Governance Reconsidered*.

Oct 26: Introduction to Global Environmental Politics

Chapter 1 in Chasek, Downie and Brown

Oct 28: Global Actors in Governance

Chapter 2 in Chasek, Downie and Brown

Nov 2: Pollution in Global Perspective

Chapter 3 in Chasek, Downie and Brown

Nov 4: Ozone and Climate Change

Chapter 4 in Chasek, Downie and Brown

Ch. 12 in Kraft and Vig

* Dimitrov, R. 2010. Inside Copenhagen: The State of Climate Governance. *Global Environmental Politics* 10(2):18-24.

Nov 9: Species and Habitats

Chapter 5 in Chasek, Downie and Brown

Nov 11: Veterans Day - no class

Nov 16: International Regime Formation

Chapter 6 in Chasek, Downie and Brown

Policy Brief Due

Nov 18. Population and Development

Ch 13 in Kraft and Vig

Chapter 7 in Chasek, Downie and Brown

FILM: Refugees of the Blue Planet

Nov 23: The Role of China

Ch 14 in Kraft and Vig

Nov 30: Environmental Security

Ch 15 in Kraft and Vig

Dec 2: The Future of Global Governance

Chapter 8 in Chasek, Downie and Brown

Dec 7: The Future of Sustainable Development

Ch 16 in Kraft and Vig

Dec 9: FINAL