

Course Syllabus

[Jump to Today](#)

 [Edit](#)

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 civics knowledge. 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

Virtual Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:00pm-2:00pm (and by appointment)

Zoom URL: <https://uwsp.zoom.us/j/95880801533?pwd=MDBzR0EzS2RWb1ZJeFJZdyszWGI5dz09> (<https://uwsp.zoom.us/j/95880801533?pwd=MDBzR0EzS2RWb1ZJeFJZdyszWGI5dz09>)

Meeting ID: 958 8080 1533

Passcode: 740458

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

Expected Instructor Response Times

I will attempt to respond to student emails within 24 hours. If you have not received a reply from me within 24 hours please resend your email. I will attempt to reply to and assess student discussion posts within 48 hours of discussions closing. I will attempt to grade written work within 7 days. However, longer written assignments may take me longer to read and assess.

Textbook & Course Materials

Required Text: Available through UWSP Text Rental.

Norman Vig, Michael Kraft, and Barry Rabe (editors). *Environmental Policy: New Directions for the Twenty-First Century, 11th ed.* Los Angeles: Sage Publications, 2022.

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.*

Course Schedule

Week	Module
1	Course Information
2	Introduction to Environmental Politics
3	Public Opinion
4	Public Opinion
5	Interest Groups
6	Interest Groups
7	Unit 1 Exam
8	Legislative Branch
9	Legislative Branch
10	Executive Branch
11	Executive Branch
12	Other Considerations
13	Other Considerations

14	Unit 2 Exam
15	Areas of Environmental Policy
16	Areas of Environmental Policy

Grading Policy

Assignment	Quantity	Points per Assignment	Subtotal
Quizzes/Discussions	6	25	150
Analysis	2	75 + 25	100
Policy Memos	2	100	200
Exams	2	100 + 150	250
		Total	700

A	700-651	B+	630-611	C+	560-541	D+	490-456
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.

The following guidelines for email messages should be followed to ensure the fastest, most useful response to your communications:

1. Include the course number you are writing about at the beginning of the subject line. [**Example:** "POLI 304: Subject of message"]
2. Include the 'main point' of your message in the subject line. [**Example:** "POLI 304: Assignment clarification" or "POLI 304: Meeting about quiz grade"]
3. The body of your message should clearly state what you are writing about. Don't worry about niceties; get straight to the point!
4. Always include both your first and last name. If you are writing regarding an administrative issue you should also include your student identification number. If you are in doubt about whether you are asking about something administrative, include your student identification number just in case.

You are also expected to maintain a civil tone in your classroom communications, whether written, audio, or video.

During virtual class discussions, your camera must be turned on. All video communication must include appropriate attire and background images.

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.

NOTE: *If your assignment is late, just because a dropbox in Canvas allows you to upload it does **NOT** mean it will be graded.*

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.

Honorlock (Online Exam Proctoring)

I will be using Honorlock to proctor your exams this semester. Honorlock is an online proctoring service that allows you to take your exam from the comfort of your home. You DO NOT need to create an account, download software or schedule an appointment in advance. Honorlock is available 24/7 and all that is needed is a computer, a working webcam, and a stable Internet connection.

Before you get started, please review the Honorlock Student module in Canvas to familiarize yourself with Honorlock. All exam proctoring services, including Honorlock, can seem invasive because of the way they function. Honorlock will record your webcam, audio, and computer screen during your exam to help ensure integrity of the course for all users. Honorlock has been vetted and approved by both UW-Stevens Point and UW System, to ensure that it meets security and privacy requirements.

If you have concerns, please contact me directly.

To get started, you will need Google Chrome and to download the Honorlock Chrome Extension. You can download the extension at www.honorlock.com/extension/install.
(<http://www.honorlock.com/extension/install>)

You are strongly encouraged to take the Honorlock Practice Quiz before attempting any graded exams. The Honorlock Practice Quiz will allow you to test Honorlock to ensure you are comfortable using the system and to ensure that your computer will function properly.

When you are ready to test, log into Canvas, go to your course, and click on your exam. Clicking "Launch Proctoring" will begin the Honorlock authentication process, where you will take a picture of yourself, show your ID, and complete a scan your room. Honorlock will be recording your exam session by webcam as well as recording your screen. Honorlock also has an integrity algorithm that can detect search-engine use, so please do not attempt to search for answers, even if it's on a secondary device. Good luck!

Honorlock support is available 24/7/365. If you encounter any issues, you may contact them by live chat, phone (844-243-2500), and/or email (support@honorlock.com).

If you encounter issues with Canvas, please contact Canvas Support directly by clicking the Help Button (question mark inside a circle) located at the bottom of the left navigation bar in Canvas.

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>) 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.

Equal Access and Disability Accommodations

If you have a condition that may impact your learning and/or participation in course activities, please contact the **Disability Resource Center** (<https://www.uwsp.edu/disability-resource-center/>) (DRC). The DRC will engage in an interactive process with students and identify appropriate academic accommodations and auxiliary services in accordance with the University's legal obligations. Instructors, students, and DRC staff work collaboratively to establish any necessary adjustments or supports. Accommodations are rarely applied retroactively so it is vital that students make timely requests.

Please let me know if you have any questions. The DRC is located in 108 Collins Classroom Center and can be reached at 715/346-3365 and drc@uwsp.edu (<mailto:drc@uwsp.edu>).

UWSP Academic Honesty Policy & Procedures

****Any detection of the use of ChatGPT for assistance will be considered academic misconduct for the sake of this course.****

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.

Intellectual Property.









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
Sun Sep 10, 2023	 <u>Introducing Yourself</u> (https://uws.instructure.com/courses/610904/assignments/6527606)	due by 5pm
	 <u>INSTRUCTIONS: Introduction to Course</u>	to do: 5pm
Sun Sep 17, 2023	 <u>DISCUSSION: Regulating Environmental Problems</u> (https://uws.instructure.com/courses/610904/assignments/6527608)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Sep 24, 2023	 <u>DISCUSSION: How Environmental Problems Become Environmental Politics</u> (https://uws.instructure.com/courses/610904/assignments/6527609)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Oct 1, 2023	 <u>EXTRA CREDIT: Public Opinion</u> (https://uws.instructure.com/courses/610904/assignments/6527601)	due by 11:59pm
	 <u>WRITE: Policy Memo 1</u> (https://uws.instructure.com/courses/610904/assignments/6527611)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Oct 8, 2023	 <u>ANALYSIS 1: Environmental Interest Groups</u> (https://uws.instructure.com/courses/610904/assignments/6527599)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Oct 15, 2023	 <u>ANALYSIS 2: Political Opportunity</u> (https://uws.instructure.com/courses/610904/assignments/6527588)	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	Due
Sun Oct 22, 2023	 <u>EXTRA CREDIT: Interest Groups</u> https://uws.instructure.com/courses/610904/assignments/6527591	due by 11:59pm
Sun Oct 22, 2023	 <u>EXAM: Informal Factors in Environmental Policy</u> https://uws.instructure.com/courses/610904/assignments/6527604	due by 11:59pm
Sun Nov 5, 2023	 <u>QUIZ: Legislative Branch</u> https://uws.instructure.com/courses/610904/assignments/6527593	due by 11:59pm
Sun Nov 19, 2023	 <u>DISCUSSION: Environmental Policymaking in an Era of Gridlock</u> https://uws.instructure.com/courses/610904/assignments/6527607	due by 11:59pm
Sun Nov 19, 2023	 <u>INSTRUCTIONS: The Executive Branch in Environmental Policymaking-2</u>	to do: 11:59pm
Sun Dec 3, 2023	 <u>QUIZ: Other Considerations</u> https://uws.instructure.com/courses/610904/assignments/6527605	due by 11:59pm
Sun Dec 3, 2023	 <u>INSTRUCTIONS: Other Considerations-2</u>	to do: 11:59pm
Sun Dec 10, 2023	 <u>EXAM: Formal Factors in Environmental Policy</u> https://uws.instructure.com/courses/610904/assignments/6527596	due by 11:59pm
Thu Dec 21, 2023	 <u>WRITE: Policy Memo 2</u> https://uws.instructure.com/courses/610904/assignments/6527612	due by 11:59pm