

Course Syllabus

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Political Science 304: Environmental Politics and Policy

Course Description: Examine influences on environmental laws and policies. Topics include public opinion, environmental organizations, state-federal governance, and development of specific policies.

Credits: 3

GEP: Social Science; Environmental Responsibility

Prerequisite(s): None

There are no formal requirements for the course. I do assume high school level knowledge of U.S. government. This would encompass knowing basics about the three branches of the federal government, separation of powers and 'checks and balances,' and how a bill becomes a law.

Instructor Information

Instructor: Brad Martins

Office: D333 Science Building

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00pm-3:00pm

E-mail: bmapesma@uwsp.edu (<mailto:bmapesma@uwsp.edu>)

Expected Instructor Response Times

For simple issues (e.g., assignment clarifications, due dates, scheduling meetings), I will attempt to respond to student emails within one business day. During busy parts of the semester such as around midterm exams or during registration it may take me slightly longer. If you have a question that requires a lengthy answer, I may request that you speak with me (in-person or electronically). You are always welcome to ask questions at the beginning or end of class periods as well.

Textbook & Course Materials

Required Text: Available through UWSP Text Rental.

Vig, Norman, Michael Kraft, and Barry Rabe. 2022. *Environmental Policy: New Directions for the Twenty-First Century, 11th ed.* Thousand Oaks, California: Sage Publications.

ISBN: 978-1-5443-7801-5

Other Materials: All other materials will be provided through Canvas.

Course Learning Outcomes

Students will identify important examples and explain how ...

- *Explain how informal features of the political process shape what environmental policies are implemented and how.*
- *Explain how formal features of the political process shape what environmental policies are implemented and how.*

GEP - Social Science (SS) Learning Outcomes
1. Explain or apply major concepts, methods, or theories used in the social sciences to investigate, analyze, or predict human behavior.
2. Examine and explain how social, cultural, or political institutions influence individuals or groups.
GEP - Environmental Responsibility (ER) Learning Outcomes
1. Identify interactions between human society and the natural environment.
2. Analyze the individual, social, cultural, and ecological factors that influence environmental sustainability.
3. Evaluate competing claims that inform environmental debates.

Course Schedule

Week	Dates	Module
1	09.02 - 09.03	Course introduction
2	09.06 - 09.10	Regulating environmental problems
3	09.13 - 09.17	Political bases of environmental policy
4	09.20 - 09.24	Public opinion on environmental issues
5	09.27 - 10.01	Public opinion on environmental issues (continued)

6	10.04 - 10.08	Interest groups' influence on environmental policy
7	10.11 - 10.15	Exam - Unit 1
8	10.18 - 10.22	Institutions and environmental policy: legislation
9	10.25 - 10.29	Institutions and environmental policy: executive agencies
10	11.01 - 11.05	Institutions and environmental policy: executive agencies (continued)
11	11.08 - 11.12	Institutions and environmental policy: courts
12	11.15 - 11.19	Institutions and environmental policy: states
13	11.22 - 11.24	Exam - Unit 2
14	11.29 - 12.03	Areas of Environmental Policy
15	12.06 - 12.10	Areas of Environmental Policy
16	<u>Section 304-01</u> 12.16 @ 10:15am-12:15pm <u>Section 304-02</u> 12.13 @ 2:45pm-4:45pm	Final Exam Period

Grading Policy

Assignment	Quantity	Points per Assignment	Subtotal
Class Participation	cumulative	60	60
Quizzes	2	25 + 25	50
Analyses	2	45 + 45	90
Policy Memo	2	100 + 100	250
Exams	2	100 + 150	250
		Total	700

A	700-651	B+	630-611	C+	560-541	D+	490-456
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A-	650-631	B-	610-581	C-	540-511	D-	455-421
		B-	580-561	C-	510-491	F-	420-0

Student Expectations

In this course you will be expected to complete the following types of tasks.

- communicate via email
- complete basic internet searches
- download and upload documents to the LMS
- read documents online
- view online videos
- participate in online discussions
- complete quizzes/tests online
- upload documents to Canvas to submit an assignment
- participate in synchronous online discussions

Expectations for Student Communication

All communication with the instructor or with other students is to be formal and professional. This means writing in Standard English with appropriate grammar and correct spelling. You are also expected to maintain a civil tone in your classroom communications.

Complete Assignments

All assignments for this course will be submitted electronically through Canvas unless otherwise instructed. Assignments must be submitted by the given deadline or special permission must be requested from instructor *before the due date*. Extensions will not be given beyond the next assignment except under extreme circumstances.

All discussion assignments must be completed by the assignment due date and time. Late or missing discussion assignments will affect the student's grade.

Late Work Policy

Pay close attention to deadlines—there will be no make-up assignments or quizzes, or late work accepted without a serious and compelling reason and instructor approval.

Technology

Protecting your Data and Privacy

UW-System approved tools meet security, privacy, and data protection standards. For a list of approved tools, visit this website. <https://www.wisconsin.edu/dle/external-application-integration-requests/> (<https://www.wisconsin.edu/dle/external-application-integration-requests/>)

Tools not listed on the website linked above may not meet security, privacy, and data protection standards. If you have questions about tools, contact the UWSP IT Service Desk at 715-346-4357.

Here are steps you can take to protect your data and privacy.

- Use different usernames and passwords for each service you use.
- Do not use your UWSP username and password for any other services.
- Use secure versions of websites whenever possible (HTTPS instead of HTTP).
- Have updated antivirus software installed on your devices.

Course Technology Requirements

- View this website to see [minimum recommended computer and internet configurations for Canvas](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10721) (<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10721>).
- You will also need access to the following tools to participate in this course.
 - webcam
 - microphone
 - printer
 - a stable internet connection (don't rely on cellular)

UWSP Technology Support

Visit with a [Student Technology Tutor](https://www.uwsp.edu/tlc/Pages/techTutoring.aspx) (<https://www.uwsp.edu/tlc/Pages/techTutoring.aspx>)

Seek assistance from the [IT Service Desk](https://www.uwsp.edu/infotech/Pages/ServiceDesk/default.aspx)

(<https://www.uwsp.edu/infotech/Pages/ServiceDesk/default.aspx>) (Formerly HELP Desk)

- IT Service Desk Phone: 715-346-4357 (HELP)
- IT Service Desk Email: techhelp@uwsp.edu (<mailto:techhelp@uwsp.edu>)

University Policies

Understand When You May Drop This Course

It is the student's responsibility to understand when they need to consider unenrolling from a course. Refer to the UWSP [Academic Calendar](https://www.uwsp.edu/regrec/Pages/calendars.aspx) [_\(https://www.uwsp.edu/regrec/Pages/calendars.aspx\)](https://www.uwsp.edu/regrec/Pages/calendars.aspx) for dates and deadlines for registration. After this period, a serious and compelling reason is required to drop from the course. Serious and compelling reasons includes: (1) documented and significant change in work hours, leaving student unable to attend class, or (2) documented and severe physical/mental illness/injury to the student or student's family.

Inform Your Instructor of Any Accommodations Needed

If you have a documented disability and verification from the [Disability and Assistive Technology Center](https://www.uwsp.edu/datc/Pages/default.aspx) [_\(https://www.uwsp.edu/datc/Pages/default.aspx\)](https://www.uwsp.edu/datc/Pages/default.aspx) and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact your instructor as soon as possible. It is the student's responsibility to provide documentation of disability to Disability Services and meet with a Disability Services counselor to request special accommodation *before* classes start.

The Disability and Assistive Technology Center is located in 609 Albertson Hall and can be contacted by phone at (715) 346-3365 (Voice) (715) 346-3362 (TDD only) or via email at datctr@uwsp.edu [_\(mailto:datctr@uwsp.edu\)](mailto:datctr@uwsp.edu).

Statement of Policy

UW-Stevens Point will modify academic program requirements as necessary to ensure that they do not discriminate against qualified applicants or students with disabilities. The modifications should not affect the substance of educational programs or compromise academic standards; nor should they intrude upon academic freedom. Examinations or other procedures used for evaluating students' academic achievements may be adapted. The results of such evaluation must demonstrate the student's achievement in the academic activity, rather than describe his/her disability.

If modifications are required due to a disability, please inform the instructor and contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center in 609 ALB, or (715) 346-3365.

UWSP Academic Honesty Policy & Procedures

Student Academic Disciplinary Procedures

UWSP 14.01 Statement of principles

The board of regents, administrators, faculty, academic staff and students of the university of Wisconsin system believe that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental to the mission of higher education and of the university of Wisconsin system. The university has a responsibility to promote academic honesty and integrity and to develop procedures to deal effectively with instances of academic dishonesty. Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors. Students who violate these standards must be confronted and must accept the consequences of their actions.

UWSP 14.03 Academic misconduct subject to disciplinary action.

(1) Academic misconduct is an act in which a student:

- (a) Seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization or citation;
- (b) Uses unauthorized materials or fabricated data in any academic exercise;
- (c) Forges or falsifies academic documents or records;
- (d) Intentionally impedes or damages the academic work of others;
- (e) Engages in conduct aimed at making false representation of a student's academic performance; or
- (f) Assists other students in any of these acts.

(2) Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to: cheating on an examination; collaborating with others in work to be presented, contrary to the stated rules of the course; submitting a paper or assignment as one's own work when a part or all of the paper or assignment is the work of another; submitting a paper or assignment that contains ideas or research of others without appropriately identifying the sources of those ideas; stealing examinations or course materials; submitting, if contrary to the rules of a course, work previously presented in another course; tampering with the laboratory experiment or computer program of another student; knowingly and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above, including assistance in an arrangement whereby any work, classroom performance, examination or other activity is submitted or performed by a person other than the student under whose name the work is submitted or performed.

FERPA

The [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act](https://www.uwsp.edu/regrec/Pages/ferpa.aspx) (FERPA) provides students with a right to protect, review, and correct their student records. Staff of the university with a clear *educational need to know* may also have to access to certain student records. Exceptions to the law include parental notification in cases of alcohol or drug use, and in case of a health or safety concern. FERPA also permits a school to disclose personally identifiable information





from a student's education records, without consent, to another school in which the student seeks or intends to enroll.













Lecture materials and recordings for 'Political Science 304: Environmental Politics and Policy' are protected intellectual property at UW-Stevens Point. Students in this course may use the materials and recordings for their personal use related to participation in this class. Students may also take notes solely for their personal use. If a lecture is not already recorded, you are not authorized to record my lectures without my permission unless you are considered by the university to be a qualified student with a disability requiring accommodation. Students may not copy or share lecture materials and recordings outside of class, including posting on internet sites or selling to commercial entities. Students are also prohibited from providing or selling their personal notes to anyone else or being paid for taking notes by any person or commercial firm without the instructor's express written permission. Unauthorized use of these copyrighted lecture materials and recordings constitutes copyright infringement and may be addressed under the university's policies, UWS Chapters 14 and 17, governing student academic and non-academic misconduct.

Religious Beliefs

Relief from any academic requirement due to religious beliefs will be accommodated according to UWS 22.03, with notification within the first three weeks of class.

Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Thu Sep 2, 2021	 INSTRUCTIONS: Course Introduction	to do: 11:59pm
Tue Sep 7, 2021	 INSTRUCTIONS: Regulating Environmental Problems	to do: 11am
Sun Sep 19, 2021	 ANALYSIS: Political Bases of Environmental Policy (https://uwstp.instructure.com/courses/437251/assignments/3716049)	due by 11:59pm
Tue Sep 21, 2021	 INSTRUCTIONS: Public Opinion on Environmental Issues	to do: 11am

Date	Details	Due
Tue Sep 28, 2021	 INSTRUCTIONS: Public Opinion on Environmental Issues (continued)	to do: 11am
Sun Oct 3, 2021	 WRITE: Policy Memo 1 https://uwstp.instructure.com/courses/437251/assignments/3716064	due by 11:59pm
	 ANALYSIS: Political Opportunity https://uwstp.instructure.com/courses/437251/assignments/3716054	
	 EXAM: Formal Factors in Environmental Policy https://uwstp.instructure.com/courses/437251/assignments/3716053	
	 EXAM: Informal Factors in Environmental Policy https://uwstp.instructure.com/courses/437251/assignments/3716056	
	 EXTRA CREDIT: Divestment https://uwstp.instructure.com/courses/437251/assignments/3716057	
	 EXTRA CREDIT: Interest Groups https://uwstp.instructure.com/courses/437251/assignments/3716050	
	 EXTRA CREDIT: Public Opinion https://uwstp.instructure.com/courses/437251/assignments/3716052	
	 QUIZ: Institutions and Environmental Policy - Legislation https://uwstp.instructure.com/courses/437251/assignments/3716051	
	 QUIZ: Other Considerations https://uwstp.instructure.com/courses/437251/assignments/3716055	
	 Roll Call Attendance https://uwstp.instructure.com/courses/437251/assignments/3889348	
	 WRITE: Policy Memo 2 https://uwstp.instructure.com/courses/437251/assignments/3716065	