

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME:	Philip Howard
DEPARTMENT-COURSE #-SECTION #:	Political Science 2449-C71
COURSE TITLE:	Environmental Politics
EVENING: Thursdays	SEMESTER/YEAR: Fall 1999
TIME 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.	CAMPUS: Evanston

COURSE CONTENT

What are the social consequences of environmental degradation, and what are the environmental consequences of our economic and political activities? Whereas some global and regional trends in population, economic growth, and the environment are slow to change and will have a strong and distinct impact on our future, trends in social ingenuity and politics are more difficult to project. This course has three goals:

- to teach students about the complex interaction between the environment and social institutions in developing and developed countries;
- to teach students how environmental resources are managed by different economic and political actors — governments, businesses, and civic groups — around the world;
- to teach students to critically assess the consequences of current social, economic and environmental trends.

Although this course has no formal prerequisites, students with at least one other course in political science or sociology, or other research experience, will be best prepared for the pace and expectations of this course.

TEACHING METHOD

This class will be a workshop in which the instructor, students, and guest lecturers can present ideas and debate the latest developments in environmental politics across the US and around the world. We will often talk about current events in class, so you should start listening for news items related to course topics. Each class will probably start off with people sharing relevant clippings or news stories read (New York Times, Wall Street Journal and Economist Magazine recommended) or heard (NPR or BBC recommended) during the week. Students will be responsible for leading discussion during the last hour of class, and will finish the course with a good reference packet of notes, reviews, and other handouts. E-mail will be frequently used to conduct class business and carry on debates outside of class time. Since irregular attendance will disrupt our learning community, unexplained absences will affect your grade.

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Participation & Position Papers (30%). Students are expected to actively participate in class discussions. Students are required to submit 7 one-page single-spaced position papers in which they critically comment on a theme relevant to the readings discussed in any one of the first ten lectures of the course. The position paper must be handed in at

the beginning of class on the day we discuss the readings. Students will also choose two lectures during which they will be responsible for leading discussion on the readings, and in partnership with other students, write a short set of discussion questions to be photocopied and brought to class.

Research Project (70%). This personal research project will have 3 parts: a research proposal of 2-3 pages and short bibliography due on the 5th class (10%); a presentation of 4-6 pages of research notes (20%) handed out to the group a week before the date of presentation; and, a final paper of 15-18 pages due December 9th, 1999 (40%). Work must be typed, 12 point font, with numbered, double-spaced pages free of spelling mistakes.

I will not mark for grammar but if it impedes my ability to understand your arguments your grade may suffer, so it is a good idea to have at least one other person proofread your writing. Use William Strunk, Jr., and E. B. White, *The Elements of Style* (New York: Macmillan, 1979) for writing style questions. The Writing Place (847-467 2791) has tutors who can offer advice on writing and structuring papers and owl.english.purdue.edu has an excellent collection of documents about writing and research. Citations should be formatted according to the *Chicago Manual of Style*. Please refer to the Northwestern "Principles Regarding Academic Integrity" for the definitions of plagiarism.

COURSE MATERIAL

Required Readings

All texts will be available at the Norris Center Bookstore on the Evanston Campus, and the photocopied packet will be available from Quartet Copies during the first week of class.

Ken Conca and Geoffrey Dabelko, Eds., *Green Planet Blues: Environmental Politics from Stockholm to Kyoto*, 2nd Edition (Boulder, Co: Westview Press, 1998).
Phil Brown, Edwin J. Mikkelsen, Jonathan Harr, *No Safe Place: Toxic Waste, Leukemia, and Community Action* (University of California Press, 1997).
Allen Hammond, *Which World?: Scenarios for the 21st Century* (Island Press, 1998).

Video Documentaries

Several of these documentaries will be shown during class, depending on how quickly the library can order them and make them available: Hole in the Sky; Green Bucks; Black Sea: Death or Reprieve; Amazonia: The Road to the End of the Forest; Keeping The Promise: The GEF In Action; Toxic Pizza; Fate Of The Forest; Fresh Water Loop; Women Of The Aral; The Montreal Protocol; Deadly Deception.

Recommended Readings

World Resources Institute, *World Resources 1998-99* (Oxford University Press, 1998)

Lecture Plan

I will lead discussion in the first half of each session. After a short break roughly halfway through the session, discussion will be lead by the day's presenters.

1. Introduction – September 9

Readings

“Population and Human Well-Being,” World Resources Institute, *World Resources: 1998-99*, pp. 141-152; and Tables for Chapter 7; D. Ludwig, R. Hillborn, CJ Walters, “Uncertainty, resource exploitation, and conservation: lessons from history,” *Science*, Vol. 260 (Issue 5104), April 2, 1993: p. 17; T.M.L. Wigley, “Impact of Extreme Events,” *Nature*, Vol. 316 (Number 6024), 11 July 1985: pp. 106-7; James Crutchfield, J. Doyne Farmer, and Norman Packard, “Chaos,” *Scientific American* 255, no. 6 (December 1986): pp. 46-57.

2. Common-Pool Resources & Collective Action Problems – September 16

Required

Meadows, et al, “The Limits To Growth,” in Dabelko, pp. 27-31; Hardin, “The Tragedy of the Commons,” in Dabelko, pp. 40-47; Feeny et. al., “The Tragedy of the Commons: Twenty-two Years Later,” in Dabelko, pp. 55-64; World Resources Institute, “The Global Commons,” *World Resources: 1998-99*, pp. 170-185.

Suggested

Mancur Olson, *The Logic of Collective Action: Public Goods and The Theory of Groups* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1971), pp. 5-22 and 33-52; Julian Simon, “Introduction,” *The Resourceful Earth* (New York: Blackwell, 1984).

3. Politics of Environment & Development – September 23

Required

Lele, Sustainable Development: A Critical Review, in Dabelko, pp. 245-256; “Resources At Risk,” in World Resources Institute, *World Resources: 1998-99*, pp. 152-160; Gretchen Daily, “What are Eco-system Services?” in G. Daily ed., *Nature's Services*, pp. 1-10; ONE OF World Meteorological Association, Summary for Policymakers: The Science of Climate Change - IPCC Working Group I (<http://www.ipcc.ch/pub/sarsum1.htm>), OR Summary for Policymakers: The Economic and Social Dimensions of Climate Change -IPCC Working Group III (<http://www.ipcc.ch/pub/sarsum3.htm>), *Climate Change 1995: The Science of Climate*

Change, Second Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (Cambridge: Cambridge U. P., 1996).

Suggested

Robert W. Kates, B. L. Turner, and William C. Clark, "The Great Transformation," in *The Earth As Transformed by Human Action: Global and Regional Changes in the Biosphere over the Past 300 Years* (Cambridge, Cambridge U.P., 1993), pp. 1-17; Patricia F. McDowell, Thompson Webb III, and Patrick J. Bartlein, "Long-Term Environmental Change," in Turner, pp. 143-162; John Bennet and Kenneth Dahlberg, "Institutions, Social Organization, and Cultural Values," in Turner, pp. 69-86.

4. Library Research & Developed Countries I: Recycling in Chicago – September 30

Required

David N. Pellow, University of Colorado at Boulder, Allan Schnaiberg, Northwestern University, Adam Weinberg, Colgate University, "Sustaining Ecological Modernization: Lessons From Urban Recycling and Urban Social Movements," Paper presented at the Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, Illinois, August, 1999; Andrew Wilcox and John Harte, "Ecosystem Services in a Modern Economy: Gunnison County, Colorado" in *Nature's Services*, p. 311-328.

Suggested

Chapter 1, "Cities and the Environment," in *World Resources Institute, World Resources 1996-97: The Urban Environment* (New York: Oxford U. P., 1996): pp. 1-30; and Data Tables from World Resources 1998-99: Chapter 9; Brian J. L. Berry, "Urbanization," in Turner, pp. 103-119.

Developed Countries II: Toxic Waste – October 7

Required

Phil Brown, Edwin J. Mikkelsen, Jonathan Harr, *No Safe Place: Toxic Waste, Leukemia, and Community Action* (University of California Press, 1997).

6. Developing Countries I: Forest, Topsoil and Freshwater Resources – October 14

Required

Homer-Dixon, "Environmental Scarcities and Violent Conflict: Evidence from Cases" in Dabelko, pp. 287-297; Deudney, "The Case Against Linking Environmental Degradation and National Security," in Dabelko, pp. 304-313; SKIM WELL: Philip Howard and Thomas Homer-Dixon, "The Case of Chiapas," in Thomas Homer-Dixon and Jessica

Blitt (eds.), *Ecoviolence: Links Among Environment, Population, and Security* (New Haven: Princeton University Press, 1998), pp. 19-66.

Suggested

Jessica Tuchman Mathews, "Redefining Security," *Foreign Affairs*, 68 (Spring 1989), pp. 162-177; WATER - World Resources Institute, *World Resources: 1998-99*, Tables, Chapter 12; Chapter 1, "The Changing Water Paradigm," & Chapter 4, "Conflict and Cooperation Over Fresh Water," in Peter H. Gleick ed., *The World's Water 1998-1999: The Biennial Report on *****; SOIL - John F. Richards, "Land Transformation," in *The Earth As Transformed by Human Action*, pp. 163-178; FOREST - World Resources Institute, *World Resources: 1998-99*, pp. 152-161; and Tables, Chapter 10 & 11; "Executive Summary," and "Part 1 - Situation and Prospects for Forest Conservation and Development," in Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, *State of the World's Forests*, (Rome: FAO, 1999): pp. viii-xi; and 1-33. Full text also available on the web:

<http://www.fao.org/WAICENT/FAOINFO/FORESTRY/sofo/sofo99/default.htm>; FISH - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), *The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture* (Rome: FAO, 1998). Full text of report also available on web: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/w9900e/w9900e00.htm>

7. Video Documentary Day TBA

This date and location will be determined with the agreement of students, and in consideration of the length and availability of titles. Documentaries may also be worked into existing course plan.

8. *The Players — States & Great Powers – October 21*

Required

Benedick, "Ozone Diplomacy," in Dabelko, pp. 141-148; Gareth Porter and Janet Welsh Brown, 'Nation State Actors', *Global Environmental Politics*, Second Edition (Boulder, CO, 1996), pp. 35-46; Robert O. Keohane, Peter M. Haas and Marc A. Levy, 'The Effectiveness of International Environmental Institutions', in Peter M. Haas, Robert O. Keohane and Marc A. Levy (Eds.), *Institutions for the Earth: Sources of Effective International Environmental Protection* (Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 1993), pp. 3-24.

Suggested

Marc Pallemmaerts, "International Environmental Law from Stockholm to Rio: Back to the Future?" in Philippe Sands (ed.), *Greening International Law* (London: Earthscan, 1993), pp. 1-19; Bell, "Do International Environmental Agreements Really Work?" in Dabelko, pp. 149-152.

9. *The Players — Businesses & Trade – October 28*

Required

Bhagwati, “The Case for Free Trade,” in Dabelko, pp. 179-186; Daly, “The Perils of Free Trade,” in Dabelko, pp. 187-194; Rich, “The Emperor’s New Clothes: The World Bank and Environmental Reform,” in Dabelko, pp. 201-211; Porter and Brown, ‘Corporations as Actors’, *Global Environmental Politics*, pp. 64-68.

Suggested

Frances Cairncross, ‘Business Opportunities and the Environment’, *Green, Inc.* (London: Earthscan, 1995), pp. 189-99; Michael Porter, ‘America's Green Strategy’, *Scientific American* (April 1991), p. 96; Matthias Finger and James Kilcoyne, ‘Why Transnational Corporations are Organizing to “Save the Global Environment”’, *The Ecologist* (Vol. 27, No. 4, July/August 1997), pp. 138-42.

Some relevant websites:

<http://www.wbcds.ch>

<http://www.worldcorp.com/dc-online/gcc/index.html>

<http://www.oecd.org/daf/cm/mai/mainindex.htm>

<http://www.canadians.org/mai.html>

10. *The Players — Non Governmental Organizations – November 4*

Required

Wapner, “Politics Beyond the State: Environmental Activism and World Civic Politics,” in Dabelko, pp. 118-130; Sheila Jasanoff, ‘NGOs and the Environment: From Knowledge to Action’, *Third World Quarterly* (Vol. 18, No. 3, 1997), pp. 579-94; Porter and Brown, ‘Nongovernmental Organizations as Actors’, *Global Environmental Politics*, pp. 56-64.

Suggested

WRI, ‘Nongovernmental Organizations -- A Growing Force in the Developing World’ Chapter 14, in *World Resources 1992-93: A Guide to the Global Environment* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1992), pp. 215-234.

Some relevant websites:

<http://envirolink.org/orgs/index.html>

<http://www.ecouncil.ac.cr/>

11. *The Players — United Nations and Multilateral Lending Institutions — November 11*

Required

Patricia Bernie and Allan Boyle, "Introduction," *International Law and the Environment* (Oxford, Clarendon, 1984), pp. 2-31; Porter and Brown, "International Organizations as Actors," *Global Environmental Politics*, pp. 46-56.

Suggested

David Fairman, 'The Global Environment Facility: Haunted by the Shadow of the Future', in Robert O. Keohane and Marc A. Levy, *Institutions for Environmental Aid* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1996), pp. 55-87; Andrew Steer and Jocelyn Mason, 'The Role of Multilateral Finance and the Environment: A View from the World Bank', *Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies* (Vol. 3, Issue 1, Fall 1995), pp. 35-45; Marc Levy, Robert Keohane, and Peter Haas, "Improving the Effectiveness of International Environmental Institutions," in Marc Levy, Robert Keohane, and Peter Haas eds., *Institutions for the Earth: Sources of Effective International Environmental Protection* (Boston: MIT Press, 1993): pp. 397-426; Lowell Flanders, 'The United Nations' Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development', *Global Environmental Change* (Vol. 7, no. 4, December 1997), pp. 391-94; Mark F. Imber, 'The United Nations' Role in Sustainable Development', in Caroline Thomas (ed), *Rio: Unravelling the Consequences* (Ilford: Frank Cass, 1994), pp. 123-36; Peter S. Thacher, 'The Role of the United Nations', in Andrew Hurrell and Benedict Kingsbury (Eds.), *The International Politics of the Environment* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1992), pp. 183-211.

<http://www.gefweb.org/default.htm>

<http://www.oecd.org/dac/>

<http://www.worldbank.org/>

12. *Thinking Critically & Presentations — November 18*

Required

The Economist, "Plenty of gloom," 20-Dec-97, Download from web: <http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/~rdeibert/gloom.html>; Nicholas Eberstadt, "Population, Food, and Income: Global Trends in the Twentieth Century," in R. Bailey, ed., *The True State of the Planet* (New York: The Free Press, 1995): pp. 8-48.

Suggested

Julian Lincoln Simon, *The Ultimate Resource 2* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1996): pp. 3-17; 399-409; and 578-89; Templeton and Scherr, "Effects of Demographic and Related Microeconomic Change on Land Quality in Hills and Mountains of Developing Countries," *World Development*, vol.27, no.6, pp. 903-918.

13. Presentations – December 2

Readings

Hammond, Chapters 3, 4, 5; research notes from presenters

14. Presentations – December 9

Readings

Hammond, Chapters 16, 17, one of Chapters 10-15; research notes from presenters

Notes