

Department: Political Science  
Course Number: Political Science 5555  
Course Name: Environmental Politics and Policy

### **Objectives**

1. Give students a thematic overview of how policy systems have defined and addressed environmental issues. Including: What are Environmental politics? Is there an ecological crisis in the US or the world? And, what is being done politically to deal with environmental issues?

### Outcomes

1. Survey theoretical perspectives and apply them to environmental events within the US and the world.
2. Understand connections among important political and economic events and changes to US and global environmental politics and policy.
3. Understand the chief problems, actors, and structures of politics concerning environmental issues within the US and the world.

### Assignments that demonstrate accomplishment of this outcome:

1. Correct answers to multiple choice and matching questions, and short answer questions on exams. Answers require organized paragraphs, logical thought processes, and application of concepts to given scenarios.
2. In class quizzes over reading material, and in class assignments/activity for simulation/game playing/ etc to understand how governments function: look at “scorecard.com” and assess the environmental conditions for their home counties; find examples of environmental justice/injustice.
3. Regular précis on graduate student readings (classic articles and book chapters in Environmental Politics). The précis summarizes the reading and includes the student’s reaction and questions within 2 pages.

2. Develop critical thinking, effective speaking and writing skills, foster a global understanding of environmental politics and policy.

### Outcomes

1. Understand connections among important political and economic events and changes to US and global environmental politics and policy.
2. Students can communicate effectively.

### Assignments that demonstrate accomplishment of this outcome:

1. Correct answers to multiple choice and matching questions, and short answer questions on exams. Answers require organized paragraphs, logical thought processes, and application of concepts to given scenario
2. Student presentations: each student must present a 20-30 minute lecture over the topic of his/her final paper
3. Final paper: Students must write a 15-20 page final paper on a specific environmental politics issue within the US or the world. Organization, grammar, and proper citation/bibliography count.
5. Final exam for graduate students includes “comprehensive exam style questions” where they are expected to draw from the extra graduate student readings they did.