Purpose and Contents

This course provides an overview of global environmental governance, incl. overarching conceptual frameworks, empirical domains of global environmental policy, and the management of long-term environmental policy challenges. Concepts include international negotiations, compliance, effectiveness, compensation, and overarching global environmental governance challenges, while the empirical domains encompass the three major global conventions on climate change, biodiversity, and desertification. Using a portfolio approach to examinations, students will prepare a range of individual and group assignments throughout the semester.

Logistics

*Time & Location:* Wednesdays, 9-11:50 am, Kroon 321 (for exceptions or changes: announcements on →Canvas)
*Prerequisites:* Enrollment in an appropriate Master program →http://environment.yale.edu/academics/degrees/
*Course Registration:* Student Information Systems →http://sfas.yale.edu/sis
*Deadline for Dropping the Course:* 21 Sept. 2017
*Capacity:* 30 students
*Credit Points:* 3
*Course website:* Canvas →https://canvas.yale.edu
*Contact Details:*
  detlef.sprinz@yale.edu (include “GEG 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
*Teaching Fellow:* Claire (“Lottie”) Boardman (claire.boardman@yale.edu)
Learning Goals

Knowledge
Students will:
- gain an overview of theoretical concepts that enable them to
- analyze generic global environmental problems, and
- understand the strategic challenges in managing long-term environmental challenges.

Skills
Students will undertake a range of assignments, both individually and in small groups. In particular, they will broaden their skills basis by
- outlining a long-term environmental challenge of their choice,
- addressing a puzzle of global environmental negotiations,
- responding to a central challenge of the effectiveness of international environmental treaty regimes, and
- collaborating on group papers on overarching conceptual and practical challenges of global environmental policy.

Competences
Students will:
- apply a range of concepts and methods to generic global environmental governance challenges,
- diagnose as well as propose remedies for long-term environmental governance 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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oral Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment #1: paper “long-term policy” (individual paper)</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment #2: negotiation challenge (group paper)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment #3: regime effectiveness (individual paper)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment #4: overarching global environmental policy challenge (group video, group Q&amp;A, group paper)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Reading Material

All readings can be made available at →Canvas, incl. the →Course Reserves.

Course Overview

All course sessions will take place in Kroon 321, if not indicated otherwise.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment or In-Class Group Work</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>30   Aug.</td>
<td>9:00-11:50 am</td>
<td>Course Overview, Core Social Science Terminology &amp; Guest Lecture</td>
<td>Guest Lecture: Dr. Galina Churkina (Yale School of Forestry &amp; Environmental Studies): Detecting and Diagnosing Global Environmental Challenges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>06   Sep.</td>
<td>9:00-11:50 am</td>
<td>Tragedy of the Commons?</td>
<td>Play Tragedy of the Commons or Provision of Pure Public Goods in Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>13   Sep.</td>
<td>9:00-11:50 am</td>
<td>Long-Term Environmental Policy I</td>
<td>Students will play a long-term policy game</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>20   Sep.</td>
<td>9:00-11:50 am</td>
<td>Long-Term Environmental Policy II</td>
<td>Assignment #1: Outline of a Long-Term Environmental Policy Challenge (due on 17 Sep. 2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>27   Sep.</td>
<td>9:00-11:50 am</td>
<td>Negotiations I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>04   Oct.</td>
<td>9:00-11:50 am</td>
<td>Negotiations II</td>
<td>Assignment #2: Negotiation Challenge (due on 01 Oct. 2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>11   Oct.</td>
<td>9:00-11:50 am</td>
<td>Compliance &amp; Implementation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>25   Oct.</td>
<td>9:00-11:50 am</td>
<td>Regime Effectiveness/ Evaluation I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
General format for each module:
- Q&A: Understanding the readings
- overview lecture
- extensive workshop-style discussions (incl. ad hoc work groups)

Assignments

All 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.
In case of group assignments, all author ID numbers have to be listed, including a short description regarding 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.

**Assignment #1: Outline of a Long-Term Environmental Policy Challenge**

Read Sprinz (2009) (→Modules 3 & 4). Describe at least one (and not more than three) long-term environmental policy challenge(s) other than those mentioned in Sprinz (2009) by demonstrating and substantiating that they conform to the three definitional aspects mentioned in the readings for Modules 3 & 4.

**Assignment #2: Negotiations Challenge**

Why do major global environmental negotiations (breadth: potentially all UN members) often end in a stalemate or conclude with toothless agreements? Clarify the meaning of “toothless.” Are there major exceptions to this assertion?

**Assignment #3: Regime Effectiveness - Evaluation**

Why do multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) often fail to lead to maximum possible improvements of the state of the environment (i.e., reduced environmental effects/impacts)?

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

A range of indicative enduring challenges will be made available no later than 08 Nov. 2017, yet you will be free to propose any comparable long-term environmental and/or global environmental 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 minutes group video which presents your solutions. The group Q&A session on your solutions will provide feedback on 06 Dec. 2017. The final group paper is due on 17 Dec. 2017.
**Modules**

**Module 1: Course Overview & Core Terminology**

Course Overview and Presentation of Core Terminology

*Guest Lecture:* Dr. Galina Churkina (Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies): *Detecting and Diagnosing Global Environmental Challenges*

**Module 2: The Tragedy of the Commons**

*Please bring your laptop, tablet, or smartphone and connect it to the Yale WLAN for an interactive exercise.*


**Module 3: Long-Term Environmental Policy I**

*Please bring your laptop, tablet, or smartphone and connect it to Yale WLAN for an interactive exercise.*


**Module 4: Long-Term Environmental Policy II**

*Assignment #1 Due*


Additional readings based on the long-term environmental policy challenge chosen for Assignment #1.

**Module 5: Negotiations I**


Watch the videos:

**Module 6: Negotiations II**

**Assignment #2 Due**


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, and
https://youtu.be/z99y6bUgJqI

**Module 7: Compliance & Implementation**


Check www.unfccc.int (climate change), www.cbd.int (biodiversity), http://www2.unccd.int/ (desertification) for the compliance records of respective global environmental agreements.

**Module 8: Regime Effectiveness/Evaluation I**


**Module 9: Regime Effectiveness/Evaluation II**

*Assignment #3 Due*


Module 10: Compensation/Loss and 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 11: Overarching GEG Challenges I


Module 12: Overarching GEG Challenges II

Q&A on Assignments #4A and #4B


Module 13: Solutions for Long-Term Environmental Policy & Global Environmental Governance Challenges
