



INTERMEDIATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY EVPP 362 /GOVT 362, SPRING 2020

Prerequisite (s):	EVPP 361 or GOVT 361
Place and time:	David King Hall 2054, Online (Tuesday) & Thursday 1:30-2:45 pm
Instructor:	Dr. Younsung Kim
Contact info:	ykih@gmu.edu
Website:	http://mymasonportal.gmu.edu
Office hours:	David King Hall 3020, Tue/Thur 10:30-11:30am or by appointment (Please email in advance you plan to come by)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to provide students with an *in-depth* understanding of environmental policy and politics, both in the U.S. and globally. During the course, we will examine the complicated nature and scope of environmental, energy, and natural resource problem—dilemmas arising from scientific uncertainty, political polarization, technological change, market and bureaucratic failures, and so forth. We will also consider policy instruments which have been implemented or proposed to address industrial pollution and commons problems. Furthermore, this class is designed to equip you with the basic skills necessary to assess public policies. Classes will be a mix of lectures and discussions. Case-based readings will be used to convey a practical understanding of key concepts and values in environmental policy and politics.

The purpose of this course is

- to develop a deeper, more profound understanding of environmental issues and conflicts between environmental protection and economic development
- to understand the constraints of conventional environmental regulations and explore the new direction of environmental policy and politics
- to learn about the advantages and drawbacks of different policy instruments, ranging from command and control regulation and market-based mechanisms to voluntary programs and collaborative decision-making schemes.
- to provide tools for you to evaluate environmental policies or programs
- to explain and apply the basic principles and assumptions underlying the cost-benefit analysis and cost effectiveness tools

At the end of the course, students will be familiar with

- institutional framework of environmental policymaking
- U.S. policies to tackle industrial pollution (e.g., water and air pollution) and to manage natural resources (e.g., endangered species conservation, national park system, etc)
- global approaches to address environmental problems (e.g., trade and environment)
- various environmental governance tools (market-based solution, ecosystem-based management, collaborative governance with private sector, etc.)
- policy analysis tools (e.g., cost-benefit analysis, cost effectiveness analysis, risk analysis, etc.)

This course will also empower students to develop skills essential for independent scholarly research such as

- ability to make accurate distinctions among personal beliefs, claims, and evidence-based understanding
- ability to evaluate the credibility of source information and select valid and relevant information for scholarly inquiry
- ability to articulate and refine creative, focused, and manageable research questions that address potentially significant and previously less-explored aspects of environmental issues
- ability to retrieve information about previous scholarship from credible sources that provide and enable comprehensive analysis and/or synthesis

Required Books

- Judith A. Layzer, Sara R. Rinfret, *The Environmental Case: Translating Values into Policy*, 5th ed., Washington DC: CQ Press.
- Regina S. Axelord, Stacy D. Vandevener, *The Global Environment: Institutions, Law, and Policy*, 5th ed., Washington DC: CQ Press

The required book is available from the campus bookstore and various online booksellers.

Articles or Book Chapters

In addition to the textbooks for the course, journal articles, reports, and other readings are available on the course Blackboard website or through GMU e-journals.

GRADING

Class participation:	10%	
Online class assignment:	10%	
Case analysis essays:	20%	(10% each essay)
Midterm Exam:	20%	
Research paper:	40%	(10% for research outline, 25% for final paper, 5% for oral presentation)

1. Class participation

Participation will be based on factors such as contributing to discussions, asking questions and offering commentary, and doing the background preparation for simulations and exercises. You will never be *penalized* for participating, even when this takes the form of vague complaints like, “I’ve got no clue why we are reading this stuff or why it was written in the first place!”

However, I do expect that you use class time to ask thoughtful questions and engage in reflective discussion. Students that are engaged in the classroom learn more. Moreover, significant class participation makes our time together more interesting.

To facilitate class participation, it is imperative that all reading assignments be completed *before class*.

Daily participation grades for in-class classes will be assessed at the end of each class. Non-attendance earns 0 points, unless a student submits three questions to the instructor via email

prior to his or her absence. Attendance with no participation earns 1 point, whereas attendance with participation earns 2 points. A third point can be earned based on the substance and quality of your participation. As an example, if you attend class and do not participate to the discussion, you will earn a participation grade of 33 percent and reduce your overall course grade by 7 percent. Should you decide to leave at the break you will receive 0 participation points, regardless of how active you were during the first half of class.

2. Midterm exam

The midterm will be take-home. The questions will be based on course readings, lectures, and discussions.

3. Written assignments

Two Case Analysis Essays are required. Each case essay is *due at the beginning* of the class session in which the case is assigned as a required reading. No retrospective work is allowed. That means, after the case discussion is done, I will not accept your case analysis paper.

In addition to two case analysis essays, you will conduct an independent mini research project. 2 or 3 people can be grouped into one project. More information about the graded activities and assignments is posted on the course Blackboard site.

GRADE RANGES:

A+ = 97 up	B+ = 88-89	C+ = 78-79
A = 92-96	B = 82-87	C = 73-77
A- = 90-91	B- = 80-81	C- = 71-72, etc.

COURSE POLICIES

- I rely on "...@gmu.edu" email addresses for communicating with students. To set up your "gmu.edu" email account, see http://mason.gmu.edu/~montecin/memo/memo_www.htm. To forward "gmu.edu" messages to a different email address, see http://mason.gmu.edu/~montecin/memo_forward.htm. Also please be sure to keep track of your gmu email account to make sure it doesn't go over quota.
- Please use email for communications and for handing in all assignments.
- Please contact me right away if personal circumstances arise that may interfere with class participation or completion of assignments.
- If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at 703-993-2474, or <http://ods.gmu.edu/>. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.
- Do not cut and paste language off the web without correct attribution. If you take more than a word or two in succession from a source, you must give a citation and use quotation marks. If you have questions about how to cite sources, please let me know. Mason's writing center also has useful guidelines (<http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>).
- Students are responsible for verifying enrollment. Please note the deadlines published in the Schedule of Classes. Last day to drop without tuition penalty: 2/4/2020; last day to drop with penalty: 2/11/2020. After the last day to drop a class, withdrawing from this class requires the approval of the dean and is only allowed for nonacademic reasons.

- ***Laptop policy:*** This course relies on the contributions of all of the students. As a result, laptop use will only be allowed for the purpose of taking class notes.

HONOR CODE

“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 has set forth this:”

George Mason University has an Honor Code, which requires all members of this community to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Cheating, plagiarism, lying, and stealing are all prohibited. All violations of the Honor Code will be reported to the Honor Committee. For more detailed information, see <http://academicintegrity.gmu.edu/honorcode>.

I strictly enforce Mason’s Honor Code. Students must NOT collaborate one assignments or exam without explicit permission from the instructor.

OTHER USEFUL CAMPUS RESOURCES

- University Libraries “Ask a Librarian” <http://library.gmu.edu/mudge/IM/IMRef.html>.
- Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS): (703) 993-2380; <http://caps.gmu.edu>.
- University Policies: The University Catalog, <http://catalog.gmu.edu>, is the central resource for university policies affecting student, faculty, and staff conduct in university academic affairs. Other policies are available at <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/>. All members of the university community are responsible for knowing and following established policies.

Semester Overview

Week	Date	Topic	Assignment
1	Tue 1/21 Thur 1/23	Introduction; Environmental Policymaking Framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Layzer, Ch.1 • Assigned articles on BB 	
2	Tue 1/28 Thur 1/30	Hazardous Waste and the Politics of Fear <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Layzer, Ch. 3 • Assigned articles on BB • EPA, Basic information of Superfund http://www.epa.gov/superfund 	
3	Tue 2/4 Thur 2/6	Tackling Air and Water Pollutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Layzer, Ch. 2 Market-Based Mechanisms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assigned articles on BB • Layzer Ch. 5 	Essay #1
4	Tue 2/11 Thur 2/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Layzer Ch. 13 Collaborative Environmental Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assigned article on BB 	
5	Tue 2/18 Thur 2/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Layzer Ch. 9 • Layzer Ch. 4 	Essay #2
6	Tue 2/25 Thur 2/27	Self-Regulation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assigned articles on BB 	
7	Tue 3/3 Thur 3/5	Midterm exam posted Midterm due by 11:45am	
8	Tue 3/10 Thur 3/12	Spring Break Spring Break	
9	Tue 3/17 Thur 3/19	Environmental Policy Analysis Tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assigned articles on BB 	
11	Tue 3/24 Thur 3/26	International Regulatory Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexlrod and Vandever Ch. 2-3 International Environmental Regimes and Global Ozone Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexlrod and Vandever Ch. 4 	
12	Tue 3/31 Thur 4/2	Complex Multilevel Governance in Climate Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexlrod and Vandever Ch. 10 Global Biodiversity Governance: Species and Ecosystems Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexlrod and Vandever Ch. 12 	Research paper outline due
13	Tue 4/7 Thur 4/9	Consumption Commodity Chains, and Global and Local Environments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexlrod and Vandever Ch. 15 Working on research paper	
14	Tue 4/14 Thur 4/16	Globalization & Environmental Protection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexrod and Vandever Ch. 13 • Assigned article on BB 	
15	Tue 4/21 Thur 4/23	Environmental Governance for Hazardous Substances <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexlrod and Vandever Ch. 11 Research paper presentation	
16	Tue 4/28 Thur 4/30	Working on research paper Research paper presentation: last class (attendance required)	Research paper due on 4/30