

Forestry 523
Forest and Environmental Policy – Governance for Sustainability
Term 1 2010-11
Wednesday 9-12
Forest Sciences Centre 1002

September 6, 2010 version

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This course focuses on the challenge of *governance for sustainability* – how to design institutions and policies to promote sustainable outcomes. This year the course focuses on *the puzzle of why governments have failed to act, or act effectively, to address the challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss despite compelling scientific evidence of the grave nature of the problem.*

In addressing this puzzle we will examine the following issues:

- The role of scientific knowledge in environmental policy-making, and the politicization of science
- The selection and design of policy instruments to promote sustainability
- The organization and influence of interest groups and social movements
- The political psychology of public attitudes towards environmental problems
- The distinctive governance challenge of global environmental issues
- The capacity of core political institutions to promote sustainability
- Federalism and interjurisdictional competition

For each of these issues, scholarly literature from political science and other social sciences will be used and then applied to climate change mitigation and the protection of species at risk. The geographical focus will be on Canada and the United States but the global context will also be considered.

The course is designed for graduate students in forestry, political science, geography, resource management, and planning. No specific background is required, although some knowledge of environmental and natural resource issues is expected.

The grade for the course will be allocated as follows:

- Short Paper (10%)
- Term Paper (60%)
- Class Participation (30%)

For the short paper, students will select one governance issue and locate it within the 3 dimensional conceptual framework of the course (no longer than 1000 words, due October 4). Term papers are 6000-7500 word research papers, and are due December 15. Students will choose one aspect of a

dimension of governance and apply it to a case study within the broad domain of environment and natural resource policy. Students must get instructor approval of term paper topics and outlines by October 31 at the latest. It is desirable, but not required, that students select an issue from within the domain of climate and species at risk policy.

The class participation mark will be based on the quantity and quality of the student's participation in class discussions, particularly their ability to analyze the readings critically. Verbal demonstration of an understanding of the content of the readings is necessary for a good class participation mark (B+ range). Ability to apply the concepts in the readings to the core issues of the course is necessary for a very good mark (A- range). Ability to critically evaluate and synthesize readings is necessary for an excellent or outstanding mark (A or A+). Students will also be required to present one of the "suggested" readings to the course during the term, and will be required to make a presentation on their term paper during the last week of term.

Preliminary Schedule of Readings and Topics as of September 6, 2010 (Subject to change depending on class size and other factors).

Week 1 (Sep 8) Overview – Introduction to Course

Week 2 (Sep 15) Framework for Governance Studies and Cases

- George Hoberg, "Governance," Report #07 in the Series on "Drivers of Change in Canada's Forests and Forest Sector", prepared for the Forest Futures Project of the SFM Network, January 2008. http://www.sfmnetwork.ca/docs/e/FF_Governance_Hoberg41708.pdf
- Lemos, Maria Carmen and Arun Agrawal, "Environmental Governance," *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* (2006) 31:297–325
- Jordan, Andrew, "The Governance of Sustainable Development: Taking Stock and Looking Forwards," *Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy* (2008) 26: 17-33.
- Richardson, Katherine. et al. *Climate Change: Global Risks, Challenges and Decisions. Synthesis report* University of Copenhagen: Copenhagen, Denmark, 2009 <http://climatecongress.ku.dk/pdf/synthesisreport>
- Convention on Biological Diversity, *Global Biodiversity Outlook 3*, Executive Summary, May 2010, <http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/gbo/gbo3-final-en.pdf>

Suggested:

- Oliver Treib, Holger Bahr, and Gerda Falkner, "Modes of governance: towards a conceptual clarification," *European Journal of Public Policy* (January 2007) 14: 1–20.

Week 3 (Sep 22) Science, Policy, and Governance

- Jasanoff, S. 1987. "Contested Boundaries in Policy Relevant Science." *Social Studies of Science* 17(2): 195-230
- Mike Hulme, *Why We Disagree about Climate Change*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009), Chapter 3.

- Chris Mooney, "Do Scientists Understand the Public?" American Academy of Arts and Sciences, June 2010. <http://www.amacad.org/pdfs/scientistsUnderstand.pdf>
- Holly Doremus, "Using Science in a Political World: The Importance of Transparency in Natural Resource Regulation"

Week 4 (Sep 29) Regulatory Dimension: Selecting and Designing Policy Instruments for Sustainability

- Mark Winfield, "Policy Instruments in Canadian Environmental Policy," in *Canadian Environmental Policy and Politics: Prospects for Leadership and Innovation*, Debora L. VanNijnatten and Robert Boardman, eds. Toronto: OUP Canada, 2010.
- Robert Stavins, "[Addressing Climate Change with a Comprehensive U.S. Cap-and-Trade System](#)," *The Oxford Review of Economic Policy* 24 (2) (2008): 298-321
- Mark Jaccard and Nic Rivers, "[Canadian Policies for Deep Greenhouse Reduction](#)," Canadian Priorities Agenda: Policy Choices to Improve Economic and Social Well-Being, Jeremy Leonard, Christopher Ragan and France St-Hilaire, eds. Ottawa: IRPP, 2008.

Suggested:

- George Hoberg and Kathryn Harrison, "It's Not Easy Being Green: The Politics of Canada's Green Plan," (co-authored with Kathryn Harrison) *Canadian Public Policy -- Analyse de Politiques*, XX (June 1994): 119-137.
- Roundtable on the Environment and the Economy, [Achieving 2050: A Carbon Pricing Policy for Canada](#). Ottawa, April 2009.

Week 5 (Oct 6) Political Dimension I – The Environmental Movement

- Sarah Pralle, *Branching Out, Digging In: Environmental Advocacy and Agenda-Setting*. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, 2006), chapters 1-5.
- Aaron M. McCright and Riley E. Dunlap, "Anti-reflexivity: The American Conservative Movement's Success in Undermining Climate Science and Policy," *Theory, Culture & Society* 27 (2010): 100-133.

Week 6 (Oct 13) Political Dimension II: Political Psychology and Public Attitudes

- American Psychological Association's Task Force on the Interface Between Psychology and Global Climate Change, *Psychology and Global Climate Change: Addressing a Multi-faceted Phenomenon and Set of Challenges*, August 2009, <http://www.apa.org/science/about/publications/climate-change.aspx>

Week 7: Political Dimension III (Oct 20) - Global Governance

- David G. Victor, "Toward Effective International Cooperation on Climate Change: Numbers, Interests and Institutions," *Global Environmental Politics* 6(3) (2006): 90-103.
- Peter M. Haas, "Climate Change Governance after Bali," *Global Environmental Politics* 8:3 (2008): 1-7
- Radoslav S. Dimitrov, "Inside Copenhagen: The State of Climate Governance," *Global*

Environmental Politics 10:2 (May 2010): 18-24

- Steven Bernstein and Michele Betsill, "A Tale of Two Copenhagens: Carbon Markets and Climate Governance," *Millennium: Journal of International Studies* 39(1) (2010): 161–173
- Robert Stavins and RC Stowe, "What Hath Copenhagen Wrought? A Preliminary Assessment," *Environment* 52 (3) (May/June 2010): 8-14.

http://www.hks.harvard.edu/fs/rstavins/Selected_Articles/Stavins_&_Stowe_Environment.pdf

Week 8: Political Dimension IV (Oct 27) - The capacity of core political institutions to promote sustainability

- Kathryn Harrison, "The Struggle of Ideas and Self-Interest in Canadian Climate Policy," in *Global Commons, Domestic Decisions: The Comparative Politics of Climate Change*, Kathryn Harrison and Lisa McIntosh Sundstrom, eds, (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2010).
- Kathryn Harrison, "The United States as Outlier: Economic and Institutional Challenges to US Climate Policy," in *Global Commons, Domestic Decisions*
- Amos, William, Kathryn Harrison and George Hoberg. (2001) In search of a minimum winning coalition: The politics of species at risk legislation in Canada. Pp. 137-166 in Karen Beazley and Robert Boardman (eds.), *Politics of the Wild*, Oxford University Press, Toronto.
- George Hoberg, "How the Way We Make Policy Governs the Policy We Make" Pp. 26-53 in Donald Alper and Debra Salazar (eds.), *Forging Truces in the War in the Woods: Sustaining the Forests of the Pacific Northwest.*, UBC Press, Vancouver, B.C.

Week 9 (Nov 3) Vertical Dimension - Federalism and Intergovernment Dynamics

- Nancy Olewiler, "Environmental Policy in Canada: Harmonized at the Bottom?" in *Racing to the Bottom? Provincial Interdependence in the Canadian Federation*, Kathryn Harrison, ed., (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2006).
- Vogel, David. 2000. "Environmental Regulation and Economic Integration." *Journal of International Economic Law* 3, no. 2: 267-279.
- Barry Rabe, "Governing the Climate from Sacramento"
- Douglas Macdonald, "The Failure of Canadian Climate Change Policy," in *Canadian Environmental Policy and Politics: Prospects for Leadership and Innovation*, Debora L. VanNijnatten and Robert Boardman, eds. Toronto: OUP Canada, 2010.
- George Hoberg and Stephanie Taylor, "Climate policy cost report casts light on the coming reckoning for [the Canadian federation](#)," GreenPolicyProf.org, October 31, 2009.

Week 10 (Nov 10) Implementation Failures

- Implementation literature reading
- Article on implementation of Endangered Species Act
- Failed implementation of Species at Risk Act

Week 11 (Nov 17) Reserved for topic that emerges from class dynamics

Week 12 (Nov 24) Student Presentations

Week 13 (Dec 1) Student Presentations