

University of Rochester

PSC243
Professor Rothenberg

Environmental Politics
Spring 2016



This course provides an explicitly political perspective on issues concerning the environment—however there is a fair amount of economic reasoning and some discussion of underlying scientific issues as well. The result should be a substantive understanding of environmental politics specifically and of public policy generally. The course is principally intended for committed, upper-level, undergraduate students.

I hope that students will be patient if some of the material covered is remedial (i.e., they know it) as this class routinely attracts a diverse set of participants. Some may know nothing of political science or economics, while others may be ignorant of relevant scientific issues. It is my job to make things understandable for everyone.

Formal office hours are on Tuesday and Thursday from 11:00 to 12:00 a.m. in Harkness 108. I will be available at most other times. My phone is x34903 and my e-mail lsot@mail.rochester.edu. Feel free to use either as a means of contact. Note that my office is in the ILW Institute suite, so if you want to drop by you will have to ring a bell and otherwise get my attention. Also, I will be assisted by Svanhildur Thorvaldsdottir (sthorval@ur.rochester.edu) who will hold office hours on Monday from 10 to 12 in Harkness 338. We can also both be contacted for an appointment at a different time.

Students will be graded on a midterm exam (25 percent), a research project, which includes a 15-20 page paper and a presentation (35 percent), and a final exam (40 percent).

The following books are required (note—I have ordered these books because my experience is students prefer to get by their own means nowadays):

Christopher Klyza and David Sousa *American Environmental Policy: Beyond Gridlock*, 2013 edition.

Norman Vig and Michael Kraft *Environmental Policy: New Directions for the Twenty-First Century*, 9th edition.

Additional reading materials will be available through links on the syllabus on the course page. Except if defined as optional, readings are required and should be read before class to enhance the value of both the lecture and the discussion. Please note that dates on which materials are covered are subject to change.

Notes will not be put on the web but certain materials for these will be available.

To reiterate, dates are tentative—particularly because this is a seminar where students are encouraged to participate as much as possible that some topics will take more or less time.

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I. Introduction and Grounds for Political Intervention (1/14-1/19)

Readings:

IV. *Contemporary Environmental Politics and Policy* (2/4-2/9)

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VI. *Enforcement: Adversarial or Consensual?* (2/18)

Readings:

Matthew Potoski and Aseem Prakash. (2004). "The Cooperation Dilemma: Cooperation and Conflict in Environmental Governance." *Public Administration Review*.

Peter J. May and Soren C. Winter. (2011). "Regulatory Enforcement Styles and Compliance," in Christine Parker and Vibeke Lehmann Nielsen (eds.), *Explaining Regulatory Compliance: Business Responses to Regulation*.

Klyza and Sousa 7478208(S)-5.07194(o)-0.478208(M)-217(t)-2.5368587tCc .74(V)0.6225

Sarah Stafford (2012). "Do Compliance Assistance Programs Reduce the Effectiveness of EPA's Compliance Assistance Programs?" *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*.

Joel A. So Mintzy (2014). "Measuring Environmental Success: The

VII. Mobilization of Interests (2/23 – 2/25) [LA 11

Readings:

Matthew Grossman. (2006). "Environmental Advocacy in Washington," *Environmental Politics*.

Thomas Lyon and John Maxwell. (2008). "Corporate Social Responsibility and the Environment," *Review of Environmental Economics and Policy*.

Vig and Kraft, Ch. 3.

Robert J. Duffy. (2013). "Organized Interests and Environmental Policy," in Sheldon Kamieniecki and Michael R. Kraft, *Cambridge Handbook of U.S. Environmental Policy*.

Russell J. Dalton. (2015). "Waxing or Waning? Changing Patterns of Environmental Activism," *Environmental Politics*.

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VIII. Congress, Distributive Politics, and Polarization (3/3)

Readings:

Barry Rabe. (2007). "Can Congress Govern the Oil?" NYU Working Paper.

Klyza and Sousa. Ch. 3.

Vig and Kraft, Ch. 5.

IX. *The President and the General Interest* (3/15 – 3/17)

Readings:

Vig and Kraft, Ch. 4.

Otis L. Graham, Jr. (2015). *Presidents and the American Environment*. Ch. 8.

Lisa Heinzerling. (2014). “

X. *The Courts as Arbitrator* (3/22 - 3/24)

Readings:

Richard J. Lazarus. (2004). “Judging Environmental Law,” *Tulane Law Review*.

Klyza and Sousa, Ch. 5.

Vig and Kraft, Ch. 6.

Christopher Warshaw, and Gregory E. Wannier. (2013). *Business as Usual? Analyzing the Development of Environmental Standing*

XI.

XIII. *Climate Change: Regulating a Global Public Good Nationally* (4/5 – 4/12; LA 9.9)

Readings:

Vig and Kraft, Ch. 13.

James R. Kahn. (2005) *The Economic Approach to Environmental and Natural Resources*, Ch. 7.

Lawrence S. Rothenberg. (2009). "The Political Economy of Global Climate Change."

Lisa Heinzerling. (2012). "Introduction: Climate Change at EPA," *Florida Law Review*

James W. Coleman. (2014). "Unilateral Climate Regulation," *Harvard Environmental Law Review*.

Reading(s) on Paris Accord.

XIII. *Student Presentations* (4/14, 4/19, 4/21, and mega makeup cIL6345e1015789(k)-0.956417(e)3.1

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