

Political Science 23 W/ R 239/S JS 2:9  
Spring 2019

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## **INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** An examination of international environmental law and policy with a special focus on efforts to address climate change, including the Paris Agreement under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. This course serves as a companion to PSC 246, but PSC 246 is not a prerequisite. The goal of this course is to provide a foundational understanding of this rapidly developing, controversial field. Topics include consideration of the scientific, political, and economic drivers of international environmental law; the variety of tools (

some international environmental issues have been addressed to date, including efforts to date on climate change. The course will be taught through lectures, discussion, a research paper, a group project and three tests.

**CREDIT HOURS:** 4 credit hours. This course follows the College credit hour policy for 4-credit courses. This course meets twice weekly for 150 minutes per week. The course also includes independent out of class assignments and group work for 1 hour per week, including using assigned readings and other class materials (as noted in the syllabus assignments). These activities include to preparation to lead or participate in group discussion, work on group case discussion questions, worksheets (posted on Blackboard), reflections, and team-based group project. Students are expected to spend at least 8 hours per week on assigned reading and papers as discussed below. Length of reading assignments will vary given the complexity of the material assigned.

**CLASS DAYS/TIMES and LOCATION:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 15:20-16:40, Lattimore 210

**COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS:** The class will include considerable class discussion as well as lectures. There will be one paper, student led discussion, group project presentations, and three tests. Class attendance is expected; grades will reflect attendance and participation.

**OFFICE HOURS:** I will have office hours before class from 2:00-3:00

Regina S. Axelrod, Stacy D. VanDeveer, eds., *The Global Environment – Institutions, Laws and Policy* (4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Sage 2015)

students of all backgrounds and abilities. In the event you encounter any barrier(s) to full participation in this course due to the impact of disability, please contact the Office of Disability Resources. The access coordinators in the Office of Disability Resources can meet with you to discuss the barriers you are experiencing and explain the eligibility process for establishing academic accommodations. You can reach the Office of Disability Resources at: [http://disability@rochester.edu](mailto:disability@rochester.edu); (585) 276-5075; Taylor Hall.

Jan. 31 Will the Ozone Layer Recover by 2050?: Addressing challenges including exemptions, compliance, waste, funding and impact of climate change.

Push to Fix Ozone Layer and Slow Global Warming”  
New York Times (Mar. 15, 2007)

The Enduring Effects of Ozone Depletion” New York Times  
Green Blog Post (Feb. 1, 2013)

Ozone Layer on Track to Recovery: Success Story Should Encourage Action on  
Climate” UNEP News Centre (Sep. 1, 2014)

National Geographic  
News (May 7, 2010)

Someone, Somewhere is Making a Banned Chemical that  
Destroys the Ozone Layer, Scientists S  
2018)

Feb. 5 The Kigali Amendment: Addressing the hole in the stratospheric ozone  
layer and climate change.

Coral Davenport, Refrigerant that Warms Planet,  
New York Times (Oct. 15, 2016)

Alexander Ovodenko,  
Washington Post (November 3, 2016)

Reworking the Ozone Treaty to Work for Climate Change  
(PRI November 12, 2010)

- New York Times  
(Oct. 23, 2016)

***Kigali Amendment worksheet (on Blackboard) and group discussion***

***Review for Test #1***

**Feb. 7 TEST #1: Ozone Regime and IEL Principles**

### **III. Biological Diversity, Endangered Species and Regulating Trade in Wildlife**

Feb. 12 Biological Diversity, 6<sup>th</sup> Wave of Extinction & Convention on Biological  
Diversity (CBD): Biological diversity, threats to biodiversity, and the Biodiversity  
Convention.



notice and consent regime (PIC), not a ban. How does the Basel Convention work? Why

*exporting* hazardous waste. Recovery and recycling industry. Economic, political and ethical challenge.

Reading: *The Global Environment*, Ch. 11 pp. 259-279; Ch. 6 pp. 143-144.

Feb. 28      25-Years Later: How is Basel Convention Working?: Is Trade-Related Strategy Sufficient and Appropriate? What Should the Goals of International Hazardous Waste Regulation Be? How do N/S State Perspectives Impact this Analysis? Role of

; Bamako

Convention; liability concerns.

*Decreasing Dirty Dumping? A Reevaluation of  
Toxic Waste Colonialism and the Global Management of Transboundary  
Hazardous Waste*

*Dead Forests and Living Memories”*

Eric Holthaus,



-China Climate

million people and costing Chinese

Aayushi Awasthi,  
Oct. 25, 2018)

Paris Climate Pact (Scientific American, May 31, 2018)

Institute of International and European Affairs, March 12, 2018)