EVPP 337-001
Environmental Policy Making in Developing Countries
Fall 2021

Course and Contact Details

Instructor	Colin Chadduck (cchadduc@gmu.edu)
Course Builder/Coordinator	Dr. Younsung Kim (ykih@gmu.edu)
Time	Tuesday and Thursday 1:30-2:45am
Place	Innovation 317
Course webpage	Link to Blackboard LearningManagement System: https://mymasonportal.gmu.edu
Office Hours	Tuesday and Thursday 12:00 pm-1:00 pm and by appointment

Course Description

Developing countries face many daunting problems such as widespread poverty, scarce employment opportunities, and a lack of development. In response, much attention in developing countries has thus been given to addressing these challenges through economic growth policies that may often lead to overexploiting natural resources and low environmental quality. However, economic growth cannot persist if it entails continuous degradation of natural resources and the environment.

This course is designed to help students grasp environmental and natural resource issues in developing countries and the opportunities and limitations for better policy decisions and management. Taking a regional approach, students will develop an in-depth understanding of deforestation, biodiversity loss, water pollution, air pollution, resource-related inter-state tensions, and climate change. In doing so, students will better understand diverse forces leading the issues and get to be familiar with the development and environmental philosophies underlying the solutions adopted by countries.

Course Goals
The course is designed to help students complete the following learning objectives by the end of the semester.

- Understand environmental issues in developing countries
- Investigate geological, political, economic, and institutional factors that limit environmental protection and sustainable development in developing countries
- Assess how international policy initiatives could help developing countries to develop environmental and conservation policies of developing countries
- Acquire excellent written communication skills

Readings

Reading materials are based on research papers in academic journals, governmental documents, and white papers from research groups. There is no standard textbook that you are required to purchase for this course.

Assignments and Grading

The grading criteria includes the following items:

1. **Participation**, which includes attendance, contributions to in-class discussions and other participation-based activities.

2. **Three Short Writing Assignments.** There are three written assignments related to required reading articles. Each assignment will be guided as time approaches.

3. **Country Case Study Paper**. You will develop a research paper on an important environmental issue in a developing country. An issue can be selected by you, while you may take the issue guided by the instructor. The issues should be relevant to the objective and themes of the course. Feel free to talk to me about your country case study paper topic. There are the three submissions, proposal, draft paper, and final paper. The detailed writing guidelines will be provided.

4. The final grade will be assigned as follows:

Assignment type	Percentage
Participation (Includes contributions to in-class discussions and other participation-based activities)	20%
Three Short Writing Assignments (each 10%)	30%
Country Case Study Paper • 750 word Proposal (5%) • 1,800 word Draft version (15%) • 2,500 word Final version (25%) • Presentation (5%)	50%

Detailed instructions regarding the way in which each assignment should be completed, the due date for turning in the assignment and the technology skills required to upload the assignment on Blackboard are provided at appropriate junctures in the course.

Grade ranges:

A+ = 98 up	A = 92-97	A-=90-91
B+ = 88-89	B =82-87	B-80-81
C+ = 78-79	C= 73-77	C=71-72
D = 65-69	F<65	

Course Policies and Other Information

Late/Missed Assignments

I will enforce the deadlines for assignments strictly. If you submit your assignments within 72 hours after the deadlines, you will lose 10% of your grade. After then, your assignment will not be accepted. However, I will make an exception for students with genuine medical or personal problems that get in touch with me at least 2 days before the due date.

General Education Requirements and Learning Outcomes

All undergraduates seeking a baccalaureate degree at George Mason University must complete the University General Education requirements. Additional requirements for specific degree programs can be found in the University Catalog in each college or school chapter.

Writing Intensive Course Requirement

As part of the university's commitment to student writers in all undergraduate programs, at least one upper-division course in each major has been designated as fulfilling the "writing intensive" (WI) requirement. While other courses in the major may require written projects, teachers of the designated WI courses will devote class time to instruction on how to complete assignments successfully, assign and grade a minimum of 3,500 words, provide constructive feedback on drafts, and allow revision of at least one graded assignment. See the description of each major for the specific course or courses that fulfill the WI requirement.

Required: an approved course in the major
EVPP 337 (Global Affairs)
Source: http://provost.gmu.edu/gened/general-education-requirements/

Technological Requirements

Since this course is completely online, there are certain logistical requirements that you must ensure in order to successfully complete it. First, you will need a relatively stable computer with access to a reliable internet connection. This is especially important as a significant component of the course includes watching documentaries on relevant issues. Second, you must have a good speaker (whether embedded in your laptop/headphone or external) to hear my lecture videos.

Third, you will also need a good microphone in order for me to understand you during an online meeting. And fourth, you need a word processor (Windows, Open office, your choice really) to complete the writing assignments. Please do not submit papers in the pdf format as I find it difficult to insert comments. Other formats are acceptable but will need my prior approval.

Plagiarism Statement

Plagiarism means using the exact words, opinions, or factual information from another person without giving that person credit. Writers give credit through accepted documentation styles, such as parenthetical citation, footnotes, or endnotes; a simple listing of books and articles is not sufficient. Plagiarism is the equivalent of intellectual robbery and cannot be tolerated in an academic setting. Student writers are often confused as to what should be cited. Some think that only direct quotations need to be credited. While direct quotations do need citations, so do paraphrases and summaries of opinions or factual information formerly unknown to the writers or which the writers did not discover themselves. Exceptions for this include factual information which can be obtained from a variety of sources, the writers' own insights or findings from their own field research, and what has

been termed common knowledge. What constitutes common knowledge can sometimes be precarious; what is common knowledge for one audience may not be so for another. In such situations, it is helpful, to keep the reader in mind and to think of citations as being "reader friendly." In other words, writers provide a citation for any piece of information that they think their readers might want to investigate further. Not only is this attitude considerate of readers, it will almost certainly ensure that writers will never be guilty of plagiarism. (Statement of English Department at George Mason University)

Plagiarism and the Internet
Copyright rules also apply to users of the Internet who cite from Internet sources. Information and graphics accessed electronically must also be cited, giving credit to the sources. This material includes but is not limited to e-mail (don't cite or forward someone else's e-mail without permission), newsgroup material, information from Web sites, including graphics. Even if you give credit, you must get permission from the original source to put any graphic that you did not create on your web page.
Shareware graphics are not free. Freeware clipart is available for you to freely use. If the material does not say "free," assume it is not. Putting someone else's Internet material on your web page is stealing intellectual property. Making links to a site is, at this time, okay, but getting permission is strongly advised, since many Web sites have their own requirements for linking to their material. (Virginia Montecino)
Source: http://mason.gmu.edu/~montecin/plagiarism.htm

Honor Code
This course will be conducted in accordance with the GMU Honor Code, and all students are expected to abide by it. The GMU Honor Code, as found in the University
Catalog, is as follows: To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of the George Mason University community and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the university community, have set forth this honor code: Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work.
(catalog.gmu.edu/content.php?catoid=15&navoid=1039&returnto=search#Honor)

Details concerning the university's Honor System and Code can be found in the University Catalog (accessible online at the link above).

Students with Disabilities
Differently abled students should approach the instructor or the course coordinator through the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 703-993-2474.

***Where to Get Help*:** Students encountering difficulties in the course can either approach the instructor or the Counseling Center at (703) 993-2380

Course Coordination
This course is coordinated by Dr. Younsung Kim (ykih@gmu.edu), associate professor of the department of Environmental Science and Policy.