

**PA 481-Environmental Policy
Fall 2012**

**R. P. Harvill Bldg. Room 404.
Tu-Th: 2:00 -3:15 pm.**



Instructor: Professor Ramiro Berardo, PhD.

Office Location: Social Sciences Bl. 333

Office Hours: Tuesday 11:00 am-12:00 pm; Wednesday 1:00 pm-2:15 pm, and by appointment

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Course Description

This course provides a broad survey of the most commonly used policy approaches for addressing environmental problems. Prior to the 1990s, two types of policy approaches predominated in the U.S. – centralized planning and command and control regulation. Beginning in the 1990s, a variety of alternative policy approaches gained legitimacy, from local level collaborative planning and management, to markets and transparency processes.

After an introduction to concepts that will be used throughout the course, we will begin in-depth examinations of different policy approaches. First, we will examine market-based approaches. Private property rights and markets are viewed as efficient and non-coercive mechanisms for achieving resource sustainability, and for reducing environmental pollution. Market-based approaches include everything from governments defining private property rights in natural resources and in pollution, to the use of fees and taxes to reduce environmentally destructive behavior, to disclosure requirements so that consumers may make more environmentally friendly choices or interest groups may more readily hold corporations accountable for their environmental actions.

Second, we will consider community-based approaches whereby communities take environmental governance in their own hands (and in so doing will take a mini-detour to discuss policy-making in the U.S. federal system). This may take a variety of forms.

Collaboratives promote the active participation of citizens in planning processes, from identifying the environmental problems to be addressed, to the types of solutions that appear most workable. In other instances, resource users form local level governments that define and enforce regulations and that are directly accountable to the resource users. Markets and community-based approaches place decision making powers in the hands of individuals, groups, and corporations with the expectation that these actors will take environmentally sustainable actions if given the proper incentives.

Regional and national governments are experimenting with partnerships, the third approach we will examine. Partnerships are created among regional or national governments and local communities. This is no small task. Regional or national governments sometimes find it inconvenient, politically unpopular, or threatening to their authority to attempt to work with and be supportive of local-level communities' attempts to manage their natural resources. Nevertheless, without the support, cooperation and involvement of locals and communities, regional or national governments fail in their attempts to resolve environmental problems. We will examine conflicts between local and national governments and means of addressing those conflicts so that different levels of governments may better work together.

Finally, we will explore command and control or a government centered approach. Property rights are vested in the national government and the national government, through means of coercion and control, attempts to realize society's environmental values. While this form of environmental policy is not popular among corporations, a number of elected officials, some states and interest groups, it nevertheless forms the backbone of national environmental policies.

These approaches are not mutually exclusive. Often multiple approaches are used to address particular environmental problems. Also, governments play critical roles in each approach, even the market based ones. The goal of the class is for students to develop the critical capacity to identify appropriate approaches for solving specific environmental problems.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The course's website is anchored in D2L (Desire to Learn) at www.d2l.arizona.edu. There you will find access to the readings and materials for this course. **Please check the website DAILY** for changes and updates of this syllabus and other course-related material.

Course Requirements

- **Exams (45% of the final grade)**

You will take three exams. Each exam is worth 15% of the course grade. I use the exams as a means of testing your understanding of course readings. Keep in mind that in the classes I will present slides containing information that does not come directly from the books. ALL THE INFORMATION EXPOSED IN CLASS, PLUS WHAT'S IN THE READINGS, ARE TESTABLE MATERIALS.

- **Group Project (25% of the final grade)**

I will divide you into groups. Groups will select an item or good, such as a tire or a computer or a piece of clothing, etc., and identify: 1) the contents of the item, 2) the sources of the contents, 3) geographical locations of the sources, 4) the environmental impacts of producing, consuming and disposing of the item, 5) the treatment of the workers who produce the sources, contents, and item, and 6) actions that can be taken by governments and users to ensure that the production and use of the good does not negatively affect the environment. Groups will then make 25-minute class presentations on their findings. We'll spend some time in class talking about this project, and how it will be graded.

- **Critical book review (25% of the final grade)**

You will write a 3-4 page analysis of a book of your choosing on an environmental policy topic. By critical, I mean that you provide a brief summary of the book, the book's strengths and weaknesses, and how it compares to other books and articles on environmental policy. I will provide you with a list of books to choose from, instructions on how to write a critical book review, and an example. The book review is due at the end of the semester.

- **Attendance (5%)**

To do well in the class, you must attend. I will take attendance several times during the course of the semester. If you are absent in three or more meetings, you lose 5 points of the final grade. I take attendance at the beginning of the class, and if you are not there when I call your name, then you get a "miss". I cannot stress this enough: you have to be punctual!

Grading System

- A: 90 or more points.
- B: 80 to 89.99 points.
- C: 70 to 79.99 points.
- D: 60 to 69.99 points.
- E (failing grade): 59.99 or less points.

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations must be registered in the Disability Resources Center (DRC). If you have still not registered, please call 621-3268, or visit <http://drc.arizona.edu>. We will then work out the necessary accommodations for you in this class.

An Important Date

The last day to drop without a penalty grade is **September 16**. Starting on September 17, if you want to drop the class, I (the instructor) will need to sign a Change of Schedule form, and if you are failing the class, I'll give you a penalty grade ("E") THAT WILL APPEAR IN YOUR TRANSCRIPT.

Code of Academic Integrity

Students are expected to observe the rules contained in the Code of Academic Integrity (http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/codeofacademicintegrity/#prohibited_conduct). Please be aware that any form of cheating in exams or assignments will not be tolerated and will automatically result in a failing grade (E) for the course.

Student Code of Conduct

I will also hold you accountable for abiding by the University's Student Code of Conduct (http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/studentcodeofconduct#prohibited_conduct).

BOTTOM LINE: I do not tolerate cheating or academic misconduct OF ANY KIND.

On the use of electronic devices during class

If you do bring a laptop or tablet to class, please only use it for class purposes. If you do use the computer (or any other electronic device for that matter) for other than class purposes I will ask you to put it away and I will discount 5 points of your final grade, EVERY TIME THIS HAPPENS.

If you bring a phone to classroom, please turn it off before the class starts. If I catch you texting on a phone while the class is in progress, I will discount 10 points of your final grade, EVERY TIME THIS HAPPENS.

A further note on class manners.

I want to avoid disruptions and noise during our classes. Please do not talk during meetings when somebody else is talking, read newspapers, drift in to meetings late, or walk out early. If extraordinary circumstances require you leave early, please inform me before class begins and sit by the door. If you are late, please enter the room quietly, but don't make this a habit.

Course Schedule

August 21

Introduction: How to think about social-ecological systems

Review syllabus and discuss class themes

PART I – INTRODUCTION

August 23

Environmental Policy Making in the U.S.

Vaughn, Jacqueline. 2011. *Environmental Politics. Domestic and Global Dimensions* (6th edition). Chapter 3 (“The Political Process”). Available under the “content” tab in the blue navigation bar in D2L (look for the module “readings”).

August 28

The Tragedy of the Commons

Hardin, Garrett. 1968. “The Tragedy of the Commons.” *Science* 162: 1243-1248. Available under the “content” tab in the blue navigation bar in D2L (look for the module “readings”).

August 30

No Class.

Political scientists flee town to attend the American Political Science Association annual meeting

September 4

Responses to the Tragedy of the Commons

Ostrom, Elinor, et al. 1999. “Revisiting the Commons: Local Lessons, Global Challenges” *Science* 284 (5412):278-282. Available under the “content” tab in the blue navigation bar in D2L (look for the module “readings”).

Dietz, Thomas, Elinor Ostrom, and Paul Stern. 2003. “The Struggle to Govern the Commons” *Science* 302 (5652):1907-12. Available under the “content” tab in the blue navigation bar in D2L (look for the module “readings”).

September 6
Science and Knowledge in Environmental Policy Making

Service, Robert F. 2003. "Combat Biology on the Klamath" *Science* Vol. 300 (April 4):36-39. Available under the "content" tab in the blue navigation bar in D2L (look for the module "readings").

"Stalking the American Lobster" *The Atlantic Monthly* (April 2002), pp. 62-81. (available at <http://www.theatlantic.com/past/docs/issues/2002/04/corson.htm>)

September 11-13
Decisions and Values

Milinski, Manfred, et al. 2002. "Reputation Helps Solve the 'Tragedy of the Commons'" *Nature* 45:424-426. Available under the "content" tab in the blue navigation bar in D2L (look for the module "readings").

Stone, Deborah. 1988. "Equity" in *Policy Paradox. The Art of Political Decision Making*. New York, NY: W.W. Norton. Available under the "content" tab in the blue navigation bar in D2L (look for the module "readings").

September 18-20
Institutional Arrangements: Rules, Norms, and Property Rights

Schlager, Edella and Elinor Ostrom. 1992. "Common Property and Natural Resources: A Conceptual Analysis" *Land Economics* 68(3):249-262. Available at <http://econ.ucsb.edu/~tedb/Courses/Ec100C/Readings/OstromSchlager.pdf>

Coward, E. Walter. 1979. "Principles of Social Organization in an Indigenous Irrigation System" *Human Organization* 38(1):28-36. Available under the "content" tab in the blue navigation bar in D2L (look for the module "readings").

September 25
Exam #1

PART II – POLICY APPROACHES

September 27 -- Markets and the Environment

Heal, Geoffrey. 2000. "Basic Economics" in *Nature and the Marketplace. Capturing the Value of Ecosystem Services*. Island Press. Available under the "content" tab in the blue navigation bar in D2L (look for the module "readings").

October 2

Environmental Taxes and Fees

Hanson, Craig, and David Sandalow. 2006. "Greening the Tax Code" The Brookings Institute and the World Resources Institute Policy Brief. Available at http://pdf.wri.org/greening_the_tax_code.pdf

October 4

Information Disclosure Policies

Khanna, Madhu. 2007 "The US 33/50 Voluntary Program" in *Reality Check: the nature and performance of voluntary environmental programs*, edited by William A. Pizer. Washington, DC: Resources For the Future, pp.15-42. Available under the "content" tab in the blue navigation bar in D2L (look for the module "readings").

October 9-11

Tradeable Permits

EPA Acid Rain Program.

Acid Rain Program Fact Sheet. Available at

<http://www.epa.gov/airmarkets/progsregs/arp/basic.html>

Acid Rain Program Allowances Fact Sheet

<http://www.epa.gov/airmarkets/trading/factsheet.html>

October 16-18

Command-and-Control (I): EPA and Groundlevel Ozone.

EPA "How We Write Regulations: An Online Brochure"

<http://www.epa.gov/lawsregs/brochure/index.html> Read entire brochure by clicking on sections on the right of the page.

Bernstein, Mark, and David Whitman. 2005. "Smog Alert: The Challenges of Battling Ozone Pollution" *Environment* 47(8): 28-41. Available under the "content" tab in the blue navigation bar in D2L (look for the module "readings").

EPA. 2010. National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone. Proposed Rule. Federal Register 75(11): 2938-2946. Available at: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2010-01-19/pdf/2010-340.pdf>

Background Information:

EPA's website for ozone pollution:
<http://www.epa.gov/air/ozonepollution/index.html>

October 23

Exam #2

October 25-30

Environmental Policy and Federalism

Birkland, Thomas, and Sarah Waterman. 2008. "Is Federalism the Reason for Policy Failure in Hurricane Katrina?" *Publius* 38(4):692-714. Available at <http://cstl-cla.semo.edu/wmiller/ps691/Birkland%20and%20Waterman.pdf>

Rabe, Barry G. 2011. "American Federalism in Practice." In *Navigating Climate Change Policy* (edited by Edella Schlager). Tucson, AZ: The University of Arizona Press.

Carlson, Ann. E. 2009. "Iterative Federalism and Climate Change." UCLA School of Law Research Paper No. 08-09. Available for download at http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1115556

November 1

Collaborative Partnerships in Fragmented Decision-making Settings

Lubell, Mark, et al. 2009. "Collaborative Watershed Partnerships in the Epoch of Sustainability". In *Towards Sustainable Communities*, edited by Daniel Mazmanian and Michael Kraft. MIT Press. Available under the "content" tab in the blue navigation bar in D2L (look for the module "readings").

Klamath Watershed Partnership <http://www.klamathpartnership.org/index.html> Read "Who is the Klamath Watershed Partnership", and "Programs".

Upper San Pedro Partnership.

<http://www.usppartnership.com/docs/AboutthePartnership.pdf>

November 6-8
Community Based Management

Meadowcroft, James. 2004. "Deliberative Democracy" in *Environmental Governance Reconsidered: Challenges, Choices, and Opportunities*. Edited by Robert Durant, Dan Fiorino and Rosemary O'Leary. MIT Press. Available under the "content" tab in the blue navigation bar in D2L (look for the module "readings").

Margerum, Richard D., and Stephen Born. 1995. "Integrated Environmental Management: Moving from Theory to Practice." *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management* 38(3):371-391. Available under the "content" tab in the blue navigation bar in D2L (look for the module "readings").

Pretty, Jules. 2003. "Social Capital and the Collective Management of Resources." *Science* Vol. 302 (December 12): 1912-1914. Available at <http://foehn.colorado.edu/nome/HARC/Readings/Pretty.pdf>

Acheson, James, and Jennifer Brewer. 2003 "Changes in the Territorial System of the Maine Lobster Industry" in *The Commons in the New Millennium*. Edited by Nives Dolsak and Elinor Ostrom. Cambridge MA: The MIT Press, pp.37-60. Available under the "content" tab in the blue navigation bar in D2L (look for the module "readings").

November 13
Presentations groups 1 & 2

November 15
Presentations groups 3 & 4

November 20
Presentations groups 5 & 6

November 22
"Swallow-a-Turkey Day" (No Class)

November 27

Presentations groups 7 & 8

November 29

Presentations groups 9 & 10

The Critical Book Review is due today!!

December 4

Exam #3