

Huron Brief Course Outlines

Fall/Winter 2023-2024

Course Title: Global Environmental Politics

Course Number and Section

POLISCI

3379E - 550

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Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

This seminar course provides a comprehensive examination of the major issues, ideas, institutions, and interests that make up the global politics of the environment. The course is divided into three main parts. Part One provides an introduction to the major environmental issues examined in the course, from traditional concerns such as the conservation of nature and trans-boundary pollution to some of the newer global environmental problems like ozone layer depletion and climate change. It also reviews the issues connected with environmental justice and environmental security. Part Two examines the major contributors to environmental problems identified in the literature on global environmental politics, including the roles played by domestic and international politics, economic globalisation, global poverty, overconsumption, and economic and population growth. Part Three provides an overview of the solutions to these problems proposed by various environmental analysts and advocates. These solutions are grouped into three main categories, starting with those that do not involve major changes to the existing political and economic order, those that involve significant reforms to current policies and practices, and those that call for fundamental systemic transformation.

Learning Outcomes:

Students will learn about the following topics.

Part I: Global Environmental Issues

1. Conservation Issues

2. Pollution Issues

3. Climate Issue

4. Environmental Justice and the Marginalised: Race, Class, Gender and Indigenous Peoples

5. Environmental Security

Part II: Causes and Obstacles

6. Political Obstacles: Domestic and International

7. Economic Globalisation

8. Corporations and Foreign Direct Investment

9. International Trade and the Environment
10. Global Finance and the Environment
11. Poverty and Economic Development
12. Economic Growth, Consumption, Population, and Capitalism
Part III: Solutions
13. Market Solutions and Private Governance
14. Technological Solutions
15. Sustainable Development, Green Growth and Green New Deals
16. Governance Institutions: Global to Local
17. Environmental Policy Instruments
18. Civil Society and Global Environmental Governance
19. Ecosocialism, Localisation, Simplicity, Degrowth

Textbooks and Course Materials:

1. Peter J. Stoett, *Global Ecopolitics: Crisis, Governance, and Justice* 2nd edition (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2019).
2. Jennifer Clapp and Peter Dauvergne, *Paths to a Green World: The Political Economy of the Global Environment*, 2nd edition (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 2011).

Note: Required readings from other sources will also be assigned periodically.

Methods of Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Participation	Ongoing Assessment	30%
First Mid-term Test	03/11/2023	10%
Second Mid-term Test	26/01/2024	20%
Research Paper	18/03/2024	15%
Final Examination	TBD	25%

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.