

**INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS**  
**PO739, Fall 2019**

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Office hours: MWF 11-12  
and by appointment

**I. Content of Seminar:** This seminar introduces students to international relations scholarship on global environmental politics and policy. In addition to providing a broad but systematic overview it also aims to catalyze and advance the students' own research interests. The topics covered fall roughly into four categories: a theoretical and analytical overview, global political economy/ecology, environmental security and conflict and environmental governance. Each student will contact a semester-long research project that explores additional topics and literatures or goes into more depth on a particular topic. The goals of these research projects will reflect the students' background in IR and GEP.

Upon completion of the seminar students will have a sophisticated understanding of the central issues and debates amongst IR scholars in the field of global environmental politics and policy and will have advanced their own research agendas. Specifically students will be able to:

- Address questions of global environmental politics and policy from different theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches;
- Identify the key concepts and debates that comprise this field of academic study;
- Be aware of key issues and approaches on which the field is silent;
- Research, analyze and write about global environmental politics as a social scientist.

**II. Course Materials:** The vast majority of readings are articles, a smaller consists of number of chapters from books (particularly BHS) and a monograph. If our library has electronic versions of the journals you will be expected to get the articles directly from the journals [electronic]. Articles and chapters that are not readily available will be placed on canvas. While I will provide some background and advance guidance I will not lecture.

The books you should purchase are:

Betsill, Michele, Kathryn Hochstetler and Dimitris Stevis, eds. 2014. *Advances in International Environmental Politics*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan (BHS in syllabus).

Christoff, Peter and Robyn Eckersley (2013) *Globalization and the Environment*. Rowman and Littlefield.

**III. Contact Hours and External Work:** The seminar will meet from 2:00pm to 4:50pm every Friday. Students are expected to invest at least 3 hours of external work every week for every credit hour.

**IV. Class Etiquette and Disruptive Behavior:** I fully appreciate the utility of smartphones and other electronic devices (other than those you use to take notes or read class material) but they can be disruptive. I am therefore requesting that they not be used in any fashion nor be visible in class.

**V. Academic Integrity.** This course adheres to the Academic Integrity Policy of the Colorado State University General Catalog and the Student Conduct Code. Colorado State University has long upheld values of academic and scholastic integrity. The General Catalog's "Policies and Guiding Principles" asserts that CSU "expects students to maintain standards of personal integrity that are in harmony with the educational goals of the institution" - citing "principles of academic honesty" as the first example. (1.6 Page 1).

## VI. Course Requirements and Evaluation.

**Precis/short synthesis essays (25% total):** Six précis/review essays of not more than 500 words, not including references (of which the **five** best will be counted), (5% of your grade each). The review essay for Christoff and Eckersley can count as one precis and it can be around 1000 words. While there is overlap please lean in the direction of the guidelines I sent you via message for that book. **Please note that you have to submit six précis regardless of whether you are satisfied with your evaluations. For every precis missing I will subtract 5% of your final grade.** Please see guidelines below. These should be as spaced as possible by avoiding sequential ones (unless appropriate for your research and approved by me). That will help in spreading preparation even more evenly. Distribute copies of your precis to everyone through email by noon on the day of the seminar. Precis should provide frequent and appropriate references to the readings. Please see samples in Samples Learning Module. **You should write a précis for any session that you will be missing.**

**Class facilitation and participation in weekly discussions (25%):** Regular and thoughtful participation is a requirement. The expression of doubts and difficulties in understanding particular issues are as important as strong insights into them. They should all be based, however, on a strong engagement with the class material. I would ask those of you who are more comfortable talking in public to be attentive to the class dynamics. Please see guidelines below (VII and VIII). Each of you will be asked to provide peer evaluations/comments for the short research proposal and for the research product. The timeliness and constructive nature of these comments will also be part of your evaluation.

**Research project and presentations (Total 50% - Research Idea 5%; Research Statement 10%; Short Research Proposal or Review 15%; Research Proposal or Review 20%):** The result of the research project will reflect your state of preparation and degree to which you have settled on a project. The project will take place in stages and should be strongly articulated to the rest of your class work, including the HF dimension below. In all cases this research project will help you make progress in terms of your research agenda. Guidelines will be distributed and discussed. The research project will be discussed with and approved by me by October 4.

**'Hidden figures' theme:** Each one of you will be asked to identify important silences in the study of global environmental politics (as well as loud presences). This does not refer to topics not covered by the seminar (given the length of time there are many). Rather, it refers to actors, issues and questions that ought to be covered by the field of global environmental politics and are usually not covered. Please do so with respect to weekly readings, and your research project. The research project must include a specific section addressing the question of HFs. This HF exercise will also allow us to collaborate and exchange ideas with a seminar currently being run by Professor Cristina Inoue in Brasilia. More on the HF theme in the research guidelines.

**VII. Facilitators and Facilitation Outlines.** Each week 2-3 of you will serve as facilitators. Assuming that there will be 2-3 facilitators each week you should plan on **three non-sequential facilitations**. During those weeks you should also prepare a précis. We will start each meeting by asking the facilitators to initiate and direct the discussion. Please see guidelines in Part VIII below but you are encouraged to go beyond them, provided this does not become a list of overlapping themes. Please avoid summaries since everyone will have read the same material. Class exercises and other imaginative forms of facilitation are welcome. It is important that you meet in advance to prepare an outline that you post on Dropbox or Canvas by noon before class. Please also bring copies to distribute in class. Please include your names, the date and the syllabus heading for the week. See samples in Samples Learning Module.

**VIII. Themes for Class Discussions, Facilitation Outlines, and Precis.** The key goal of the seminar is for you to learn how to organize weekly readings/writings around key themes while aiming to relate them to broader themes on the governance of the world political economy. Stated differently, you should view weekly readings as steps towards understanding broader themes and not as ends in themselves.

1. What is the central theme of the readings? The goal here is to organize and compare the readings around one or more key ideas, issues, questions, dimensions, debates, continuum/ranges, differences and so on. The fewer these are, the better. Tables and other visuals are always welcome and encouraged.
2. Are the arguments, methods and evidence of the various authors, appropriate, clear and persuasive? How are they related to the central themes? What else do they bring up? Here we will go into some detail into each author's views.

3. How do the themes, issues, or concepts raised by a particular week's readings relate to previous readings or other material you are familiar with?
4. What are the silences/hidden figures of the readings (actors, questions, issues that seem to be marginalized)? What themes and figures are privileged?
5. What is your view about the readings in terms of any other criterion that you find important?

**IX. Supplementary Readings.**

**A. Environment:** These volumes provide historical and theoretical overviews.

Guha, Ramachandra, *Environmentalism: A Global History* (Longman, 2000).

Conca, Ken and Geoffrey Dabelko (eds) (2014) *Green Planet Blues: Critical Perspectives on Global Environmental Politics*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Westview Press. Introductory comments and classics. [6<sup>th</sup> edition to be released in late September 2019]

John Dryzek (2013) *The Politics of the Earth: Environmental Discourses*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Oxford University Press. This provides a good theoretical overview for those of you have not taken environmental politics/theory and related courses. It will complement the previous ones.

**B. International Relations:** These volumes provide overviews of different approaches to IR. The Viotti and Kauppi volume is an edited volume that also includes classical publications. The other two have chapters on various approaches to IR. If you want an overview of IR as a discipline search the sources in category C.

Viotti, Paul and Mark Kauppi (eds) (2012) *International Relations Theory*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Longman.

Burchill, Scott and Andrew Linklater (eds) (2013). *Theories of International Relations*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Palgrave Macmillan.

Dunne, Tim, Milja Kurki and Steve Smith (eds) (2013) *International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Oxford University Press.

**C. Environment and IR:** These electronic sources below can be used to read summaries/overviews on theories of international relations, international environmental politics and more.

Marlin-Bennett, Renee (editor in chief) Oxford Research Encyclopedias: International Studies at <https://oxfordre.com/internationalstudies/page/editorial/editorial-board>

Oxford Bibliographies at: [http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/browse?module\\_0=obo-9780199743292](http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/browse?module_0=obo-9780199743292) [WE DO NOT HAVE A SUBSCRIPTION BUT YOU CAN SEE CAN BE HELPFUL – YOU CAN ALSO GET A 30 DAY TRIAL SUBSCRIPTION]

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**SCHEDULE**

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|------------------|---|
| <b>August 30</b> | <b>Introductions</b><br><b>Individual Background and Interests</b><br><b>Seminar Logistics and Goals</b><br><b>Overview of International Relations</b><br><b>Overview of International Environmental Politics</b> |
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**[September 6 No Class for professional reasons]**

**September 11(W) Overview of GEP**

Christoff, Peter and Robyn Eckersley (2013) *Globalization and the Environment*. Rowman and Littlefield.

**September 13 Theoretical Perspectives: Bringing the Environment In**

Betsill, Hochstetler and Stevis, General Introduction in BHS, pp.1-10

Dimitris Stevis, The Trajectory of International Environmental Politics in BHS, pp. 13-44

Matthew Paterson, Theoretical Perspectives on International Environmental Politics in BHS, pp. 45-77.

Betsill, Hochstetler and Stevis, General Conclusion in BHS, pp. 381-390.

Dauvergne, Peter and Jennifer Clapp (2016) Researching Global Environmental Politics in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. *Global Environmental Politics* 16(1): 1-12.

Green, Jessica and Thomas Hale (2017) Reversing the Marginalization of Global Environmental Politics in International Relations: An Opportunity for the Discipline. *PS: Political Science and Politics* 50(2):473-479.

**September 16-20 Consultations on Research Interests**

**September 20 Actors in GEP**

Andreas Duit, Peter H. Feindt & James Meadowcroft (2016) Greening Leviathan: The Rise of the Environmental State? *Environmental Politics* 25 (1): 1-23.

Bulkeley, Harriet and Schroeder, Harriett (2011) Beyond state/non-state divides: Global cities and the governing of climate change. *European Journal of International Relations* 18(4): 743-766.

Michele Betsill, Transnational Actors in International Environmental Politics, in BHS, pp. 172-202.

Levy, David and Peter Newell (2002) Business Strategy and International Environmental Governance: Toward a Neo-Gramscian Synthesis. *Global Environmental Politics* 2(4): 84-101.

Felli, Romain (2014) An Alternative Socio-ecological Strategy? International Trade Unions' Engagement with Climate Change. *Review of International Political Economy* 21(2): 372-398.

Nicole Detraz, Gender and International Environmental Politics, in BHS, pp. 136-160.

AND/OR

Eva Lovbrand, Knowledge and the Environment, in BHS, pp. 161-184.

**September 27**

**Hidden Figures: Worlding Global Environmental Politics?**

Blaney, David and Arlene Tickner (2017). Worlding, Ontological Politics and the Possibility of Decolonial IR. *Millennium* 45(3): 293-311. [Dropbox]

Laferrière, Eric. 2001. International Political Economy and the Environment: A Radical Ecological Perspective. In Dimitris Stevis and Valerie Assetto (eds) *The International Political Economy of the Environment: Critical Perspectives*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner, pp. 199-216. [Dropbox]

Inoue, Cristina Yumie Aoki. 2018. Worlding the Study of Global Environmental Politics: Indigenous Voices from the Amazon. *Global Environmental Politics* 18(4): 25-42. [https://doi.org/10.1162/glep\\_a\\_00479](https://doi.org/10.1162/glep_a_00479)

David-Chavez, Dominique and Michael Gavin (2018) A global assessment of Indigenous community engagement in climate research, *Environmental Research Letters* 13 (12). At <https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/aaf300>

Räthzel, Nora and David Uzzell (2012) Mending the breach between labour and nature: environmental engagements of trade unions and the North-South divide. *Interface: A Journal for and About Social Movements* 4(2): 81-100. [Dropbox]

Staudenmaier, Peter (2011). Fascist Ecology: The Green Wing of the Nazi Party and its Historical Antecedents. In Janet Biehl and Peter Staudenmaier (eds) *Ecofascism Revisited: Lessons from the German Experience*. Porsgrunn: New Compass Press: 13-42. [Dropbox]

[You can also visit <https://theanarchistlibrary.org/library/janet-biehl-and-peter-staudenmaier-ecofascism-lessons-from-the-german-experience> where you can see the notes as well as Biehl's chapter bringing things closer to our times]

**September 29 (Sun) Research Ideas Due**

**Sept 30-Oct 4 Consultations on Research Questions**

**October 4 The World as a Whole: Anthropocene Debates**

Davis, Robert (2011) Inventing the Present: Historical Roots of the Anthropocene. *Earth Sciences History* 30(1): 63-84. [Dropbox]

AND/OR

Clark Nigel and Kathryn Yusoff (2017) Geosocial Formations in the Anthropocene. *Theory, Culture & Society* 34(2-3): 3-23.

Wapner, Paul (2014) The Changing Nature of Nature: Environmental Politics in the Anthropocene. *Global Environmental Politics* 14(4): 36-54.

Lövbrand, Eva, Beck, Silke, Chilvers, Jason, Forsyth, Tim, Hedrén, Johan, Hulme, Mike, Lidskog, Rolf and Vasileiadou, Eleftheria (2015) Who speaks for the future of Earth? How critical social science can extend the conversation on the Anthropocene. *Global Environmental Change*, 32: 211-218. [electronic]

Luke, Timothy (2015) Introduction: Political Critiques of the Anthropocene. *Telos* 172 (Fall 2015), 3-14. [Dropbox]

Moore, Jason (2016) Name the System! Anthropocenes and the Capitalocene Alternative. At <https://jasonwmoore.wordpress.com/2016/10/09/name-the-system-anthropocenes-the-capitalocene-alternative/>

Kunkel, Benjamin (2017) The Capitalocene. *London review of Books* 39(5): 22-28. At <https://www.lrb.co.uk/v39/n05/benjamin-kunkel/the-capitalocene>

### **October 11                      Varieties of Green Political Economy**

Hopwood, Bill, Mary Mellor and Geoff O'Brien (2005) Sustainable Development: Mapping Different Approaches. *Sustainable Development* 13(1): 38-52. [Dropbox]

Jennifer Clapp and Peter Dauvergne (2011) Peril or Prosperity? Mapping Worldviews of Global Environmental Change. Chapter 1 from their *Paths to a Green World*. The MIT Press, pp. 1-18. [Dropbox]

Sander Happaerts and Han Bruyninckx Sustainable Development: The Institutionalization of a Contested Policy Concept in BHS, pp. 300-327.

Tienhaara, Kyla (2014) Varieties of Green Capitalism: Economy and Environment in the Wake of the Global Financial Crisis. *Environmental Politics* 23(2): 187-204. [Dropbox]

Jacobs, Michael (2012) *Green Growth: Economic Theory and Political Discourse*. Center for Climate Change Economic and Policy, WP 108 and Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment WP 92 [Dropbox]

Bottazzi, Patrick (2019) Work and Social-Ecological Transitions: A Critical Review of Five Contrasting Approaches. *Sustainability* 11 (14); 19pp [Dropbox]

### **October 13 (Sun)              Research Question Due**

### **October 18                      Sustainability/Green Transitions**

O'Rourke, Dara and Niklas Lollo. 2015. Transforming Consumption: From Decoupling, to Behavior Change, to System Changes for Sustainable Consumption. *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 40: 233-259.

Fuchs, Doris et al. (2015) Power: The Missing Element in Sustainable Consumption and Absolute Reductions Research and Action. *Journal of Cleaner Production* 132: 298-307.

Kallis, Giorgos et al. (2019) Research in Degrowth. *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 43: 291-316.

Derk Loorbach, Niki Frantzeskaki, and Flor Avelino (2017) Sustainability Transitions Research: Transforming Science and Practice for Societal Change. *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 42: 599-626.

Temper, Leah et al. (2018) A Perspective on Radical Transformations to Sustainability: Resistances, Movements and Alternatives. *Sustainability Science* 13: 747-764.

Brand, Wissen, Christoph Gorg And Markus Wissen (2019) Overcoming Neoliberal Globalization: Social-ecological Transformation from a Polanyian Perspective and Beyond. *Globalizations*. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14747731.2019.1644708>

**October 23-25                      Consultations on Short Research Proposals**

**October 25                      Environmental Conflict and Peacemaking**

Larry Swatuk, Environmental Security, in BHS, pp. 211-244.

Zwierlein, Cornel (2018) Historicizing Environmental Security. *European Journal of Security Research* 3: 1-13.

Ide, Tobias (2019) The Impact of Environmental Cooperation on Peacemaking: Definitions, Mechanisms, and Empirical Evidence. *International Studies Review* 21: 327- 346.

Barquet, Karina (2015) “Yes To Peace”? Environmental Peacemaking and Transboundary Conservation in Central America. *Geoforum* 63: 14-24.

Duffy, Rosaleen (2016) War, by Conservation. *Geoforum* 69: 238-248.

Harris, Peter. 2015. Militarism in Environmental Disguise: The Greenwashing of an Overseas Military Base. *International Political Sociology* 9 (1): 19-36.

**November 1                      Human Security and Global Survival**

O’Brien, Karen and Jon Barnett (2013) Global Environmental Change and Human Security. *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 38:373-391.

Elliott, Lorraine (2015) Human Security/Environmental Security. *Contemporary Politics* 21(1): 11-24.

Methmann, Chris and Delf Roth (2012) Politics for the Day after Tomorrow: The Logic of Apocalypse in Global Climate Politics. *Security Dialogue* 43 (4): 323-344.

Fagan, Madeleine (2017) Security in the Anthropocene: Environment, Ecology, Escape. *European Journal of International Relations* 23(2): 292-314.

Satgar, Vishwas (2018) The Anthropocene And Imperial Ecocide: Prospects For Just Transitions. In Vishwas Satgar (Ed) *The Climate Crisis: South African And Global Democratic Eco-Socialist Alternatives*. Wits University Press. [Dropbox]

Dalby, Simon (2017) Anthropocene Formations: Environmental Security, Geopolitics and Disaster. *Theory, Culture and Society* 34 (2-3): 233-252.

**November 8**                      **No seminar**

**November 10 (S)**                **Short Research Proposals Due**

**November 12 (T)**                **Environmental Governance: Form and Purpose**

Frank Biermann, Global Governance and the Environment, in BHS, pp.245-270.

Jennifer Clapp, International Political Economy and the Environment, in BHS, pp. 107-136.

Pattberg, Philipp and Oscar Witterberg (2016) Theorizing Global Environmental Governance: Key Findings and Future Questions. *Millennium* 43(2): 684-705.

Burch, Sarah et al. 2019. New Directions in Earth System Governance Research. *Earth System Governance* 1. [Dropbox]

Ciplet, David and R. Timmons Roberts. 2017. Climate Change and the Transition to Liberal Environmental Governance. *Global Environmental Change* 46: 148-156.

Swyngedouw, Erik. 2010. Apocalypse Forever? Post-Political Populism and the Spectre of Climate Change. *Theory, Culture and Society* 27 (2-3): 213-232.

**November 15**                      **Global Governance: Varieties of Justice**

Okereke, Chukwumerije and Mark Charlesworth. Environmental and Ecological Justice, in BHS, pp. 328-355.

Alier, Joan Martinez et al. 2016. Is there a Global Environmental Justice Movement? *Journal of Peasant Studies* 43(3): 731-755.

Givens, Jannifer, Xiaorui Huang and Andrew Jorgenson. 2019. Ecologically Unequal Exchange: A Theory of Global Environmental Injustice. *Sociology Compass*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/soc4.12693>

Rodriguez-Labajos, Beatriz et. al. Not So Natural an Alliance? Degrowth and Environmental Justice Movements in the Global South. *Ecological Economics* 157: 175-184.

Bettini, Gionanni, Sarah Louise Nash and Giovanna Giolli. 2017. One step forward, two steps back? The fading contours of (in)justice in competing discourses on climate migration. *The Geographical Journal* 183 (4): 348-358.

Cock, Jacklyn (2018) The Climate Crisis and a 'Just Transition' in South Africa: An Eco-Feminist-Socialist Perspective. Ch 3 in Vishwas Satgar (Ed) *The Climate Crisis: South African and Global Democratic Eco-Socialist Alternatives*. Wits University Press.[dropbox]



<b>November 18--22</b>	<b>Consultations on Research Proposals/Papers</b>
<b>November 22</b>	<b>Research (available for consultations)</b>
<b>November 28</b>	<b>Thanksgiving</b>
<b>December 6</b>	<b>Research (available for consultations)</b>
<b>December 9 (M)</b>	<b>Presentations</b>
<b>December 10 (T)</b>	<b>Presentations</b>
<b>December 17 (T)</b>	<b>Final Research Proposal/Review/Paper Due (5pm)</b>

