

**U.S. Environmental Politics and Policy**  
**PUP 4203, Fall 2008**  
**Florida State University**  
0212 HCB  
T, Th 2:00-3:15

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**Course Description**

This course will introduce students to the politics that describe the formulation and implementation of environmental policy in the United States. The course will present environmental issues as collective action dilemmas that require some combination of both norms and formal institutions for their resolution. We will begin by briefly considering the historical development of environmental politics in the U.S., highlighting the role that both political and institutional actors traditionally play in the development of environmental policy. We will then consider various aspects of the policy process as it applies to the environment including agenda setting, policy selection and decision making, and implementation. We will end by considering various environmental issues on both the domestic and international landscape.

The following books are required reading and are available for purchase in the bookstore:

Rosenbaum, Walter A. 2008. 7th ed. *Environmental Politics and Policy*. Washington, DC: CQ Press.

Vig, Norman J., and Michael E. Kraft. 2003. 5th ed. *Environmental Policy*. Washington, DC: CQ Press.

Layzer, Judith. 2006. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. *The Environmental Case: Translating Values into Policy*. Washington, DC: CQ Press.

The course will also make use of several article length readings. These readings will be on the course Blackboard, which is accessible via the Internet. It is the student's responsibility to download and read these articles as they are assigned in the syllabus.

**Grading Policy**

Final grades will be assessed through various measures of your performance in the course. The final grade is intended to reflect your abilities in each of the major areas of the course:

Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%
Policy Analysis Paper	30%
Attendance/Participation	10%

**Examinations**

There will be a midterm and a final examination, equally weighted. The dates are scheduled in the syllabus. The examinations are comprehensive -- any material covered in the course up to the day before the exam is fair game! The University has scheduled this class' final exam for Tuesday December 9<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm-

7:30pm. The University may change this time and date; it is the student's responsibility to check on exam schedules during the week of finals.

### **Policy Analysis Paper**

Students will write a policy analysis paper. A detailed assignment will be handed out during the semester. The purpose of the policy paper is to familiarize students with a specific policy within the environmental arena and the arguments surrounding and to refine students' writing skills. The writing process will be emphasized, with opportunities for students to turn in drafts of the paper throughout the writing process. This paper must be written in 12 pt. font with 1-inch margins. It must be double-spaced and should be approximately 20-25 pages in length. Students should also pay attention to organization, grammar and style in the writing of their papers. A good deal of writing a strong paper is effectively communicating ideas without unnecessary distractions.

### **Class Participation and Attendance**

Students are expected to attend every class and actively participate in class discussions and exercises. Missed classes and/or poor participation will affect this part of your grade. Absences from class due to illness, and participation in formally sanctioned University events will only be excused with sufficient (i.e. University Health Services Excuse Forms) documentation. Documentation must be provided within 48 hours of the absence. Students that cannot physically provide such documentation within the 48-hour period (due to illness etc.), must do so as soon as possible and must include sufficient documentation supporting the claim that they could not physically deliver the original documentation in the 48-hour period. The instructor reserves the right to determine what is considered "sufficient documentation." Class attendance sheets will occasionally be passed out during class. If any student is determined to be misrepresenting either their or someone else's attendance in class, all students involved in such misrepresentation shall receive a zero for the semester participation and attendance grade.

## **Administrative Policy**

### **Student Responsibilities**

Students are responsible for planning ahead by checking the Syllabus for upcoming readings and assignments. Students are responsible for all assigned readings. **NOT ALL READING MATERIAL WILL BE COVERED IN CLASS.** Therefore it is imperative that students complete all readings and integrate them into the course as applicable. In addition, all students are responsible to contribute to a positive learning environment for fellow students. The instructor retains the right to ask a student to leave the classroom if the student is negatively contributing to the learning environment. *Cellular phones, beepers, and pagers* going off in class are distractions that contribute negatively to the class setting – be sure to turn off your electronic devices at the beginning of each class period.

### **Extra-Credit Work**

Under no circumstances will extra credit work be permitted.

### **Late Work**

All assignments are to be turned in on the announced due date. Late assignments will not be accepted without legitimate excuses. The instructor retains the right to determine legitimate excuses.

### **Exams**

Students are expected to be present for all exams at the beginning of the exam period. For exams occurring during the regular semester, students will be allotted the entire class period for the exam. For final exams, students will be allotted the entire final exam period that the University has appropriated. A ten-minute grace period will apply for the beginning of all exam periods. After the initial ten minutes have expired, students will be penalized 10 points for arriving late for an exam. Absences or late arrivals for exams will only be

excused for participation in formally sanctioned University events, or extraordinary events if they are accompanied by sufficient (i.e. Health Services Excuse Forms) documentation within **two** calendar days of the absence or late arrival. The instructor reserves the right to determine what constitutes an extraordinary circumstance as well as what shall be considered “sufficient documentation.” If they have been excused for their absence, students will have **five** working days to make up a missed exam. If there are extraordinary circumstances, which would prevent the student from making up the exam in five working days, the instructor must be informed of this fact prior to the expiration of the five day period. The instructor reserves the right to administer makeup exams of any format (multiple choice, short answer, essay), which may not necessarily correspond to the original exam’s format. If a student misses an exam and does not have an excused absence, the student will receive a zero for the exam.

### **Assignment of Letter Grades**

Final course letter grades will be assigned based upon the scales shown below:

A	94-100	C	74-76.9
A-	90-93.9	C-	70-73.9
B+	87-89.9	D+	67-69.9
B	84-86.9	D	64-66.9
B-	80-83.9	D-	60-63.9
C+	77-79.9	F	59.9 and below

### **Incomplete Grades**

No incomplete grades will be given unless there is an agreement between the instructor and the student **PRIOR TO** the end of the course. The instructor retains the right to determine legitimate reasons for an incomplete grade.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

All course work by students is to be done on an individual basis unless the instructor clearly states that an alternative is acceptable. Any reference materials used in the preparation of any assignment must be explicitly and properly cited. Students are responsible for policing themselves with respect to plagiarism. Any student engaging in academic dishonesty (plagiarism, cheating, academic misrepresentation, etc.) will receive a zero for the relevant assignment and will be reported to the proper university officials for further action.

### **Copyright of Class Materials**

Copyright 2004 Dr. Christopher Reenock as to this syllabus and all lectures. Students are prohibited from selling (or being paid for taking) notes during this course to or by any person or commercial firm without the express written permission of the professor teaching this course.

### **Students with Disabilities**

If you anticipate needing any type of an academic accommodation in this course or have questions about physical access, please discuss this with the instructor within the first week of class. Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations should:

1. Register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC)
2. Bring a letter to the instructor from the SDRC indicating you need academic accommodations. This should be done within the first week of class.

This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request. If a student's accommodations change during the semester, the student will present an updated official letter from the SDRC outlining the specific modifications.

## Course Outline and Weekly Schedule

### Section I Introduction

#### Introduction to the Course (Aug 26)

No assigned readings

#### Overview of Environmental Politics in the U.S. and a Primer on Social Science Research (Aug 28)

Rosenbaum. Chapter 1

Vig and Kraft. Preface & Chapter 1

#### Environmental Policy as a Collective Action Problem (Sept 2 and 4)

Hardin, Garrett. 1968. "The Tragedy of the Commons." *Science* 162:1243-1248.

Ostrom, Elinor. 1990. *Governing the Commons*. Chapter 1.

Winter, Soren C. and Peter J. May. 2001. "Motivation for Compliance with Environmental Regulations." *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 20(4):675-698.

#### The Environmental Movement: Interest Groups and the Public (Sept 9 and 11)

Rosenbaum. Chapter 2 (skim)

Vig and Kraft. Chapter 4

Inglehart, Ronald. 1981. "Post-Materialism in an Environment of Insecurity." *American Political Science Review* 75(4): 880-900.

Carman C. 1998. "Dimensions of Environmental Policy Support in the United States." *Social Science Quarterly* 79(4): 717-733.

E. Elliott, B. Seldon and J. Regens. 1997. "Political and Economic Determinants of Individuals' Support for Environmental Spending." *Journal of Environmental Management* 51: 15-27.

### Section II Environmental Politics: Institutions in the Policy Process

#### Environmental Politics: The Chief Executive (Sept 16)

Rosenbaum. Chapter 3

Vig and Kraft. Chapter 5

Kraft, Michael E., and Norman J. Vig. 1984. "Environmental Policy in the Reagan Presidency." *Political Science Quarterly* 99(3):415-439.

Wood, B. Dan. 1988. "Principals, Bureaucrats, and Responsiveness in Clean Air Enforcements." *The American Political Science Review* 82(1):213-234.

### **Environmental Politics: The Legislature (Sept 18)**

Vig and Kraft. Chapter 6

Shipan, Charles R., and William R. Lowry. 2001. Environmental Policy And Party Divergence in Congress." *Political Research Quarterly* 54(2):245-263.

### **Environmental Politics: The Bureaucracy and The Courts (Sept 23 and 25)**

Vig, Norman J., and Michael E. Kraft. 2000. Chapter 8 (Rosenbaum)

Moe, Terry. 1989. "The Politics of Bureaucratic Structure." In John Chubb and Paul Peterson, eds., *Can the Government Govern?* Washington D.C.: Brookings 267-329.

McCubbins, Mathew D., Roger G. Noll, and Barry R Weingast. 1987. "Administrative Procedures as Instruments of Political Control." *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization* 3 : 243-77 . Vig and Kraft. Chapter 7

Ringquist, Evan J., and Craig E. Emmert. 1999. "Judicial Policymaking In Published and Unpublished Decisions: The Case of Environmental Civil Litigation." *Political Research Quarterly* 52(1):7-37.

Grant, Don Sherman, II. 1997. "Allowing Citizen Participation in Environmental Regulation: An Empirical Analysis of the Effects of Right-to-Sue and Right-to-Know Provisions on Industry's Toxic Emissions." *Social Science Quarterly* 78(4):859-873.

### **Environmental Politics: Federalism and Intergovernmental Relations (Sept 30 and Oct 2)**

Vig and Kraft. Chapter 2

Crotty, Patricia McGee. 1987. "The New Federalism Game: Primacy Implementation of Environmental Policy. *Publius: The Journal of Federalism* 17:53-67.

Bacot, A. Hunter, and Roy A. Dawes. 1997. "State Expenditures and Policy Outcomes in Environmental Program Management." *Policy Studies Journal* 25(3):355-370.

Hays, Scott P., Michael Esler, and Carol E. Hays. 1996. "Environmental Commitment among the States: Integrating Alternative Approaches to State Environmental Policy." *Publius: The Journal of Federalism* 26(2):41-58.

### **Midterm Examination (Oct 7)**

Midterm Examination

### **Section III Environmental Policy**

### **The Environmental Policy Process: Risk Assessment and Environmental Justice (Oct 9 and 14)**

Rosenbaum, 1998. Chapters 4

Vig and Kraft. Chapter 10

Robert D. Bullard. 2000. *Dumping in Dixie: Race Class and Environmental Quality*. Chapters TBA

Cohen, Nevin. 1997. "The Politics of Environmental Risk: Perceptions of Risk Assessment in the State Legislatures." *Policy Studies Journal* 25(3): 470-484.

Ringquist, Evan. 1998. "A Question of Justice: Equity in Environmental Litigation 1974-1991." *Journal of Politics* 60(4): 1148-1165.

### **Air Pollution Control (Oct 16 and 21)**

Rosenbaum. Chapter 6. "Command and Control in Action: Air and Water Pollution Regulation."

Lazer. Chapter 11. "Market-Based Solutions: Acid Rain and the Clean Air Act."

Kleit, Andrew. "Impacts of Long-Range Increases in the Fuel Economy (CAFE) Standard." *Economic Inquiry* 42(2): 279-294.

### **Water Pollution Control (Oct 23 and 28)**

Lazer. Chapter 12. "Ecosystem-Based Solutions: Restoring the Florida Everglades."

Schneider M, Scholz J, Lubell M, et al. 2002. "Watershed Partnerships and the Emergence of Collective Action Institutions." *American Journal Of Political Science* 46 (1): 148-163.

Lubell, Mark. 2004. "Collaborative Watershed Management: A View from the Grassroots." *Policy Studies Journal* 32(3): 341-361.

### **Toxic and Hazardous Substances (Oct 30 and Nov 4)**

Rosenbaum. Chapter 7. "A Regulatory Thicket: Toxic and Hazardous Substances."

Lazer. Chapter 3. "Love Canal: Hazardous Waste and the Politics of Fear."

Davis, Charles, and Sandra K Davis. 1999. "State Enforcement of the Federal Hazardous Waste Program." *Polity* 31(3): 451-468.

Daley, Dorothy and David Layton. 2004. "Policy Implementation and the Environmental Protection Agency: What Factors Influence Remediation at Superfund Sites?" *Policy Studies Journal* 32(3): 375-392.

### **Energy Policy and Politics (Nov 6 and 13 (No class Nov 11 Veterans day13))**

Rosenbaum, 1998. Chapter 8

Lazer. Chapter 5. "Oil Versus Wilderness in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge."

Eisner, Marc Allen, Jeff Worsham, and Evan J. Ringquist. 2000. *Contemporary Regulatory Policy*. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner. (read chapter 10).

**Public Lands and Species Protection (Nov 18, 20 and 25)**

Rosenbaum, 1998. Chapter 9

Vig and Kraft. 2000. Chapter 14 (Lowry)

Lazer. Chapter 7. "Jobs vs. the Environment: Saving the Northern Spotted Owl."

Lazer. Chapter 13. "Local Collaboration and Compromise: Using Habitat Conservation Plans to Save Southern California's Endangered Landscape."

Stern, Marlene. 1999. "Judicial Activism in Enforcement of Florida's Net ban." *Journal of Land Use and Environmental Law* 15(1): 55-97

**International Climate Policy (Dec 2 and 4)**

Rosenbaum. Chapter 10

Vig and Kraft. Chapter 13

**Last Day of Class (Dec 4)**

Review and Course Evaluations

**Final Exam (Tuesday December 9<sup>th</sup>)**

**5:30-7:30**