Global Climate Governance

PLSC 142 01 (12629)/PLSC 676 01 (14081)/EVST 143 01 (12630)

Fall 2017

Professor Detlef F. Sprinz, Ph.D.

Purpose and Contents

This seminar provides an overview of global climate governance, incl. overarching conceptual frameworks, a variety of empirical subdomains, interlinkages with other policy fields, and central challenges encountered in global climate governance. Using a portfolio approach to examinations, students will prepare a range of individual and group assignments throughout the semester.

Logistics

Time & Location: Tuesdays, 9:25-11:15 am, Rosenkranz 102 (for exceptions and changes: →Course Overview & announcements on →Canvas)

Prerequisites: M.A. or Ph.D. student status in Political Science or related discipline; undergraduates: preference given to students with relevant prior courses in international relations, comparative politics, environmental policy, and/or environmental economics

Course Registration: Student Information Systems →http://sfas.yale.edu/sis

Deadline for Dropping the Course: → http://catalog.yale.edu/ycps/calendar (for undergraduates: 11-13 Sept. 2017, depending on student status)

Capacity: 18 students (permission of instructor required).

Credit Points: 3

Course website: Canvas →https://canvas.yale.edu

Contact Details:

detlef.sprinz@yale.edu (include “GCG Fall 2017” in the subject line)
www.sprinz.org
Office Hours: Tuesdays: 11:30am-12:15 pm
Wednesdays: 1:45-2:30 pm
Rosenkranz Hall, room 334
Please book via →Canvas→Calendar→Scheduler

Administrative Assistant: Ms. Sophie Gottfried (sophie.gottfried@yale.edu)
Learning Goals

Knowledge
Students will:
- gain an overview of theoretical concepts and empirical domains of global climate governance and
- understand the strategic challenges in managing long-term climate policy challenges.

Skills
Students will undertake a range of assignments, both individually and in small groups. In particular, they will broaden their skills basis by
- introducing the class to two mandatory readings,
- defending or rejecting a central tenet of global climate governance, and
- responding to a central and hitherto unsolved global climate policy challenge.

Competences
Students will:
- apply a range of concepts and methods to generic global climate governance challenges,
- diagnose as well as propose remedies for long-term environmental climate challenges, and
- work individually as well as in groups on a diverse set of assignments.

Code of Conduct

All students are assumed to be familiar with and will abide by the rules of proper academic conduct as specified by Yale University and its academic programs and schools (→http://catalog.yale.edu/undergraduate-regulations/policies/definitions-plagiarism-cheating). You are expected to undertake all your individual assignments independently. For group assignments, resulting products shall be authored exclusively by all group members (with individual components clearly marked).

Select students appear to have fallen in love with around-the-clock connectivity and social media. During our seminar sessions, I expect you to concentrate on this course.

All personal information that you encounter in conjunction with this course or on Canvas shall be exclusively used for course-related purposes.

If you have registered with the Resource Office on Disabilities (→http://rod.yale.edu/student-information), please inform the instructor, via email, no later than the last day for adding courses.

In case observation of religious obligations interferes with academic deadlines, please notify the instructor well ahead of the deadline.
Course Requirements and Grading

Students are expected to attend all classes and read the required readings before class so as to allow for informed discussions.

This course comprises a portfolio of assignments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oral Participation throughout the course</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment #1: Memo &amp; oral presentation of one journal article, paper, or chapter</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment #2: Memo &amp; oral presentation of one journal article, paper, or chapter</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment #3: Parliamentary debate (individual)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment #4: Solutions to a Specific Global Climate Policy Challenge (individual or group assignment - depending on student status; video, Q&amp;A, and paper)</td>
<td>40%</td>
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Course Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment or Remarks</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>05 Sep. 2017</td>
<td>9:25-11:15 am</td>
<td>Course Overview (instructor) &amp; The Science of Climate Change</td>
<td>Guest Lecture: Dr. Galina Churkina (Yale School of Forestry &amp; Environmental Studies): Natural Science Foundations of Climate Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>12 Sep. 2017</td>
<td>9:25-11:15 am</td>
<td>Climate Change as a Long-Term Policy Challenge</td>
<td>Students will play a long-term policy game, Assignment #1</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>19 Sep. 2017</td>
<td>9:25-11:15 am</td>
<td>Global Climate Negotiations: History</td>
<td>Assignment #1</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>26 Sep. 2017</td>
<td>9:25-11:15 am</td>
<td>Actors I: Countries</td>
<td>Assignment #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>03 Oct. 2017</td>
<td>9:25-11:15 am</td>
<td>Actors II: Non-State Actors</td>
<td>Assignment #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>10 Oct. 2017</td>
<td>8:30-10:20 am</td>
<td>Compliance &amp; Implementation</td>
<td>Assignment #2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>24 Oct. 2017</td>
<td>9:25-11:15 am</td>
<td>no class</td>
<td>Assignment #2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>07 Nov. 2017</td>
<td>9:25-11:15 am</td>
<td>Compensation/Loss &amp; Damage</td>
<td>Assignment #2 Assignment #3: Assignment to pro vs. con groups</td>
</tr>
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<td>10</td>
<td>14 Nov. 2017</td>
<td>9:25-11:15 am</td>
<td>Modeling Global Climate Negotiations, incl. Climate Clubs</td>
<td>Assignment #2 Assignment #4: Suggested Topics will be announced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>29 Nov. 2017</td>
<td>5:10-7:00 pm, Rosenkranz 06</td>
<td>Parliamentary Debate: &quot;Do global climate negotiations 'prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate&quot;</td>
<td>Assignment #3: Parliamentary Debate</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>28 Nov. 2017</td>
<td>9:25-11:15 am</td>
<td>Climate Policy and Trade Guest Lecture: Prof. Michaël Aklin (University of Pittsburgh, via video)</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>05 Dec. 2017</td>
<td>9:25-11:15 am</td>
<td>Solutions to Specific Climate Policy Challenge</td>
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Textbook & Readings:


All readings can be found on → Canvas, incl. the → Course Reserves.

Assignments

Assignments will be posted to → Canvas well ahead of the deadline. Submission deadlines are indicated on the → Course Overview.

When composing your individual or group papers, your emphasis is not on reviewing the material covered in the required readings; it is assumed that you have read it. Read the instructions carefully (!), build on the required readings, and innovate in a way not found in the required readings. Leave the reader with the impression that your ideas (either individual or as a group) have been carefully chosen and could be expanded upon in a longer research paper. Please note that keeping it short is the art of structuring one’s mind and concentrating on the main points rather than on peripheral considerations. It is more difficult to write a convincing short paper than a long paper!

All papers include your student ID number(s), assignment number (see overview), and word count on the first page. At a minimum, leave one inch margins from all four edges of letter-sized sheets. Footnotes shall be kept to a minimum. All text is 1.5-spaced, 11-12 point font. Paper length will be strictly enforced (the word count includes literally everything). Papers shall be submitted – in PDF format – via → Canvas by the due date and time (→ Assignment). Extensions will be granted only under extraordinary circumstances, following written petition to the instructor (graduate students) or college dean (undergraduate students).

For proper citation, please consult [http://ctl.yale.edu/writing/using-sources](http://ctl.yale.edu/writing/using-sources).
In case of group assignments, all author ID numbers have to be listed, including a short description who contributed what.

In case you cannot submit assignments due to medical reasons, you must submit an medical doctor’s certificate to the instructor (graduate students) or college dean (undergraduate students).

The allocation of individual students into groups is at the discretion of the instructor.

Individual Assignments will be posted to →Canvas and are outlined below.

**Assignments #1 & #2: Introducing the Readings**

Sign up for a specific reading via →Canvas. Please compose a max. 500 word paper reflecting on the central arguments of the reading, a critique thereof, and conclude with a lead question for the class. Submit the short paper no later than the Sunday preceding its presentation to →Canvas. In class, please introduce your short paper in a couple of minutes and conclude with the lead question to start the group discussion.

**Assignment #3: Parliamentary Debate**

Follow the UNFCCC negotiations and related side events at Bonn, 6-17 Nov. 2017 (e.g., remotely). Prepare a short memo to yourself for a frontbench Parliamentary discussion (Canadian style) on the merits on “Do global climate negotiations - such as those at Bonn, 6-17 Nov. 2017 - “prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system”?"

The discussion will be fact-based and be backed up by relevant academic knowledge. The Speaker (instructor) will maintain the peace of the House, enforce academic standards and procedural rules, and evaluates your scholastic contribution. Every student will prepare a 500 word memo of his or her position and submit it to the instructor and share it with her or his side of the front bench. Each student is entitled to a 3 minute statement alternating across the pro and the con front benches, plus rebuttals by the opposite side of the bench.

Assignment to the two groups taking the pro and the con position is at the discretion of the instructor.

**Assignments #4: Solutions for Long-Term Climate Policy Challenges: Video, Q&A, Paper**

A range of indicative enduring challenges will be made available no later than 07 Nov. 2017, yet you will be free to propose any comparable long-term climate policy challenge you wish to pursue. Please submit a (max.) one page proposal (ungraded) by 13 Nov. 2017 and book (as a group) a slot for consultation on 14-15 Nov. 2017, time t.b.d. Please produce a ca. 5-10 minute group video, which presents your solutions. The Q&A session on your solutions will provide feedback on 05 Dec. 2017. The final paper is due on 17 Dec. 2017.
Modules

Module 1: Course Overview (instructor) & The Science of Climate Change

Course Overview


**Guest Lecture:** Dr. Galina Churkina (Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies): *Natural Science Foundations of Climate Change*

Module 2: Climate Change as a Long-Term Policy Challenge


Module 3: Global Climate Negotiations: History


Watch the videos:

Module 4: Actors I: Countries


Module 5: Actors II: Non-State Actors


Module 6: Compliance & Implementation


Module 7: Effective Climate Governance?


Module 8: Compensation/Loss & Damage

Swiss Re. 2014. sigma Natural Catastrophes And Man-Made Disasters in 2013: Large Losses From Floods and Hail; Haiyan Hits the Philippines, Zurich: Swiss Re, esp. 15-27.

Module 9: Modeling Global Climate Negotiations, incl. Climate Clubs

Detlef F. Sprinz
Global Climate Governance (Syllabus)


Statement by President Trump on the Paris Climate Accord, 01 June 2017
https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/06/01/statement-president-trump-paris-climate-accord,
https://youtu.be/z99y6bUgJqi.

Module 10: “Parliamentary Debate”

Assignment #3: Parliamentary Debate in Class


Module 11: Climate Policy and Trade

**Guest Lecture: Prof. Michaël Aklin (University of Pittsburgh, by video)**


Module 12: Solutions for Long-Term Climate Policy Challenges
